

# RHODE STREET SCHOOL

*Everyone Growing and Respecting a Quality Learning Whanau*

Principal's Korero

Tena koutou te whanau and welcome to week 3 of term 2, 2010 here at Rhode Street School.

Last Friday's **double Disco night** was a great success. Thanks to all the parents and whanau who supported their tamariki by getting them to the disco's and picking them up afterwards safely. The Student Council did a great job in organising this event and thank all the teachers and Auntie Winnie for their support also.

Congratulations to our five **parent trustees** who will serve on the **Board of Trustees** for the next three years here at Rhode Street School: Lex Kemara, Michelle Deakin and Milton Ngaruhe return for another term and are joined by our new parents, Tania Kemara and Pakewa Watene. Our staff trustee will be selected after a postal election which is currently underway. I look forward to our first Board meeting in late May when we will elect this year's Board Chairperson and set about reviewing the school's strategic plan.

This term our **Inquiry Focus** is on the seasons of Autumn and Winter. The whole school will be answering a scenario posed by a reporter who wants to visit the school early in term three to see what has changed at Rhode Street School over the past year and in particular what we are planning to do with our gardens, orchards, hydroponics and kitchen leading up to Matariki and our Kai Festival for 2011. Teachers from every class are working with our students to include their "voice" in our planning and success criteria when it comes to researching and reporting on what we are going to learn about around the seasons and how they impact on us.

**National Standards** workshops are being run this term to assist the school's leadership team and teaching staff to prepare our first formal written report on each student for you as parents. At our **student led conferences** in week nine of this term we will be reporting our professional judgement of where we believe your child is at and what progress they are making against a set of national standards in numeracy, reading and writing. If you were unable to attend last term's student led conferences, it is very important that you contact your child's teacher as soon as possible to arrange a time to meet so that they can up date you on how well your child is progressing.

Last week Michelle Ryan (Junior Syndicate Leader and Reception Class Teacher) visited a number of pre-school institutions to present them with our school prospectus and morning tea. It was our way of sharing what great things can happen for your child if they attend our school as well as making those important connections with the teachers who help prepare your child for primary school. There is ample evidence in many research papers about **the importance of children attending pre-school** for at least a year in order for them to have a great start at primary school; the evidence also endorses the relationships between schools when transition takes place ensuring that there is clear communication and expectations for what needs to be taught and when. By the time a student starts school here at Rhode Street it is our hope that they are ready to learn, have established learning habits, and have whanau who support that learning in the home as well as at school.

Once again this week we welcome more **visitors to our school** from a far. Fruit in Schools Coordinators from Waitakare DHB will be here along with a group of students from Te Ara Rima here in Hamilton. Both groups are looking at our Healthy Eating / Healthy Action Programme as well as at our Enviroschools Programme. This is another opportunity for our students to share and celebrate their learning and achievements with our wider community. Another way is through **our school web site which is being re-launched** this month. I will keep you posted on this closer to the launch date.

Have an awesome week whanau.

Mauriora

Shane Ngatai  
*Principal and Proud of it.*

**BOT Election:**

There were 5 parent rep places on the Rhode Street School Board of Trustees and as at the close of nominations, I had received only 5 nomination forms back the people nominated become the duly appointed Board of Trustees and no election is required.

**Caught being good:**

Tamyah Edwards-Tahere, Chevy Hayden Room 10, Jordan Farrell Rm 7, Nikayla Paki Room 1, Michael Walters & Amber MacMillan Room 4.

**School Disco:**

Congratulations to the Student Council who managed to raise a whopping \$424.80 at the school disco last Friday and I believe these proceeds are all going towards the upgrade of our school playgrounds.

**School swimming:**

This is happening in week 10, 21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> June & week 11, 28<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July. The cost for swimming is \$30.00 which covers the cost for the 30 min swimming lessons and transport to and from the pools. You can come into the office now and pay by instalments or set up an automatic payment. Payment must be made in full before the commencement of swimming. The auto payment is not an option after the 21<sup>st</sup> May *no exceptions* and payments must be regular.

**School absences or lateness:**

Please remember to phone the school office on 8477245 or text the office on 021960562, before 9am, if your child is going to be late or absent from school. For any absence of 3 days or more a medical certificate is required. It is the parent/caregivers responsibility to notify the school and if no explanation is given Sash the local truancy service maybe asked to visit your home to check that your child is home and not truant or lost between home and school.

**For your convenience you can purchase from the school office a school magnet with the term dates and school contact numbers for \$1.00.**

**Naming of school uniforms:**

When items of school uniform are made from the school office, all items are named, if the names on your childs school uniform should become too light to read due to washing, please come and ask for the articles of clothing to be renamed especially *the polar fleece jerseys!*

Term 2 - Week 3	Dental caravan is in school all week
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Technology for Yr 7 & Yr 8 students that have paid technology fee for term 1.
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	NZEI paid union meetings 2-4 pm, only those students that have sent notes to Mrs McGregor will be given permission to leave school at 2 pm.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	1.45 pm – Assembly run by the Enviro Team
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	1:45 pm - Assembly run by Room 6

As a parent I had the priviledge of attending the last HSP maths evening and came away with some really cool ideas and free games to play with my child to help with his learning, there is another maths HSP evening next Wednesday at 5:00 pm, don't miss out on this great opportunity and if you come down earlier they even feed you. Be nice to see you there ☺ *Aunty Winnie*

**SOS!! Sorting Out Sounds:**

*Is your child difficult to understand? Do they miss sounds out of words? Do they change sounds in words? Not sure what to do? If you are nodding yes to thse questions, then perhaps this course is for you! This Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010, 9.30 am – 2:30 pm,,, Ken Browne Drive, Te Rapa. Please phone 8508880 for any more information.*

**School Banking:**

Hamilton Credit Union provides a school banking service to all pupils at Rhode Street School. Getting started is easy

- pick up an application pack from the school office, fill in the application form and return it to the school office.
- If your children already do school banking – great! Remember, the school banking is collected on Tuesday mornings and the books returned on Wednesday.