

# Newsletter

Issue No. 10 | 26th July 2023

## Tumuaki's Report



**Kia ora koutou,**

This term there is a lot happening. Last Wednesday we were fortunate to have the Makos visit us to work with our students. It was great to see how excited everyone was.

On Monday our Year 11-13's headed to a very wet Christchurch. They have had an enjoyable week and there have been some great photos posted on Facebook. This has been an opportunity to visit tertiary institutes like Lincoln, Ara, and the University of Canterbury. There has also been an opportunity to do fun things like Aderalin Forest, ice skating, and hot pools. There will be some very tired staff and students when they return on Friday.

The cross-country season is here. Rai Valley's cross country will be Tuesday 1st August with the Pelorus Cross Country on Friday 11th August. I hope that you are able to come to support your child at one or both events.

This week we have begun school lunches with Ngāti Rārā. In Term 3 there will be hot food on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, with cold food on Tuesday and Thursday. Over the next few weeks, we will be refining our systems around this. When we have a menu available we will put it up on Facebook. Friday lunches from the Brick Oven will still be happening, so if your child is ordering from the Brick Oven, can they please inform Pauline so that we do not waste their lunch?

## Our Details:

**Rai Valley Area School**

**6700 SH6, RD 2 Rai Valley**

**Marlborough 7192**

**Telephone: (03) 571 6016**

**Email office: [office@rai.school.nz](mailto:office@rai.school.nz)**

**Web address: [www.rai.school.nz](http://www.rai.school.nz)**

## Our People:

**Principal: Maree Furness**

**Deputy Principal: Mike Wilson**

**Primary Leader: Karen Davies**

**Senco: Janine Sorensen**

**Learning Support Teacher: Theresa Neal**

**Executive Officer: Selene Turner**

**Receptionist: Pauline Agnew**

**Caretaker: Shane Dearman**

Digital Safety and Wellbeing is an ongoing concern for parents and staff. The digital world that our students are experiencing is changing at a phenomenal rate.

Neysa Koizumi has over 20 years of experience in IT and has extensively researched digital safety and well-being. She is passionate about empowering individuals to be safe, responsible digital citizens. Neysa will work with our students in their classes on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th of September. There will be a workshop for parents on Tuesday evening. (time to be confirmed). No matter what year level your child is, there will be something for everyone in this workshop.

Attendance is continuing to be the national focus. It's great to see that we have made it above 90% for the first 2 weeks of school. Overall attendance was 91.3%. Congratulations to Year 1 and Year 6 who were both on 96.8%, closely followed by Year 2 on 96.4% and Year 3 on 96.2%. There will be a class reward for any class that can make 100% this term.

**Noho ora mai  
Maree**



## Calendar Dates

### **RVAS Cross Country**

Tuesday 1st August

### **Pelorus Youth Night 12 upwards**

#### **RV Fire Station**

28th July - 6pm to 8pm

### **Board of Trustee Meeting**

#### **School Library 5.15pm**

Monday 7th August

### **Pelorus Cross Country**

#### **@ Canvastown**

Friday 11th August



After School care is back this year.  
For bookings and enquiries contact  
Renee Jope on 027 775 0083.  
It will be based out of the library again.  
Rates are \$5 per child per hour



## Greetings Everyone

Term 3 already and there is plenty happening in the primary syndicate. Last week on a beautiful Wednesday the Makos Rugby Team stopped to visit us on their way to Blenheim and Picton. The whole team were involved and everyone from Yrs 1-10 had a fun and energetic 45 mins with them practicing rugby ball skills.

Food for lunches has started this Term with some yummy food, for free to your children everyday. Timings are getting sorted so please bear with us. Children still need some morning tea and snacks in their lunchboxes.

Planning and painting, singing and costume making is all coming together for our primary syndicate production scheduled for mid-November. Before this happens Pet Day will take place at the beginning of Term 4. This Thursday there is a community meeting in the library at 3pm for all interested parties. I would love to see many faces to help make this annual event run smoothly and with plenty of participation from all students.

Next Tuesday is our school Cross Country, followed by the Pelorus Cluster one on Friday 11 Aug. Get some training in on the weekends too kids!

