

Kia ora

I learnt a new word today when I read the newspaper and that is "leapling" and it applies to any person who happens to be born on the 29th February. I have always wondered what it must be like to live with only having an official birthday once every fourth year, and when do you celebrate your birthday on the other years. As I get older I think less birthdays may possibly be a very good idea.

To anyone with this very special birthday I hope you have the happiest of days and have special plans.

This week we had a team of around 25 swimmers head off to the **tri-school swimming sports**. This means they were competing against children from Loburn and North Loburn schools. We had some wonderful results on the day and now have a team of six heading to Rakahuris next week. Congratulations to the following swimmers...

Maddy Isherwood 50m freestyle, 50m backstroke, 50m breaststroke
Kayla Brunt 50m breaststroke
Chloe Rooyakkers 50m butterfly
Matthew Gwilliam 50m freestyle, 50m backstroke
Millie Pomare-Edwards 50m backstroke



As you are aware we are **closing the school early on the 20th March** so that teaching staff can attend their paid union meeting. I want to also bring to your attention that **school closes early on the 25th March** (it has been on the bottom of my weekly newsletter all term). This is so we can hold learning conferences. By then all testing will have been completed across the school and you will be able to sit with your child and their teacher to set new goals for the next term.

NEW BREAK TIME NAMES

With adding a break time to the day with our new timetable there was confusion over what to call the second "lunchtime" of the day as students are not required to sit and eat at this time so our Kaitātaki (Hunter and Kayla), with the support of Mrs Standen, have come up with new names for our breaks. They are as follows:

10.20-10.40am **Paramanwa** - means refreshment, snack, nibbles, morning tea

12.00 - 12.30pm **Kai nui** - means lunchtime

1.30-2.00pm **Whakangā** - means take a break, relax, breathe

INTRODUCING... OUR WONDERFUL LEARNING ASSISTANTS!

Karen

Kia Ora, I am joining Rākau this year as one of their learning assistants. I provide support with an open personality as I help guide learners through the learning process. I have a strong sense of self-belief about learners and am committed to ensuring all students have the opportunity to reach their fullest potential. I live in Rangiora with my husband Karl and two children, Zoe and Riley. We also have two dogs, Harley and Larni.

Away from school, I enjoy spending time with my whānau hiking and walking on the beach. I am also part of a local Dragon Boat racing team, which brings out the competitiveness in me!



Caitlin

Kia Ora, I am excited to be one of the learning assistants in Rākau, Harakeke and Mānuka this year. I am currently in my second year at university studying to be a primary school teacher. Being able to work alongside tamariki and kaiako at our kura while I study is amazing.

My partner Kolisi and myself live just out of Oxford with our dogs - Bailey and Honey. We love spending time with them and our whānau.



Tracey

Kia Ora, I am excited to be one of the learning assistants in Rākau this year. I love working alongside kaiako and tamariki and am passionate about helping tamariki achieve their best. I am also on my own learning journey in my second year of study to become a primary school teacher. I feel fortunate to be able to continue working at our lovely kura whilst studying too.

I live in Rangiora with my husband Richard, two of our children, Georgia and Connor, and our dog Milo. Our eldest son Cameron lives in Auckland.

When I'm not at school I enjoy spending time with family and friends, watching my husband and children play football, various crafts as well as walking and exploring our beautiful outdoors.



Danica:

Kia ora Rākau whānau! I am Danica, one of the learning assistants and I will be doing some work alongside the amazing teachers in Rākau. I am also doing some work in Mānuka this year.

I live in Rangiora with my 2 daughters, Shelby and Eva, my husband and our 2 guinea pigs, Liz and Nugget - who are possibly the most spoilt guinea pigs you'd ever meet.

I enjoy spending time with my whānau around North Canterbury and over on the beautiful West Coast.



Hi, My name is Jan Dwight and I am a Learning Assistant, working mainly in the Harakeke classes. I am also the school librarian. I really love my job.

I am married to Paul and we have a 22 year daughter, Dana. We live with our fur whanau: Our new 9 month old border collie puppy, Kip, and his two cat brothers, Dude and Eli..

Away from school, I love to crochet or knit, read a good book and enjoy spending lots of time in our beautiful garden. Paul and I walk heaps, and we love to e-bike.



PTA Community Survey

The PTA is wanting feedback from the community. Thank you to the **7 families** that have filled this in so far.

