



Raglan Area School TE KURA A ROHE O WHAINGAROA

Kia ora te whanau o Te Kura a Rohe o Whaingaroa

A huge congratulations to Sasha, Jack, Connor and Mason and to their dedicated teacher Ruth, for their impressive win at the Regional Drama Theatre competition where as first time entries from Raglan Area School they won the trophy against Hamilton schools. An outstanding performance received with such modesty! Well done indeed.

A reminder to save Saturday 9th September for a working bee at school if you have some time from 9am till 12:30. Refreshments and sustenance will be provided.

The basketball court is rebuilt, the 'flash' new classrooms have been completed inside and are looking to be finished at the end of term. The ministry visited last week and are impressed with the quality and the outcomes for our school.

With four weeks left in the term we are anxious that our seniors work hard to complete assignments and have them handed to teachers in a timely fashion. When you consider that the first external exams have now been brought forward to the 9th November, teaching time is now getting short. Please encourage and support our senior students to prioritise their studies.

I love data and hate the way it can be manipulated, so I find it a challenge not to become overly defensive. However, when ERO use raw data to make judgements I find it hard to resist. An example is, we were challenged about our UE entrance rate needing to improve. On the raw data, fair enough; however, they took all of the Year 13 enrolments with no cognizance of the students who left during the year to jobs, WINTEC, etc. So in rebuttal I would like you to know that of those students who remained and completed the year the UE rate was 15 of 22 students which is 68% and higher than the national average of 49.2%. The message is that students who determine to stay are most likely to also achieve UE alongside their Level 3 qualification (where ERO indicated we were well placed).

I did enjoy reading their page of great comments in student teacher relationships, student health and safety, community engagement, cultural competency etcetera, all of which are charter goals for our school being very effectively met.

Nga mihi
Malcolm

Growth Mindset - Ways to help your child

Talk About It

Talk with your child about his or her day, but guide the discussion by asking questions like:

- Did you make a mistake today? What did you learn?
- What did you do that was difficult today?

Encourage Failure (say what?!)

Your child needs to know that failure can (and often does) happen and it is okay! Remind them that each time they fail and try again, their brain is growing stronger! Don't step in to prevent your child's failure - this is how they learn to persevere in the face of challenges.

Praise the Process

Instead of saying, "you're so smart!" praise effort, goal setting, persisting through challenges, or being creative. You can say something like "Wow! You must have worked really hard on this!".

The Brain Can Grow!

Remind your child that his or her intelligence is not fixed. Remind them that when things are difficult, their brain grows by persisting through the challenge. Each time they learn something new, their brain is making new connections. Your child needs to know this is possible.

Help them change their dialogue

The way your child talks to them self makes a huge impact on their mindset. If they say, "this is too hard!" help them change that to "I can't do this yet, but I will keep trying." Give them the words to say when they feel defeated by modeling it yourself!

Senior Class Play Evening

Friday 18th August:

We had a very successful drama evening from our Year 9, 10 and 11 drama students who performed two plays at the town hall, which were both funny and thought provoking. Great job from you all, and we look forward to seeing more from you in the future!

Drama News



Theatre Sports

This year, drama teacher Whaea Ruth and a group of 4 drama students have been heading into Hamilton to compete in the Waikato Secondary school theatresports competition. After successfully maintaining their position in the top 4 after 4 rounds, our Year 9/10 theatresports team headed off to the finals on Monday night. This was the first time that Raglan Area School had ever competed and not only did they put on a great show, but they came home with first place, winning the trophy! Congratulations to our team Jack Kirkwood, Sasha Kirkwood, Connor Marquand and Mason Swann.



NZQA Fees and Financial Assistance

Students are required to pay their fees in order to have their results recorded on their Record of Achievement and to receive their certificates.

Fees remain unchanged for 2017:

- Student entry for all NCEA standards - \$76.70
- Student entry for a scholarship subject - \$30.00 per subject

Financial assistance is available to domestic students (New Zealanders and is 'beneficiary' or parental income based. Applications for financial assistance must be made through the school and be accompanied by a Financial Assistance form. These forms are available on the NZQA Website or at the school office.

