

A note from the Principal...

How wonderful it was to see our families at the 'Meet the Teacher' evening in week 3. Those who attended were very enthusiastic about having the opportunity to share their picnic with other families, as well as hearing about how they could support their child at school. Our attendance data from this evening, however, was disappointing— 49% turnout compared to 70% last year. This may be due to the fact that some children have the same teacher for a second year. However, each year there is always more to share, so we do encourage you to attend these meetings annually. The next opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher is at 3-Way Interviews next week

Jan Otene
Principal

Happening in Our School...

3-Way (Student/Teacher/Parent) Interviews

Monday 5 March and Thursday 8 March

Interviews can be booked for either on Monday 5 March (late night) or Thursday 8 March (up till 6 pm), via the link on school website. Please see below for details. We expect that every student will attend this meeting with their parents.

Emergency Preparedness

Last week's ex-cyclone warning was a good test of our Emergency Preparedness procedures. On the morning of the ex-cyclone's scheduled arrival we:

sent every family an email saying that we were staying open, but that families were welcome to collect their child/ren early. We updated the school's website front page with this information. We contacted every ASC child's family who was booked that day to ask for an emergency contact in the Newlands area who could collect children if parents were unable to get to ASC by 6 pm.

On the whole, this system worked well. However, we were surprised by the number of parents who did not check their emails or the website and who rang to find out if we were closing. We did not use the Emergency Alert on Twitter, as we were not closing the school. Some parents have said they would prefer to be contacted via text, so we are investigating apps which would enable us to use this method of communication. This of course relies on parents providing up to date and accurate information.

This is a timely reminder for all parents to ensure that all contact details are up to date and that you have organised for local carer (Newlands/Paparangi/Johnsonville), who can collect your child /ren if you are unable to do so due to an emergency such as flooding, earthquake etc.

Student Safety

One of our parents had an idea that we thought was worthwhile to pass on... Set a family "password", so that if a person approaches your child on the way to/from school and says that you have sent them, get your

3-way Interviews (StudentTeacher/Parent)

Monday 5 and Thursday 8 March

This is a special time for you and your child to meet with your child's teacher to discuss your child's strengths and learning needs. Interviews are 10 minutes and we will be encouraging families to prepare questions and ideas to share in this discussion.

Book online at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz using booking code:

yegca

If you are unable to make a booking online, please see your child's class teacher or come to the Office before school and we can assist with this. Those with more than one child are encouraged to get in fast so that you can align each interview to reduce your wait time.

child to ask them what the password is - no knowledge of the password means don't go with the person!

Emergency Kits

Please send your child's named emergency kit to school as soon as possible. We suggest that you include items listed at the bottom of this page (check expiry dates!). Everything must fit into a 2 litre ice cream container or similar sized box. At the end of the year parents can request to have these returned, otherwise the school will donate these to a local charity.

Early Arrivals

Last year we met with a parent group to find a solution to children of working parents being at school between 8.00-8.30 am unsupervised. The arrangement is that these students may wait in the Hall, without adult supervision, provided that they are well behaved at all times. This system has worked well up until now. However, last week there were several days when over 22 students were in the Hall at this time, complicated by older siblings and friends from the Intermediate hanging around.

In order to continue offering this option, only those who actually need to be there should be in the Hall between 8.00-8.30 am! Please DO NOT allow your child/ren to be school before 8.30 am unless it is absolutely essential, otherwise we may need to find an alternative solution, such as opening a before-school programme and charging for this service.

Late Arrivals

There are a number of families whose children are regularly (very) late to school. This is unfair to both your child and his/her teacher. We ask that you please lead by example and demonstrate how important their education is by getting up in time to be dressed, breakfasted and at school before 9am every day. Please be aware, that schools are required to report continued unexcused absences to the Ministry, to be followed up by the Attendance and Truancy Service.

\$2 Easter Raffle Tickets for our Adventure Playground Upgrade

Raffle tickets should have arrived home last Friday with your eldest child. We would really appreciate your selling these over the next 2 weeks. Any unsold cards can be returned to the Office to be passed on to others to sell. All monies and cards (sold or unsold) must be returned to the Office by Monday 12 March. Last year we raised \$1200 towards our Adventure Playground upgrade – please support this great cause! We ask that each family donates Easter items so that we can make up 3 wonderful raffle prizes. Thank you.

Naomi Godfrey, H&S Chair

Community Survey #2 Māori & Pasifika Voice

We really need to hear from our Māori and Pasifika families so that we can work with you effectively to support your family. Please take the time to complete either the online or paper copy of this quick survey. Alternatively you are welcome to pop in and speak with us about this.

