



Rongomai School

Empowered to Take Risks; Determined to Succeed

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NEWSLETTER

Rāapa 1 Hui-tanguru 2017 – Wednesday 15 February 2017

Tēnā koutou, Kia orana,
Malo ni, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Talofa lava, Malo
e lelei, Mauri, Namaste and Greetings!

Great Start

Last Friday we held a powhiri to formally welcome our new staff and students to our school. Thank you to all our families and friends who attended and supported our new members into our community. It was lovely to greet and meet you all. We are all looking forward to a great year ahead!

Culture Groups

One thing that we take pride in at Rongomai is the fact that we're able to provide opportunities for our students to immerse themselves in their cultural groups and this year we are fortunate to have a strong team of teachers and learning assistants who are passionate about this. At Rongomai we have the following staff overseeing the following culture groups:

- Kapa Haka – Matua Hone, Miss Vaha'akolo and Whaea Claudia
- Cook Islands – Miss Tumutoa, Matua Vae and Mama Ngatere
- Samoan – Matua Lui, Whaea Alleena, Whaea Naomi
- Niuean – Matua Isacc, Matua Tony, Whaea Lei
- Tongan – Matua Alltar, Whaea Sonia

Hats

A reminder that every child at Rongomai must wear a hat during morning tea and lunch playing times. Students who forget to bring their hats will be made to sit under the canopy during their breaks. This is standard practice in many schools already, where students and staff must wear a hat during terms 1 & 4 when out doors.

Stationery

Every child at school is expected to have their stationery by the end of this week. If you have misplaced your child's stationery list, you can download a copy from our school website or grab one from the Office. Please ensure that your child has all the materials and equipment required to ensure a greater start to their schooling this year.

Uniforms

It is wonderful to see at least 95% of our students in the correct school uniform. If your child has lost an item of uniform, please see Whaea Rachel at the Office for lost property as it might be there. If for any reason, your child is unable to wear school uniform then please send a note to their teacher to explain why.

Rongomai uniform can be purchased from The Warehouse on Cavendish Drive in Manukau.

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.

Lateness to School

At Rongomai, we value punctuality and time. Our school bell rings at 8.45am with the whole school under the canopy. Students who arrive after the bell rings are late. Please ensure that your child is at school well before the 8.45am bell. Students should not be ordering lunch at this time nor should they have their school bags on them when they join the school under the canopy. Please ensure your child arrives at school at least 5 minutes before it starts, just to allow them time to put their bags and lunches away in their classrooms. We now hold a daily detention for all latecomers regardless of their reason for being late. Please be on time every morning.

Afterschool Pick-ups

To ensure the safety of your child after school, our Walking Bus duty teachers will be bringing all children who are still waiting at the school gate back to the school office. Parents will need to pick their children up from there if they are late. In saying this, our school finishes at 2.45pm. Some of our students are being picked up at least 30-60 minutes late. Our teachers are usually in meetings or professional development after school and aren't always available to supervise your child. Please help us to keep your child safe by picking them up on time after school.

Visitors

All visitors to the school need to report to the office first. Lunches for your children can be dropped off at the office and Whaea Rachel will send it to your child's classroom.

School Lunches

At Rongomai, we do our best to promote healthy eating and therefore have a variety of foods to ensure our students don't go hungry. Through Kids Can, Milk in Schools and Fruit in Schools, we provide our students every day with a piece of fruit, scroggin, fruit cups, muesli bar and cold milk. We also have sandwiches every day for students who need them. Please tell your child to see their teacher if they do not have any lunch or need a top up.

At this time, we encourage parents to send their child/ren to school with foods from the following list: sandwiches, filled rolls, sushi, vege sticks, yoghurts. If your child/ren need more, they can get a top up of food from their classroom teacher.

Upcoming Events:

Wed 22 Feb: BoT Meeting (5-7pm)

Wed 8 March: Otara Schools Cricket Tournament

Thurs 8 March: Meet the Teacher event

Friday 17 March: School Trip

Kia manuia,

Paeariki Johnson (Principal)

Child's Name: _____

Room _____

I have read this week's school newsletter (15/2/17) **YES/NO**

Parent's signature: _____