These fees are due by 05 September 2017. Any queries please do not hesitate to contact Pauline Sweetman.

Senior Exams

Years 11-13 will be sitting their 'derived grade' exams during the last week of Term 3 (27-29 October). These exams serve 2 purposes. Firstly, if students are unable to attend the end of year exams due to illness, the grade from their 'derived grade' exams can count. Secondly, this is an opportunity to get some formal exam experience and practice before the end of year exams in Term 4.

All exams are 3 hours duration and students sitting exams are on study leave, meaning they stay home when not in a n exam.

For all non-exam students, classes will be running as normal. Students should check in during whanau time and negotiate where they would like to work and what they will complete. As most students are sitting exams it's a great chance for 1:1 time with teachers, for non exam students.

In short: Derived grades exams Years 11-13.

Dates:

Wednesday 27 September - Math and Maori (am) / Biology and Social Science (pm).

Thursday 28 September - English (am).

Friday 29 September - Science (am).

Morning exams being at 9.30 am in the school hall. Students need to be at school by 9.10 am for briefing. Afternoon exams begin at 2 pm in the school hall. Students need to be at school by 1.50 pm Any queries please contact Quenten Browne at school on 825 8140.

“Read to a Dog” programme run by local Library

The Raglan Library runs a programme once a week where children can read to a dog. It's an initiative in several public libraries around the country to encourage literacy, particularly for those children who struggle to read or are disengaged with reading. The dogs are a non-judgmental audience, and the

children really relax into reading while stroking the dog. Parents book a 15 minute slot on a Monday afternoon for their child. Our dog is Koey, who is a big softie and loves attention.

Year 9 Buddy Reading

This term as part of our Social Science and English programme, Whaea Lizzy's Year 9 class has been doing Tuakana-Teina reading with the three D block classes. Also known as buddy-reading, this is where older students visit younger students in class to read together.

As our class only has 12 students, one of the challenges to overcome has been the whakamaa (or shy-ness) of our Year 9s to lead a small group of 5-7 year olds. However, now that we are half-way through the term we look forward to every period 5 on a Tuesday - not just as it seems like an easy class for us! We think the D1-3 tamariki enjoy us coming too, and hopefully their reading skills and confidence benefit, although its only 20 minutes in each class.

Some quotes from students include:

Year 0-2 comments

I like reading to them cos' its fun.

Buddy Reading is cool cos' I read to them and they read to me.

They help me read.

Its different to reading to the teacher, they're kind of like an adult but they're younger than an adult.

I sometimes see my friend and speak French.

I like reading with Josef.

Its good to share with the older kids.

Its the only time (or we never get) to see/meet the older kids.

I like reading with my cousin.

It feels like learning but its fun!

Year 9 comments:

Its fun cos' it doesn't feel like learning...

Its good to know the little kids.

I like seeing / getting to know / hanging out with the little ones.

We are building relationships.

They learn really quickly / I like seeing the progression.

They're so smart compared to when I was that age.

I like meeting new teina each week and getting to know more.

These comments show that the Tuakana and the Teina are growing their appreciation of all four of our School Values:

MANAAKITANGA (caring for others),
KAITIAKITANGA (guardianship of our kura),
WHAKAWHANAUNGATANGA (relationship building)
and **POUTAMA** (striving to do our best)

Year 9 & 10 Get 2 Go Challenge 2017

This year we took a team of eight Year 9 and 10 students over the hill to Cambridge to compete in the Waikato Regional Get2Go Challenge. This was a full on day of activities that saw our team competing against the best high school teams in the Waikato. They began with a kayaking/paddle boarding challenge on lake Karapiro where we kept up with the top teams! We then sprinted around the Karapiro domain in an orienteering challenge, before heading into Cambridge for a mind boggling, body breaking, teamwork challenge like no other.

The final challenge was a mountain biking relay where again Raglan gave an awesome effort. In the end we placed 10th out of 24 teams, which was an epic result. Next year we will be aiming for the number one spot, whereby teams get to go to Great Barrier Island for a week long national Get 2 Go competition.

Congratulations to Sasha, Paris, Lydie, Tina-Marie, Andre, Duran, Emanuel and Kana.

