



Term 3, Week 9, 7 December, 2023

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Whānau

This is the final “full” newsletter of the term and year and, therefore, the last one for me to write as Principal of Riverview School. It has certainly been a privilege and honour to lead this wonderful school and to work with so many great staff, Board members, students, and families over these years.

I would like to share two reflections that come from a desire to promote positives, rather than to criticise, and ask that you accept these in that spirit:

1. I believe children (and many parents) would benefit greatly in developing more resilience in order to cope with the challenges that our futures will bring. We live in exciting times, but also in times of great change. One area where I have seen significant change is in the attitude of (some) parents of being unwilling to entrust decisions about their children to teachers while their children are at school. Early in my career, this was never an issue. If the school when a teacher made a decision, it was seldom challenged by parents and there was a strong belief and trust that the teacher was doing what was best for the child. Of course, some mistakes were made, and some teachers (and schools) occasionally let parents and children down, but there was a general, mutual trust that teachers were there to teach children, care for them, and keep them safe.

Today, our teachers are just as caring as at any time in my career (probably more so), but the questioning and doubting of parents over all manner of large and small matters is swamping teachers, with some parents wanting to micro-manage their child from a distance. (Some) parents want to control who their child sits beside, what they do at play times, what happens when a child loses something, or has a disagreement with another child, which vehicle they should travel in and who with, etc. Unless there is a specific and **significant** reason for the request, these are reasonably minor matters. Having children learning to cope with multiple factors, that are not their first preference is actually positive in their developing resilience and in growing our HEARTWISE value of Tolerance.

Teachers do care for your child. If ever there was a perfect opportunity for students (and parents) to develop the resilience and skills needed to cope with the challenges that life will bring, parents sending them to school, and having confidence in the school to do what is right, is the ideal opportunity.

Thank you to all those parents that do trust teachers to make fair decisions, and who thank teachers for their efforts. It is truly appreciated.

P.T.O.

2. The second is to reflect on the amazing support that we have at Riverview School from so many parents and members of our community. In my 14 years here, we have always had the parent support needed for a huge variety of school needs including: class trips, camps, Kapa Haka festivals, the PTA and fundraising events, being on the Board of Trustees, and so many other acts of service.

This is such a positive feature of our school and community and goes against the trend that many other schools are experiencing. We are all aware of the pressures that families are experiencing economically, and with demands on time and availability, and I know that Riverview School is a far better place of education because of the large number of people willing to help make it that way.

Other End-of-Year Information:

- ♦ The Year 6 classes have enjoyed their annual Sail Day experiences at Lake Manuwai on Monday and Tuesday. Thank you to Derry Godbert for helping us once again, to all those who provided transport and assistance on and off the water, and to Mrs Ayr for once again organising this special event.
- ♦ Thank you in advance to everyone that is coming along to our annual Christmas Carols this evening. To all those that helped to organise and run this event, or to provide food options, well done. You are officially on Santa's "nice" list.
- ♦ Well done also to all our Years 1 and 2 children for your wonderful Variety Show held on Wednesday afternoon for all your parents and whānau. It was so much fun, and showed that we have a lot of talent coming through our junior school.
- ♦ Next Wednesday, our special Year 6 Celebration Assembly takes place in the afternoon, starting promptly at 1:00pm. Because we have outgrown the hall, we ask that only family and whānau of Year 6 children come along. Thank you.
- ♦ Next Thursday, reports, 2024 class placement letters, and stationery lists will be sent home for all Years 1-5 students. Year 6 students will also receive their reports.
- ♦ Next Friday, 15 December, is the last day of Term 4. There will be no school buses running, and school will conclude at 12noon. Please be sure to plan around these unique factors.
- ♦ The first day of school in 2024 is Tuesday 30 January, the day following Auckland Anniversary Weekend. Welcome, Mr Kelly – the ship is yours!

I conclude by thanking everyone for a great year, and for my 14 years here as well. May you all have a safe and happy summer, a blessed Christmas, and every success in the years ahead.

For the Children



Ken McLeay
Principal

The Riverview School Office will be closed from: 12 noon Friday 15 December and will re-open for sales and enquiries on: Tuesday 23 January 2024 9am – 3pm; Wednesday 24 January 9am – 3pm; and Thursday 25 January 9am – 3pm

School commences for 2024 on: Tuesday 30 January at 8:55am.

Positive Behaviour for Learning/HEARTWISE Values

For these last two weeks of the term, we are focusing on the value of **Tolerance**; this means that:

- we are patient
- we take turns
- we accept each other for who we are

With the HEARTWISE assemblies and the Year 6 Celebration Assembly, it is also timely to revisit our **Vision Statement** with the students:

Riverview School grows confident, successful individuals who are:

- *Hooked on HEARTWISE values*
- *Co-operative and community-minded*
- *Creative thinkers and problem solvers*
- *Motivated, lifelong learners*
- *Passionate eco-warriors*
- *Proud to celebrate achievements*
- *Competent in literacy and numeracy*
- *Discoverers of personal talents*

Our goal is that, when our Year 6 students graduate, they fit this profile. You might like to visit it with your child/ren and discuss what each bullet point entails.

Lost property

There is a huge amount of lost property in the bin (as you can see in this photo). The clothing and footwear will be on display in the Shade Area on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday next week, after which it will be donated to a local op shop.



OSCAR has a new programme for Summer time fun. Book your spot NOW!

