
Rai Valley Area School

Newsletter

Issue No. 1 | 12th February 2024

Tumuaki's Report



Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back to a new school year. It is a really busy time of year. We are pleased to have 3 new staff joining us. Mr Dan Waldie is Head of the Secondary Syndicate as well as teaching senior English. Mrs Amy Waldie is teaching Years 7 and 8 and Miss Sarah Hayman is working part-time teaching Food and Physical Education. April Morris has picked up Selene's role with Accounts.

This year has some exciting opportunities for our students. Our year 12 and 13 students have the opportunity to take part in the Graeme Dingle Foundation Career Navigator programme for 3 terms. We have been very fortunate to have been sponsored for 5 places.

This year we continue to focus on widening the opportunity for our students to participate in school trips and camps. The Year 5-8 students had an enjoyable 3 days at Pine Valley Camp last week, and Years 1-6 are having a day at Natureland in Nelson this Wednesday. Also coming up before the end of February are Pelorus Swimming events. Fundamental Skills, and Defensive Driving for the years 12 and 13. Tournament training is under way. This year tournament will be in Murchison from Sunday the 24th to Thursday 28th of March.

Our Details:

Rai Valley Area School

6700 SH6, RD 2 Rai Valley

Marlborough 7192

Telephone: (03) 571 6016

Email office: office@rai.school.nz

Web address: www.rai.school.nz

Our People:

Principal: Maree Furness

Secondary Leader: Dan Waldie

Primary Leader: Karen Davies

Primary Senco: Theresa Neal

Secondary Senco: Eli Briasco

Learning Support Teacher: Theresa Neal

Executive Officer: April Morris

Receptionist: Pauline Agnew

Caretaker: Shane Dearman





Congratulations, to our NCEA students from 2023. We continue to achieve well above the national average. All our students have their literacy and numeracy standards and all Year 13 students gained their level 3 awards. A highlight was the outstanding achievement of Brooke Dearman and Penelope Kiddey, which is a real credit to the girls and their teacher Mr Ian Fleming. For 3 years, the girls have gained excellence in NCEA Art, in either painting or printmaking. Penelope has gained a sought after place in The University of Canterbury Fine Arts Programme and Brooke is undertaking the NZ Diploma in Arts and Design at NMIT. Congratulations to Brooke whose Print Folio has been chosen by NZQA as a top folio nationally in 2023. The merits awards for Year 11 and 12 students are continuing our strong achievement in Art.

This year the government has implemented a no cell phone policy in schools.

Our Board of Trustees already has this policy in place. Just a reminder if students bring their cell phones to school they should be handed into the office at the beginning of the day and picked up at the end of school. (this means if they are bringing 2 cell phones, both need to be handed in). There is now a lot of research about the distraction of cell phones and their impact on learning. Our school has sufficient devices that student's do not need to use their cellphones in class

As a number of you are aware there is a drive to increase student attendance across New Zealand. As a school, our attendance was better than many other schools but it was still just below 90%. This year we are hoping to have an attendance rate of 95% or better. This means no more than 2.5 days per term. We are hoping for your support with this challenge.

I am looking forward to a great term.

Noho ora mai
Maree



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Penelope Kiddey and Brooke Dearman with their teacher Mr Ian Fleming viewing Penelope's NCEA level 3 Artboard which was awarded an excellence.

Our school proudly wishes to acknowledge the outstanding achievement of Brooke Dearman and Penelope Kiddey in their Level 3 NCEA Art course in 2023.

For 3 years, the girls have gained excellence in their NCEA Art, in either painting or printmaking. Penelope has gained a sought-after place in The University of Canterbury Fine Arts Programme and Brooke is undertaking the NZ Diploma in Arts and Design at NMIT. Congratulations to Brooke whose Print Folio has been chosen by NZQA as a top folio nationally in 2023. The girl's achievement is a credit to their amazing teacher Mr Fleming.

Congratulations Penelope and Brooke!





NEW STAFF 2024

Kia ora koutou,

Ko Dan Waldie tōku ingoa
Nō Hokitika Te Tai o Poutini ahau
Ko Amy tōku mana wahine
Ko Willam mā Alfie tōku tamariki tāne

Firstly I would like to thank the staff and community here at Rai for the wonderful welcome and for making my whanau feel so welcome, it has been awesome to be able to become part of the fantastic community we have here.

Having spent the last 4 years living in Hokitika and teaching at Westland High School, it has been good to be able to experience extended periods of sunshine without the imminent threat of torrential rain, although the morning mists are a new experience for us.

My current role at Rai Valley is as the Secondary Syndicate Leader, which means I am one of the key points of contact for overall curriculum and pastoral (alongside your children's form teachers, class teachers etc). This role encompasses a wide range of tasks, ranging from helping our students access the network, through to curriculum oversight, uniform, resourcing, teaching senior English and assisting students with their day to day needs (so everyday is a new adventure at the moment)

My wife Amy is the teacher of our year 7-8 students so for many of you you will get to know her as well.

