

Rātā Street School

‘Learning together to achieve excellence’

Pānui No 7 Term 2
Wednesday 29 May 2024

Principal’s Message

Kia ora whānau

Here we are halfway through the term and school life continues to be as busy as ever. With two short weeks in a row we will be well into the second half of the term before we know it.

A reminder that the teachers have a **Teacher Only Day** this **Friday 31 May**. This means the school will be **closed**, so please ensure you have organised alternative childcare arrangements. Next **Monday 3 June** is King’s Birthday. This is a **public holiday** and once again school will be **closed**.

Take care and enjoy the rest of the week everyone.

Hamish Regan
hamish.regan@ratastreet.school.nz

New Tamariki

We warmly welcome the following new students and their whānau to Rātā Street School. They are: Nikau, Michael and Missy.

Rātā Street School Values Award Recipients

Congratulations to the following tamariki from Te Whānau Pihinga who received a Values Award at last week’s assembly.

Te-Mahia - for being Pakari
Damian - for being Pakari
Zaylee - for being Pakari
Carter - for showing Mahi tahi
Pomare - for being Pakari
Seini - for being Pakari
Indie - for showing Aroha
Gabriel for being Pakari

Discos

A big thank you Kathleen Shanks for organising the incredible discos that were held at the end of Week 3. The children had an amazing time, and that’s because Kathleen and Vonnie made sure that everything was in place for a safe and fun evening. I’d also like to thank the Friends of Rātā Street School (FoRSS) for selling goodies to the children. They worked hard in the kitchen throughout the night, which allowed the teachers to spend time and dance with the children. We have an amazing teaching team here at school, and I would like to make a special mention of the teachers because they gave up their Friday night to make it the success that it was.

Pacific Fono

On Thursday 16 May we held our Pacific Fono. There was a great turn out with 13 adults and 11 children attending. The Pacific Fono was a great opportunity to make connections with our Pacific aiga, to discuss our 2024 actions for our children, and to make plans for our Samoan Independence Day Celebration.

Samoan Language Week

This week we are excited to be celebrating Samoan Language Week. We started the week off raising the Samoan Flag and singing the National Anthem in the quad as a kura. There are lots of learning and hands-on activities planned for our Samoan Independence Day Celebration on Thursday 30 May. In the morning we will be making Ula Lole, Samoan Sei, Samoan Siapo and Wearable Arts, then we have the opportunity to eat delicious Sapasui and Panikeke before a performance and presentation from our students. You are welcome to join us on Thursday to celebrate our Samoan learners and aiga.

Naenae Knitting Natters

I would like to thank the Naenae Knitting Natters team and their organiser Chris Dopson because last week they came to school and presented the children in Te Whānau Kākano and Te Whānau Pihinga with beautifully knitted hats, scarfs and gloves. The children loved receiving these special items and it has been wonderful to see them wearing them throughout the day, especially with the colder weather that we have been having lately.

The Natters meet every Wednesday from 10am-12pm in the Coco pop-up in Hilary Court. As well as knitting for local schools they also knit for other charities. The group is open to anyone and they are always on the lookout for new members, so if this sounds like you feel free to pop along one Wednesday morning.

The group would love to have donations of wool, so if you have any spare wool at home could you please drop it off on a Wednesday morning.

Parking on Yellow Line

We have been having an ongoing issue with parents/caregivers and whānau parking on the yellow lines outside of the school on either side of the crossing. There have also been some problems with cars parking on the yellow lines around neighbouring properties. The knock on effect is that this makes it very dangerous in both the mornings and afternoons for children who are trying to cross the road safely. It is also particularly frustrating for neighbours who are trying to safely access their driveways. Parking on yellow lines also makes it incredibly challenging for our road patrol 'callers', as they have their view of the road blocked. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

Whānau Rōpū

A hui will be held at 6pm on Thursday 6 June for all Māori whānau to korero about our Te Ao Māori Actions for 2024 and to discuss what is important to you and your children. The hui will be held in Ako 15 and pizza will be provided. We would love for you to come and join us for a relaxed and fun evening. Child care will be available on the night.

Board of Trustees Update

At the May Board meeting James Capovilla was voted on to the Board of Trustees. This was due to the vacant parent representative position.

Angela Joe - Presiding Member
Sarah O'Fee - Deputy Presiding Member
Hamish Regan - Principal
Ryon Sinclair - Parent Representative
David Starshaw - Parent Representative
Nicole Cooper - Staff Representative

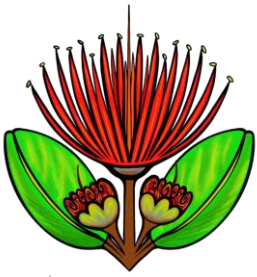
Absences

If your child is absent, please ring and leave a clear message on the school phone line before 8.50am. You need to leave your child's name, room number and the reason they are absent. The school phone number is 567 0096.

East Harbour Women's Club

A BIG thank you to Glendyr from East Harbour Women's Club in Eastbourne! Glendyr and her lovely helpers have made slippers for all children in Ako 3. It has certainly made a difference to their cold tootsies!

Ako 3 is very grateful that Glendyr and her knitting helpers think about us and help us keep warm!



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World of Waste Tour

A team of Puāwai students who are doing the Wearable Arts elective went to the World of Waste tour last Thursday. They started with a visit to the Silverstream Landfill where they were overwhelmed with the colossal rubbish mountain. Students gagged and gasped, as the putrid smell of decomposing waste wafted through the air. They also were horrified that a staggering 40% of “rubbish” in the landfill was food waste!

Following they moved onto Earthlink, in Taita, where they explored all the ways items can be recycled, reused or repurposed. Everything from televisions, old electronics, furniture to milk cartons can all be dropped off to these amazing eco-warriors instead of it ending up in landfill.

After a quick lunch at The Dowse, the team met Nuku Tewhatewha, one of Te Awakairangi’s greatest treasures. He is a pātaka (storehouse for food or treasure) and a symbol of struggle and resistance, unity and peace. We looked at all the beautiful carvings on him and thought about the symbolism and message he carries.

Our final activity, also at The Dowse, was creating their own ipu (vessel) to hold all the dreams and aspirations they hold for the future. The students carved symbols to represent what they want for the earth and their whānau.

Thank you to our amazing friend Sian, our tour guide and local Enviroschools Facilitator, for helping to inspire us to want for a better future for our planet!

