

# RHODE STREET SCHOOL

*Everyone Growing and Respecting a Quality Learning Whānau*

Principal's Korero

Kia ora te whānau and welcome to week four, term one here at Rhode Street School. After a month of settling in, students, staff and parents are working well at implementing the school's **expectations** for learning and achievement. The majority of students are attending school in the correct uniform, on time, with their lunch in their bags and a full puku after a god nights sleep. Like any organisation of a similar size and purpose, we still have a few whānau who need either our support or further reminding of what their **responsibilities** are to their children, our staff and our school. I have on a few occasions had to speak with some parents about how together we can **support** their child to ensure they have the best **opportunities** to grow and learn here at school. I am encouraged by the **resilience** of our students and whānau who always try to do their best regardless of what may be happening at home and/or out in the wider community. The best way to support each other is to keep the **communication** channels open, fluid and positive.

Thank you to the parents and extended whānau of students who turned up to our **Parent/Teacher BBQ** last Tuesday evening. It was a great opportunity for you to meet our new teachers, catch up with each other and share some kai around the tables in our newly roofed Kai Time Café. Last Friday was also another opportunity for whānau to come along and support our students and teachers at our Tabloid Sports Day.

Rhode Street School prides itself on being an open school for our community and that pride was reinforced with the number of parents who enrolled in our **Community Garden Project** last week, sponsored by Palmers Garden World in Greenwood Street. Thank you to Alastair Kerr (RSS) and Gary Peacham (Sport Waikato) for their leadership and support respectively. This project is held every Tuesday between 10.00 am and 12 noon here at school. Please contact Winnie in the office if you would like to take part.

Another proud moment last week was hosting 25 ASB regional bank managers from the Waikato and Bay of Plenty along with several head office managers. They were here to listen to our students share their learning journeys and achievements as a whole school over the past three years. Our students represented Rhode Street School with honour and were able to clearly articulate what they had learnt, why they had learnt it and what they did with the new knowledge. We also hosted several staff from the Waitemata and North Harbour DHB's the previous week, who were also suitably impressed with our school and its learning environments.

This week I will be attending a workshop with our Deputy Principal, Lois McGregor and Assistant Principal, Raewyn Fitch on the new **National Standards for Literacy and Numeracy Achievement**. As a school we are looking forward to implementing the processes required of all primary schools this year to report (at least twice a year) on each individual student to their parents on whether they are meeting or not meeting the prescribed National Standard for reading, writing and mathematics. National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics provide signposts that give teachers, children, parents, families and whānau a clear idea of where children are at in their learning and what they have to do next. Our first written report will be shared with you at our **Student Led Conferences** in week nine of term two. But well before then our teachers would have shared with you your child's individual progress at our first student led conferences in week nine of this term. Please ensure you plan to come on either the Tuesday or Wednesday (30<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> March) to hear your child talk about their learning and progress.

Our tri-annual **Board of Trustee elections** are on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010. All parents who have students currently enrolled at Rhode Street School are eligible to stand as a parent trustee for the Board of Trustees here at Rhode Street School. Our returning officer is Aunty Winnie and she will be calling for nominations shortly.

Finally, our **2010 Kai Festival** is on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March here at school from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm. Hangi tickets will go on sale next week (you will need to pre-book your hangi tickets to ensure you do not miss out) from the school office at \$10.00 each. Each classroom will also be selling a wide range of Maori and Pacifica kai on the night, with many ingredients grown here at school by the students and prepared in our commercial kitchen. Live entertainment includes drummers and Kapa Haka. Eftpos and cash sales only and entry is free.

Have an awesome week.

Shane Ngatai  
*Principal and Proud of it.*

*Please turn over the page.*

**Caught being good:**

Romeo Akuhata Rm 9, Adrianna Walker Rm 8, Chonnie Walters Rm 5, Kasie-Ann McNayghton & Brittany Blair Rm 4, Mikaere Marsh Rm 1.

**Rhode Street School Sustainable Kids Before & Afterschool Care.:**

Do you need before or after school care? We have a sustainable kid's programme that is available before school from 7.30 – 8.30am with breakfast provided and after school care from 2.30 – 5.30pm with afternoon tea provided. The programmes are available full or part time and are WINZ subsidised and Oscar affiliated. If you are interested or would like more information contact the office 8477245 or Pat 021 968753. Places still available.

**Student absent or lateness:**

If your child is going to be absent from school or will be arriving late please ring the office and leave a message. For children who are continually late, they may have to make up the time missed in the morning during their lunchtime, it can be disruptive when a child arrives late and the class is expected to sit still while the teacher has to repeat what may have already happened in class.

Week 3 – 15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> February	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Parents gardening course 10-12pm (see insert)
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm Meet the teachers barbeque
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	1:45 pm – Room 10 Assembly
Week 4 – 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> February	
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Technology for Year 7s & 8s
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	BOT Meeting 4pm in Tane Mahuta the Vicki Signal Media Centre
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	1:45 pm – Room 2 Assembly
Week 5 – 1 <sup>st</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> March	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	HPV Vaccinations
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	1:45 pm – Room 8 Assembly.

Parents Inc. are starting a new Toolbox course for parents of 6 to 12 year olds in Hamilton, starting on Monday 22 February at 7.15pm. The Toolbox groups offer a unique approach to parent education, offering practical skills and strategies that you can immediately incorporate into your family. This is a six week course, two hours per week. Cost \$67.50 per person or \$90 a couple (which includes a comprehensive manual and a year's subscription to the Parenting magazine). For more information contact Fiona on 855-1241 or [hamiltontbx@parentsinc.org.nz](mailto:hamiltontbx@parentsinc.org.nz). Thanks heaps for your support. If you have any queries regarding the Toolbox courses feel free to contact me.

The **2010 Perry Foundation Rev Cycle Festival** has something for everyone, from competitive racing through to little tackers on training wheels. Plus there are HEAPS of great prizes, a family festival of FREE entertainment and you can cool off in the University of Waikato pool for free.

The under 10's can enter the free 6km REV Kids mountain bike ride through Ruakura farmland and tracks, while the over 10's can do a lap or two of the REV Intro 9km circuit – also suitable for parents wanting to cycle with their children.

Lots of different categories for teenagers, teachers and parents including the Waikato Link Business Battle with the Lance Armstrong Trophy up for grabs.

Race day is SOON – check out details on the website and get an entry in TODAY!

**When?** Race day is 20 February 2010 **Where?** The University of Waikato **Call:** 07 838 4664

**Visit:** [www.therev.co.nz](http://www.therev.co.nz)