

Kia ora Koutou

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome to week three which will be a busy one with the Rakaia/Dorie swimming sports on Wednesday for those who have qualified as well as a Whanau (Room 7-8) assembly on Friday and the Ako (Junior rooms) swimming display at school on Friday as well.

We acknowledge the weather and temperature of the community pool caused issues on Friday as well as the fact the children were not entered in events until the day and this gave them options to pull out while staff were busy doing the other jobs.



This snapshot review highlights the need to be more persuasive and encouraging with some of the children so they take the calculated and safe risk to enter the swimming sports here before qualifying to go to town. Next year entries will be pre-organised at school to stop children withdrawing before their event. We also believe that asking for some support from parents on the day to manage crowd control or place getting would support the running of events.

I had made the mistake of saying to the children that the event on Friday would help select those going into town this week and it took away the carnival atmosphere and participation. I own this decision and the effect it had on the event. I am sorry for this.

The other issue we note and observe is the swimming capability of our children seems to be down on previous years and we would certainly encourage you to have swimming lessons for your children if you can. The minivan could be used for families if there was a group who chose to attend lessons in town.

Ashburton Pool Swimming Lessons:

<http://www.eanetworkscentre.co.nz/learn-to-swim/school-age-lessons>



Selwyn Swim School

We still have preschool spaces Monday-Friday available for Term 1 2017. Please register below.

School age Learn to Swim classes and Saturday Preschool classes are now full for Term 1 2017. All registrations for school age classes will go onto our Term 2 2017 waitlist.

Selwyn Swim School swimschool@selwyn.govt.nz (03) 347 274



ASB - We welcome Amie from ASB here at school for two days to share financial literacy ideas and lessons with the children. This is a great opportunity for children to gain a better understanding of what money is all about.

Teaching children good money habits from an early age can really help to set them up for the future - and ASB GetWise does just that. Through our workshops kids learn the fundamentals of money in four different stages - from identifying needs and wants and learning to save, right through to how credit cards work and dealing with debt - giving them a solid foundation to build on.



We have Goal Setting Interviews booked for Tuesday February 28th and Wednesday March 1st. These 10 minute interviews give you a chance to set goals for the next two terms that relate to academic or social needs and to have individual time with your child's teacher .

Please follow the instructions on your computer and if you want us to book the event then please chat with us in the office.

Now bookings are open, you need to tell parents about them - either by email or in the school newsletter. You need to include two things:

1. The website address **www.schoolinterviews.co.nz**
2. The event code **6naw3**

Important ! - School Photos - last year we made a change and did things a different way with a different photographer. Photos have arrived and been issued and now I seek your feedback so we can make bookings for 2017. Please feel free to drop me an e-mail by the end of this week so I can make some decisions. markellis@rakaia.school.nz