

IT'S BEEN A WHILE...

Kia Ora ngaa maatua,

It's been a month since our last newsletter as Mr D was away with covid when the last one was due. You'll be pleased to hear he's back on board now. Whilst we're on the subject of illness, there are a few nasty bugs around as the weather has begun to change. Please keep your child at home if they are unwell so we aren't spreading these things to other children and their families. If you are able to donate a box of tissues to your child's classroom it will be much appreciated as we head toward the cooler months.

TEACHER STRIKE

Today our teaching team is participating in strike action, along with teachers from all over Aotearoa New Zealand. It is very quiet out here at school without everyone. For more information on why they are taking such serious action please refer to the email sent out by Mr D last weekend.

SWIMMING

Our swimming season is coming to a close, with the last class swims taking place tomorrow.

Since our last newsletter we have had both our Roto swimming sports events and the Rural Schools' competition. Our tamariki certainly demonstrated their resilience during these events, aiming high and trying their very best! Coming together with 4 other rural schools to compete can be a daunting task, but our 8, 9 and 10 year olds who attended Rural Schools' did very well, with some achieving 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. We are waiting to hear who will be in the Rural Team attending Interschools on Monday 3rd April. Congratulations to our Roto-o-Rangi swimming cups winners: Our 2023 champions Callan and Aria, with Ryan and Alexis holding the reserve champion titles for the year.



WELCOME TO

Recently we welcomed sisters Saheli and Miheli to our Roto family. With their friendly nature and beautiful manners they easily made friends in their new classroom. This week, confident new entrants Lachlan and Fergus joined Room 1, and it already feels as though they have been here for ages! Watch this space for photos next time.

WORKING BEE

This Sunday our PTA are holding a working bee at school, weather permitting, to get some of the painting completed and help to tidy up the grounds. If you're at a loose end pop out between 10 - 12 to help out. Matua Mitchell, our student teacher in Room 5, has been happily chopping away with his shears to tidy up some of our unruly hedges after all the rain we've had!



Thank you so much to the Woolley family for providing 6 HUGE tins of Milo and two enormous bags of marshmallows to school! This will keep our Milo Mondays going for a while during Term 2 and 3 when the weather is cooler!

If you'd like to help out by making and serving up Milo to our students on Monday mornings please let us know and we will pass your name to the PTA who draw up a Milo Mondays roster!

Look at this great water trough, purchased for Room 2 by the PTA! Through funds raised by the PTA we have been able to purchase brand new Mobilo for Rooms 1 & 2, and new resources for



Rooms 4 & 5, plus sandpit toys and sports equipment. If you're any good at coming up with ideas for fundraising, and putting in some manpower to help it happen, please get in touch with the Roto PTA through the school office. We'd love to hear from you!

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

Please don't forget to pay for your child's stationery pack from the start of the year. Invoices have been sent out by email but if you need an updated statement give Roxy a call. We no longer need to ask for a school donation, which is great news for our families, but things like bus fees and stationery do still need to be paid for.

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/4 Inter-schools' Swimming Sports
6/4 Term Ends
7/4 Good Friday
24/4 Teacher Only Day
25/4 ANZAC Day
26/4 School starts Term 2

CAMP

Unfortunately I am unable to provide an update on our whole school camp at this stage; hopefully we will know very soon whether this will still go ahead. We are rapidly running out of weeks this term, with only 3 remaining after this week is over!

KEEPING OUR TAMARIKI SAFE

It's a bit tricky without our school gate but our students have been very good at staying within school grounds. However, at the end of the day it gets a bit 'messy' out there. Therefore, we'd like to ask you to do the following to help us to keep all our children safe;

- Collect your child/ren from the tennis courts rather than the main entrance. This leaves the main entrance free for the children who are waiting to go on the bus.
- Please do not let your child leave school by themselves and walk across to your vehicle come to the tennis court gates to collect them.
- Do not park in the bus bay in the mornings or afternoons, even if it is just quickly or you believe you are not in the way of the bus.
- Finally, if you are collecting your child from school earlier than usual, or are picking them up instead of them catching the bus please let us know. We have a dedicated voicemail for bus changes which is last checked at 2.50pm so please try to let us know before then.

WINTER SPORTS TEAMS

Registrations for netball, hockey and rugby are closing very shortly so get in quick if your child would like to play a winter sport! These sports are now organised at club level rather than through local schools, so you will need to choose either Leamington Sports Club or Hautapu Sports Club and register your child directly. This can be done on the website of your chosen club under the Junior Sports section. It is also useful to follow the Facebook page of the club to keep an eye out for updates.

Hockey teams have the added option of TVP Sports, so check them out too if hockey is your child's chosen sport.

Scholastic Book orders due back tomorrow!