



## Newsletter

Rāapa 3 o Paenga-whāwhā

Wednesday 3rd April

**2019**

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

### Rongomai Developing Mathematical Inquiry Communities (DMIC)

Since the end of 2017, Rongomai teachers have been receiving professional development on DMIC and implementing this model in classrooms. Over this time there has been a positive change in how maths is delivered - in a way that will hopefully better prepare our children to confront real world problems using their mathematical knowledge. Word problems are emphasised, discussions and different strategies are explored between classmates, and everyone plays a role in working out solutions, whether it is recording ideas, challenging proposed answers,

justifying, or feeding back, everyone is involved. This week our DMIC coach, Mary Rahiti, was joined by two of her colleagues from the Cook Islands ministry of education, to observe and provide feedback around our classroom math programmes. Below is an example of the type of questions our senior school students are given to problem solve. See if you can answer some questions from our Senior Syndicate geometry focus this term! The main mathematical strand that we are focusing on this term is Geometry.

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Tonga's mother had sketched a few designs which she plans to use when making her tapa cloth. One of the patterns that will appear on the tapa looks like this:



- How could you describe what it looks like so that others can recreate it?
- What instructions would you need so that they can draw the picture?

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE;**

**The end of Term 1 will be Friday 12th of April. School finishes at 1pm. Please make arrangements to ensure your children are supervised at home from 1pm onwards.**

### **Buddy Reading with Tangaroa College Year 10 Students**



Our school is very fortunate to have the services of our local high school giving of their time and knowledge. Thanks to a group of Year 10 Tangaroa College students involved in the Duke of Edinburgh International Award. Their service component means they visit two of our Junior classes each Tuesday between 11.30am-12pm to help them with their reading as well as getting to know them better. The first session occurred last week and it was a very exciting time for our tamariki. To have older buddies help in their learning is such a great privilege. It was also a

joy to see two former Rongomaites return to help out - Ezykyll Strickland and Sharntez Tiatia. We look forward to seeing them each week along with their classmates - meitaki maata TC!!!

### **Te Puke O'Taramainuku Kahui Ako Hui - Early Childhood Centres (ECEs)**

Last Thursday, our school hosted local ECEs in an effort to connect more, so that children in our community can have a smooth transition from the age range of 0 to 24 years old. This is the goal of our Kahui Ako (Community of Learning) which is named "Te Puke O'Taramainuku". This kahui ako is made up of the following schools: Flatbush Primary, Ferguson Intermediate, Tangaroa College and Rongomai School. We hope to have some of our ECEs jump on board this new initiative when they're ready .

### **De La Salle College Buddy Programme.**



Another local high school who wanted to serve our Rongomaiteis is De La Salle College with their Big Brother programme. The programme involves Year 13 students coming into our school every Wednesday from 12pm-3pm to run sports programmes during lunchtime, and a buddy reading programme for the remainder of the time. What a great opportunity! We're looking forward to growing confidence from both our students and our "Big Brothers". Malo aupito De La Salle College!

### **Dental Van visit**



This week and last week we've had our friendly dental nurses checking on our children's teeth. Please keep brushing each day and looking after your teeth and gums to ensure a sparkling smile!!!



### **Touch Rugby Tournament**

Last Wednesday 27th of March our mixed team (Tiare, Jalyn, Sariyah, Ottorose, Liana, Simone, Andy, Thompson, Levi, Ibanez, Exham, Nevaeh, Kingzton) entered the Otara Schools tournament and performed very well. The games were very close and the team came second in the pool stage after losing to Flat Bush. Our team then played in the semi-finals against the winners of the other pool - Mayfield Primary. In an intense semi-final, it was a draw at full time which meant, going into extra time for a drop off. In a 'drop off' one player from each team must drop off/come off the field of play after every minute. Unfortunately, we lost. However, Rongomai had an opportunity to avenge defeat against Flatbush by playing them for the 3rd and 4th team placings. This time the result was in our favour, beating Flatbush with 2 points to 1 - an outstanding achievement! Coach, Matua Vae was pleased with his team and selected the following players of the day: Thompson and Ottorose. Thompson stood out for his great skills and being the leading try-scorer, and Ottorose had a 'never give up' attitude. It was a great performance considering the team only had two weeks training due to a short turn around after cricket.

Special thanks to Miss Tumutoa for assisting with coaching the girls; Phil Johnson who helped to supervise the team on the day; Michelle Waru (Ibanez's mother) and Rangi Tata (Tiare's mother) who came down to show their support. Much appreciated and well done Rongomaite!!!



Look out for **NETBALL** next term....



### **Latecomers**

We have had an incredibly large number of students arriving late to school every morning. School starts at 8.45am and not a minute later.

Students are showing up at 9am, 9.30am and sometimes at 10.30am! This means that these latecomers would've missed out on hearing the daily notices and/or valuable learning in class! Being on time is an important life habit that we expect from every single Rongomaite. Please help us to help your children and get them to school on time.

### **Upcoming Events**

- **PHOTOLIFE** - Tuesday 9th April
- **SAMOAN GROUP FUNDRAISER** - Friday 5th April, 8am - 8.30am.
- **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR TERM 1** - Friday 12th of April - Remember we finish at 1pm
- **First day of Term 2** is April 29th at 8.45am

In the holiday period is both Easter and Anzac Day so please enjoy both and take care over the break.

Kia manuia,  
Paeariki Johnson - Principal