

School Newsletter



Ramarama School
Growing Successful Futures, Together

126 Ararimu Road, Drury 2579 Ph. 09 2948 795 email: admin@ramarama.school.nz

Week 5, Term 1

Principal's Post Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa. **Greetings to you all.**

We had a fabulous day last week at our Senior School Swimming sports. And as you can see from the photo the winning Awhina Team was Puriri. Congratulations to all those students who made it through to the ECCS event. We really appreciated all the help we got to provide transport and help with all the jobs on the day. Once again your children were stunning, supporting each other, being ready for events, accepting disappointments and celebrating successes. Te mutunga kē mai nei. Absolutely awesome, the best!



The remodelling of Piwakawaka/Pukeko is slowly continuing. The projected completion is the beginning of April but we all know that good things take time and sometimes delays occur. I'm sure that Term 2 will see the Year 5 & 6 team safely ensconced in their new space! We are all looking forward to that.

We are really lucky that we have fabulous relieving teachers in the school! Mrs Cuthbert will be in Kereru a while longer as Mrs McMillan's injury is proving to be more challenging than she initially thought. We will keep you posted.

One of the jobs of the Board of Trustees is to monitor our policies and ensure that they reflect what we do in school and that they meet the needs of our students and whanau. The first of those to be reviewed this year is **Recognition of Cultural Identity**. We would love you to have a look at the policy and give us your feedback.

1. Visit the website <http://ramarama.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>
2. Enter the username (ramarama) and password (calclub).
3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
4. Read the policy.
5. Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
6. Select the reviewer type "Parent".
7. Enter your name (optional).
8. Submit your ratings and comments.

If you don't have internet access, Dearnā can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.

Nga mihi, kia pai tōu rā
Sue Walls
Principal / Tumuaki

Reminders

Junior Swimming Carnival

Thursday 9 March 1-3pm

Every year we hold a Junior Swimming Carnival which involves all the students in Years 1-4. We hold this in our school pool and the teachers and students show you what they have been learning during school swimming sessions. We will confirm times for each class closer to the time, but for now keep the afternoon free to come along and support your child/ren. We will also have some ice-blocks for sale once the carnival is finished.



Notifying School of Student absences - A reminder if your child is absent from school or late you can phone the office on 09 2948 795 or text 0275 342 226.

Please remember to report to the school office to sign out your child should you need to take them during school hours to appointments etc. Should your child also be late to school, they need to visit the school office before making their way to class.

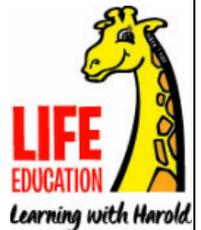
Emergency Contacts and Medical Details

Please ensure any changes required to your child's address, emergency contacts and medical conditions are made on the pink sheet that was sent home on Monday. It is vital that we have accurate information for our records. Thanks to those parents who have returned the forms already.



School Donations and fees Sincere thanks to those parents that have paid their school donations and class levy fees.

Life Education Thank you to those families that have given their \$5 towards Life Education. A reminder these payments would be appreciated by the end of this week. \$5 per pupil.



What's on

Date	What? Where?	Who?	Contact
Wed 1 March	ECCS Swimming		m.way@ramarama.school.nz
Thurs 9 Mar	Junior School Swimming Carnival	Y 1 - 4	t.campbell@ramarama.school.nz
16 - 22 Mar	Year 5 & 6 EOTC week	Y 5 & 6	s.aislabie@ramarama.school v.cameron@ramarama.school
16 March	BOT meeting 6.30pm Library	All welcome	sue.walls@ramarama.school.nz

P.T.A / WE NEED YOU!!

The PTA had its AGM last night. Unfortunately a poor turnout resulted in key positions not being filled. For starters, we desperately need a treasurer. Without a treasurer we can't really function as a PTA. Our treasurer's job isn't complex (accounting qualifications not necessary) and can be accomplished on a simple spreadsheet taking an hour a week.

The PTA needs more support from you if it's to be effective. Being a supporter isn't about attending committee meetings. It's about sparing some time – a little bit of time every now and again.