Mathletics

Every child has been enjoying a free trial of Mathletics, a fantastic online maths programme with proven success in raising children's numeracy skills. The free trial ends next week on Friday 9 March. Please be aware, if you have not paid the \$10 Mathletics fee by that date, the logon will be disabled until the fee has been paid (invoiced to every family at the end of week 2). If you would like your child to be able to keep using this wonderful tool and have not done so already, please make payment as soon as possible.

Future Direction at Rewa Rewa

Check out our Future Direction pamphlet, presented at the Meet the Teacher Evening, on the Info tab of our website now.

EMERGENCY KIT:

A labelled ice cream carton (or similar) of emergency supplies should contain:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 small tab-open tin meal | 2 small tab-open tins of fruit | 3 snack items |
| 6-10(wrapped) glucose lollies | 1 plastic spoon | 2 large plastic bags |
| | | *Sealed water bottle |

(*our school has a limited supply of water in tanks which we can use)

Assembly Award Congratulations!

Whero	Seborah	Settling in well and learning the class routines
Kowhai	Mary	Willingly helping classmates when they need it.
Kahurangi	Joe	Has shown himself to be respectful to adults and his peers this week by listening to others.
Whero	Emily	Settling in well and learning the class routines.
Kowhai	Shane	A positive attitude toward all your learning.
Kowhai	Andrew	Completing your work on time, well done.
Kahurangi	Cullen	Sharing his knowledge with others in a way that makes them feel safe and respected.
Kahurangi	Zephaniah	Sharing her knowledge and mathematical vocabulary on her first Seesaw video. Well done.

In Our Garden this Week...

These stunning Monarch butterflies have been attracted to the swan plants in our garden. Thank you Eco Squad!



Upcoming Events...

Friday	2 March	6-7pm	Parent Skills—Seesaw Blogging (all ages)
Monday	5 March		3-Way Interviews
Thursday	8 March		3-Way Interviews
Friday	30 March		Good Friday—SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday	02 April		Easter Monday—SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday	03 April		Easter Tuesday Holiday—SCHOOL CLOSED

Please note: After School Care is also unavailable when school is closed.

Term Dates 2018

Term 1	Monday 29 January—Friday 13 April
	Monday 19 February— Teacher-Only Day, School Closed
Term 2	Monday 30 April—Friday 6 July
Term 3	Monday 23 July—Friday 28 September
Term 4	Monday 15 October—Thursday 13 December

Keep this page on the fridge for easy reference or check out www.rewarewa.school.nz



BIGAIR GYMSPORTS TAWA

If you have a child who loves doing handstands, cartwheels, walkovers, flips, or cheerleading, then they will love Bigair Gym! At Bigair Gymsports, kids love **Gymnastics, Trampolining, Tumbling, Parkour, and Cheerleading!** We have classes to support children of all levels and interests. As children learn new gym skills they will increase their flexibility, balance, coordination, strength, and fitness. The benefit for our children is that they learn extensive personal skills from Gym, which includes; increased self-confidence, self-reflection, listening skills, persistence, self-pride, and so much more! It is highly recommended that children start gymnastics from 3yrs, as it provides excellent preparation for starting school. Once children are at school, gym is beneficial as it replicates the fundamental learning processes which supports children's learning at school, so the advantages and rewards are substantial. Did you know that Bigair Gym also offer Birthday Parties? To find out more, please call our Bigair Gym Tawa on 2323508 or email office@bigairgym.co.nz

Drama Classes

Our international curriculum will:

Help explore Performance skills, creativity, Overcome shyness, Develop positive self esteem,

Grow their imagination, Interact with adults, Make new friends

Have lots of fun

Fun after-school classes – 5 – 17 years Held in

Khandallah, Tawa, Lower Hutt, Whitby

To enrol please call or see our website.

0800 161 131

www.helenogradynz.co.nz

West Fest is on again - West Park School's Annual Gala: 10 March 2018, 11 – 2pm

Come along to West Fest 2018 – this fabulous annual event has something for everyone!

There will be all the traditional gala highlights including fantastic food, great entertainment, second hand goods for sale, face painting and crafts. A great range of activities will also be on offer to entertain the whole family. Highlights include the Easy Swim obstacle course (ages 2 - 8), a bouncy castle, quiddich and jousting activities, the famous toilet roll catapult, ride on mini jeeps, a water zone...and even a remote control monster truck!

HANDSTAND COMPETITION

We are giving away one CUSTOM BIGAIR HOODIE! Your choice of colour: Grey, Pink, or Black, and you get your name printed on the back!

How to enter:

- 1) Like this photo on our Instagram account
- 2) Follow us on Instagram @bigair_gymsports
- 3) Show us your best handstand! You can upload a photo and use the hashtag #BigairHandstandComp

The winner will be announced at 4:30 pm on Monday 12th March 2018!

