



Week 7, Term 4, 01 December 2021

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

Kia ora koutou,

I hope that this finds you safe and well. This is officially the last newsletter of 2021 and what a very unusual year we have had!! I know that every whānau has their own lockdown story and many found this situation hugely challenging. Our tamariki have adapted so well to distance learning and then returning to school in a very different way. However challenging we may have found this, many of our young folk have developed strong resiliency and adaptability. I would like to thank each and every one of you for the support that you have given our tamariki, our kaiako and our kura throughout this pandemic. Without the support of whānau, we would not have been able to deliver the distance learning programmes - your support is hugely appreciated. I would also like to thank our amazing Kaiako and learning support staff for going the extra mile to ensure that the learning continued throughout the pandemic, this was done whilst many were also juggling their own families as well.

Our Parent Group has continued to support us throughout this pandemic-plagued year. Despite all the setbacks, they have still managed to fundraise and have generously donated \$60,000.00 to support our programmes here at ROPS. We are so thankful for the support given to us by Megan Webster, James McQueen, Rebecca Verhulst, Amy Kirby and all the wonderful Parent Group team.

Special thanks must also go to our Board of Trustees: Michael Berry (Presiding Member), Talia McNaughton, Georgie Shanks, Jenny Hoskin-Wyber, Vasana Vanpraseuth, Alec Tang, Matthew Radich and Vicky Stewart for the mahi that they have done to support our kura and the support that they have given me as tumuaki of our kura, particularly during this pandemic.

To all the whānau who are leaving us, particularly the whānau with Year 6 tamariki, many of you have been part of our community for many years. Thank you for sharing your tamariki's educational journey with us. We have loved having you as part of our community and wish you well for your adventures ahead. We share so many delightful memories that will remain with us forever.

Staff Leaving

At the end of each year we sometimes need to farewell some of our lovely staff as they continue on their educational journeys. This year we farewell Hayley Pipes who returned to us when Whaea Lucy went on parental leave. Hayley is off to teach at Anchorage Park in Pakuranga. Nicole Lie arrived to start up our New Entrant class at the beginning of Term 4. Nicole will be moving to Cornwall Park School. Angelica Koltonowska returned to us to cover Whaea Najmeh's parental leave. This year, Jenny Kemps has worked part time providing release in the Kowhai Room. Jenny is going off to do some study. Last but by no means least, Rachael Huggins is leaving her position here at ROPS. Rachael is taking up a literacy support role at Diocesan School for Girls.

All of these wonderful Kaiako have made such valuable contributions to our kura and community in their own special ways. I would like to thank them all for the gifts they have brought to our kura and wish them well for their journey ahead.

Parent Group

Greetings from the Parent Group. We hope you and your families are well 😊 Whilst the last few months have been very challenging, we have still achieved some amazing things within our ROPS Parent Group community this year and wanted to celebrate our success as well as farewell some families leaving the school.

Overall Fundraising Target

This year our target was to raise enough funds to be able to donate **\$60,000** to the school. We are very pleased to announce that despite the very challenging circumstances of lockdown, our fundraising efforts during term 1, 2 and 3 generated enough for us to be able to **achieve this target**. This is a tremendous result, and we thank you for your support whether that was helping behind the scenes or spending money at the events.

Thank You & Farewells to Our Year 6 Families

A huge thank you to all year 6 families for their many years of support (just think how many cupcakes you have bought from the afterschool café in the last 6 years 😊)

There are several Year 6 families who have been heavily involved in Parent Group events over the years that we would like to specifically acknowledge and thank: **Angela & Martin Thompson, Tonya McNeil and Gary Foreman, Haylee & Rod Mitchell, Sam & Claire McSkimming, Owen & Jo Sinclair, Toni & Matt Lucas, Sam & Jude Walter, Rebecca & Leon Verhulst, Talia McNaughton & Morgan Rangi and Fiona & Milan Granger.**

We wish all our departing Year 6 whānau all the very best for 2022 and beyond.

Vacancy - Parent Group Secretary 2022

Rebecca Verhulst and her family have decided to leave Auckland for the beach life, so we have a vacancy on the Parent Group Exec team for the Secretary role. Rebecca has done a wonderful job over the last 2 years, and we wish her all the best.

If you would like to join a bunch of fun, community-minded parents to lead some of the great fundraising initiatives for our kura, then this could be the role for you! It's a great way to lead by example for your kids and get hands-on, meet fabulous like-minded parents, and share your community spirit.

