

Te Karere

Rai Valley Area School News



Wednesday 13th February 2019

School Contacts

Rai Valley Area School
Main Road, Rai Valley
Marlborough 7156

Telephone: (03) 571 6016
Facsimile: (03) 571 6336
Email office: office@rai.school.nz
Web address: www.rai.school.nz

Principal: Maree Furness

DP: Mike Wilson

**Junior Leader:
Karen Davies**

**Secondary Leader:
Siobhan Skinner**

**School Secretary:
Heather Richardson**

**If you have questions, concerns
or compliments please let us
know - we value your
feedback.**

Please note that all up to date
information on events etc. is
available on our school app and on
our website.



Kia ora koutou Katoa,

Welcome to Rai Valley's the first newsletter for 2019. This week we receive some very sad news. Jacqui Swanson's partner died suddenly in the weekend. Jacqui is a regular reliever in our school. Our sincerest sympathies to her and her family at this very difficult time.

We have begun the year with a stable staff and we are very fortunate to be fully staffed. Students have settled quickly into classes and work despite the heat. This year we are pleased to welcome 10 new students and their families to our school. 9 of our new students have joined the primary department. I am sure that their time at Rai Valley will be very positive.

Recently, we have received the confirmed report from the Education Review Office from their visit in term 4. It is a pleasing report that acknowledges what the school has been doing well in recent years and supports our direction for the future. The report will be available on the school website in the next few days or a paper copy will be available from the office.

The 2018 NCEA results for our senior students are really pleasing. All students who entered NCEA and completed the year have been successful. A huge congratulation to you all!

This year we are excited to be able to offer subjects through Net New Zealand to enhance our senior curriculum. This has meant that some of our student are now able to study electronics, computer programming, Te Reo, health and biology. They have a weekly face to face session with their teacher and their class. Work is set for the other lessons during the week. The teachers come from a range of schools throughout New Zealand and are offering full NCEA courses.

The school pool is an amazing asset in this very hot weather. It is great that students can swim daily. I would like to remind parents to ensure that their children have their hats with them and have sunblock applied when they come to school.

Term 1 is a busy time for school trips and camps. Thank you in advance to the parents who make these trips possible with your generous support. A number of the senior student are now training daily for the Area Schools tournament in Collingwood at the beginning of April.

This is the year of Board of Trustee elections. The election date has been set for June 7th. I would encourage you all to think about being a Trustee, particularly in this time of major educational change. If you have a question around being a Trustee, please do not hesitate to talk to me or any of the current Trustee's.

Kind Regards
Maree

*“Excellence
is not a skill.
It is an
attitude.”*

Ralph Marston

BOT News

As the Board of Trustees, we think it is important for parents to know that we are committed to ensuring that the Principal has the resources she needs to support the learning of all children appropriately. As the educational expert who has leadership of our school, it is up to the Principal to resource the staff in all areas of learning and classroom management. This is a very complex matter, and there are many ways this is being done at RVAS, including employing well qualified and experienced teachers, providing learning and behaviour support from our own resources and through other appropriate agencies and by developing strong relationships with students and their families. There is no *one-size fits all solution*, but rather a whole raft of approaches which may or may not be appropriate, given the individual circumstances. The important thing is for the community to know that the Board has every confidence in Maree and the staff, to provide the quality teaching and learning experiences students' need, and that we are ensuring they have the resources to do so.

Rai Valley Area School

Board of Trustees



The Board of Trustees has made the decision to test the School Water monthly and we are pleased to confirm that the water complies with the New Zealand National Health Standard.

These test results are available at the school for anyone who would like to see them.