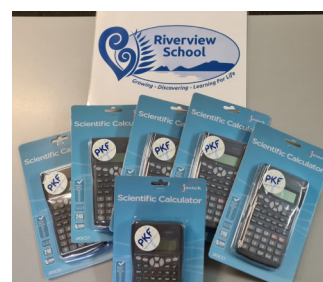
Due to Health and Safety, swim caps must be worn in the swimming pool. These are available through Kindo or from the school office for \$6.



We wish to thank Jancy and Kyle Stott from PKF Kerikeri for their contribution to purchase the Year 6's farewell gift of a scientific calculator. We appreciate this very much.



PKF
Kerikeri



HOT OFF THE PRESS

"Christmas in the Domain"

The latest e mail says to assemble behind the stage area between 4.00pm and 4.30pm. It also says to have water and sunscreen, if it is hot. Look out for Ms Phillips and Ms Fletcher, who will have jellyfish umbrellas. The postponement date is **Sunday 10 December**.

Our Kerikeri "Christmas in the Domain" this year is on Saturday 9 December between 5:00pm and 8:00pm. The theme is 'Under The Sea'.

Students, who are interested in being part of the Riverview School walking parade, can dress up as a sea creature and be a part of the parade. Ms Phillips and Ms Fletcher will lead the students in the parade, so look out for them when you arrive at the domain.

We will meet at the Kerikeri Domain at 4:30 pm, ready to start walking at 5:00 pm.

Parents will need to provide a costume for their child (there will be prizes provided by the organisers).

Parents will need to supervise their children, both during the parade after the parade.

Parents are most welcome to dress up and join us in the parade.

The "Christmas in the Domain" event lasts until 8:00 p.m, with food and family activities available.



INCREDIBLE YEARS 2024

FREE parenting programme for parents or caregiver of children between the ages of 3 and 8 years of age. Learn fresh strategies and new tools in a supportive environment.

Time: 10am until 1pm; venue: to be confirmed; starts 13 February.

Sessions run on Tuesdays and go for 14 weeks (excluding school holidays). We offer petrol vouchers for those that need them, a yummy morning tea, spot prizes, and a room full of like-minded people.

So, if you are interested or know of any friends or family that might like to join our group, please fill in this quick form to register your interest ...

<https://forms.office.com/r/yFnBf3wMTk>

2024 Term Dates:

Term 1. Tues 30 Jan - Fri. 12 April
Term 3. Mon. 22 July - Fri. 27 September

Term 2. Mon 29 April - Fri. 5 July
Term 4. Mon. 14 Oct - Mon. 16 Dec



The Riverview School Board of Trustees & the PTA

invite Riverview School families to a

Family Picnic and Christmas Carols

Thursday 7 December at 5.30pm

On the grass outside the office

Bring a picnic dinner and refreshments.

- ♦ Dress up in your "Christmassy" gear. There is a prize for the best-dressed boy and the best-dressed girl.
- ♦ Come prepared to sing some of your favourite Christmas songs.
- ♦ Bring blankets or fold-up chairs to sit on.
- ♦ Bring a can, or other non-perishable or long-life items suitable for Christmas eating, to donate to the Foodbank.
- ♦ The playground and sandpit will be closed, and we are asking children not to bring their scooters/bikes or skateboards.
- ♦ There will be a free ice block for all children, supplied by the PTA.
- ♦ There is no facepainting this year.
- ♦ The PTA will be selling a limited supply of food. Please bring cash – the stalls will not be accepting cash.



Christmas Carols PTA Fundraiser



This year, the PTA will be selling Bacon and Egg rolls, American Hot Dogs, and drinks at the Riverview School Christmas Carols, Tuesday 5 December from 5.30pm..

There will be a limited supply so buy yours early to avoid disappointment.

We would still advise that families proceed with any original plans to bring their own food for the event (as we will not have enough supply to cater for the entire gathering) but, hopefully, you might still have some room for a little something extra!

Bacon and Egg Rolls	-	\$6
American Hot Dog	-	\$4
Soft Drinks / Water	-	\$2

Please bring **cash** – these stalls will not be accepting tokens.



www.baldangels.org.nz

ANNUAL TOY DRIVE

Christmas



FINAL DAY
for collection is tomorrow,
Friday 8 December

We Love

Beach Towels

Balls & Sporty things

Tactile Toys

Family Games

Teen hygiene stuff

(like body washes, hair styling,
deodorants, shampoos etc)

Any of the latest rage toys

(it changes every year)

We really DON'T want
soft toys or electrical or battery things-Thank you

All donations needed before Dec 10 please

Trust Account: 03-0351-0240110-00

You might
like to
DONATE
HERE



NZ Charities Services Registered #CC50983

Thank you for bringing Joy this Christmas



9 DECEMBER

Christmas

In the Kerikeri Domain

Brought to you by **Our Kerikeri**

STARTS 4PM | PARADE 5PM

Made possible by these generous businesses:

- McDonalds -

Arvida BDO Beds R Us Bid Food Bunnings

Coca Cola Laser Plumbing Law North

McCondachs New World Quail Ridge

WWW.KERIKERICHRTSMAS.CO.NZ





excite
CHURCH

CHRISTMAS 2023
@ THE TURNER CENTRE, KERIKERI

SANTA Grotto

SATURDAY DEC 16 @ 05.00 - 07.00 PM

SUNDAY DEC 17 @ 11:30 AM - 01.30 PM

*Bring The whole family
for a walk Through
Christmas experience!*

PHOTOS WITH SANTA - CANDY
STALLS GIFTS & MUCH MORE!

www.excite.org.nz

FREE!
FAMILY EVENT