

RHODE STREET SCHOOL

Everyone Growing and Respecting a Quality Learning Whanau

Principal's Korero

Kia ora te whanau and welcome to the first week of term three, 2010, here at Rhode Street School. Welcome to our new students and their whanau and welcome back to Mrs. Erika Keyser who starts in Room 12 today with our second new entrant class. Mrs. Keyser returns to Rhode Street now that her maternity leave is over and she has created an awesome learning environment in our school hall for our ever growing school roll.

During the term break I travelled to the **NZ School Trustees Conference** in Christchurch with our Board of Trustees. We attended many workshops on school governance and leadership, listened to three inspirational key note speakers, and continued building a team ready and willing to work at improving student achievement here at Rhode Street School.

The key focus on improving student achievement in everything that we do and every decision we make here at Rhode Street will form the foundation of our revised **School Charter** and strategic direction. Over the next two months, **the Board will consult** widely with our school community of students, staff and whanau to determine our local curriculum goals for the next three year cycle of raising student achievement through: inquiry learning, home-school partnerships, environmental sustainability, and assessment for learning. Board members will organise several hui, surveys and questionnaires to determine what you want to support as whanau for the learning and achievement here at school.

Also during the term break new paving was installed leading out to our playing field and several repairs were made to existing paved areas to make them safer for our students, staff and visitors. The on-going cycle of property maintenance is being capably managed by the Board through our property manager Mr. Alastair Kerr. On behalf of the school community, thank you Alastair for your continued hard work and creative efforts. Thank you also to Auntie Winnie, who kept the office running through the term break, answered the phone, enrolled new students, kept the bills paid and up to date, and worked hard at making Rhode Street School the preferred school of choice in our wider community.

Our Holiday Programme was well supported and Pat Broomhall reports that all the children who attended had a great two weeks of active play and learning. Pat leaves us soon to have her first baby but will be returning next year to continue her great programmes around the school.

Several teaching and support staff had a well deserved break over the past two weeks both here and in Australia. I am proud of my staff and encourage them to rest well so that they return refreshed and ready to teach each term. Saying that, I am also encouraged to see them organised and committed during the break to attend courses, prepare their planning, resources and rooms for term three whilst maintaining a strong work-life balance. We too have families and children of our own to attend to and ensuring that we get that right, is critical to being ready and focused to serve our school community and support your children and their learning.

Term three is jammed packed with learning opportunities for every student here at school. Your child's classroom teacher will send home a **class news letter** by the end of this week, clearly outlining their programmes for learning in all the curriculum areas. They will detail how you can continue to support the learning at home and what activities and events are coming up where we need your support.

For those few whanau who have not attended a student led conference with your child and their teacher as yet, I **am asking you to make this a top priority for this week**. We need your input into completing the writing of your child's first National Standards Report. Without your input, all the hard work and progress your child has made to date can not be supported by you and your acknowledgment. **You need to know where they are at and you need to let them know you care and want them to be successful with their learning**, by turning up. Please make the effort for your child/ren whanau.

Have an awesome week.

Mauriora

Shane Ngatai
Principal and proud of it

School Assemblies:

With the new setup of room 12 in the school hall, there is a change to our Friday assemblies. These will now be held in the Vicki Signal Media Centre, with the junior syndicate assembly in the morning, middle syndicate in the middle block after interval and the seniors will have their assembly in the final block, before home time. Specific times will be mentioned in the classroom letters that will be sent home Friday.

School uniform:

There are now available to buy for students from the office, black polar fleece sleeveless vests and school rain jackets for \$32.00 each. These new items of uniform are not compulsory but an extra that parents can choose whether to purchase or not. PLEASE remember to check that all uniform items are clearly named.

McCain School vege patches:

Please remember to bring into school all your barcodes off any McCain frozen veges packs. There is a lovely brown box on the shelf in the office foyer to place them in. All barcodes collected put the school in the draw for free veges patches.

School Absence:

Do not forget to phone the school office on 8477245 or txt 021960562 for any absences your children may have before 9.00 am each morning to avoid the sending of SASH our local school attendance service.


Week 1- 19 th July 2010	
Friday 23 rd May	Class newsletters will be sent home today.
Week 2 – 26 th July 2010	<i>Maori language week</i>
Tuesday 27 th July	Technology for our yr 7 & yr 8 students.
Tuesday 27 th July	BOT Meeting 5.00pm, all welcome.

Community News:

Mooloo Open Day -- 11am – 1pm -- Sunday 25th July at Waikato Stadium -- FREE

Face painting, bouncy castles, meet the players, sausage sizzle, dance with mooloo, awesome prizes,

Bodywise Programme Update (For managing weight issues in children 5-12 yrs)

Bodywise is a family based programme held in Hamilton aimed at managing weight issues in children of primary and intermediate school age. Our next age group, starting end of July  is for children 8-9 years. Each group runs initially for 6 weeks, with twice weekly meetings, after which time children and their families are followed up with support for a period of 12 months. Label reading for healthy food choices, food preparation, family goal setting, introducing new foods and backyard games are just a few of the things included in the group activities. If you would like further information have a chat to your school public health nurse, or phone Helen or Soroya for an information leaflet or follow the link:

www.waikatodhb.govt.nz/page/pageid/2145848362/Bodywise Bodywise Programme is a District Health Board/ Sport Waikato initiative. Bodywise Programme contacts: Helen Stockman Bodywise Dietitian - 07 8383565 ext 2142 stockmaH@waikatodhb.govt.nz
Soroya McGall–Bodywise Active Families Co-ordinator Sport Waikato 07 8585388 soroyam@sportwaikato.org.nz

Need help with NCEA fees?

Finance is available to assist with payment of fees'

For National Secondary Schools qualifications.

For more info go to www.nzqa.govt.nz



WINTER WARMERS

Brr... it's cold out there!

Now that winter is upon us its really important that we to keep eating healthy and stay active.

Winter tends to be a time when we eat more and hibernate inside.

This term you will get ideas about how to beat the winter blues and stay healthy.

Tip: Feeling cold? Do some star jumps to warm up!

