

Newsletter

Issue No. 13 | 20th September 2023

Tumuaki's Report



Kia ora koutou,

The end of Term 3 has finally arrived. Illness for staff and students has continued to be an issue. I hope that the holidays will give everyone time to recover their health as Term 4 is short but busy.

The Years 9 and 10 had a great outdoor education camp with Tapawera at Lake Rotoiti this week. It was a chance for our students to make new friends and to work with students and staff from another school.

Congratulations to Elliott Hatcher who is the new Student Trustee to the Board of Trustees. Thank you to Fraser Hill who has been the Student Trustee for the last year. This is an important role as it is an opportunity for the student's voice to be heard directly.

The first Wednesday and Thursday of Term 4 will be the annual Pet Day. Please work with your children to finish entries and get pets ready over the holidays. The busy term for Primary continues with the junior production happening on the 16th of November.

Our Details:

Rai Valley Area School

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Marlborough 7192

Telephone: (03) 571 6016

Email office: office@rai.school.nz

Web address: www.rai.school.nz

Our People:

Principal: Maree Furness

Deputy Principal: Mike Wilson

Primary Leader: Karen Davies

Learning Support Teacher: Theresa Neal

Executive Officer: Selene Turner

Receptionist: Pauline Agnew

Caretaker: Shane Dearman



At the beginning of this month, we had Neysa Kiosumi work with students on digital safety. This week there have been a couple of issues where younger students are accessing content that is not appropriate for their age. I am aware that some of our senior students have sent friend requests to primary and intermediate-aged children for them to follow on Snapchat and Instagram. As a result, they are exposed to whatever content the senior students are sharing. As parents, please check your children's phones and monitor who they are linking in with.

Term 4 is the examination term for our senior students. The second round of Literacy and Numeracy assessments is in week three of the term and the NCEA examination begins in week five. Years 10 to 12 students will also start making their subject choices for 2024 from the end of week one. There will be the opportunity for individual interviews to talk this through with students and their families.

Next term we will have two secondary volleyball teams that will play in Nelson on Monday nights. There will be three touch teams, in the 4-8 age groups playing touch teams in Blenheim on Wednesday or Thursday evening. Mr Briasco is also trying to organise a mini-tournament for some of the Years 7 - 10 students.

Finally, I would like to thank Mrs Kiddey for stepping in this term to teach Years 1 and 2 students. She has done an amazing job and the students have loved having her. Next term we welcome Mrs. Brook-Watt who will be taking the class.

Have a wonderful holiday break.

Calendar Dates

Term 4

Monday 9th October

Pet Day (Indoors)

Wednesday 11th October

Pet Day (Outdoor)

Thursday 12 October

NCEA Exams start

6th November





Greetings Everyone

Last week, yipee! Students have been out to Maud Island with Mrs Massey and Sam Thompson on Monday and Tuesday. They dodged the weather to have a good trip. Some photos will be elsewhere in this newsletter.

The first week of Term 4 will involve everyone in our annual Pet Day. If you have some flowers you could bring to us on the Wednesday morning for sand saucers that would be appreciated. This day will be spent getting all exhibits into the hall and judging will take part in the afternoon. Pets come on Thursday for the outdoor day. These dates are Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th October.

Our Production is progressing well and almost all costumes are completed. Any encouragement for singing...even in the shower, or in the car would be great over the holidays.

At the Primary Syndicate assembly on Thursday there was a group of students who performed a great Matariki dance routine and received their certificates. Lookout for this great routine in our Production.

On the first day of the new Term we will be welcoming a new teacher to Room 14. Her name is Mrs Jennie Brook-Watt. There will be a welcome for her (powhiri) at school first thing on the Monday morning (9th October). If you have a child in Room 14 and you would like to attend, please be down at the Primary Syndicate classrooms by 8.40am.

We thank Mrs Kiddey for her work in this room over the last term.

