

Week 7, Term 1, 13 March 2019.

Kia ora, talofa lava, malo e lelei, 问候, namaste, 인사, 拜啓, mabuhay, bem vindo, fakalofa lahi atu, kia orana, kohomada, bula vinaka, huān yin, foon ying, marhaba, oso oseyo, olà, welcome!

Dear Parents,

Linley: In the last newsletter we talked about Megan moving on at the end of Term 1 this year. My resignation has come hot on her heels, although I have to say I knew of my plans well before the perfect position for Megan became available! It has been a hard decision to make but one that I feel I am ready for and am looking positively to working in a more part time capacity.

Megan: It is with great sadness that we heard of Linley's resignation. I would personally like to thank and acknowledge her for all that she has done for Royal Oak Primary School. She is an outstanding, visionary leader who has transformed a good school into an excellent school. She has a deep passion for what is good for children. I have had the privilege of being mentored by Linley as I have worked alongside her as acting principal two days a week. Her tenacity in providing programmes that will engage children and provide a diverse range of opportunities is second to none. Royal Oak Primary has been very privileged to have her at the helm for the past nine years. Linley has had a stellar career and she will be greatly missed.

Linley: Recently the Board and I spent time working on the strategic plan. Before we began I took them through the changes that have occurred over the past 9 ½ years. I am very proud of the work that has been done here and I know from experience that this is an incredible school with a big heart underpinned by a positive and generous community. Thank you very much for the positive and caring messages that I have received. I am very grateful for your support and would like to share one particular email that has totally touched and melted my heart:

Dear Mrs Myers,

In hearing the news of your impending retirement, I find myself compelled to put down a few words of appreciation for all you have done for our children, our parents and our community. I must say, I found it really hard to find a starting place as you have achieved just so much since arriving at ROPS over 9 years ago.

I have been a parent here at ROPS since before you arrived and will be here after you leave. You are an incredible visionary, not only in the academic arena, but holistically: you have researched and implemented so many fun and fabulous programmes and initiatives, if I were to name them I would need another page! These initiatives have embraced changes to ensure and equip our children and our wider community for the lives they are living, in a totally holistic sense.

Thank you for being such a dedicated, compassionate and courageous leader, who has made changes, probably sometimes at personal expense - please know you have truly made a lifetime impact and huge difference to our children, our community and education! Wishing you all the best for your retirement.

BOT Update on the appointment of a new Principal:

Following the recent resignation of our Principal, Linley Myers, who will leave ROPS at the end of Term 2, The Board of Trustees is delighted to have engaged Kay Hawk from The Education Group to support us with the advertisement of this key role and the appointment of a new Principal for our school. The Education Group is a Ministry of Education Accredited Provider for supporting schools with high profile appointments like this. Kay is a career educator who has also been a local Royal Oak resident for 40 years. She has a very fond affiliation for ROPS, like all of us, and a strong desire to ensure that all the local schools live up to their full potential.

We will place an advertisement for the Principal role in the Education Gazette (a Ministry of Education resource that lists all jobs for teachers and education professionals in NZ) next week and will continue to provide you with regular updates on this appointment in the newsletter. In the meantime, please feel free to contact any of the Board Members if you have any questions - Owen Sinclair, Jude Walter, Talia McNaughton, Karyn Kurzeja, Michael Berry and Vicky Stewart.

Teacher Only Day 15 March - Friday this week!!

Please note there is a **Teacher Only Day on Friday 15 March**. That means that the school is closed that day and the teachers are attending a Mathematics professional development day. Please do make sure you have made arrangements about minding your children. You may even like a long weekend with your family!

Digital Safety:

Following on from our Digital Safety Information Evening, here is some further advice from commonsensemedia.org about how to set parental controls on your desktop, laptop, or tablet. The top three internet browsers -- Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, and Apple Safari -- each offer settings and add-ons to help make your child's online experience more age-appropriate. With a few tweaks, you can block sites, filter search results, and even create an approved list of sites that are suitable for your child.

