

Term 3, Week 2 , 14 August, 2023

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Whānau,

The next few weeks are a very busy period here at school. With the Poetry/Speech Competitions, Pet Day and the Inter School Cross Country competitions, some of our students will be working hard in some tight time frames. I have explained to them that we simply ask that they do their best and tick each event off as they complete them. This can be seen as either a difficult time for your child, or it can be used as a time for them to work hard, build resilience, and demonstrate our WAKA values.

Important Events coming up

Healthy Active Learning Rodney Schools Girls (Year 5-7 only) Activation Day Don't forget that on the 25th of August, we'll be participating in the Healthy Active Learning event in Warkworth. It's a valuable opportunity for our students to engage in healthy activities. Thanks Ra, for helping with transport.

Poetry and Speech Competition - Our school's poetry and speech competition is just around the corner! It will be held on the 29th and 30th of August. The winners of this competition will have the honor of representing our school at the Rodney Rural Schools Speech Competition, which is scheduled for the 31st of August at TKKM o Ngāringaomatariki. After the hugely successful results in 2022, we will have a target on our backs. Here are the time limits for each year group:

- Year 1/2: 30 seconds - 1 min 30 (poetry recital)
- Year 3/4: 30 seconds - 1 min 30
- Year 5/6: 1 min 30 - 3 min

- Year 7/8: 3 min - 4 min 30

Judging Criteria - both for our school and inter school.

- Striking introduction - capture the audience and hold their attention
- Comfortable recitation of the poem/speech
- Involvement of the audience, catching and holding their attention
- Good use of technical aspects - volume, varied tone, expressiveness, use of pause
- Good use of physical aspects - gestures, posture, eye contact
- Stay within the stated time frame

Interschool Cross Country Day - In week 10, on Tuesday, the 19th of September, our students will be participating in the Interschool Cross Country event. Let's show our support as they take on this exciting challenge!

Pet Day - Remember to mark your calendars for Saturday, the 16th of September. Pet Day promises to be a fun-filled day where we can showcase our pets and enjoy various activities.

Pet day Animals - After much thought and consideration, we have decided that these are the animals you can bring; lambs, goats, chickens, rabbits, calves, budgies, fish, horses. Check with Andrew (principal@pakiri.school.nz) if you are unsure. Please ensure you attend to the food and water needs of your pet for the duration of the morning.

Small animals must be caged. Lambs, goats and calves must be tied up. These are judged on coming when called, so bring milk bottles, being led, perfect health and children will be questioned on the age and breed of the animal. Overall champion is usually from one of these



categories based on the following criteria;

- Close relationship with owner
- Care and knowledge of the pet and it's breed

Each animal type has its own category, with 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Highly Commended. Ribbons are awarded.

A cup is awarded each year to the champion of champions - traditionally this has included points on inside displays and pet results. This will continue this year - just with a smaller display inside.



Lastly, we recently had a Tsunami drill, ensuring that our students know how to manage emergency situations and what we do. We all walked up the hill to our safe location - the water tank on the hill above Biscuit and Trina's house. This promoted lots of discussion and questions about the reasons why and what would happen if we were at home. Have you got a plan in place?



At some stage next week, we will be carrying out a short lockdown practice. This is required by law and is necessary should a real-life situation require it. Please be assured that we will make the practice "low key" and simply walk through how we respond in such a situation. We will not scare children; and we encourage you to chat through the need to practise such a drill. Lockdown procedures can be needed for a wide range of possible scenarios.

Thank you to all those who attended the Pet Day hui a fortnight ago, and we look forward to seeing you all again later this afternoon, 14th of August, at 5:30 pm here at the school. We'll be discussing the arrangements for the upcoming Pet Day and assigning responsibilities for various roles. Your presence and input are essential!

Nga mihi,

Andrew Chambers

Tumuaki/Principal