BOT Meeting Dates

Thursday 21st March @ 6.00pm
Thursday 9th May @ 6.00pm

TERM 1 Calendar

EVENTS	
14/02/2019	Reading Together Programme
18 – 22/02/2019	Fundamental Skills Yr 1-8
21/02/2019	Secondary Parent Evening
21/02/2019	Reading Together Programme
22/02/2019	Pelorus Cluster Senior Swimming Sports
22/02/2019	Trades Academy Begins
25/02/2019	Future Ferns Netball
25-26/02/2019	Goal Sharing Conference Primary
25-26/02/2019	Year 11-13 Camp
01/03/2019	Pelorus Cluster Swimming Primary Swimming Sports
05/03/2019	Primary School Sea Week-Trip to Anakiwa
07/03/2019	Rai Valley Area School – Swimming Sports
13-15/03/2019	Room 15 Camp Momorangi Bay
18/03/2019	TOP Team
22/03/2018	Marlborough Swimming Championships
26/03/2019	Secondary Open Day
01-05/04/2019	TOSI Tournament Collingwood Area School
END of Term One	

Back to School

Stay "in the loop" in 2019 with our school app!

Events | Cancellations | Notices
 Newsletters | Permission slips
 Instant notifications | Absentees

Simple free download:
 In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

Secondary News

Students say, “School is Net!”

Senior secondary students are enjoying Rai’s access to NET.NZ. NET.NZ is an alternative to the correspondence school, Te Kura, and offers a large range of subjects online. The difference with NET.NZ, however, is that they offer one lesson a week where students have facetime with teachers. Many also have virtual classrooms of between 10-18 students from around New Zealand who can join in class discussions and other classroom activities with their peers.

Year 12 student, Chloe Wellman, who is taking Business Studies this year, was the first student at Rai to attend one of the virtual lessons. She seemed to enjoy having immediate access to a Business Studies teacher as well as the ability to seek instant clarification on concepts and tasks.

Seven Rai Students, ranging from year 11 to year 13, opted to take classes via NET.NZ so far this year. In addition to Business Studies, subjects chosen include: Electronics, Health, Te Reo, Physics, Biology, History and Computer Science.

The biggest bonus for senior students is that they can access all areas of the New Zealand Curriculum without having to sacrifice the benefits of being at a small Area School.

While still in its infancy, Principal Maree Furness, who is acting as E-Dean for those students enrolled, hopes it will become a regular part of the ways in which the school continues to try and meet the individual needs of its senior students.

Lessons are currently being held in classrooms or the school library but will eventually move to the school’s video conferencing room once everything is up and running.

A very warm welcome to returning students and their families and to students who are joining us this year, along with their families. We welcome Jeanne in Year 12, Sam in Year 11. We are very much looking forward to having you at our school

The release of NCEA results is always an exciting time for teachers and students alike. We are very proud of the 100% pass rate of all of our students in Years 11-13 who completed the academic year. External exams produced some very pleasing results and reflect the hard work of students and massive support from teachers and family members. Two students, Alec Johnston and Anita Aitchison both achieved NCEA Levels 2 and 3 in 2018; this is a stunning achievement. Congratulations also to Jordan Wearing and Kade Martin who both achieved Merit Endorsements for the year.

If your child is in **Year 7 or 8** they'll be offered important **free** immunisations at school. These will help protect them against serious diseases, and will also help protect your whānau and our wider community.

Ask your child for the consent form they've been given for you to read, sign and return to school.

For more information:
Talk to the **Public Health Nurse**
visit health.govt.nz/imms-older-children
or call **0800 Immune**

Year 7 immunisation
Your child will be offered a free HPV vaccine and a free meningococcal vaccine.

HPV Vaccine
Your child will be offered a free HPV vaccine.

immunise
their best protection

HEALTH
New Zealand Government

In 2018 we were contacted by the Marlborough Decoration and Fine Arts Society about a new annual award. Alex Johnston is the first recipient of the Senior Art Award. He was delighted to receive a cheque for \$100 which was presented to him by Patricia O'Brien from the Marlborough Fine Arts Society.