I would personally and publicly like to thank my team of teachers for all their hard work this term. Things have been particularly busy and challenging as both students and teachers have been very busy and some unwell at the same time. Special thanks to Mrs Ballantyne, who is our 'Beginning Teacher' and has the biggest class in the school I believe. Thank you for all your work Aimee. Thank you to Mrs Massey, for stepping up nearly every week for something that needs extra support, from both students and myself. And thanks also to Mrs Kiddey and Mrs Neal for your extra work in Room 14.

Have a great break everyone and I hope you all manage some restful time with your families.

Nga Mihi

Karen Davies and the primary team





Rai Valley Netball - Mrs Jess Massey

Sports at Rai Valley has really taken off this year with many children getting involved and trying out new sports.

This year we had a junior netball team competing in the Intermediate grade in Nelson at Saxon Fields on Saturdays. The team was made up of girls from Year 6 to Year 8, we also had one Year 4 student in the team! It was great to see the girls improve from week to week and become more competitive and skilled in their playing.

On Sunday the 3rd of September we held a small prize giving for the girls. Congratulations to the following girls who took home trophies and the rest of the team who were also just as deserving!

Most Improved Player: Annie Jones

Sportsmanship: Scarlett Morrison

Most Valuable Player: Erin MacKenzie





Maud Island

What better way to spend the last Monday of Term 3 than spending the night on an exotic island? That is exactly what ten lucky children got to do on our annual trip to Maud Island in the Marlborough Sounds. After a stormy weekend we were expecting a rolly trip out to the island but were pleasantly surprised by calmer seas than predicted. As always we were treated with an exciting array of wildlife that we never get to see on the Mainland. The gecko were a resounding favourite of the children and adults!

A big thank you to Sam Thompson for his help on the trip, Miranda from DoC who organises these trips for us, Richard de Hamel who provides his wealth of knowledge on the trip and finally Nick, Jen, Theo and Georgia for their accommodation!



Mamo de Kock





The years 7/8 Languages class enjoyed a very chocolate-rich French breakfast today.

Students learned to order their items individually orally in French, saying "He voudrais deux croissants s'il vous plait" and showing off their good manners. Helpers were very busy spreading chocolate spread on to croissants and pieces of baguette, which were served with chocolate milk.

Tidy up afterwards was efficient to ensure a hazelnut free environment, so well done, tres bien tout le monde!

Bonne vacances!

Ms. Wiesner





Photos from Lake Rotoiti Trip with Tapawera Years 9 & 10 A big thanks to Jamie Knight



School & Community News





Kia ora,

Our volunteers and Forest and Bird staff have been trapping in Pelorus Bridge Scenic Reserve for the past decade to protect the nationally critical population of long-tailed bats (pekapeka) that live in the Pelorus Catchment. Rats are the major bat predators in the forest, and we know that rats have caused local extinctions of bat populations elsewhere in the country during a year of high rat numbers.

This year, despite our trapping effort, which normally keeps rat numbers below 10% - our rat numbers have soared to 55% in Pelorus Bridge Scenic Reserve and 12.5% in Rai Valley in the middle of winter. This is because we have experienced another significant masting event (beech trees have seeded and the podocarp trees have also produced a lot of fruit). It provides food to enable the rat population to explode through the winter months – a time when rat numbers normally crash because of the cold and limited food.

We have sought expert advice across the country, and propose the following operation which will knock down rat numbers. As a local School, we wish to notify you of our plans and also give you the opportunity to provide any feedback on our proposal.

In summary, the plan is to use the existing 300 bait stations in Pelorus Bridge (over 150ha), establish an additional 250 bait stations in Rai Valley reserves (over 114ha), and place rat poison in those stations within a mid-September to mid-December period to kill rats. The timing is to coincide with the emerging rat plague and bat breeding season. Trapping alone will not be able to cope with the number of rats and they could potentially wipe out the long-tailed bat population.