If you'd like to know more, or would like to put your name forward, please send an email to: parentgroup@rops.school.nz

Book Returns

Library Books, Donated Library Books and Classroom Readers

All above books are to be returned to school please. At the Chandler Ave school gate there will be a box for you to return any of the above books. This includes any books purchased for donation to our library during conference week in Term 3. Any readers you have been given in the hard packs can also be returned and placed into this box.

Author Visit by James Russell

If you brought money to purchase a Dragon Defender book to Lynne Gibson, please contact her for your book at lynneg@rops.school.nz.

New Enrolments/Leavers

We have a number of Year 6 children leaving at the end of this year. As we look ahead to the new year, we need to know who is leaving (other than Year 6 children) and who is coming in next year. If you have younger children, please pre-enrol them and let your in-zone friends and neighbours know that we need them to do the same. Please email Louise (louisew@rops.school.nz) if you know you are leaving (other than Year 6) or have a pre-enrolment.

Report Pick Up day

If your child is **not currently attending school**, you are invited to come to the Chandler Ave gate on **Friday 10 December** to pick up their report. I will send an email outlining the details about this early next week. The Kikorangi rūpū will take their reports home on Friday 10 December. The Kākāriki rūpū will take their reports home on Monday 13 December.

Classes for 2022

We are at the stage of the year where we are finalising class placements for 2022. This is a very careful and methodical process in which the teachers and senior managers look at appropriate groupings and match children with teachers and classes. We do not always place children with their friends, although we do try to keep some children known to each other together. It is a very normal part of school life for children to have new children in their class as they move further through the school. It is, in fact, very good for them socially to extend their friendship circle. If you have any social or emotional concerns regarding your child, please email Felicity, felicityb@rops.school.nz, for the Oaks' tamariki or Vicky, vickys@rops.school.nz, for the Acorns' tamariki.

Please be aware that we cannot take requests for specific teachers, sorry, and you need to know that there may be staff changes at the end of this year and groupings are not necessarily going to be the same. We are expecting to announce the classes for 2022 on Wednesday 8 December.

Year 5/6 Speech Results

On Tuesday 16 November we were able to hold our Year 5 and 6 Speech Finals on Zoom. Congratulations to the twenty tamariki who made it into the finals. The mahi involved in researching, writing and presenting a speech was especially challenging this year, so huge congratulations goes to all the tamariki who persevered to complete their speech. The range of topics this year was highly original, and all presented in engaging ways. Thank you to Whaea Jill and Whaea Suzie for taking on the difficult job of judging the speeches.

Year 6 Winner - Emma Jamieson

Year 6 Highly Commended - Aleksander Retamales, Sophie Berry, and James Mitchell

Year 5 Winner - Sophie McKinstry

Year 5 Highly Commended - Emily Morrison and Arielle Jap

Flash Talk Winner - Rayne Wijayarathne

Science Award Trust Programme Year 4-6



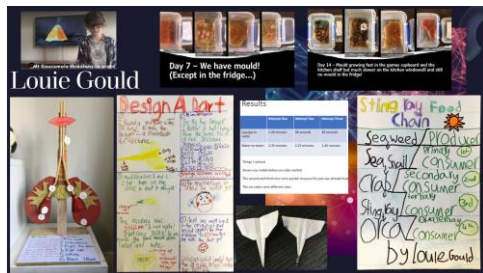
During the year 22 Year 6 students, 20 Year 5 students and 13 Year 4 students completed the Science Award Trust programme for their age group. They completed eight science investigations at home, were given feedback and sometimes had to do a little more work on them to meet the required standard. Some students tackled the Year 7 and 8 Science Badge which involves between 12 and 15 investigations. All these students should be very proud of their accomplishment. Over the next week Whaea Megan and I, will be handing out the students' certificates and badges within the class bubbles, instead of the usual prizegiving assembly. For those that are not attending school we will make sure they receive these on collection day. Normally the students can display their work in a ROPS version of a Science Fair. Instead, this year I have created these PowerPoints. Each student has a slide showcasing some of their work. It is only parts of their investigations, there were many videos, PowerPoints, posters and creations that are not shown here, but hopefully it gives you all a taste of what these great scientists have been doing this year. Congratulations everyone!