The day after school broke up in December, Ms Furness and I attended the Marlborough Lines Award Ceremony at the Clubs of Marlborough in Blenheim. We are delighted to announce that Martinett won a Dux Award of \$4,000 towards her tertiary Veterinary Science studies at Massey University in 2020.



Online Learning

This year we have three students signed up for Home Economics with Te Kura, The Correspondence School. We also have 7 students enrolled with NetNZ. They are studying a variety of subjects including: Business Studies, History; Biology; Web Design; Computer Science; Te Reo Maori; Electronics and Health. NetNZ offers blended learning opportunities, with a lot of online learning, as well as a weekly online tutorial with their expert subject teacher. Ms Furness, our principal, has taken on the role of eDean (electronic Dean) to further support students with their NetNZ studies.

Students who are unwell

Please remind any students that they should let their teachers know if they feel unwell and need to go home. Heather will contact parents / caregivers to inform them and make arrangements to pick the student up. Students should not be contacting parents themselves to arrange this without the school's knowledge. This ensures we know who is at school at all times - thank you.

Primary School News

Greetings to everyone. Our primary syndicate welcomes several new students into our classrooms and we hope they are feeling a great RAI Way welcome.

The weather has been super hot and many thanks to Ben for keeping the pool looking and feeling great so we can all swim everyday. The senior swimming sports at Stadium 2000 in Blenheim are for the year 4-8's on Friday 22 Feb and the junior swimming hosted at Linkwater School is on Friday 1 March. Plenty of time in the pool will help our swimmers become more confident and do well at these events.

Our learning this week in Room 13 is around Waitangi Day, which is Wednesday. Also, this week we will explore the international day of 'Chinese New Year' which is on Tuesday.

Our first extra learning initiative of the Reading Together programme, starts this Thursday. Thank you to the families who have registered. We hope this will be a helpful and enjoyable learning process. A similar Counting Together programme will also be available very soon. More information will come this week also.

Room 13's writing focus for the first few weeks is using recount. It helps us to retell and evaluate events and experiences. We use a past tense and time and sequence words. Three students have samples of their write here now.

Marcus O'Donnell. Year 3

The best thing about the holidays was Christmas because I got a Lego police helicopter. It is blue. It has two propellers. It has 3 wheels. It came with two robbers, a red jeep and a hideout.

Cody Aldridge. Year 4

The best thing I did in the holidays was a lot of swimming. There were 3 pools. One pool was really shallow. The other pool had a diving board into deep water. My Dad could not touch the bottom. The 3 pools were kind of shallow. It got deeper and deeper until I could not touch the bottom!

Hunter Morrison. Year 3

The best thing I did in the holidays was drinking a milkshake with my poppa. The milkshake was cold, and it was humongous. It was the best day of my holiday. It tasted like a chocolate ice cream.

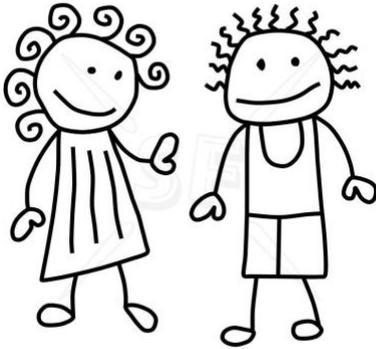
In week three all students in the primary syndicate will undertake some assessment activities. These will be a writing, spelling and reading assessment. Soon after these we will help them make their goals for term 1 and 2. These will be shared with you at an evening on Mon 25 and 26 Feb. More information will come about these in next week.

Regards,
Karen Davies
Team Leader, Primary Syndicate.



Food for Thought

We Learn....