Some fundraising projects can be done from home in your own time e.g. yummy apple stickers, entertainment books. Some require an hour or so, here or there, during school hours e.g. sorting chocolate boxes, making school lunches once a term. Some might involve an hour at the Drury shops on a weekend when we're selling raffle tickets. Being a PTA supporter isn't glamorous (but neither is being a parent), however if one of these options may suit you please call me to discuss.

The PTA have done some great things for the school (i.e. for the benefit of your children) over recent years, including resurfacing the sports courts with astroturf and installing shade sails over the playgrounds are some of the more visible achievements. This year we hope to support the school's 150th Jubilee celebrations being held in November.

Put your hand up now and rescue our PTA from a tragic and unnecessary death (before it's too late)!

Peter Thornley
thornley@ihug.co.nz
021 678 500

Board Of Trustees Newsletter

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2017.



Expectation of a Trustee

The BoT have a governance role to ensure every child achieves their full potential at Ramarama School. To help us achieve this we are expected to attend monthly BoT meetings and additional professional development courses. We are also encouraged to attend the annual NZSTA conference. BoT trustees are paid \$55 a meeting and the chair \$75 as recommended in the NZSTA guidelines. We pride ourselves on our open and transparent processes. Any parent/caregiver is welcome to attend a meeting.

Welcome and Congratulations

This meeting we welcomed Rachelle Baker as the BoT Staff Representative. Rachelle is an active member of our teaching team and school community. Richard Taylor has agreed to continue as our Chairman. Thank you Richard. The BoT would also like to welcome Ms Vivian Lee our new Spanish and Choir Leader and the Student Leaders who have been successfully elected for 2017.

Plans

The BoT sets the direction for the school through charters and policies. We have evaluated the strategic plan, the 10-year property plan, the school charter, and the 2017 budget. We are also finding out the implications of being in a "Community of Learning" with other local schools.

Reviews

Through an effective programme of internal evaluation, the BoT measures the performance of the school. We will be looking for public consultation regarding The Recognition of Cultural Diversity policy this term. We will also be reviewing the BYOD guidelines as many of the current devices will come off-lease in early 2018. The intermediate aged student retention survey will be discussed more fully in our next meeting.

Upcoming Events

A Whanau Hui will be held for families of children of Maori descent on Thursday 30th March at 6.30pm in the Library. Please come and tell us your perspectives on what we are doing well, and what we can be doing better. The Jubilee Weekend will be held for all past and present learners and their families on 3rd/4th/5th November 2017. More information to follow.

Next meeting is scheduled Thursday 16th March @18.30 in the School Library.

This is a summary of the meeting on Thursday 16th February 2017. Once confirmed, a copy of the board's meeting minutes will be in the school office. These are public documents and you are welcome to view them
<http://parents.education.govt.nz/primary-school/getting-involved-in-your-childs-school/your-school-board-of-trustees/>

Board Member of the Month

Andrea Foster

Hi, welcome back to school after what I hope was an enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

I am a second term trustee with an interest in education and improving educational outcomes for our children. I trained as a teacher and taught in high needs areas in London, from that experience I know that we are fortunate to work with a committed teaching team and have a safe, positive learning environment.

In addition to PTA and Board activities it is nice to feel welcome at school to help and celebrate achievements. It is heartwarming to see the support our children have throughout the year.

I work part time locally which fits well around school hours, extracurricular activities and traffic!

My husband and I live on a lifestyle block in Ramarama with our children Grace and George. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with family and friends, swimming, walking, biking, yoga and reading.

Community Notices

Join us on Wednesday 15th March at Te Puru Park for the
'Beachlands Kids Obstacle Duathlon'

RUN, BIKE, OBSTACLE COURSE RUN

Year 4 – 8 students represent your school as an individual or
in a 2-Person Team.

Enter online @ www.bsgevents.co.nz



FIT360 GROUP FITNESS

Boxing and circuit training. Any level of fitness. First class is free then \$10 including gear hire. Please arrive fifteen minutes early for your first class for an induction. Check out Fit360 on Facebook for more information on locations and what we do in the classes.

Tuesdays Drury School Hall 6:30pm
Thursdays Ramarama School Hall 6:30pm