We really do want to know what you think so please have your say by taking 5-10 minutes to respond.

PTA Pasta Fundraiser
Please see the attachment in your eMails for more info.

REACH ASSEMBLY FOCUS FOR THE WEEK

This Week's Focus

Excellence

Excellence is the second of our REACH values and it can be shown in many different ways.




Examples

- Persevering when things are hard.
- Practising new skills so we can get better at them.
- Listening well when things are being explained so you can understand and then use them to your advantage.
- ALWAYS give nothing but your best effort - if you try your best, that's all anyone can ask.

Karakia

E te whānau hui
Whāia te mātauranga kia mārāma
Kia whai take ngā mahi katoa
tū māia, tū kaha
Aroha atu aroha mai
Tātou i a tātou katoa

For this gathering
Seek knowledge and understanding
Have purpose in all that you do
Stand tall, be strong
Let us show respect
for each other



Kiwaha



Ata Mārie
-Good Morning :)

Our karakia for this term -this is how we start our day and also any assemblies. This was chosen this time by our Kaitātaki and Mrs Standen.

Each week we have a new kiwaha (saying) that we practice as a way to build up our reo. This is introduced on a Monday at assembly.

ENVIROSCHOOLS
Learning for Sustainability
Ways to become sustainable tamariki

Grow a garden (even just in a bucket)
Turn off the tap while you brush your teeth
Have a quick shower
Try and use reusable containers in your lunchbox



This year we are renewing our efforts as an Enviroschool. Currently, we hold Bronze status. Our strategic goal is that over the next two years, we will work hard to gain silver status. This means that, as a whole school, we need to work towards this. We now have Krysta Taylor working specifically in this area across the school every second Thursday and she is working with the tamariki on the five guiding principles of the programme. This fortnight the focus has been around **sustainability**. Our whānau house activities for the next term will also have an environmental focus around noticing what we have within our kura.

WORKING BEE!
24TH MARCH 10AM - 1PM
PLEASE LOCK IN THE DATE TO COME
AND HELP US OUT AROUND THE
SCHOOL

Sunday March 10 and 17th starting at 9am and all over by midday.

The riverbed site chosen for clearing is alongside the local airfield at the North end of Mertons Road. Those interested should gather in the large open area alongside Groyne 2, between the airfield and the riverbed. The weed-clearing area is within easy walking distance of the car-park, so anyone, of any age, is welcome (but not dogs). The occasion is also an excellent opportunity to learn more about what the Group does to assist the birds. Gloves will be needed, and a small handsaw and/or grubber might be useful – but not vital. Make sure you have appropriate clothing for the day, plus footwear (which might get wet).



There is no need to register your interest – just turn up by 9am.



Out Of Zone Enrolments

We have spaces available for 2024.

Please apply with an expression of interest including your child's name and DOB to:

office@ashleyrasahuri.school.nz



PTA 2024 AGM

Please join us
We need YOU!

Thursday March 14th 7PM

School office

Drinks & Nibbles provided

RSVP to email: pta@ashleyrasahuri.school.nz

Scholastic Book Orders

These are due March 15th

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7th March Rakahuri Swimming Sports

14th March PTA AGM in school staffroom 7pm

20th March Paid Union Meeting for Teachers - school closing 1pm

24th March Working Bee at school 10am - 1pm

25th March Learning Conferences - school closes at 12.30pm

27th March Whole school marae visit - Rehua Marae

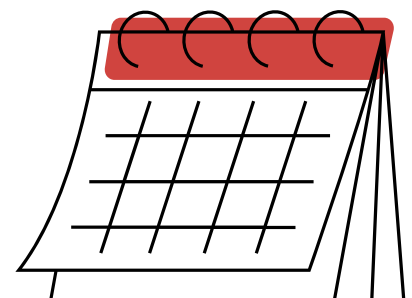
29th March Good Friday Holiday

1st April Easter Monday Holiday

2nd April Easter Tuesday Holiday

12th April End of Term 1

29th April Term 2 Starts



Linda Horne - Principal/Tumuaki
principal@ashleyrasahuri.school.nz



Rowing For Life
Aotearoa NZ 2024

Raising funds for...



SURF LIFE SAVING
NEW ZEALAND

Waikuku Beach

9th March

11am-4pm



Supported by Local Lions Clubs NZ



Family Picnic Day

Crew arrive 12noon approx

Games for children

Food and Ice cream available to buy

RESPECT