10% of what we read

20% of what we hear

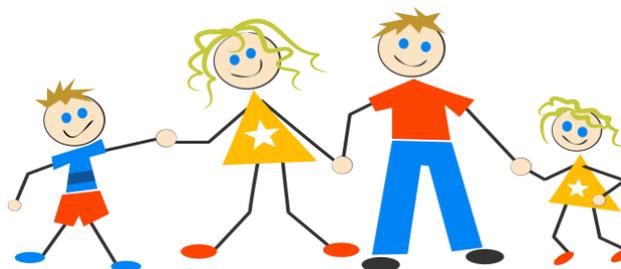
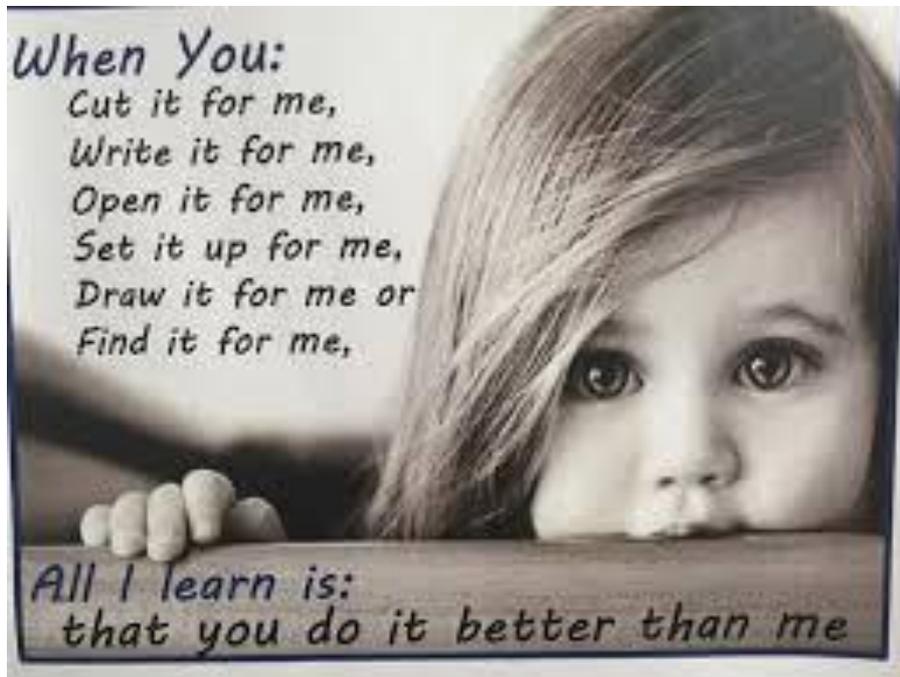
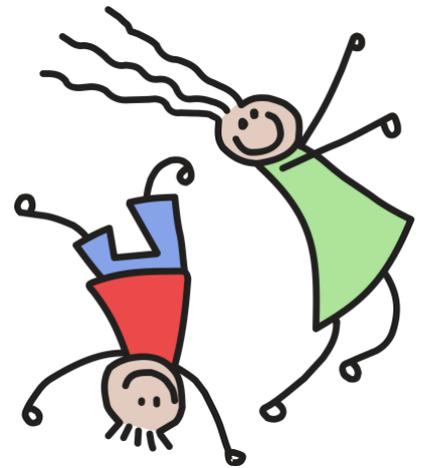
30 % of what we see

50% of what we see and hear

70% of what we discuss

80% of what we experience

95% of what we teach other



Swimming POOL NEWS

Swimming pool keys are still available, \$50 for the use of the pool until the end of term 1. Contact Renee Jope 0277750083 or come find me at the library.

We have had a variety of complaints over the season and a bit of common sense and a bit of courtesy would be helpful for all who have to use the school pool.

Please respect the pool cover and the flutter boards etc that are sometimes around the pool. Also, for your information the solar heating temperature shuts off at 30°C.

No one under 16 should be using the pool without supervision.

If you are 16 or over, you can supervise people at the pool.

You should not be jumping the fence as this is a very unsafe practice which could see the pool being completely closed.