**Nga Mihi**

**Karen Davies and the primary team**

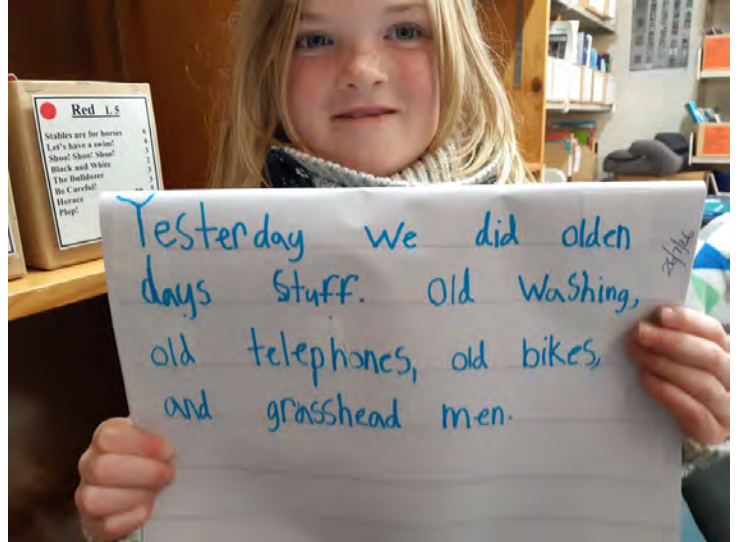
Any students weekly or daily arrangements during and after school, please contact Pauline at the office.

Phone 03 5716 016  
(leave a message if no answer)

Email to Pauline [office@rai.school.nz](mailto:office@rai.school.nz)

Call into the office

Thank you for your cooperation.





# TASMAN MAKO IN THE COMMUNITY

Last week, the Tasman Mako team were grateful for the opportunity to visit both Rai Valley Area School and Queen Charlotte College leading up to their preseason game against Manawatu in Blenheim.



# School & Community News



The Mako's were impressed  
by RVAS  
Impressive new Rugby Posts





## "Cave Story" by Kaytie Mulholland

This crossed my line. I just wanted to peacefully enjoy my time alone at my house, but my friends insisted I go. From all the peer pressure, I finally submitted and agreed to go. All of them knew I had a fear of dark gloomy places, especially caves. Little did they know what was going to happen.



It was June 27th 2023. My anxiety was overwhelming. The slightest drop of water made me squirm. The dull mist, light trickles of rain surrounded us. It was pitch black, and the fog made it harder to see. We were climbing up the track on the hill until we finally approached the entrance of the cave. *"Are we really doing this?" "Isn't this illegal?" "What if something bad happens to us?"* Out of all the caves, of course my friends had to choose the abandoned one that was blocked off from the locals. *"Why couldn't we just go during a beautiful astronomical day?"* I tried convincing myself that everything was going to be okay, turns out my anxiety had the best of me. I begged and pleaded with them if we could go during daytime, not some dark and gloomy night, but they just laughed at me. I felt spiritless.

After we made sure we had all of our things, we set foot into the cave. I observed every single inch of the cave as we were walking, making sure everything was safe. Dripstone, luminescent bugs, murky water, moss, it all made me sick. *"What if there's something poisonous?" "what if a dripstone fell and..."* My friend nudged me on the shoulder telling me to snap out of it. I felt every wisp of wind hit me, glimpses at the corner of my eye. I felt like I was hallucinating, I saw and felt things that weren't even there... **BANG!** A massive piece of dripstone came crashing down, almost hitting one of my mates' feet. We all gasped but had a strong feeling of relief that it didn't hit him.



It had been an hour. Walking constantly felt like we were in a time loop. My feet were stiff, sawed and dry. I was stumbling around, almost like a zombie. **THUMP!** I woke up in shock, wondering what had just happened. Turns out, I fainted from the lack of oxygen in the cave. I felt super light-headed when I stood up, almost falling over again. After around a 10-15 minute break, we started to walk further into the cave. I was trembling with fear. *"What if we got stuck?" "What if the cave collapses and..."* **CRASH!** We all looked behind us and noticed a big rumble of rocks behind us. We stood there in shock. Our biggest fear had come true. We were trapped.

We tried calling and calling constantly but as unlucky as it was getting trapped in the cave, there was also no reception. Luckily I told my mother that we were going on a trip, but I never told her where we were going. (it's illegal to go into a taped off cave that's out of bounds.) I was hoping every second, every minute that someone would come to rescue us. *"This is it, isn't it?" "We are going to die here - aren't we?"* The rock's wouldn't budge - no matter how hard we all tried to move them. There was also a risk of rocks falling on us if we tried to move one, so we didn't.



With the limited amount of food we brought in, we weren't going to survive for long. The tension built up as we were all looking at each other in panic. We tried for hours coming up with ideas, but nothing stood out, that was until I thought of one. *"What if we waited for water from rain to flood the cave and move the rocks?"* I told my friends the idea, but they looked at me blankly, not a single spark in their eyes. *"Of course that wouldn't work, that would take days and it's not even raining!"* I thought to myself, *"What are we going to do?"* A sparkle hit the corner of my eye, I turned my head and crawled myself towards it in the dark. I felt around, touching something smooth that felt like silver. I immediately ran back with hope, telling them I had found an old pickaxe lying around. We immediately started to get to work, hammering at the rock. Time slowed down, in the corner of my eye I saw a rock crashing down. I felt as if the world paused for a moment, whilst looking at my friend who was stunned. ... I screamed, I was in shock. My friend just got hit by a boulder. He was sitting there, lifelessly, staring as blank as a doll. I froze.

