

## KIA ORA – GREETINGS

We have all made it to the end of the term. It has been a marathon team effort.

Thank you for your support and understanding when we have taught short-staffed as we weather the impacts of Covid and winter illness. I acknowledge the staff who have been amazing at covering, doubling up and continuing to teach enabling us to keep the School open. Thank you our Team.

Debra Peck

## COMMUNITY SCIENCE EVENING & MATARIKI HANGI 2022

Ngā mihi koutou (thank you) for celebrating Matariki with us. We are grateful that so many of you could come down and be a part of this special day. Our ākonga (learners) were extremely proud to share the different ways they have been learning to weave Mātauranga (Māori knowledge) into our Science Inquiry learning during this term's Inquiry.

Matariki is the Māori New Year. This is symbolised in the sky by the arrival of the Matariki star cluster.

It is a time to reflect on the past year. We acknowledge those that are important to us, and a special mihi to those who have left us, our ancestors. As a sign of remembrance, our whānau planted the names of their loved ones that they had written on the stars.

Planting our new garden also symbolised a new beginning. It was so magical to watch whānau work together and plant a tree. We have even seen people come back to view their handy work.

Our Matariki Hāngi brought our community together and we are very proud of how our community responded to our appeal for wood, kai and newspapers. Every donation was greatly appreciated. We would like to especially thank Margaret and VJ from 4 Square for providing kai for our hāngi workers. It was well received and kept them fuelled to continue with their mahi.

Thank you all for coming to our evening, it was really great to see the school buzzing again with whānau. Hearing and watching people join in with our waiata was beautiful and contributed to the wairua (feeling/spirit) of the evening.

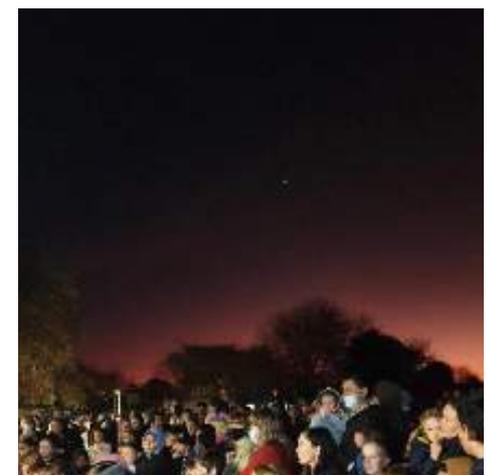
The evening could not have been possible without the input and consultation with our Māori Focus Group.

Ngā mihi koutou!

Mānawatia a Matariki (Happy Matariki),  
Janine McIntyre and Tash Whitta

# "Whakaute atu, whakaute mai."

**Give respect, receive respect. Respect for people, respect for knowledge, respect for standards, respect for the environment.**



# CLASS CELEBRATIONS-MATARIKI

## POUTAMA

We loved having our whānau come to visit us on our Community Night. Over the term our tamariki have been working towards making a presentation about how they can be the kaitiaki of our new garden. It was wonderful to be able to share our learning with you all.



## PAE AKE

We are so lucky to have had Mrs Ruawai join our team last week for the rest of the year! We have been doing a lot of exploring around Matariki this week, including this fabulous weaving activity that Mrs Ruawai taught many of the children in Pae Ake!



## PIAKO TAHI

In Piako Tahī we loved learning about celebrating Matariki and the 9 special stars, developing an understanding of how important the holiday is to Aotearoa. We have had so much fun in class making kites, woven stars, weaving and learning a new Waiata (song). We also visited the school Hāngi and explored this traditional way of cooking.



## PIAKO RUA

We did lots of exploring about Matariki in Piako Rua and loved sharing our learning on our open night! Check out some of our stories about Matariki.



### What is Matariki?

*Matariki is when we celebrate the Māori new year and only Aotearoa celebrate Matariki. Each time we celebrate we have a hāngi feast together. We can only see the 9 stars at six o'clock in the morning when it is not cloudy and only in May or June. The names are called Waitī, Waitā, Waipuna-ā-rangi, Tupuānuku, Tupuārangi, Ururangi, Pohutukawa, Hiwa-i-te-rangi and the lucky last one is Matariki. Those are the 9 stars of Matariki.*

**By Elsie**

### Matariki

*Matariki is a celebration in New Zealand. Pohutukawa is the star of people that have passed away. Waitī is the star of the fresh water. Waitā is the star of the salt water. Matariki is the star of well-being. Hiwa-i-te-rangi is the star of wishes and Ururangi is the star of wind. Waipuna-ā-rangi is the star of rain. Tupuānuku is the star of nature from soil. Tupuārangi is the star of berries and birds.*

**By Jorja**

## POUNAMU ATAWHAI

Our Matariki Community Evening felt like the perfect way to come together and celebrate the science learning we've been doing this term. Our ākonga worked hard to set up the new outdoor space behind Poutama and get it ready for planting. They designed the layout, dug up the paths, put in the holes and even laid bark around our new plants. We're already noticing a few pīwakawaka hanging around! This has been a truly authentic way for our tamariki to engage in science and celebrate the beginning of something new for Matariki.