The toxin to be used is diphacinone 0.05g/kg cereal pellets. This should knock out most of the rats. If rat numbers remain too high (as per the result of our rodent monitoring scheme) this may be followed in early 2024 by either diphacinone or pindone, both first-generation anticoagulants, and the least potent of all the anticoagulants in use.

We will follow the Department of Conservation guidelines to exclude any non-target species (introduced pests, native wildlife, domestic animals) from accessing poisoned pellets in the bait stations.

Secondary poisoning is possible if feral pigs eat poisoned rats. Pigs are unlikely to eat rats (as they do not interfere with our rat traps). But if they do eat anticoagulant-killed rats, the toxin will be rapidly excreted (up to 1-2 weeks). The NZ Food Safety Authority suggests a 2-month withholding period for feral meat where 1st generation anticoagulants are used. This compares with the 3 years required for brodifacoum (Talon). Warfarin is a 1st generation anticoagulant like diphacinone and pindone and is used by millions of people as a blood thinner to stop clotting. DOC is more conservative with diphacinone suggesting a 4-month withholding period, but that is based on liver toxin levels, not muscle.

Signs will be placed at the reserve at all track entrances to advise people of the programme, the reasons for it, and the risks if they handle the toxin.

Please contact me if you have any concerns or questions about this programme.

If we don't hear from you by the 12th September, we will assume your support.

Nga mihi,

Dr. Daria Erastova
she/her

TE HOIERE BAT RECOVERY PROJECT MANAGER
M 027 274 4373

Join Forest & Bird at www.forestandbird.org.nz or check us out at [Facebook](#) | [Forest & Bird](#)

We turned 100 this year! <https://www.forestandbird.org.nz/natures-voice-100-years-and-counting>





OCTOBER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Wednesday 4th October	Thursday 5th October
9:00-12:00 Open Holiday Programme	9:00-12:00 Open Holiday Programme

At Horton Park

- Fun games and competitions!
- Fundamental cricket skills
- \$30 per day
- Sibling discount available
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To Register:
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What are you up to this school holiday?

Join us in Havelock for a community planting alongside the Motuweka Havelock Community Pathway, near the marina - Slogan Street to Inglis Street, around the sheep paddock.

Bring a spade, proper footwear and the kids! Never planted before? This event is for you, as our experts at J & S Mears Contracting will be on-hand to help us.

Tuesday, 26th Sept at 9am

Health Trust extending its reach in Pelorus

The Pelorus Area Health Trust (PAHT) has always given out donations a health initiatives in the Pelorus area. This year has seen a change in focus for the Health Trust. It is now operating some direct initiatives itself, in order to plug some gaps in what the board sees are needs in the community. The hot soup run has now been operating for a year, taking a thermos of hot soup, sweet treat and a roll to over 30 recipients.

The hot soup is now made and distributed from the new Community Lounge that PAHT has established in Havelock. This warm and cosy lounge is a place for community groups to have a meeting, for people to drop in to find out some health information, have a cuppa and a chat, or in the future, come along for a meal and some activities.

The Lounge will also be used to run St John's courses on first aid refreshers, mental health awareness, how to use a defibrillator, and also for Pet Therapy sessions to be held.

Attached to the Community Lounge in Havelock is an extension of the small second-hand shop next door. The Charity Shop has grown to now having a separate clothing and accessories shop next to the lounge, with the old smaller shop now housing homewares, books, linen, tools and plants.

The expansion in terms of shop space and offerings as well as in terms of the services PAHT provides for the wider community is all about making connections and helping people. It does bring new challenges as PAHT now needs more volunteers than ever to staff the two charity shops and the Community Lounge and to do the Hot Soup run. These volunteers are the engine and the heart of all of the services PAHT provides, and they are so proud to be helping to make a difference in our community.

Proudly supported by:  Te Hoiere Project



School & Community News

Thank you for taking the time to read this email.

