



# Rongomai School

*Empowered to Take Risks; Determined to Succeed*

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## NEWSLETTER

**Rāpare 15<sup>th</sup> Mahuru 2016 – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

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

### Road Patrol

Thank you to our parents who quickly responded to our request to supervise the road crossings before school. We still need parent help to supervise the crossing area on the corner of Preston and Captsick Roads. This is probably the most dangerous spot for our children as another local student was hit by a car at this crossing just last week. If you are available to supervise at this crossing on any day Monday to Friday from 8.10am – 8.40am, please call our office and let us know.

### Sathya Sai Community Day

Next term on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October, Sathya Sai are hosting their annual Community Day. Please keep this date in mind and participate in the festivities. The theme for this event is “Love Thy Neighbour”. More information about the Community Day will be sent home next week.

### Netball Tournament

Last week our amazing and dedicated netball coaches – Whaea Renee and Whaea Nicole took 2 teams to represent our school at the Otago Primary Schools’ Netball Tournament. Whaea Renee’s Netball B team did well to place 5<sup>th</sup> in their grade and should be congratulated for their great effort, attitude and commitment to their team and the sport. Well done Whaea Renee and our wonderful Netball B team!

Whaea Nicole's Netball A team too did extremely well and took out the championship by a landslide! Congratulations Whaea Nicole and girls for the tremendous outcome and for being the 2016 Netball Champions for the Otara Primary Schools A Grade!

### Science Winners

Last Friday, Matua Nick took Daize, Janine, Fotu and James from his STEM class to a Solar Science Challenge where they submitted their solar car invention to compete against other schools. They came up against the likes of Bairds Mainfreight, Robertson Road and Papatoetoe Central and did really well to win 2<sup>nd</sup> place. This now places in the finals on November 26<sup>th</sup> where they will face more stronger opponents. Congratulations Matua Nick and students!

### Junior School Trip

Next Monday our Junior School, Rooms 4, 9 and 10 will be going on a trip to MOTAT. A newsletter was sent home earlier in the week advising of the cost and information regarding this trip. Please fill in the

return slip we sent home and return it to school as soon as possible. We will need parent help which your child's classroom teacher will confirm with you. The cost will be \$2.00.

We will also have a fundraiser this Friday at morning tea selling Milkshakes. This will help go towards the cost of our trip.

### Senior Camp

We are continuing to follow up with camp payments. Teachers will be visiting homes this week and next week, to explain more about camp and reassure parents about safety around the camp area and mainly the benefits of Camp with education outside the Classroom. We look forward to seeing you then.

### Dogs on School Property

Unfortunately we have experienced many incidents at school where stray dogs have entered our grounds. This raises health and safety concerns for our school as there is the potential for these dogs to attack a staff member or student. The dogs don't seem to be registered nor do they have any dog tags to identify their owners. Our immediate response is to

ensure the safety of our students and vacate the school grounds as quickly and as calmly as possible while we attempt to secure the dog/s. Our next step is to contact Animal Control to collect the animal. Please ensure that your dogs are secured safely at home and hopefully they're not one of the ones that have been disturbing our school grounds during school hours. Our staff and children's safety is paramount so please help us to keep Rongomai a safe place and report any stray dogs or better still, if you're a dog owner, keep your dog secured at home.

#### Feed the Need

Today is the last day for Feed the Need and I would like to express out gratitude to the Feed the Need organisation for providing every student in our school with a delicious, healthy and hot lunch for the past 4 weeks. We are indeed a blessed school and know that we are raising a generation of students who not only appreciate what they

receive, but who will indeed grow up to give back and help others.

#### Life Education Programme

Thank you to all our families for supported our students by paying \$2 towards the Life Education Programme. I believe all our staff and students truly appreciated the learning they gained from Harold the Giraffe and Whaea Raumati, our Life Ed teacher! Thank you Whaea Raumati and Harold for a great programme. We look forward to you visiting us again! Please send your child to school tomorrow with their \$2 for the Life Ed programme if you haven't already done so – thank you!

#### Last Week for Sistema

Just a note from our Sistema Team that this Friday will be the last time they'll be in our school and will return next term on October 17<sup>th</sup>. I am really looking forward to seeing our Sistema students showcase what they've learnt so far – watch this space!

### Paid Union Meeting

Tomorrow afternoon, a group of our staff will be attending a paid NZEI union meeting at the Vodafone Events Centre in Manukau. I am well aware that many schools have opted to close their school for the afternoon to allow their staff to attend. Rongomai will be open for instruction from 8.45am-2.45pm as per usual and we will ensure sufficient supervision for all our students continues.

### School Finishing Date and Time

Term 3 is the shortest term with only 9 weeks. Next week is Week 9 and the last week for the term. School will finish next Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September for Term 3, at the normal time of 2.45pm.

### He Konei Ra Matua Nick

Our wonderful Matua Nick has successfully won a position at Kauri Flats School in Takanini which begins in Term 4. This is a great opportunity that will enable him to lead STEM in a school with a strong schoolwide STEM focus. His last day will be next Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September where

he will then leave our shores to fly back to Canada and marry the love of his life.

Naturally all of Matua Nick's students, parents and our staff will miss him dearly but we release him with our best wishes and know that he will do greater things in education so keep an eye out for the name Nick Pattison!

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, Staff and Students, we thank you Matua Nick for your funny stories, getting our kids some really cool stuff, for scoring us a TESLA battery, the roosters who later became chickens and basically for the great contribution to our Rongomai School Community! We wish you well in all your future endeavours!

### Tongan Language Week

Last week we celebrated the beautiful Tongan language and culture! Thank you to Matua Altar for your time and dedication in planning and organising such an engaging, interactive and educational week! Thank you also to our Tongan parents – Whaea

Nardia Peni, Mrs Tufutele Finau, Mrs Mele Finau, Mrs Seni 'Aho, Mrs Pelenita Palu and Mrs Anita Taani. We appreciate your love and dedication to our school and for sharing your love for your culture with us. Ofa lahi atu!

Opening Assembly for Tongan Language Week



Crafts with Mrs Tufutele Finau



Traditional Tongan Dresswear

- A Tongan bride (Whaea Renee) sitting on her protector (Matua Lui), a Tongan groom (Matua Uai) and Matua Nick wearing traditional Tongan attire.



Have a wonderful week everyone!

Kia Manuia,

Whaea Pae

PRINCIPAL

Child's Name:	Room
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
I have read this week's school newsletter YES/NO	
Parent's signature: _____	