If you see us out walking our dog, eating ice cream, carrying large quantities of books from our amazing community library or chasing our small pocket rocket on his bike, feel free to say "hi"!

Ka kite anō
Dan Waldie
Secondary Syndicate Lead Teacher



Hello all, my name is Sarah Hayman and I am very excited to be joining the Rai Valley Area School community this year. I have recently moved to the French Pass area from Queenstown - one stunning spot in NZ to adventure & explore, to another! I will be at school each week on Wednesdays & Thursdays, teaching Food Technology and PE, as well as helping out with Sport. I look forward to crossing paths with you throughout the year.





Paper Clothing



Here are some photos Theresa took from our Year 10 English class to represent the new inclusive curriculum.

Students were asked to think about how clothing is related to culture. Words we choose to use can also be related to our cultures.

Students had lots of fun creating a costume to represent any culture of their choice out of newspaper.

We have a British gentleman here with a top hat and two Maori designs.

Ms. Wiesner



SCIENCE in RAI VALLEY

Science at Rai began with the match in a bunsen challenge.

The older (yr12 and 13) chemists embark upon our first lesson towards a chemistry redox internal.





Welcome back to 2024 and school at Rai Valley.

I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year. The weather in Marlborough was a bit topsy-turvy, sometimes dodging raindrops, sometimes out with the sunshine. The weather has been great now that we are back at school too. This term, at school, we encourage sun hats and sunscreen every day outside the classroom.

This term our primary teachers have a lot planned for activities and learning outside the normal 4 walls of the classroom. A robust EOTC programme (Education Outside The Classroom) is underway for term 1 so please check your child's boomerang book for notices and the school facebook page also as we often post messages there. The first event was as early as last week on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for Year 5-8 students who joined Mrs Massey and Mrs Waldie on Camp at Pine Valley.

Notices and transport requests will come via your child's communication method, the Boomerang book. Please check it daily. This week, week 3 on Wednesday, the primary students are off to Natureland in Nelson for a free visit that was offered to us late last year. Transport and parental support are required, please. Once again see Boomerang books for the notice.

This is for Years 1-6.

The week following that, Week 4, we have the Stadium 2000 team coming to visit with their daily Fundamental Skills programme and there is Pelorus Cluster swimming at Linkwater. A notice will come this week for this.

Sunhats, and sunscreen are everyday requirements at present.

Students are settling well into their learning as we all focus on the new curriculum and 1 hour a day for each subject of reading, writing and maths as per the government guidelines. In the primary syndicate, we have always had these subjects as our focus and now we are adding new ideas and activities to keep this learning in front of us and all of our students. Soon there will be an opportunity to come and visit your child's teacher and discuss their learning goals, as we have previously done also.

Have a great term everybody. If you have any queries please make contact with your class teacher or myself through the normal channels of a message in their boomerang book or a phone call to the office. We can't always make time during our teaching day, but before or after school with a set time is best for all. We all have meetings in the mornings before school as well, so checking for your class teacher for the best time is preferred. If it is urgent we can always accommodate this.

Have a great week.

Karen Davies
Head of Primary Syndicate

Slip



Slop



Slap





Pine Valley Outdoor Centre Year 5-8 Camp 2024

It has been a few years since Rai Valley Primary students have ventured off on a school camp. This year the Year 5 to 8 students from Room 4 and 12 travelled to Pine Valley Outdoor Centre on the Northbank to enjoy three days of fun and adventuring.

The first day was very hot so a dip in the river at Mill Flat was a must! The children also enjoyed cooling off on the water slide as part of a team rotation. The night brought a lot of campers highlight for the trip as a very competitive game of spotlight was played!

On the second day we were back to Mill Flat for a walk, picnic, swim and play at Mill Flat. To get there we needed to cross a narrow swing bridge which some campers (including the adults) were nervous about. Everybody conquered their nerves and made it across the bridge safe and sound. After a second swim we came back to camp for a talent competition which featured acting, magic and music.

On the final day, everybody worked together to clean up the campground and then enjoyed a final play on the amazing adventure playground.

All of this could not be possible without the help of our families.

Special thanks to our parents Justin Morrison, Shane Godsiff, Kylie Fenton, Karla de Kock, Kelsey Knight and Haley Kiddey. Also thank you to Karen Davies, Amy Waldie and Renee Jope for your help making camp such a great success!





**Tūi - Room 13, 2024
Week 1 & 2 snapshots!**





Gumboot Design Competition

The Gumboot Design Competition is open to all ages, inviting everyone across New Zealand to design a pair of gumboots that reflects hope, resilience, and creativity. Whether you're a seasoned artist or someone who loves to doodle, this is your chance to let your imagination run wild for a good cause.

There will be printed copies for this competition at the office but you will need to be responsible for sending these in yourself.

