



# Newsletter 4, Week 7, Term 1 13 March 2019

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# Spring Bulb Fundraiser—look out for catalogues coming soon.

# A note from the Principal...

Our school's Facebook page has been attracting a lot of interest lately, especially from past students of the school. Through these interchanges we have discovered that foundation pupils began at Rewa Rewa School in 1973, which means that in 2023 we'll be celebrating our 50th anniversary. Another celebration coming up very soon (Friday 22 March), is the official blessing of our new property upgrades, as well as a powhiri to welcome the RTLB (Resource Teachers for Learning and Behaviour) onto our site. Expect more emails over the next week as we ask our community to join together to help with hosting and providing kai.

Jan Otene Principal

# Happening in Our School...

### **Board of Trustees News**

# RTLB Powhiri - 10am, Friday 22 March

The RTLB will be welcomed onto our school site at 10am, Friday 22 March. All of our families are welcome to attend this event. As we will have well over 50 dignitaries it is most important that we, as the hosts, have plenty of food to offer them. We are asking our community to help as follows:

Each family to bring a nice plate of food (not bags of chips), ready to serve (food will not be heated, on a named or disposable plate and delivered to the staffroom before 9 am on Friday 22 March please.

We need a team of 5-6 people to set up morning tea in the staffroom, take off cling wrap, serve tea/coffee – generally host the Morning Tea. If you are able to do this we need to hear from you urgently please.

Please arrive ready to be seated by 9.45 am — if the weather is fine we will be outside, if not the hall will be our venue.

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY NOTICE—
NZEI Paid Union Meetings

In week 8 all Wellington teachers and principals who are union members need to attend their paid union meetings. In order to keep classes running, our board has opted to send our teachers and principal to meetings over 2 different days and pay for relief teachers to assist on both days. These meetings will be on Tuesday 19 March and Thursday 21 March, 1.30-3.00 pm.

## Parents in Partnership

Our 3rd strategic goal is all about parents working closely with the school to support their children as learners. Part of meeting this goal is by attending student interviews with your child's teacher and the latest data we have is STUNNING - an 87% turnout and of the 12 families who did not attend, 7 had very valid reasons, such as being overseas. Likewise, our Maori (77%) and Pasifika (80%) attendances were equally successful results. Ka pai mums, dads and caregivers – we're proud of you!!

#### **Board Elections**

Board Elections are coming up and a public meeting is to be held at Newlands Primary School hall 6.30pm, March 19 for any parents interested in knowing more about becoming a board member. Current board members from local schools in the area will be there to talk about the role they play and how much they enjoy it.

#### **School Enrolment Scheme**

The term 2 enrolment period has closed and we did not need to hold a ballot as all enrolments were accepted. The next ballot for term 3 enrolments will be advertised on 8 May with a closing date of 5 June.



We welcome Elaine and her family to Rewa Rewa School, we hope you enjoy your time here.

If you have a child who is turning 5 this year, please enrol them as soon as possible, so that school visits can be arranged.

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## **Home & School Parents' Committee News**

#### **Adventure Playground**

It was SO exciting to open our Adventure Playground last week and watch since then as each child has excitedly made their way around the new obstacles. We were pleasantly surprised that there seemed to be something there to engage everyone, although some students will need to grow a little bit to manage some of the activities - this could be a good incentive to encourage them to eat their veges! Our huge thanks to Naomi Godfrey, Leanna and Jamie Miratana, H&S parent helpers, Johnsonville Charitable Trust and the The Community Trusts Foundation.

P.s. A new addition is arriving any day now- what will it be?

Our thanks also, to the H&S for buying a shed to store the Juniors' outdoor playground equipment.





## **Spring Bulbs Fundraiser**

Home and School will be running a fundraiser with NZ Bulbs, so look out for a spring bulb catalogue coming home soon. Orders must be received by 31 March and a percentage of sales will be donated to Rewa Rewa School.

#### **Entertainment Books**

Entertainment books are being sold to raise money for shade sails for our playground areas. Pre-order now to receive bonus offers you can use straight away. Copy the link below or from our website to order.

# https:// www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/ orderbooks/1x04718

#### **Easter Raffle**

Last Friday the eldest child in each family received their Easter Raffle cards to sell over the next two weeks. Last year we raised over \$1500 towards the playground and we want to do the same again this year to enhance school facilities for our children. Every family is being

asked to donate Easter goodies to go into the raffles – we usually make 3 nice baskets from these, as well as having an Easter Egg draw for all those who sold tickets. If for some reason you cannot sell your tickets, please get the card back to school VERY QUICKLY so that we can offer these to others to sell. Some families have already sold out!! Money raised will go towards the first 2 items on the wish list - shade sails and playground markings for games.

