



Rātā Street School Pānui

“Learning together to achieve excellence”

Pānui No 15 Term 4
Wednesday 30 October 2024

Principal’s Message

Kia ora whānau

The team who have been carrying out the reroofing of the school have made significant progress since the end of Term 3. They are now working their way down the Junior Block. Part of the works in this block includes inserting new double glazed windows in the top windows of each room. These are the ones that face out to the staff car park and the Quad. During this time, we have utilised Ako 9 as a makeshift classroom. I’d like to thank the children, whānau and teachers for being adaptable during this time.

Other building work going on at school includes the hall kitchen being remodelled. This space was in desperate need of attention and I would like to thank the Board of Trustees for funding the project. I’d also like to thank parent Brad Porter (Porter Plumbing) who is carrying out the works.

Have a great week everyone.

Hamish Regan
hamish.regan@ratastreet.school.nz

New Children

We warmly welcome our new students and their whānau to Rātā Street School. They are: Journey, Kauri, Ricki-Rae and Elijah.

2025 Term Dates

Term 1: 30 January - 11 April

Term 2: 28 April - 27 June

Term 3: 14 July - 19 September

Term 4: 6 October - 12 December

Mihi Whakatau

At the end of Week 1 we held a Mihi Whakatau to welcome new students and whānau to school. These are always a special time for us as a school, and as you can see there was a great turnout on the day. Thank you to all those who could make it.



Government announces changes to school lunch programme

The Government recently announced changes to Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunches programme.

These changes do not apply to our school lunches in 2025, but they will apply to us from Term 1, 2026.

Next year, and in 2026, our students will receive nutritious meals they know and love, helping them to learn and thrive at school.

From Term 1 2026, our lunches will be provided by the School Lunch Collective, led by Compass Group and supported by a number of food manufacturers and suppliers. These hot and cold meals will be delivered daily and will meet the same nutrition standards as our current lunches.

There are no changes for our ākongā with complex special dietary requirements. Their meals and additional funding will continue.

Camp Helpers Meeting

A reminder to those parents/caregivers who are helping out at the upcoming Year 6 Camp. An information meeting will be held at 6pm on Wednesday 6 November in the staffroom.

Readiness for School

The school van will be unavailable for drop offs on Wednesday 20 November (week 6), as the van will be in Otaki at the Year 6 Camp.

It will also be unavailable on Wednesday 4 December (Week 8), which is our last Readiness for School session of the year.

We ask that whānau please arrange alternative transportation on these days.

Policy Review Term 4

The following policy is open for review via School Docs.

1. Finance and Asset Management Policy

- Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz/
- Click **Search for your school**
- Start typing the school's name and then select it from the dropdown list
- Enter the username (ratastreet) and password (naenae)

Instructions for Reviewers

1. Log in as above
2. Click on the current review tab
3. Follow the link to each policy in the table
4. Read the policy
5. Click the red Policy Review icon at the right-hand top corner of the page. A new screen will appear
6. Select your role (parent/caregiver) from the drop-down list
7. Enter your name (optional)
8. Submit your ratings and comments

Attendance

Below you will find important information about student absences. We are required by law to record whether a child's absences are justified (for a good reason) or unjustified (for no good reason). I thought it appropriate to explain what is considered justified or unjustified.

Examples of justified absence

- The child is sick or injured to the extent that they would not be able to take part in the school programme. We would expect a child to return when they are no longer infectious/injured and able to get through the school day.
- The child has a specialist appointment (although we would expect the child to come to school after this).
- The child is unavoidably absent. An example of this would be, travel from a holiday was interrupted by a mechanical breakdown.

Examples of unjustified absence

- The parent of a sibling is sick.
- A sibling has a specialist appointment.
- It is the child's (or sibling's or family members' birthday).
- The car has broken down.
- The child does not want to come to school. If this is the case, then we need to find out why this is. I would encourage you to ring me immediately if this were to happen.

Other important information

Please note, a child is recorded **truant** if there is no message from the parent and we can't contact them.