Check out the link www.iamhope.org.nz/gumbootdesigncomp

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For more information, contact Hannahs at 0800 000 000 or visit our website at www.iamhope.org.nz





| <u>Term 1 2024</u> | <u>Key School Dates</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 14th February | Year 0-8 Natureland visit |
| Monday 19th - Thursday 22nd February | Year 0-8 Fundamental Skills |
| Thursday 22nd February | Year 0-3 Swimming Sports @ Linkwater |
| Friday 1st March | Year 4-8 Swimming Sports @ Blenheim |
| Date TBC | Defensive Driving Course Year 12 & 13 |
| Sunday 24th - Thursday 28th March | T.O.S.I. Area Schools Tournament in Murchison |
| Friday 29th March | Good Friday |
| Monday 1st April | Easter Monday |
| Tuesday 2nd April | Easter Tuesday |
| Friday 12th April | Term 1 ENDS |
| Monday 29th April | TERM 2 BEGINS - Whole school 8.45am |



Respect

Manaakitanga

Means treating people, things and places as important.

The Kiwi Can Corner

Respect / Manaakitanga

Kia ora koutou! We are so excited to be back in school and working with all your amazing Kiwi Can kids again.

Did you know?

Each term we have a different theme that we base our learning around.

- ★ **Term 1 = Respect / Manaakitanga**
- ★ Term 2 = Resilience / Taikaha
- ★ Term 3 = Positive Relationships / Whakawhanaungatanga
- ★ Term 4 = Integrity / Pono

Stay tuned for updates on what your child is learning about in Kiwi Can and conversation starters to keep the learning going at home. Next time we'll have an intro to your child's Kiwi Can Leaders too 😊



Respect
Manaakitanga
Means treating people, things and places as important.



Resilience
Taikaha
Means coping with challenges and bouncing back.



Positive Relationships
Whakawhanaungatanga
Means working and playing in safe and thoughtful ways with others.



Integrity
Pono
Means doing the right thing.



TIKA Aroha – giving baby the best start in life



Touch and look

Your pēpē is calmed and reassured by watching your caring face and feeling your soothing touch. They love to see how your facial expression changes and reacts to what they are doing. They learn by watching you.

Identify your needs

You and your pēpē are strongest when your needs are being met. Never be afraid to ask for help. It takes a whānau to raise strong healthy tamariki.

Kōrero

Your pēpē loves the sound of your voice. They understand and respond to the tone of your voice more than the words you use. When you read to them they learn to share your world, and begin to understand the meaning of your words.

Aroha

Your pēpē knows they are loved when you respond to them with warmth and kindness. They understand that loving is normal when they watch all their whānau hug and kiss and laugh at the joy of helping them become strong tamariki.



IT'S OK TO ASK FOR HELP

Patua te Taniwha te "whakamā"! (Don't be embarrassed)

SUPPORT & ADVICE FOR PARENTS, CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Talk to your own GP or practice nurse

Free 24/7 helplines

1737
Free phone or text to reach a counsellor
Healthline 0800 611 116 To talk to a nurse
Plunketline 0800 933 922
Children's health and parenting advice
Kidslines 0800 543 754 (0800 KIDSLINE)

Youthline 0800 376 633
Or text 234 talk@youthline.co.nz

In an emergency phone 111

FREE SUPPORTS AVAILABLE



Te Piki Oranga 0800 ORANGA (672 642)

Nelson Marlborough

Supporting Families

Nelson: 03 546 6090

Marlborough: 03 577 5491

Oranga Tamariki 0508 326 459

Children's welfare

Parent Help 0800 568 856 9am–9pm

Family Services Helpline 0800 211 211

Find community services

Online resources

www.kidslines.co.nz

www.youthline.co.nz

www.whatsup.co.nz

Online chat for 5–18 year-olds, 3–10pm

tiny.cc/aroha

Youth mental wellbeing

www.skylight.org.nz

For children, youth and whānau experiencing trauma, loss and grief

www.greatfathers.org.nz
Helping families, especially men, understand their baby's needs

www.skip.org.nz

For parents of under 5's

www.kiwifamilies.co.nz

Parenting information for all ages and stages

www.commonground.org.nz

Recognise and understand the difficult situations that young people go through

www.depression.org.nz/pregnancy

For pregnant and new parents

supportingparents.nz

For parents, or children of a parent, experiencing mental health and/or addiction issues

www.parent2parent.org.nz

For parents of children with a disability

www.kidshealth.org.nz

Children's health



Social Policy & Parliamentary Unit
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STATE of the NATION 2024



Nau mai, haere mai!

You are warmly invited to the launch of the 2024 report

Please join us at
3pm, Thu 15 Feb 2024

The Salvation Army Blenheim
35 George Street
Blenheim 7201

Light refreshments available

Whakapā Mai: RSVP by 12 February to
emma.howan@salvationarmy.org.nz



RVAS is limiting the printing of the Newsletter paper issues.

If you still require the paper copy please contact the school office
office@rai.school.nz | 03 571 6016





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