[Year 4 Science Challenge Display](#)

[youtu.be](#)

<https://youtu.be/jx9ZlP8Rj9g>



[Year 5 Science Explorer 2021](#)

[youtu.be](#)

<https://youtu.be/4nYxIWA2YB4>

Year 6 Advanced Science Challenge 2021 and Year 7/8 Science Badges

<https://youtu.be/gmQuTxq4tLA>

Chicken Feeding Over the Summer Break



Our special school chickens, Brenda and Ivory, need feeding over the summer school holidays. They are very low maintenance, friendly and best of all you will receive a daily fresh egg, maybe two on a good day! If you have a 5-7 day stretch at home during December or January and you think you and your child could do this job, please contact Robyn McConnell

at robynmc@rops.school.nz . Please indicate what dates you could help. I will take your child through what to do if they are coming to school in school hours at the moment and we can organise a time after school hours, if your child is not attending school at this point, to go through what to do if you feel you would like to. I will organise a roster with contact



details and back up people on it if your circumstances change during the break. There will also be an emailed set of instructions sent to everyone with the roster.

If you would like more information about what is involved and how the roster and school access works, do not hesitate to contact me,

Ngā mihi nui,

Robyn McConnell

Distance Learning

Distance Learning will continue until Wednesday 8 December. Morning zooms will also finish next Wednesday 8 December, unless otherwise stated by the Kaiako. Our Distance Learning page will continue to be accessible, however there will be no formal work posted from Thursday 9 December. Thank you for your continued support of our Distance Learning Programme throughout this year.

Our 6 Ways of Wellbeing at ROPS:



Sparklers at Home

Sparklers is normally a classroom, wellbeing toolkit, and Sparklers at Home supports this. It holds may of the same fun wellbeing activities, but for the living room or lawn.

sparklers.org.nz

<https://sparklers.org.nz/parenting/>

Board of Trustees

The next meeting will be held at 6.00pm on Monday 06 December.

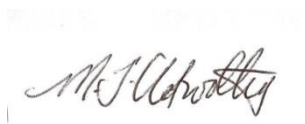
Please do take care.

Keep safe and well.

Have a most enjoyable, relaxing summer break.

Kia kaha

Ngā mihi nui



Megan Clotworthy

meganc@rops.school.nz

Support for whānau

If your whānau are struggling right now there's lots of support in this community, so don't be shy to reach out. Onehunga foodbanks serving whānau in this area run on Wednesdays but can respond if there's a need on other days. If you've exhausted WINZ support, contact either

- New Hope Foodbank, Onehunga on 021770050 or email foodbank@newhope.org.nz
- Beat St Foodbank, Oranga, call 0800 767767
- There are also the big foodbanks: Salvation Army 0800530000, St Vinnie's 0800680090 and Auckland City Mission 0800223663. Be patient, phone lines are busy, but they will get back to you.

A BIG thank you to those who have donated or dropped off food to foodbanks or local pataka.

Naku te rourou nau te rourou, ka ora ai te iwi. ❤️

(With your foodbasket and my foodbasket the people will thrive) ❤️

Community Notices



Artz on Show School Holiday Performing Arts Workshop

This is a fun yet educational week for students aged 5 – 15 years.

Students participate in a range of performing arts and specialised classes, for an eventful week!

20 - 24 December 2021, 9am – 4pm daily
Held at Raye Freedman Arts Centre,
Epsom Girls Grammar School

**View our website; www.artzonshow.co.nz
or contact Hayley on either
artz@artzonshow.co.nz or 09 294 7129**

ARTZONSHOW.

ARTZONSHOW.

THE JUNGLE BOOK

- ★ DANCE
- ★ CONTEMPORARY
- ★ DRAMA
- ★ FACE PAINTING
- ★ OBSTACLE COURSE

Workshop Theme:
THE JUNGLE BOOK

17 - 21 January 2022

9.00am - 4.00pm

Raye Freedman Arts Centre,
Epsom Girls Grammar School

\$75 per day
\$350 for a full week including the show!

- ★ Proven to build self esteem and confidence
- ★ NZ owned and successfully operated since 2003
- ★ Limited numbers per age group

WHAT PARENTS SAY ABOUT US?

The Workshops are great for allowing children to gain confidence in themselves to perform in front of others. This is not a child minding holiday programme - your children learn valuable life skills and confidence.

BOOK
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NOW

027 210 0736 / 09 294 7129

HAYLEY@ARTZONSHOW.CO.NZ

WWW.ARTZONSHOW.CO.NZ



ARTZ ON SHOW

Like us on Instagram and Facebook to enter competitions and for Workshop updates!

BE PART OF THE SHOW!

AGES 9 TO 18

CODING LESSONS



CODINGNZ

Coding NZ Lessons

- Learn coding languages to create technology.
- An expert tutor is online to help during lessons.
- 1 hour per week at 4pm, 5pm or 6pm weekdays.
- Try a free trial lesson at codingnz.com