

1st November 2021

Kia Ora Ramarama School whanau,



Welcome to Week 3 of Term 4 and Happy Diwali.

This is the 9th full week of Distance Learning but in reality we have now been in Lockdown for 11 and a half weeks. It is starting to take a toll on us all. It is harder to maintain a sense of normality and it is very hard to keep our tamariki motivated to complete distance learning requirements.

We continue to advocate for you to do what suits your family and to ensure your child completes the tasks as best they can throughout the day or week. As always we mark the attendance register as “present” for anyone who is completing at least one Seesaw task each day- as this is really the only record we have. We know that this is becoming increasingly difficult for some children. So take a day off and don't feel guilty about that! Just communicate this with your child's teacher so they know what is happening.



For the next two weeks (Week 3 & 4) we will continue to upload learning tasks on Seesaw and if you have any worksheets left to do these can also be worked on and uploaded to share with your child's teacher. The daily Facebook challenges will continue and if school does not start back on the 15th November we will also do another round of worksheets and readers for those that want them.

On Friday's we will continue with Awhina Group Zoom meetings and a follow up activity and then the rest of the day is yours to fill. This gives us all a chance to step away from the screens and refresh after a full week.

If your work requirements have changed and you are now working outside the home and need support with childcare then please let me know asap as I need to organise staffing and also maintain the on-line teaching requirements. The next date we are able to take students will be from **Monday 8th November**. Please remember that this is only if you are working outside the home and you have no alternative childcare. Please email me principal@ramarama.school.nz to arrange.



This Thursday 4th November is Outdoor Classroom Day- this is a day we always celebrate here at Ramarama School as we believe play and being outdoors is essential learning.

We would normally have a school wide play day- but because we can't be together this year I have encouraged all our staff to think about how they can facilitate that this year remotely. So look out for Thursday's Seesaw tasks and activities as I know they will be making the most of this!

Staffing for 2022:

We have started trying to plan for the 2022 school year and it is always an interesting time as we look at numbers at each year level and decide what classes will look like each year. As most of you are aware, being a smaller school means we often have to change the class levels slightly to meet the needs of all our students and respond to numbers at each year level. 2022 will see us alter classes slightly once again.

We will be saying farewell to some very valued members of staff at the end of the year.

- After 23 years of service to the school Wendy Van der Meer will be leaving and relocating to Rotorua to be closer to her whanau. Wendy has been an amazing Teacher Aide and Librarian helping so many students with extra support in Literacy and Numeracy over the years. She will be sorely missed by us all as she is a wonderful colleague and friend to us all.
- Also heading to Rotorua is Rob Van der Meer, our caretaker. We thank Rob for his work over the last 6 years and know that both he and Wendy will enjoy being closer to their wonderful whanau.
- Tim Dennis will also be leaving us as his whanau relocate to Taranaki at the end of the year. Tim and his two children who attend Ramarama School- Brooklyn and Carter will all be missed by us all. We know that Tim will continue to flourish in his teaching career as he takes up a new role at Pembroke School in Stratford. We will miss Tim and his passion for teaching and learning in a flipped classroom- Pembroke School is very lucky to be getting such a great educator and colleague.
- Veronica Orme will also be leaving her full time position here at Ramarama School while she takes the opportunity to spend time with her own children and work part time in the education sector. Veronica has been a wonderful teacher and her passion for Te Ao Maori and Kapa Haka has seen our school flourish in this area. We know that this is not a goodbye but see you soon as Veronica will join our regular relieving teacher list.
- We will be welcoming both Kath Blakie and Lynne Penney back in more permanent roles as they will be co-teaching in the Weka Learning Space. Both Kath and Lynne are very capable New Entrant teachers and they are looking forward to giving our New Entrants in 2022 the best possible start to school.
- I am also in the process of recruiting a new teacher for the Year 2/3 level in 2022 and I hope to have this finalised within the next fortnight. We have had some amazing applicants.

Learning Space	Class Level	Staff
Weka Learning Space	Year 0/1	Kath Blakie & Lynne Penney
Toutouwai Learning Space	Year 1/2	Rachelle Baker
Pukeko Learning Space	Year 2/3	Verna Cameron
Piwakawaka Learning Space	Year 2/3	TBC
Kiwi Learning Space	Year 4	Kelly Steward
Ruru Learning Space	Year 5/6	Regan Baxter
Kakapo Learning Space	Year 5/6	Megan Paton
Tui Learning Space	Year 7/8	Marquerite Way
Takahe Learning Space	Year 7/8	Cheree Cowsill

- If your child is in Year 6 and will not be returning to Ramarama School in 2022 for Year 7/8 can you please let me know asap.

Calf Club:

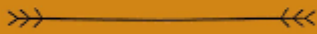
A massive thank you to Denise McCorry from Everest In Home Childcare for sponsoring all the Calf Club ribbons this year. We will be organising to get the ribbons out to everyone this week as we think it is important to acknowledge this effort in a timely manner.

Once your ribbons arrive we would love you to send in a photo of your child so when can share them.

If we do not get the signal to return to school on the 15th November we will also judge the projects virtually and get the ribbons and certificates out to these students as well.



**E HARA TAKU TOA
I TE TOA TAKITAHU,
HE TOA TAKITINI**



MY STRENGTH IS NOT
AS AN INDIVIDUAL,
BUT AS A COLLECTIVE

Kia kaha Ramarama School whanau!

Ngā mihi,
Tania Campbell
Tumuaki/Principal