HAVE FUN and REMEMBER WATER SAFETY RULES

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB



Scholastic Book Club pamphlets have been sent home this week and the last day for orders is 28th February. Please deliver orders to Renee in the library or if you can't find me around the school, please drop into Heather in the office and she will make sure I get it, or you can order through the **LOOP** all the details are on the pamphlet.

Also look out for the Garden Post Bulb Fundraiser coming home this week



Tickets are selling well at Havelock's i-site for this year's Mussel Festival (16th March) and no wonder! The organising committee have scooped the pool this year with not only Katchafire as the Headline Act but Annabel Langbein as celebrity chef.

Annabel is a New Zealand celebrity cook, food writer and publisher. She has published 25 cookbooks and fronted three seasons of her TV series.

Katchafire, a New Zealand roots reggae band from Hamilton have been a household name since its formation in 2000 when it began as a Bob Marley Tribute Band.

Sun City Soul (a 7-piece Soul band from Nelson) and A Minor Thing (Marlborough's very successful 3-piece electric/covers band) are the supporting bands.

The price of tickets has been kept as low as possible- adults \$37.50 (GST inclusive) and children under 12, \$7.00 (children under 2 are free).

The popular Mussel Float sculpturing competition introduced into last year's Festival will be a feature again, with the sculptures being auctioned and the proceeds going to Nelson/Marlborough Rescue Helicopter Trust fund.

Last year we saw some great outfits entered in the dress up competition and this is being run again for best dressed in the male, female, under 12 and team events (limited to 4 in each team.).

Forms are available for these and the best dressed window (commercial and not-for profit categories).

So, 16th March is shaping up to be an even greater success than 2018 and the Committee is hoping it will be able to return an even greater dividend to our community groups.



Rai Valley Conservation Kids

Kaipupu Point Wild Life Sanctuary

On 2nd Dec, we headed out for an adventure at Kaipupu Point Wild life sanctuary just out of Picton. Before we went Andrew from Forest and Bird taught us all about the local bird life, he showed us the different pest's and how the trap them.

We then headed by boat the the sanctuary. Once we got there Andrew walked us around the sanctuary teaching us about the predator fence and showing us how the door system works.



We walked all around the sanctuary, right up to the top were we found our first Kiwi Guardian Post.



We got to explore and play. We learnt a lot about pests and trapping them to help look after our local wild life. We had so much, it was a great day out.

We have recently started a kids conservation club to try and help encourage the kids of the Rai/Pelorus region to get out doors and learn about our environment around us and to help motivate our kids to get out and about and active. Using the DOC Kiwi Guardian activities as a base for the activities we aim to plan one conservation based activity each month. We would love to share with you some of the adventures we have been on so far.



Andrew taught us how to tell the difference between a Kanuka and a Manuka. He also showed us how to crush and smell different leaves to work out what plant they are.



We had a go at seeing how many we could fit in the cage.



The boat ride was so much fun

**Rai Valley Area School
Length of School day and Year
2019**

Term	Start Date	End Date
One	Tuesday 29 th January	Friday 12 th April
Two	Monday 29 th April	Friday 5 th July
Three	Monday 22 nd July	Friday 27 th September
Four	Monday 14 th October	TBA

Length of Day	
Form Time	8.45am – 9.00am
Period One	9.00am – 9.50am
Period Two	9.50am – 10.40am
INTERVAL	10.40am – 11.00am
Period Three	11.00am – 11.50am
Period Four	11.50am – 12.40pm
LUNCH	12.40pm – 1.15pm
Period Five	1.20pm – 2.05pm
Period Six	2.05pm – 2.50pm

2019 Holidays	
Waitangi Day	Wednesday 6 th February
Good Friday	Friday 19 th April (In Holidays)
Easter Monday	Monday 22 nd April (In Holidays)
Easter Tuesday	Tuesday 23 rd April (In Holidays)
Anzac Day	Thursday 25 th April (In Holidays)
Queens Birthday	Monday 3 rd June
Labour Day	Monday 28 th October
Marlborough Anniversary Day	Monday 4 th November