



wish
Whaea

Newsletter

**Rāapa 3 o Hui-tanguru
Wednesday 3rd February**

2021

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

Welcome back to our Rongomaites – old and new! My staff and I have definitely missed our Rongomaites and are all excited about seeing them back at school!

There's a few important notices and upcoming events happening over the next few weeks so please continue reading to find out what's happening in the life of our school.

Staff who have left

At the end of last year, we sadly said farewell to Whaea Rachel, Miss Tumutoa and Hine Daniqua. Whaea Rachel has moved on to Kauri Flats in Takanini. Kauri Flats is a beautifully built school in

a newly developed area and is expected to have a thriving student roll over the next few years. We

Rachel all the very best and know that she will be a wonderful asset to her new school.

Hine Daniqua left us to complete her final year of her teaching degree. We are very proud of her for having the determination and perseverance to keep going. Many thanks to Hine Daniqua for her contribution to our Maori bilingual class – Akomanga Ono, and our kapa haka group. We wish her every success in her teaching career!

Miss Tumutoa was successful in winning a teaching position in the beautiful Cook Islands. Over the last two years, she led our Junior syndicate with determination, persistence, integrity, passion and professionalism. The Cook Islands are very blessed to have one of our taonga teaching in one of their schools and we trust that they will continue to support, develop and nurture her.

New staff

This year we welcome two wonderful, talented and intelligent teachers. A massive welcome to Hine Rosemary Monroe who is teaching Year 1 & 2's and is based in Room 8. Hine Rosemary is an energetic, kind, diligent and

conscientious young teacher and we feel so fortunate to have her on our team. Please take the time to greet her especially if you have tamariki in her class.

In addition to Hine Rosemary join our Rongomai whanau, we also welcome Whaea Marama Faitua who is our new Kaiako in the Year 1/2 Māori bilingual class – Akomanga Ono (Room 6). Whaea Marama comes to us with years of teaching experience which includes teaching in a kura kaupapa, alternative education residential, an early childhood centre and prior to that she taught at Clayton Park Primary School in Manurewa. If you have tamariki in her class, please feel free to visit Whaea Marama who is always very warm and welcoming.

Welcome to Rongomai School Hine Rosemary and Whaea Marama!!!

Māori and Cook Islands Bilingual Classes

This year , I am proud to announce that we now have a Māori bilingual class in the senior school with Whaea Maraea. It has been two decades since Rongomai School has been able to provide a Maori bilingual learning pathway and I feel optimistic about what this could do for our students, our staff and our Rongomai community.

In saying this, I feel very proud to announce our very first Kuki Airani

bilingual unit in our Year 1 & 2 syndicate. This class is being taught by our wonderful teacher – Whaea Christina Tuara. Whaea Christina is not new to our school however, she does come to us with a strength in speaking Reo Kuki Airani fluently and has a background in teaching in punanga reo (Cook Islands early childhood centre).

Classroom Teachers

Some of our teachers have switched classes and classroom levels. See below for an update of our teaching team:

Junior Syndicate – Years 1 & 2

Room 6 – Whaea Marama (Maori bilingual class)

Room 8 – Hine Rosemary

Room 9 – Whaea Christina (Kuki Airani bilingual class)

Room 10 – Whaea Alleena (Syndicate Leader)

Middle Syndicate – Years 3 & 4

Room 1 – Miss Vaha'akolo (Syndicate Leader)

Room 2 – Matua Ben

Room 3 – Matua Lui

Senior Syndicate – Years 5 & 6

Room 4 – Matua Vae (Syndicate Leader)

Room 5 – Whaea Maraea

Room 7 – Whaea Mellissa

Sunhats

At Rongomai School, we have a sunhat policy that requires all students and staff to wear a sunhat

in terms 1 & 4 when playing outside, especially during our break times. All tamariki have until the end of next week to bring a sunhat to school. Students who do not wear a sunhat during breaktimes, after next week, will be sent to the canopy where they'll be protected from the scorching NZ sun. Just a reminder whanau, Rongomai caps can be purchased from our school office for \$10.

Stationery

To ensure that your child gets the absolute most out of their learning, all stationery packs need to be purchased by the end of next week. Unfortunately, we do not give out stationery lists as we sell them. All packs can be purchased from our school office.

Below are the prices for 2021:

Year 0-2 packs \$18.00

Year 3-4 packs \$20.00

Year 5-6 packs \$30.00

School Uniform

School Uniform is compulsory for all students and can be purchased from the school office. We've tried extremely hard to keep the uniform costs low to accommodate for all our families and especially for our larger families and single parent homes.

Below is a list of our uniform prices:

Rongomai polo shirt - \$20 (all sizes)

Navy blue cargo shorts for boys and girls - \$18 (all sizes)

Navy blue skirt (girls only) - \$20

Rongomai long socks (boys only) - \$9

Navy blue Rongomai Cap - \$10 (one size)

Black Rongomai Beanie - \$12 (one size)

Black Rongomai Pullover cardigan - \$40 (all sizes)

Footwear must be black sandals or black shoes only.

Powhiri

It is tradition at Rongomai School to host a powhiri at least once a term to formally welcome new staff and new students. Next Friday morning, we will host our first powhiri for 2021. If your child is new to Rongomai School this year, please feel free to join them in next week's powhiri.

Whole School Trip

Every year, our school likes to start the year with a whole school trip. This year's whole school trip will be on Friday 19th Feb. At this time of the year, all the popular swimming spots are fully booked so we are currently in the process of locking down a venue. Once a venue has been confirmed, we will let our whanau know. For now, please mark Feb 19th as a Rongomai School trip day. Another newsletter will be sent home to invite parent helpers to assist on the day.

Walking Bus

Just a reminder that our Walking Bus (students who need to cross Ferguson, Preston and Dawson Roads) leaves our school at 2.40pm.

The remainder of students who walk home by themselves or get picked up after school, will be escorted to the school gates.

If any child is still waiting at the gate by 3pm, our Walking Bus duty teachers will bring them back to the school playground where they can be collected from. Please be on time whanau. School finishes at 2.45pm.

School Closed

Monday 8th February is the observed day for Waitangi Day and therefore, school will be closed next Monday.

If you have any concerns or queries about your child's schooling, please see their classroom teacher. Our teachers are available between 8.15am – 8.45am every morning (unless absent) or from 2.45pm on most afternoons.

Kia manuia,
Paeariki Johnson - Principal