I woke up in sudden fear, pouncing to sit up-right. My heart was pounding. Was that really all a dream?





Photos of Secondary School Camp  
(more to come on the next issue)



# DES ELLERY PHOTOGRAPHY

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Class Photo \$15

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1 x 13x19cm Framed

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4 x 4.7x7cm  
Unframed



2 x 7x10cm  
Unframed

Photo Pen \$20 - Key Ring \$20  
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**Black & White Portraits PLEASE add \$10 per item.**  
**Portrait Digital File \$75.**

## ENLARGEMENTS

O N L Y available when ordered by Due Date


15x23cm (6"x9") \$20, 20x30cm (8"x12") \$30,

25x38cm (10"x15") \$40, 30x45cm (12"x18") \$55 *approx.sizes*

**Portrait Session**

Thur 31-8-23 9Am<sup>3</sup>

**Ensure your child is present for Portrait Session (no obligation to buy)**

## It's ok to ask for help

Te Piki Oranga Rangatahi/Youth Services - 0800 672 642  
 My Space/Marlborough Youth Trust - 03 579 3143  
 Mātaua Waka Rangatahi/Youth Services - 03 577 9156  
 iCAMHS - 03 520 9905 or 0800 948 497 (after hours)

24/7 phone helplines:  
 1737 - Phone 1737 or txt 1737  
 Youthline - 0800 376 633 or txt 234  
 The Lowdown - 0800 111 757 or txt 5626  
 Lifeline Aotearoa - 0800 543 354 or txt 4357  
 Alcohol Drug Helpline - 0800 787 984 or txt 8681

Other helplines and downloads:  
 What's Up - 0800 942 8787 (open 11am-11pm)  
 Outline - 0800 688 5463 (open 6pm-9pm)

Manawa App <https://tinyurl.com/MPVGS>  
 - the Mental health foundation's safety plan app



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## THE KIWI CAN CORNER

Positive Relationships / Whakawhanaungatanga

Kiwi Can is underway again and this term it's all about positive relationships - or "working together and playing in safe and thoughtful ways with others". We'll be working on these 3 modules this time around:

- ★ **Fairness + Fair Play** - Fairness and fair play is about playing by the rules, and how we share our ideas with each other.
- ★ **Conflict Resolution** - Conflict resolution is about how we solve problems between people.
- ★ **Leadership** - Leadership is about supporting others and helping everyone to work together effectively.

How about talking with your children about *positive relationships*? What does it mean to your family?

What do ideas of *fair play*, *conflict resolution* and *leadership* mean to you? How do they play out in your family?

[Follow @GraemeDingleFoundationMarlborough](#) to stay up to date




## CHILL NIGHT



**Pelorus Youth**  
2 d •

Reminder - chill night this Friday - starts at 6pm.. please don't send the kids along earlier..  
 🕒 6 till 8pm  
 We have some of the volunteer fire crew coming along to teach us how to use Fire Extinguishers.. we can have ago!



## THE KIWI CAN CORNER

Positive Relationships / Whakawhanaungatanga

### Fairness + Fair Play

In Kiwi Can this week we are exploring what 'positive relationships' look like, and *practising* working and playing in safe and thoughtful ways with others. Why not carry on the conversation at home?

- ★ What are some things we do in our family or culture to have or support positive relationships?
- ★ When might fairness mean that everyone gets or does *the same amount*? When might being fair mean that everyone gets or does a *different* amount?
- ★ What are some of the rules we have here at home that help ensure fairness?
- ★ What happens to fairness if someone doesn't follow the rules?
- ★ Can you think of a time you saw a friend, family member or stranger being treated *unfairly*? What did you (or could you) do?

[Follow @GraemeDingleFoundationMarlborough](#) to stay up to date






## Key School Dates for 2023

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Tuesday	1 <sup>st</sup> August	School Cross Country
Monday	7 <sup>th</sup> August	Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday	11 <sup>th</sup> August	Pelorus Cross Country at Canvastown
Monday - Wednesday	28 <sup>th</sup> August 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Book Fair Final Day
Thursday	31 <sup>st</sup> August	School Photos
Tuesday	5 <sup>th</sup> September	Digital Safety Parents Evening
Monday - Friday	18 <sup>th</sup> September 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Maude Island Trip Years 5-7
Monday - Friday	9 <sup>th</sup> October 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Pet Day (dates to be confirmed)
Thursday	21 <sup>st</sup> September	Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup> November	Primary Syndicate Production
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup> November	Board of Trustee Meeting
Friday	8 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of the school





**Kurt Lindsay** 027 469 9685  
kurt.lindsay@bayleys.co.nz

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