# CLASS CELEBRATIONS

## POUTAMA

It has been a busy couple of weeks in Poutama. Our tamariki have been finishing off their projects as part of our Kaitiakitanga Inquiry. They have also had lots of opportunities to be creative. Baking continues to be a popular activity in Poutama, with children organising the bringing of the ingredients and working together to create some delicious kai.



## PAE AKE

Pae Ake has enjoyed a wide variety of Opt Ins on Fun Friday as always: The Arts - Koura Craft, Science - Balloon Rockets and Cooking - Vegetable Soup.



## KI O RAHI TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to our Ki O Rahi team who competed as part of an interschool Ki O Rahi / Matariki tournament.



# CROSS COUNTRY - YEAR 1-3

Our Year 1-3 students finally got to run the Cross Country distance at school on Tuesday. A huge congratulations to everyone that took part and an extra acknowledgement of the top 3 runners from each race.

**Year 1 Girls: 1st Anika, 2nd Kora, 3rd Grace**

**Year 1 Boys: 1st Parker, 2nd Ethan, 3rd Blake**



**Year 2 Girls: 1st Quinn, 2nd Peyton, 3rd Siena**

**Year 2 Boys: 1st James, 2nd Austin, 3rd Cooper**



**Year 3 Girls: 1st Koni-Leigh, 2nd Arabella, 3rd Charlotte**

**Year 3 Boys: 1st Teityn, 2nd Zac P, 3rd Cameron & Elijah**



## KIND HEARTS

### SOCK PUPPETS FOR RIVERDALE KINDY

Pounamu Atawhai spent some time making sock puppets this week for the Riverdale Kindergarten children. We made a variety of new friends and we know the kindy children will love playing with them.

We used new socks, felt, wool and ribbon to decorate them. We can't wait to deliver them next term.



## RIGHT CHOICE DAY

We certainly celebrated the end of Term Two in style. Our Box Car Drive-in Movie was a hit with the kids. Thank you to our whānau at home for helping the tamariki make their box cars.

The children also enjoyed a Fish and Chip lunch. We sincerely thank the PTA for organising this for us and for providing the cool spot prizes. It was a real treat!



## NEW WORLD PIONEER DONATION

### NEW BOOKS

A huge **THANK YOU** to the team at Pioneer New World! Thanks to your generosity we have been able to purchase a substantial amount of new Reading Books for our Junior School. This is incredibly important to the success of our students' reading and we feel incredibly lucky to have these beautiful new books in our school!



## TERM DATES

Events also on the Parent Calendar via the School App and on the School Website;

### WEEK TEN TERM TWO

Friday 8 July      Right Choice Day  
Last Day of Term

### WEEK ONE TERM THREE

Monday 25 July      First Day of Term Three

### WEEK TWO TERM THREE

Tuesday 2 August      Year 6 Visit to PNINS

Term 2 ends Friday 8 July  
Term 3 starts Monday 25 July

## TU MEKE TUMUAKI

As a staff we would like to publicly acknowledge our Tumuaki, our Principal, Debra Peck. It has been a challenging term once again, with staff required to isolate and with illness. As Principal, part of Deb's job is to ensure that the school is staffed appropriately. At times this term, it has been like moving sands. We thank Deb sincerely for ensuring we are always adequately staffed and for her compassion and understanding when we are unwell.

NZEI has recognised the substantial amount of extra pressure the nation's Principals are under and has created the Tu Meke Tumuaki campaign. This week schools across the motu are taking the time to let their Principal know how much they are valued. To that end, we would like to say 'Thank You' to Deb for everything you do for the staff and students at Riverdale School.

You are very much appreciated.

Ngā mihi  
The Riverdale School Staff



## HERO REPORTS

Just a reminder that you are able to view your child's learning progress and celebrations via the HERO App. Please click the link on the Riverdale School App. If you need instructions to download the app please see the [Hero Information to Parents and Caregivers 2022](#) on our School App.

## YEAR 6 BENCH

Once again, the incredible team from Bunnings donated a bench for our Year 6 students to decorate in memory of their time at Riverdale. This year's bench will be set up in the new outdoor garden area and each of our Year 6 students have added a stencilled kiwiana image. Thanks for your incredible generosity Bunnings, we know this bench will get a lot of use.

