

Rongomai School

Empowered to Take Risks; Determined to Succeed

Rāapa 13 Mahuru 2017 ~ Wednesday 13 September 2017

Tēnā koutou, Kia orana,
Malo ni, Faka'alofa lahi atu,
Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, aloha, la
orana and Greetings!

Tongan Language Week

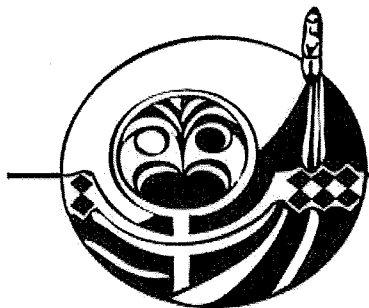
Last week our school enjoyed so much rich learning about Tongan culture. Thank you to our amazing students and families who represented our Tongan community with extreme pride. Some of our staff really got behind this cultural week by dressing up in traditional Tongan attire. What a special experience for our staff. Thank you to our Tongan parents who put on a delicious Tongan kai for our staff. There was literally too much food that we couldn't finish it all alone - malo aupito fanau!

Finally, the week could not have gone as well as it did without the hard work put in by the amazing Matua Altar and his family - Whaea Nardia and Whaea Tufutele. Ofa atu!

Otara Schools Polyfest

A massive thank you to all our parents and whanau who attended and supported our school at the Otara Schools' Polyfest last Friday at Kia Aroha College! I am overwhelmed with the large number of positive responses from our parents, community and Otara principals who were very impressed with the calibre of talent and pride displayed by our students. There was a real sense of strength, unity, cultural pride and honour in our children's performances and I credit our amazing DREAM TEAM of teachers and parents who have been tutoring our tamariki. Ka mau te wehi Rongomaites!

If you were unable to join us last week, check out our school facebook page to view some photos and short videos of the event.



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OSC Soccer Tournament

Just a reminder to our soccer team and their parents that the Otara Schools Cluster soccer tournament is tomorrow at the Papakura Army Grounds. Our players will leave school at 8.45-9am and will return at approximately 2pm. Please provide your child with a healthy lunch: sandwiches, fruit, water and yoghurt is suffice. Strictly no fizzy drinks or large packets of chippies, biscuits or chocolate.

Duffy Role Model Assembly

Next Thursday we welcome Lana Lopesi who is our Duffy Books in Homes role model. Lana studied art at the University of Auckland, graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. Now she is a writer and critic of art and culture. Lana's writing has featured in a number of publications in print and online including Art New Zealand, Un Magazine and

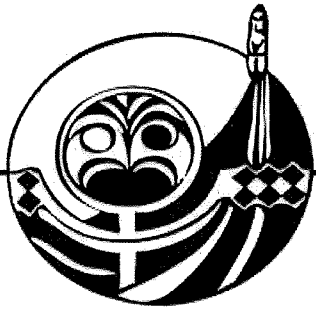
Runway. Lana currently writes a monthly column for Design Assembly called Graphic Matters where she is also a Contributing Editor looking after the Aotearoa Design Thinking series. We look forward to hearing about Lana's passion and love for reading next week.

Last Day of School

Our last day of school is Friday 29th September which is only 2 weeks away. We finish school at the usual time of 2.45pm.

Niuean Language Week

Week 1 of Term 4 is Niuean Language Week and we will be starting next term with a bang! Our Niuean community is the smallest compared to the other Pasifika communities in our school. If we have any Niuean families in our school who might be able to contribute time, talent or resources to ensuring we do a wonderful job of showcasing the rich and vibrant Niue, then



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please get in touch with Matua Isaac in Room 7 before the end of next week.

KIA ORA
te reo Māori

11-17 September
**TE WIKI O TE
REO MĀORI**
Māori Language Week

This week is dedicated to celebrating Maori language and culture! The theme for 2017 is "Kia Ora te reo Maori" which was chosen to celebrate New Zealand's indigenous greeting, and also as the words 'Kia Ora' are an exact description of the intent of the new partnerships for te reo Māori revitalisation between the Crown and Māori under the new Māori Language Act 2016.

Our Maori team have organised a wonderful week of learning experiences to hook our kids and staff into learning more about Maori. Some of these learning experiences includes learning the Lord's Prayer in te reo through song, learning how to play popular Maori games

such as Pukana, cooking fried bread, making korowai and much, much more. I give praise to this team (Matua Hone, Miss Vaha'akolo, Whaea Claudia) who have also done an amazing job of organising exciting and engaging learning experiences and for setting the scene in the school library. The display is "breath-taking and it truly moved me. I became very emotional and excited for our Maori students and families when I visited the library. It will completely blow you away whanau! You must come and visit our library. So drop off your tamariki in the morning and then wander over to the school library or take a wander after school when you pick up your tamariki. Either way, please do take the time out of your day to check out the library.

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou!

Paeariki Johnson (Principal)

