



NEWSLETTER

12th February 2018
Term one, week two

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a great start to a new year of teaching and learning at Rere School. It has been a pleasure to watch the children interact both in and out of the classroom.

We have had a few hiccups to begin the year with no power on the first day back and no internet, which I still do not have as I write this, so my apologies if you have been trying to make contact in that form and not received a reply.

SCHOOL VALUE: The value at the heart of our learning community last week and this week is RESPECT. Respect for our environment, respect for ourselves, and respect for others. At Rere School we EXPECT RESPECT.

THIS WEEK'S AWARDS:

Congratulations to **Everyone in the Senior Room** and **Hamish Cook** who received our VALUES certificates for **RESPECT** this week. The seniors received their award for being such an awesomely RESPECTFUL team of learners. Hamish received his award for settling so confidently into school and being such a RESPECTFUL learner.

CONGRATULATIONS also to **Nicora Las Vegas** who received a classroom award for using great reading strategies. **Hannah Steele** also received a classroom certificate for showing initiative by providing dance and drama sessions at lunchtimes for those who are interested.

SCHOOL NEWS: There have been some big changes to the school timetable this year to allow for a longer morning session which will include passion project time. Why? We are looking for ways to foster creativity and an inquisitive spirit in children. By participating in personal learning and creation time, learners will gain first-hand knowledge and experience in bringing an original idea from concept to final product, which will serve them well for the rest of their lives. The children will be able to pursue a topic of interest to them. The teacher's role is to support their inquiry by ensuring they have the skills and materials needed to see them through to the presentation stage.

• Student Choice • Intrinsic Motivation • Genuine Engagement • Independence • Empowering Lifelong Learners • Inspiring Passion.

A reminder that this is a whole school camp year. We are expecting this to take place beginning of term 3, (end July/August). The children in the senior room have already begun to discuss fundraising ideas which they have realised could be linked to the passion projects. You will receive more information as to where and what once everything has been confirmed.

There will be an opportunity for whānau to come and meet the teachers, ask questions and find out more about our learning intentions for the year. This has been moved to a Monday this year which means not all teachers will be available but I am hoping that more parents

RERE SCHOOL WILL DEVELOP THE WHOLE CHILD ENABLING PERSONAL EXCELLENCE

Rere School, Private Bag 7623, Gisborne 4040 06 867 0868 office@rere.school.nz

will show up as it is a great opportunity to find out what is going on at school. You are invited to attend our school assembly prior to the meeting. We will move assembly time to 2.30 so that the children can go out to play afterwards while we have the parent meeting.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Why is it important to learn the basic facts?

To free the brain up for other aspects of the mathematics we are involved with. There is only so much the brain can keep in its short-term working memory. Having a vocabulary of "facts" allows a student's short-term memory to devote its attention to other less obvious aspects of a mathematics problem, or suggest a possible method of attacking the problem. Memorised facts are stored in a different part of the brain than those that are used for performing strategies (Sousa, 2008). Separate activities are needed to explore and practice strategies than those which are used to build up and to reinforce memorisation of the basic facts.

While strategies are important, students need to progress to the point where they can automatically recall the basic facts while they focus their full attention to other aspects of the mathematics. Having to revert to even the simplest of strategies takes up valuable brain processing room.

EOTC NEWS:(Education Outside the Classroom) For those intending to participate in the Weetbix Tryathlon there are free bike and helmet safety checks at Avantiplus Maintrax.

The Ice Skate Tour travels around New Zealand with state of the art, artificial ice rinks and will be at Makaraka School 10 April 2018 at 15:00 to 16 April 2018 at 17:00.

The rinks look like ice and have 97% same gliding capacity as natural ice. Surrounded by an inflatable boarding. Helmets + gloves provided at no charge (both compulsory for kids) it's the safest possible way to try ice skating.

Prices are \$8 for kids under 16, \$12 for adults and \$35 for a family pass (2 adults + 2 kids or 1 adult + 3 kids) which includes ice skates, helmet, gloves and at least half an hour ice skating (longer if capacity allows).

Opening hours:

Tuesday + Wednesday + Thursday + Friday open from 3pm - 8pm

Saturday + Sunday + Monday open from 10am - 5pm

BOT NEWS:

We hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and had a relaxing break. The first meeting of 2018 will be held 20th February at 6.30pm in the Library.

BUSES: Your drivers this week are Wharekopae- Paula Reedy, phone 8673585

Taumata – Kay Twigley, phone 8670866 (M-Th)

Sally Lloyd, phone 06 2810162 (F)

Have a great week.

Regards,



Katrina Dekker
Principal

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