

NAU MAI HAERE MAI

We will appropriately farewell Sue Meurk, Christine Helm and Kelly Mercer at the end of 2021, to acknowledge their substantial contribution over a large number of years. Sue and Christine are taking well earned retirement and Kelly Mercer will take up Principal of Whangarei Heads School in Northland. They have 53 years of dedicated service to Riverdale School between them. Due to Covid level 2 we will have an invite only function off the School site rather than our usual full school farewell assemblies. We welcome Selina McCallum (Deputy Principal) and Joshua Lyons (Teacher) for the beginning of 2022. School opens Tuesday 2 February 2022 for Teacher Only Days and Kanohi ki te Kanohi meetings. All children begin on Tuesday 8 February 2022.

VACCINE MANDATE

All staff onsite at Riverdale School comply with the Covid 19 Mandate. We ask that for the safety of everyone's child you remain outside the Learning Spaces when children are inside. Whilst it is legally permissible for parents to collect and settle children (without us asking vaccination status) it is impossible to maintain a safe inside distance of 1m from all other students, therefore if you are needing to enter any space between 8.30 am and 3.15pm please sign in at the office and we will help you. Remember mask wearing is a requirement.

PAE AKE CLASS CELEBRATIONS

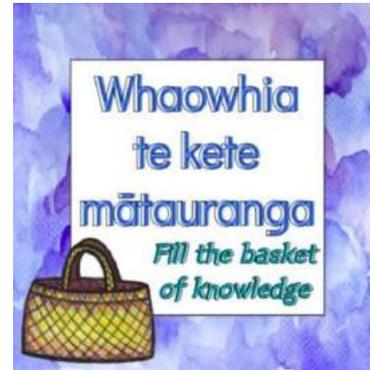
Pae Ake are so clever at using a wide variety of maths equipment and strategies to help us solve tricky maths problems! We are also super lucky to have some senior sports coaches taking us for a variety of sports activities on a Friday. They do such a great job and we love the games they organise for us!



To our students:

Isabella D

We wish you happy days at Riverdale School



SCIENCE DAY

Last Friday we ended our Term 4 Inquiry focus with a whole school Science Day! Children were able to choose from 16 exciting options that our talented teachers had on offer. This was a fantastic opportunity for our older (tuakana) children to develop relationships with our younger (teina) students. It was also a super fun way to practise the skills we've been learning, "to think like scientists". Riverdale students were recently in the newspaper celebrating Science at Riverdale School.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/300461933/house-of-science-opens-its-doors-in-manawatu>



KIND DONATION

Riverdale School was lucky enough to win a \$500 voucher from the Warehouse last term. Our amazing PTA kindly matched this amount so all of our spaces could purchase new Board Games to encourage hands on play, especially during wet days. Teachers will be purchasing these items when the best specials are on offer early next year. A huge thankyou to the Warehouse and our thoughtful PTA.

TENNIS IN SCHOOL

We are very lucky to have Tennis Hot Shot instructors in the school this term. They are working on fundamental tennis skills with our year 4-6 students. We have seen a rise in the tennis gear being used across the school. Tennis is a great skill to practice as it improves both gross and fine motor skills. It also is an awesome game! We are hoping to continue the program into next year for our younger tamariki.



RIPPA RUGBY

Rippa Rugby has continued in the afternoons and the kids are really enjoying playing games and the chance to take on their friends during competition.

A big thankyou to all those who decided to donate their \$5 registration towards new Rippa gear. We had enough to get three more complete sets and some Rugby balls.



TERM DATES

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

WEEK SEVEN TERM FOUR

Thursday 2 December	Comms Team Trip
Friday 3 December	Road Patrol Reward

WEEK EIGHT TERM FOUR

Monday 6 December	Te Puawai Concert - In school for Level 2
Wednesday 8 December	Monrad Transition for enrolled students
Thursday 9 December	Certificate Assembly - Students only
Friday 10 December	Right Choice Day School Reports home

WEEK NINE TERM FOUR

Tuesday 14 December	End of Year Assembly Year 6 Leavers Breakfast
Wednesday 15 December	School finishes at 12 noon End of Term 4 2021

Term 1 starts Tuesday 8 February 2022

ATHLETICS DAY

After the cancellation from the Massey Track, we decided to hold our own Athletics Days here at Riverdale School.

Year 1-3 students competed on Thursday and Year 4-6 on Friday. It was great to see the variety of skills on display and the determination in a competitive setting.

The positive attitude to get involved and do the best you can in all events was the common message throughout the day. Below are the overall winners based on points from each discipline.

Year 1 Girl: Kora T	Year 1 Boy: Arjay M
Year 2 Girl: Luca B	Year 2 Boy: Elijah L
Year 3 Girl: Meleane T	Year 3 Boy: Grayson W
Year 4 Girl: Indi C	Year 4 Boy: Lucas H
Year 5 Girl: Keira M	Year 5 Boy: Quinn B
Year 6 Girl: Mikaela T	Year 6 Boy: Tawera H

Thank you to Jared Bron for advocating for our children in organising this event twice.



ROAD PATROL

Constable Barclay was on site last week to train all of our new Road Patrollers for 2022.

We had a whopping 28 children put their hand up to get involved next year which was fantastic!

There will be a refresher lesson early next year with Constable Barclay to make sure we know exactly what to do again after the holidays.

Duty rosters for those involved will be sent out early next year. Well done team.





2022 ORGANISATION

We are well underway with placing children for next year.

Below is a map of the Teams makeup for 2022.

Once placements are confirmed, it will not be possible to make changes.

Please don't assume all teachers will be in the same spaces as this year - we often make changes based on a number of factors. Every Collaboration in our school is a Flexible Learning Space with composite classes. That means there are 2-3 Year groups of children in each space.

A reminder that whether your child is (for example) a Year 5 in Poutama or Pounamu Atawhai, they will have the same opportunities and experiences. The applies to all year levels.

Our class placement process is considerable - we certainly don't just pop names on a list.

We gather data from teachers and create draft lists. These lists go back to the teams to see what the combinations look like to them. We then tweak and rework the lists until we have our final placements.

We think about children who work well together and those who don't. We consider teacher strengths and personalities to match individuals.

While we try hard to ensure everyone has children that they know with them, sometimes they may not be in the same Learning Space as their best friend - this happens.

Children get an opportunity to work with different people and to widen their friendship circles.

We encourage you to be positive about the placement with your child. This information will be on the End of Year Report.

If there are any other considerations that we should be aware of, please ensure that you make time to contact Debra by Friday 3 December 2021.