As always, we invite all parents to attend the next H&S meeting later this term at 6pm, Monday 18 March (nibbles provided). Existing members – see if you can tag a new member to bring along.

## **Stranger Danger**

Last week, whilst walking to school in the pouring rain, a child from our school accepted a ride in a car from an unknown adult. Fortunately, it was someone in the Newlands community who genuinely wanted to help and they dropped the child safely off at our Office. HOWEVER, it made me wonder – how sure are you that your child would not do the same, especially on days when the weather is lousy? It would be a good idea for all parents to run this scenario through with their child/ren to ensure that they would make the correct response – DO NOT GET INTO THE CAR! A note also to drivers who offer lifts to children - please do not invite them into your car unless their parents have given their permission, your good deed could turn very pear-shaped if there was a car accident.

#### **Wet Weather Attendance**

We have increasing numbers of children who do not attend school on days when it is raining. Parents need to think ahead about how to solve this problem, as the Newlands area does get a lot of rain, especially in winter. You might organise for your child to get a car ride with a known family, it might mean buying a raincoat, gumboots and/or an umbrella and having a spare set of (dry) clothes in their school bag to change into at school. There may be other solutions out there – let's hear them. The bottom line is, all children need to be able to access an education at school. If your family needs a hand, let us know so that we can try to help you.

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In the meantime if your child has outgrown their raincoat, maybe it could be used by another family. If you would like to organise a system to support other families in this way, please let us know.

The torrential rain on Friday reminded us that clothes racks need to be available so that wet coats can be hung in the covered verandah areas — we have purchased the first rack for Whero to trial. The board decided against hooks in the walkway, as dripping coats and umbrellas would make the carpet wet and encourage mould growth over time.

# **EduWelly Teachers' Workshop**

Last Saturday we welcomed 50 teachers from schools around the country to Rewa Rewa as they workshopped together to share a range of innovative teaching ideas that are happening in classrooms today. Our thanks to Charlotte Hills for organising this gathering and in turn, raising the profile of our school. The teachers attending found our upgraded space a great environment to work in.





#### **School Gardens**

Thank you to the team who came last weekend to help Lynnda and Tony tackle the weeds in front of the school and pool complex areas - you've achieved so much together. Look out for the next working bee date to put into your calendars.

#### Curriculum @ Rewa Rewa School

Our teachers are working with Mark Treadwell, a very highly-regarded NZ education specialist, as we develop a curriculum that is pertinent to our learners at Rewa Rewa School - exciting times ahead.

Outdoor Education Week DATE Tuesday 26 March to Friday 29 March

Outdoor Education is all about giving students new experiences out of the classroom that challenge, excite and encourage team skills such as problem-solving and taking responsible risks.

Yr 5 - 6 Camp students will be at Forest Lakes Camp in Otaki from 26 - 29 March. Payment of camp fees before 14 March is required so that we can pay the camp.

Yr 0-4 students will be having an outdoor education during this week also. We will need lots of parents to help as we are planning an awesome programme including a trip out of school, swimming fun in the school pool and maybe even waterslides down the bank!

Trip permissions will be coming home this week for every student who started school prior to 2019 (as this permission is now included on our enrolment form, covering every year of enrolment at Rewa Rewa). Permissions must be completed and returned to the Office by Wed 20 March to ensure your child is able to take part in out of school trips.

# **Upcoming Events...**

Thursday	14 March		Deadline for Payment of Yr 5/6 Camp
Tuesday	19 March	1.30-3pm	Paid Teacher Union Meeting
Thursday	21 March	1.30-3pm	Paid Teacher Union Meeting
Friday	22 March		RTLB Move Onsite
Friday	10 May		Nominations Open for Board of Trustees Elections
Friday	07 June	12 noon	Board of Trustees Elections Close

# Term Dates 2019

Term 1 Tuesday 29 January Friday 12 April Wednesday Waitangi Day, School Closed 06 February Term 2 29 April Friday 5 July Monday Monday 03 June Queen's Birthday, School Closed Tuesday 04 June Teacher-Only Day, School Closed Term 3 Monday 22 July Friday 27 September Term 4 Friday 13 December (School closes at 1pm) Monday 14 October Monday 21 October Labour Day, School Closed

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



West Park School's Annual Gala - West Fest - is this month! Saturday 16 March 2018, 11 – 2pm (Broderick Road, Johnsonville)

Come along to West Fest 2019 – this fabulous annual school gala 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 ride on mini jeeps, a bouncy castle, quiddich and jousting activities, the famous toilet roll catapult and a dirt track remote control monster truck!

#### Newlands Junior Rugby Club registration night

Our main registration event is on Wed 20 March, 5.30-7.00pm at Newlands Primary School hall. All players aged 4-13 welcome. We'll have some Hurricanes players joining us for some fun on the night! Full event details on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/newlandsrugbyclub



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