For instructions, follow this link or go to www.commonsensemedia.org and follow the advice for parents link.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/easy-free-browser-hacks-to-make-the-internet-safer-for-your-kid>



This is another great site with information about apps and social media.
[https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-](https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/?fbclid=IwAR2S0rKH10SK6B5GhzvmA6y9Fhb9dMGY48h4uTwss0cgrl3S9kbhUzXn6DE)

[guides/?fbclid=IwAR2S0rKH10SK6B5GhzvmA6y9Fhb9dMGY48h4uTwss0cgrl3S9kbhUzXn6DE](https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/?fbclid=IwAR2S0rKH10SK6B5GhzvmA6y9Fhb9dMGY48h4uTwss0cgrl3S9kbhUzXn6DE)

Particularly good are the 7 Questions Posters which have suggestions on ways to talk to your child about the online world.

Board of Trustees:

Congratulations to Owen Sinclair who was reappointed as our Board chair at the last meeting. Owen is a strong advocate for our school and an amazing support to me as the principal. Congratulations also to Jude Walter who is now vice chair and will stand in for Owen should the need arise.

An Informative Evening for Parents:

WHO: Nathan Mikaere-Wallis

WHEN: 25th June 7:30 - 9pm

WHAT: The Developing Brain - What 2 - 7 year old's need to know!!

(There will also be a little bit of information about the teenage brain)

WHERE: Mangere Bridge School

COST: \$35pp



Engage Your Brain

Tue 25 Jun 2019, 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Mangere Bridge School, Mangere Bridge

Hosted by Te Iti Kahurangi - Kahui Ako

Te Iti Kahurangi - Kahui Ako are proud to announce that host of the documentary "All in the Mind", and co-host of the TV Series "The Secret life of Girls", Nathan Wallis, Aotearoa's renowned neuroscience educator, is coming to our community with his talk - Engage Your Brain.

This talk focuses on the social/emotional aspects of your brain development - how feeling impacts our thinking. While the times that this brain really has the steering wheel is 2-8 and again in the middle of adolescence, it is relevant to all learners that want to feel engaged, enthusiastic and passionate about what they do. The fundamental mistake New Zealand society has made over the last few decades, is thinking that a two-year-old is a little seven-year-old and that the earlier we get ready to be seven, by learning numeracy and literacy, the better off we will be. That's just not how our brain develops. A large part of intelligence is problem-solving and problem-solving is hugely dependent on creativity. Creativity largely comes online, between the ages of two and seven, in a free-play, child-lead environment. Its development is inhibited if we focus instead on seven-year-old formalised literacy and numeracy. Learning is so much easier when the learner is engaged.

Come along and learn how to engage your brain.

Tickets are available at www.eventfinda.co.nz.

Get in quick as tickets will sell out.

@nathanwallis

@nathanwallisfactoreducation



The kids at ROPS have made a video they'd like you to watch ...

Our Carnival is only 18 days away and we're on the final push for volunteers.

Some of our students have put together a quick video to show you how the \$75,000 raised from last year's carnival has helped their school. You can watch it [here](#).

Imagine what we could do at our wonderful school if we raise more than \$75,000 this year ...

We're getting closer to our target of organising 180 volunteers to help out - we are over half way! If you're thinking of helping out for a couple of hours, get involved and volunteer today - email us at carnival@rops.school.nz

Those that have already volunteered - thank you for helping us in our mission to raise \$75,000+.

Second hand uniform sales:

Thanks you very much to Mai Nathan who has offered to support Claire Gooder with the second hand uniform sales. I appreciate your help in this valuable service and encourage anyone else who may be able to help to let me know too please.

Sales start at 8.30am and run until 9am on the first Wednesday of the month (except for holidays and December). The dates ahead are:

3 April

1 May

5 June

3 July

7 August

4 Sept

6 Nov

Entertainment Books:

You can now pre-order your Entertainment Book online. You can use the following link to go through to our school fundraising page and order your book through us. Please also pass this onto your family, friends and workmates who also want to obtain a copy. <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/9919z1>

Interrupting children's learning by ringing them:

We have had an instance of a parent ringing her child during class time on a cell phone/cell phone watch. Not only is this intrusive and unsupportive of the class programme but it is also not supporting any independence during the day or demonstrating any value of the teaching and learning programme. If your child requires a phone, please ensure that instruction is given for it to be turned off during the day and kept safely and securely in the school bag or preferably with the teacher.

