



Newsletter

**Raapa 20 o Poutū-te-rangi
Wednesday 20th of March
2019**

**Tēnā koutou, Kia orana,
Malo ni, Fakaalofa lahi atu,
Talofa lava, Malo e lelei,
Aloha, ia orana, Zdravo and
Greetings!**



Remembering Christchurch

It is with heavy hearts that we greet you this week in light of what occurred in Christchurch last Friday. 50 precious lives

lost in a way we can not comprehend. This week the quote in our staffroom is “Love Thy Neighbour” and it is a message we want our tamariki to learn. That is, no matter what your background is, your skin colour, your belief system, we are all human beings that deserve to be safe and respected. We observed a moment of silence on Monday and teachers are aware to be available to children should they be upset about the events that unfolded. Our love and prayers go out to all the victims in Christchurch and their families as well as to all the teachers, principals, support staff and students who went into lockdown for hours.

This is not who we are! Kia kaha Otautahi.[#strengthinunity](#).

SAFETY NOTICE:

PLEASE walk around on the footpaths to get to classes/ECE centres and **NOT** the carpark. This is to ensure the safety of everyone, drivers and pedestrians alike. Malo aupito!

Polyfest



Thank you to all our parent / family helpers who came out to help supervise our tamariki last Friday. It was a great day of performances, experiences, and food which our children thoroughly enjoyed. For future trips, if parents / caregivers are available to help on the day, can you please make this known to your child's teacher well in advance prior to the day of the trip. We appreciate you taking the time to assist however, issues like trip costs, bus seat availability, allocation of groups and compulsory police vetting forms need to be accounted for and organised. Let's work together to ensure everyone, including yourselves, has a great trip experience!

Rongomai Cultural Performances

Our treasured Cook Islands, Samoan, and Kapa Haka groups were the talk of Tangaroa College when they performed at their recent "Mauri Ora" Whanau Event. There

were plenty of positive comments especially after all the performers and staff combined at the end for the school haka - Ka mau te wehi! Checkout our school facebook page for video footage of all the performances!

He Taonga Aroha



"He Taonga Aroha" is the name bestowed on our new building that we share with one of Mount Richmond School's satellite units. Taonga (treasure) represents our tamariki and Aroha (love) is the glue that binds us all together. Matua Hone led our school in a name blessing ceremony with the placing of a precious stone sourced from the Manukau Harbour. The stone is to remind us of the Mauri (life essence) each item possesses and the Mauri within everyone.



We also welcomed Mount Richmond School (MRS) staff, students and their families with a special powhiri. Mount Richmond School will be on our school grounds permanently and will occupy the ground floor of He Taonga Aroha. Our staff and students are excited to have them join our Rongomai family.

We recently received an email from MRS' Lead teacher, Neelam Lalhall, saying, *"The teachers have all made us feel so at home and the students are so caring and thoughtful. They are always helping our students and are so genuine in their approach that it is very heartwarming."* Keep it up Rongomai School!!!

School Uniforms

Rongomai School uniforms will slowly be phased out from the Warehouse in Manukau. Whatever is left on their shelves at present will be the last of that uniform stock. However, we have purchased the remaining uniform from the manufacturers and will be selling them at the school office. We have a limited stock of the school sweatshirt (\$20) and our polar fleece jackets (\$35). Sorry, we don't have any polo shirts or shorts. We are transitioning to a new uniform that won't confuse us with other schools. In the meantime if you are requiring new uniform that may not be available at The Warehouse, please purchase any navy blue short/skort and navy blue polo shirts from a store of your choosing. The picture below is navy blue.



Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tūohu koe me he maunga teitei.
Aspire to the greatest heights, should you bow, be it to a lofty mountain.

School Policy Review for Parents

At Rongomai School we want you to be kept up to date with school policies that are reviewed regularly. We invite you to do this online following these instructions:

1. Visit the website

<http://rongomai.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>

2. Enter the username (rongomai) and password (empowered).

3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.

4. Read the policy.

5. Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.

6. Select the reviewer type "Parent".

7. Enter your name (optional).

8. Submit your ratings and comments.

If you do not have internet access, our school office staff can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.

Cricket

Our boys cricket team recently came 4th in the Otara Schools Cricket tournament. The team played well and were unlucky not to be placed higher following some controversial decisions. Still, despite calls not going their way, the team displayed exceptional

character and were awarded the fair play award. Well done boys! Next week will be the Otara Touch tournament so here's hoping for continued success on the sports field.

Kia manua,

Paeariki Johnson - Principal