We are getting in touch to inform you of an opportunity for funded tuition for your ākonga

Loss of Learning Initiative | Te Mahau

This opportunity is for ākonga whose learning has been disrupted by Covid-19. The Loss of Learning Initiative is targeted funding for additional tutoring support for students in years 7-13 who most need opportunities to catch up on lost learning. The funding has already been released to kura, but if your kura has not yet received their funding you simply need to contact the local Ministry office.

If you would like to take up tuition with us using this funding, please get in touch.

Ngāi Tahu

This opportunity is for ākonga of Ngāi Tahu descent. Here at Boost Your Learning, we are proud to be an accredited provider of out-of-school tuition with Ngāi Tahu, who generously provide the Tahua Taunaki Ākonga Learner Support Fund. This fund allows ākonga to access tuition services and provides educational support to ākonga in all educational settings.

Our accreditation with Ngāi Tahu allows us to provide tuition for Ngāi Tahu ākonga (from years 1-13) based anywhere in Aotearoa New Zealand through our one-on-one online tuition services. We pride ourselves on providing high-quality and bespoke tuition using only experienced and qualified teachers. We work alongside whānau and kaiako to empower students and boost their learning, so they can excel and be confident in their education Journey.

To be eligible for the funding, ākonga need to be registered with Whakapapa Ngāi Tahu and currently enrolled in school. For more details, further clarification of the eligibility criteria and the application form to access the Tahua Taunaki Ākonga Learner Support Fund, please visit: <http://ngaitahu.twi.nz/whanau/opportunities/tahua-taunaki-akonga-learner-support-fund/>

For more information about us, please visit: <https://www.boostyourlearning.co.nz/>

Ngā mihi nui,
Amy Johnson
amy@boostyourlearning.co.nz
Managing Director



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We are proud providers of one on one and group tuition as part of the Loss of Learning Fund (Te Mahau). You can access this fund by contacting your regional Ministry of Education office.

CONTACT US

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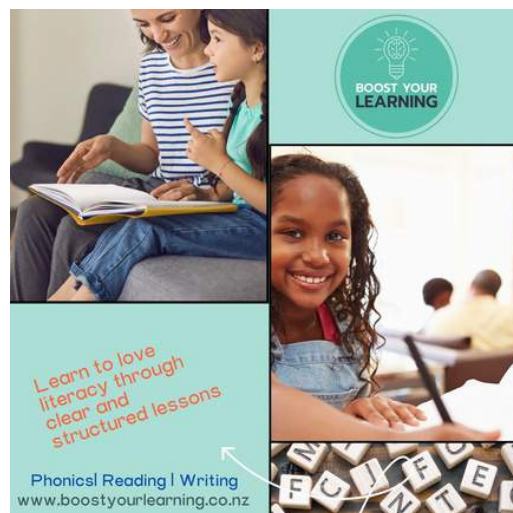
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Key School Dates for 2023

DAY	DATE	EVENT
Wednesday - Thursday	11 th October 12 th October	Pet Day Indoor Pet Day Outdoor
Wednesday	15 th November	Primary Syndicate Production
Thursday	16 th November	Board of Trustee Meeting
Friday	8 th December	Last day of the school



Positive Relationships

Whakawhanaungatanga

Means working and playing in safe and thoughtful ways with others.

THE KIWI CAN CORNER

Positive Relationships / Whakawhanaungatanga

Leadership

Research shows that actions exhibited by great leaders are emulated – just as the poor example by bad leaders is mimicked. It is key that our children have good examples and are imitating the right kind of leaders! This week in Kiwi Can we're working on understanding others' ideas - and why that is important.

Why not carry on the learning at home? Some things to discuss this week:

- ★ Who might you be a role model for?
- ★ A good leader asks questions and listens to other people's ideas. Why might that be an important part of leadership?
- ★ What if we don't like what another person has said or the idea they shared? What can we do?
- ★ "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more – then you are a true leader." Do you think that's true? Why?



Follow [@GraemeDingleFoundationMarlborough](https://www.facebook.com/GraemeDingleFoundationMarlborough) to stay up to date





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