Why we Teach:



A beautiful day last week at Lake Pupuke for one of our Year 5 EOTC days.



Last week the Year 6 students had an extremely successful time at Camp Adair in the Hunua Ranges. Students took part in a range of activities including kayaking, superfox, confidence course and the ever popular mudslide. The



focus was on 'challenge by choice' with individuals setting their own goals, aiming to achieve or exceed these with the encouragement of their team mates. Some new challenges were certainly accomplished.

Great Sporting Success - Congratulations:

Misha Petherbridge recently had an outstanding 4 days of competing in the NZ Junior Surf Championships. After hard work and training 2 times a day for up to four hours a day over the holidays and forgoing the Year 6 camp, Misha competed in the Under 11-year-old girls' category, against over 100 of NZ top juniors.

Incredibly, Misha made every final and was the only 10-year-old girl to do so!!

Misha finished the day with the following NZ placings:

Board Race: 2nd (Silver medal)

Surf swim: 8th

Run, swim, run: 7th

Diamond Race (swim then board combined): 6th

Congratulations, Misha, we are very proud of you!



Information about Spelling:

Year 1 and 2

Word work is explicitly taught through the daily literacy programme. Spelling word lists will be uploaded to SeeSaw so that parents who wish to work through these with their child have them available. This will not be run as a classroom programme.

Year 3 and 4

As part of their literacy programme the students will learn sounds and spelling rules using the Joy Allcock 'Switch onto Spelling' system. Children will be working through this programme according to their needs.

Word lists will be uploaded to SeeSaw so that parents who wish to work through these with their child have them available. This will not be run as a classroom programme. However, at the end of Year 4 each child will have spelling tested to ascertain which level to start them on in Year 5.

Year 5 and 6

Children will have a weekly list of words to bring home to learn. These will be made up from relevant topic words, errors corrected from personal writing and spelling word lists.

As part of their literacy programme the students will learn sounds and spelling rules using the Joy Allcock 'Switch onto Spelling' system. Children will be working through this programme according to their needs.

Travelwise



The Travelwise Team were in action on Tuesday morning at the Pah Road signalised crossing. They were running a Greenman Campaign which aims to make motorists more aware that students of our school are crossing and they must stop safely at this crossing.



Paid Union Meetings:

The NZEI will be holding Paid Union Meetings in school time in the week of March 18th so that teachers can discuss progress of negotiations and decide next steps. Details will be announced soon, but most areas will have several meeting options, enabling schools to stay open and have all NZEI members attend a meeting.

Our teachers will be attending on Thursday 21 March. The school will remain open however, it is likely they will be released from the hall that day. Please come over there should you not find your child in his or her class!

Three Way Conferences:

Three way conferences will be held on Monday 25 March and Wednesday 27 March from 3.15pm to 8pm. Please see the notice that was sent home regarding this and make your appointment online.

An Interesting/Thought Provoking Read from Sharp:

We Must Stop Being Fearful Of New Technology - Here Are Five Reasons Why

Take a look back through human history and you'll see that we've always been afraid of technological changes that threaten to disrupt our way of life. When horses were replaced by cars, people feared that a loss of jobs may occur. But although we didn't need carriage makers or teamsters anymore, the automotive industry created entirely new job opportunities for the next generation of workers. Why then, do we think that technological leaps such as artificial intelligence, automation and machine learning are any different?

So far, we have technology that can observe its environment, perform structured actions, learn from experience, and act of its own accord - amongst a host of other capabilities to mimic human behaviour. This has proven incredibly helpful in the automotive, medical and food industries to name a few. This advanced technology has also entered our lives on an individual level - for example, our voice assistant devices. While it's natural to be wary of a technological uprising while the consequences are still speculative (side note: are robots going to take your job?), let me put you at ease with five reasons why the upcoming technology will ultimately work to our advantage.

