

Monday 4th April 2022 - Week 9

Kia Ora Ramarama School whanau,

The last two weeks at school have been challenging. We have been seeing some very aggressive, anti-social and blatantly rude behaviours in some of our students. We have all noticed the lack of respect for school property and the school rules. Students are having to be reminded time and again about the rules and the ways we expect them to behave at school. We have a number of positive incentives for our students, capability cards, certificates, points systems, awhina tokens and a variety of different things in the learning spaces to encourage good behaviour and kindness towards others. Teachers have been in contact with parents and caregivers about these challenges as well and yesterday we had an assembly after lunch to talk to all the students about the issues. It was great to hear from the students some ways they thought we could improve things.

Their ideas were:

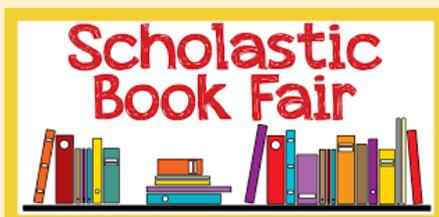
- Be kind to everyone
- Don't tease people and talk to them in a kind way
- Don't yell or sulk if you don't get your own way
- Stop doing things that you know annoy other people
- Don't hit or kick people
- Make sure you don't run around the buildings
- Focus on your learning and be the best you can be.

As you can tell from this list the students themselves have noticed a change in behaviours and attitudes. I want to acknowledge that we have all had a tough time in the last two years with continual disruptions to our school year and normal routines. But the lack of resilience and the lack of social skills is very hard to manage in both the playground and the classroom currently.

Teachers are working very hard to set clear expectations and routines in the classroom and by this stage of the year these should be well established. We are looking at ways we can build up resilience and focus on all the positives, so if you have any ideas for us we would love to hear about them!

Please support this at home by talking about behaviour and encouraging your child to be the best they can be and how to treat people with kindness.

I also want to acknowledge all the wonderful students who make our school a great place to be and who do treat people with kindness and follow the rules. We hope that these students will continue to be great role models to others!



Book Fair:

Thank you to everyone who supported the book fair. We sold over \$3k worth of books and earned our school \$1,200 worth of points to spend on new books for the school library. Thank you to Mrs Paton for organising this for us.

Ramarama School Rules



- I will **TREASURE** and respect myself, others and our school environment.
- I will **CHALLENGE** myself to be the best that I can be.
- I will **EXPLORE** new opportunities and act responsibly.

Congratulations:



Olivia, Amelia, Lennon, Alyson, Mia, Duke, Zoe, Jackson, Darcie, Charlotte, Suah, Carter, Samantha, Harrison, Connor, Lily-Drew and Rose were all presented with certificates at assembly last week for demonstrating the school value of being collaborative! Thank you for being great role models of how to get along with others and work together to achieve a common goal.

Congratulations also to Lily, Sophie, Honor, Toby, Billie, Maisie, Rose, Lexi, Darcie, Bailey, Charlotte, Ruby, Myla, Alek, William, Tyla, Queenie and Ella for all being selected to be the 2022 school librarians.

A special congratulations to Ayla and Callum who were selected as the 2022 Head Librarians.



Covid Response Update:

We currently only have **2** positive student cases and **1** staff member that are all at home recovering and we send them all our best wishes. If your family needs anything while you are isolating please let me know.

Overall we have had **48** positive cases throughout the school this term.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Details	Who
6 April	PTA Meeting	Via Zoom	pta@ramarama.school.nz
7 April	Subway Lunches	Order online	
8 April	Franklin Basketball skills sessions	All Year 4- 8 students	At school during the day
14 April	Last day of Term 1- school finishes at 3pm	We will have an end of term assembly at 1:45pm outside in the quad if any parents or caregivers would like to attend.	principal@ramarama.school.nz

You can also download the Skool Loop app and select Ramarama School as your school. This will give you access to the yearly calendar, allow you to report an absence and also find permission slips etc.

Nga mihi nui
Tania Campbell
Tumuaki/Principal

BOT UPDATE

Kia ora koutou,

Unbelievably, we are less than 2 weeks away from the end of term! While it might seem like our school has remained relatively undisturbed by the Omicron wave compared to so many other schools, we have had 35 (and counting) days disrupted due to staff illness or isolation. These days have been covered by relievers, by reallocating release days or by Tania. Only 4 of these days have been able to be claimed back from the MoE and we have received \$2000 to cover COVID costs, such as relievers, from the MoE this term - so anything above this comes out of our original operating grant. Despite this, we have kept all classes open and have not had to move to distance learning or re-allocate students, and most importantly the in-person learning has continued. This is no mean feat and we are so grateful, thank you to all the staff and Tania who will no doubt be feeling like they've done a years' work in a term, and to our parents/caregivers and kids for playing their part too. While we're not out of the woods yet, we hope there is some light at the end of the tunnel for everyone soon.

You may have received a note from your child's teacher - or heard from your child - that there have been some behavioural issues this term. It would seem this is not limited to our school and likely a result of the many months of uncertainty and time out of the classroom. The BoT has written to the Ministry of Education to highlight this and have requested additional support. Our kids and families have been through a lot, it's a turbulent time and the teachers are navigating this as best they can, any support from home would be appreciated too. Please communicate with the school if you have any thoughts or concerns on this.

School is traditionally the heart of the community, and while we've had to stay off-site this term we'd like to thank all those who are working so hard to keep us connected, even if it's just a friendly wave from the car! It's great to see the PTA adapt to this too - please do check out the PTA's Facebook page, and if you can offer your support - even if it's just your 'presence' it is very, very appreciated. Fundraising will be so important for our school this year, for reasons mentioned above and because we are a decile 8 school so we do not get additional funding, per pupil, by way of the MoE donation scheme - so every single dollar is fought for and carefully allocated.

Finally, welcome to Megan Paton who has joined the BoT as the Teacher Rep, in place of Rachelle Baker.

Have a lovely break, take care - and here's to a brighter term two.

Catherine Ball, on behalf of the Ramarama BoT

PTA NEWS

Hi Ramarama Whanau.

Easter Raffle

Wow, this year's Easter Raffle is even bigger than last years! Almost 3000 tickets were sold and I could not be more amazed by the efforts of our students and their families. Also a huge thank you to our student leaders who helped create the prize bags and sort the raffle tickets.

There will be a live draw in the Quad on Friday with Mrs Campbell and a PTA representative, including the prize for the most tickets sold!

Lunches from Subway

Don't forget to order your lunch from Subway this week! Subway is by far our most popular lunch offering and going forward, we will be continuing our Subway offer but offering more sporadic lunch options throughout the remainder of the year. We send our greatest thanks to Suzanne at Autobahn for the offerings she produced for our students.

PTA Zoom Meeting

Our end of term meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th April at 8pm on Zoom. This meeting will be to discuss the results of the Easter Raffle, lunch offerings and any other general matters that may be presented to the PTA. A link for this meeting is available via the PTA Facebook page.

Thank you again to everyone who supports the PTA and in turn, our school.

Aliesha Rowe

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