1. When one door closes, another opens.

Because machines and automation already have the capacity to supersede us in most labour intensive work, we're likely to see a decline in the availability of lower-skilled jobs. This provides us with opportunities to upskill and create entirely new professions and industries that see the simpler, repetitive tasks left to automation, allowing us to work in more meaningful ways by augmenting our capabilities. To achieve this, we'll need a greater drive for education and on-the-job training to ensure people are ready to work alongside advanced technology.

2. Productivity like you've never seen before.

If everything goes as predicted, there is a chance that automation will result in higher levels of productivity, consequently increasing demand and providing greater economic growth. With the help of automation, and based on current thinking, we can expect higher levels of output, doubling annual economic growth rates by 2035. Labour productivity is also set to improve by up to 40% as people will be able to make better use of their time, transforming the nature of how we do our work. This increase in productivity and profit will also flow through to our wages which should increase considerably.

3. It's common sense.

While technology does a great job of both learning from and making choices based off input data, we can't rely on it to make sound judgments in a practical and sensible way. Simply put, it lacks common sense. As humans, we have a natural ability to make better decisions because we learn from experiences, not just data. Take for example the rumoured gender-biased AI that was tested as a recruitment tool by Amazon. The system was intended to be used as a way to assess and shortlist applicants. It was fed information on the last ten years of Amazon's applicants, which unfortunately had a gender imbalance favouring males and created a data bias. What the system learnt from the data was that men were preferable to women and started discriminating against female candidates. It downgraded CVs with the word "women" in them and once the bias was learnt, developers couldn't alter the systems process. This is more than just a textbook example of how biased data can negatively affect machine learning - it's a great example of how common sense is a bigger asset than we think.

4. Emotional intelligence cannot be artificially replicated (yet).

Humans have the upper-hand in our emotive capacity, empathy, imagination and ability to work within unpredictable environments. McKinsey & Company recently organised a study on what kind of work lends itself best to automation. Their findings show that technology only has the capacity to be tactical, whereas humans have the unique capability of being creative and strategic.

5. Technophobia is so last century.

If the past is anything to go by, we've been worried about automation taking over from humans for a very long time. In the early 19th century, textile workers were afraid of weaving machines, in the 1970's there was widespread concerns that ATMs would replace all bank tellers. In both situations, the dreaded technology resulted in increased productivity and efficiencies, allowing people to be redistributed into work that required higher cognitive involvement. There was increased demand for textile workers to create more cloth and bank tellers moved away from simply dispensing cash into more complex, customer-centric positions where they could offer loans and other financial advice. Isn't it about time we learn from the past and see that technological advances help, instead of hinder, the human potential?

And the best way to reach our full potential is to educate ourselves and keep up-to-date with technological changes so we don't fall behind others that are working towards the automated workplace of the future. While advanced technology such as automation and artificial intelligence will most likely replace a few jobs, it will also create so many more in its wake. Think about all the new jobs created by the rise of the internet that would have been unfathomable 50 years ago. We have to focus on the bigger picture and visualise all the amazing benefits a human-technology partnership will bring us.

What's coming up?

Week 7	11 Year 1 enrolments starting day Hearing and Vision. Testing	12 Year 2 to Botanical Gardens (Matai)	13 Second hand uniform sale Year 2 to Botanical Gardens (Puriri) Parent Group 7.30pm	14	15 Teacher Only Day
Week 8	18 Year 3 and 4 to Botanical Gardens (Totara)	19 5/6 Zone Swimming Year 3 and 4 to Botanical Gardens (Manuka)	20 Year 3 and 4 to Botanical Gardens (Pohutukawa)	21 5/6 Zone Swimming - Save day Year 3 and 4 to Botanical Gardens (Nikau/Kohekohe)	22
Week 9	25 Year 1 enrolments starting day 3 way/student led conferences and goal setting	26 Summer Field Day - 5/6	27 3 way/student led conferences and goal setting	28 New Parent Meeting 9.00 to 10.00am (date changed)	29 Carnival Saturday 30 March
Week 10 April	1	2 Summer Field Day - 5/6 SAVE DAY	3 Parent Group 7.30pm	4 BOT meeting 7.00pm	5 1:45pm school assembly led by Kauri
Week 11	8 Year 1 enrolments starting day	9	10	11 GRIP Leadership conference 12 whanau leaders	12 Final Day term 1. School closes at usual time 3.00pm

BOT Meeting:

Our next Board meeting is, **Thursday 4 April 2019 at 7.00pm**. The focus for this meeting will be initial assessments for 2019. We will also be discussing the charter and strategic plan. You are always most welcome to attend.

Have a happy fortnight.

Kind regards,



Linley Myers
linleym@rops.school.nz



Megan Clotworthy
meganc@rops.school.nz

Community Notices

MENPS Food & Fun Fair

The Mt Eden Normal Primary School's Food & Fun Fair will be held Sunday 17 March (11am-3pm). This is an amazing day out with food, rides, treats, entertainment, crafts, clothes, books, prizes, household items, treasures and more. Corner of Valley and Sherbourne Road. Rain or Shine. Eftpos is available.

Want to....

- ...meet some others in your community?
- ...share a meal?
- ...practise your English?
- ...enjoy some home-cooked Italian food?

If the answer is yes to any of the above, please join us for a



Spaghetti Dinner

Where: St John's Church (next to Pak N Save)
6 Chandler Ave, Royal Oak

When: The first Wednesday of each month
(except January)

The dates for the first half of this year are:
6 February, 6 March, 3 April, 1 May, 5 June

Time: 6 - 7:30pm

Cost: by Koha
(no obligation though - the meal is on us)

Everyone is welcome!
(GF, DF and vegetarian meals will be provided)



ST JOHN'S
anglican church
ROYAL OAK

We're working together to grow great kids



counsellors, assessment services, sports, preschools, before & after school care, vision and hearing, tutors, play therapists, extra-curricular activities, osteopaths, dentists, teen careers & motivation, psychologists, in-home childcare, OT's, speech language therapists, under 5's activities, chiropractors, baby specialists, dyslexia specialists, dieticians, physiotherapists, holiday programmes, driving instructors, dance & drama, self confidence, parent education...



kidslink.co.nz

Memory lapses getting you down?

Forgetting people's names, losing your keys and not feeling as alert as you once did?

It's probably because your brain is not in as good a shape as it used to be but don't wait until it's too late!

Brainfit
FOR LIFE

4-week class starting in Onehunga on Friday March 22, 2019 from 10 - 11.30am

\$20 donation to ROPS for any ROPS family members that sign up for 2019 classes in Onehunga or Epsom

Just like any muscle, your brain just needs a regular workout to improve your memory power and the renowned Brainfit programme could be the perfect "personal trainer" for you and your brain this year.

Brain Fit for Life™ is a 4-week face to face, group facilitated training programme that helps to build and strengthen brain connections which serve as a valuable buffer against memory loss and brain overload, regardless of age:

- Fun and engaging way to improve your knowledge of memory and brain health.
- Increased confidence and self-belief regarding memory
- Easy memory tips and ideas to practice at home and share with family & friends.

So, don't delay - start your brain training today live a brain-healthy lifestyle every day.

**Classes just \$197.
Spaces are limited**



Jude Walter

Sign up for classes at <https://brainfit.nz/classes/> or contact Jude, your local Brainfit Coach at jude@brainfit.nz or 027 286 3961



FREE OPEN DAY

Friday, 22nd March 2019, 3:00-6:00pm

Meet with the Kelly Club team, enjoy our day's programme activities, and mingle with other Kelly Club kids.

This is open to families who have not experienced our programmes yet.

Limited slots only so **BOOK NOW!**

www.kellyclub.co.nz/royal-oak

Kelly Club Royal Oak