

Week 10 Term 4 2023

Kia ora, 1inaka 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, assalamu alaikum, oso oseyo, olà, bonjour, ia orana, welcome!



Kia ora koutou,

As we approach the end of the year, it is a time to be grateful for all the support that we have had from our community. Thank you all so much for the support that you have given our tamariki, kaiako and our kura. It makes such a difference for our tamariki. Special thanks to our Board and Parent Group who go above and beyond. A reminder that school closes at **12pm next Wednesday 20 December**. Please ensure that you have made arrangements for your children, as the staff will be busy packing up for the end of the year and are unable to supervise any tamariki who are not picked up. Have a safe and special holiday with your whānau. We look forward to seeing our tamariki returning in 2024. All the very best to those who will be leaving us at the end of this year. Meri Kirihimete.

### Kia ora from Whaea Jill (Shears)

It was so heartwarming to connect with so many ROPS ākonga and whānau, both past and present, in attendance at my 40-year service celebration last Thursday afternoon. I deeply valued the sharing of memories and accolades about my passion and commitment to the learning of our ākonga as well as my atawhai for both staff and tamariki.

Thank you also for the messages and emails that I continue to receive acknowledging my support of many whānau over my tenure at ROPS. Your generosity in contributions to a farewell gift is also greatly appreciated.

He aha te mea nui o te ao? (What is the most important thing in the world?)

He ākonga! He ākonga! He ākonga! He tangata! He tangata! He tangata!

### Chicken Feeding

Our gorgeous school chickens, Ivory and Brenda, need feeding over the summer school holidays. They are very low maintenance, friendly and best of all you will receive fresh eggs daily! You do not have to visit them every day. If you have a week at home during the break, from December to early February, and you think you and your child could do this job please contact Robyn McConnell at [robynmc@rops.school.nz](mailto:robynmc@rops.school.nz). Please indicate what dates you could help and I will organise a roster. If you would like more information about what is involved, please come and see me in the Taiao Room or email me with any questions. Once I have the roster organised detailed instructions will be sent to you and I will show your child everything they need to do before school finishes next week. Thank you!



### Year 5 Trip to Tiritiri Mātangi

The Year 5 Eco Warriors and a handful of Year 4's travelled to Tiritiri Mātangi on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December as part of the Bird Song and Pest control project we are doing on Maungakiekie and in our Kura. The committed students were at school at 7:30am ready to get on the bus to meet the ferry that would take them to this stunning island sanctuary. The students were met by Sara from the education team on the island and we were led in small groups by knowledgeable education volunteers around the island tracks. They heard and saw Kokako, Tieke (Saddleback), Takahē, Tui, Korimako (Bellbird) and Kererū to name just a few manu. We also had the opportunity to explore the lighthouse area, use binoculars to spot seals and learnt a lot about the history of the island, its rākau (trees) and shore life. It was a long day, we arrived back at school after 5pm! Thank you so much to the wonderful group of 13 parents that came on the trip to make it safe and enjoyable, these trips cannot happen without your support, and we truly appreciated your help. Thanks also must go to COMET Curious Minds who have fully funded this trip, other events and the purchase of equipment for our project this year. We will continue this project well into the future and hope to be educated and active kaitiaki of our kura's and Maungakiekie's environments. Special thanks to Whaea Robyn for sourcing this great opportunity and organising this wonderful trip.

Photo Credit: COMET Curious Minds





#### Term 4 Royal Oak Primary School String Programme Recital

Our Royal Oak Primary School String Programme 2023 Year concluded on Sunday 3 December with a solo recital involving all students who learn Violin or Cello in the programme. Everyone performed very well, presenting their piece with confidence. At the end of the Recital there was a short certificate ceremony to celebrate the learning that all children achieved. We also farewelled our Y6 graduating students. We wish them all the very best for further string playing adventures at their intermediate schools next year. Many thanks to our String Programme dream team of Miranda Hutton (Violin), Margaret Cooke (Cello) and Sigmund Sue (Collaborative pianist) for their outstanding work with our tamariki throughout this year. We are very lucky to have you at ROPS! Also, special thanks to Whaea Amelia for all that she does to organise and support our string programme.



#### Annual Music Programme Recital for Probus Epsom Group



On Monday 4 December our Year 5 & 6 Choir and Handchime Ensemble performed their annual recital for the Probus Epsom Group. It was also fabulous to have our ROPS String Programme Violin teacher Miranda Hutton, Y5 Student Clara Voll (and joined by Whaea Amelia) to perform a short string trio item in the Recital.

This year for the first time we hosted the event in our school hall, because our 2023 choir was too big to fit into the usual outside campus venue that we have visited to perform in past years. What an amazing situation for a school to have to problem-solve! The positive singing culture at ROPS is such a special thing!

Our ROPS musicians represented their school, and whānau with total professionalism, poise and joy. The audience were so impressed with the children's performances. Our Music Specialist, Amelia Giles also shared with me that as a realisation of this year's learning and growing she found the concert extremely moving. To have our Y5/6 tamariki presenting as such secure, sophisticated, and confident musicians was really exciting.

Equally important was the tamariki's obvious care and support of each other, and their strong sense of team.

Special thanks to Miranda, and DP Whaea Felicity for their calm, practical support at this event. What a wonderful way to celebrate the end of a very successful year of music-making. Thank you, once again, to Whaea Amelia for all her expertise and organisation preparing for this event.



### Re-enrolment for Before-School Instrumental Groups and Choirs for 2024

Please look out for a reminder email from our Music Specialist Amelia Giles regarding final opportunity for existing members of all our Before-School Music Groups, and all Choirs to re-enrol for these activities for 2024.

Please do re-enrol your child as open places in groups usually go very quickly in the new school year, and we don't want anyone who participated in 2023 to miss out on participating again in 2024.

### BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) at ROPS

Students in the Oaks are given the option of bringing their own device to school. This is optional but does mean they don't have to share a school device and can continue with their learning from anywhere. Should you wish to purchase a device for your Yr 4-6 child, we recommend a Windows laptop as we are an Office 365 school. Each student has their own personal Office 365 account giving them access to online learning. More information about devices and their use can be found [here](#) or on our school website. PBTech has a BYOD button on their website and you can search for Royal Oak to find suggested devices.

### New Zealand Children's Choral Academy - Summer Course January 22-23 January 2024



The poster for the New Zealand Children's Choral Academy Summer School @ Te Tuhi features a collage of images showing children singing and playing instruments. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical manner, starting with the academy's name and logo, followed by the event title, dates, and a call to action. A list of fees and scholarships is provided in a teal box, and the registration information is at the bottom.

 **NEW ZEALAND CHILDRENS  
CHORAL ACADEMY**  
*Te wānanga waiata tira mō ngā tamariki o Aotearoa*

## **SUMMER SCHOOL @ TE TUHI**

### **JUNIOR AND SENIOR SINGERS**

### **22-25 JANUARY 2024**

### **MAKE MUSIC MAGIC!**

Sing, play and make music magic with Whaea Elise Bradley and Whaea Amelia Giles in our January holiday programme! Come and join in this fabulous opportunity to make new friends, sing great music and have a magical time!

Junior singers aged 7-8 years, daily programme from 9.30am-12.30pm  
Senior singers aged 9 years +, daily programme from 9.30am-4.30pm

- Seniors - \$225 (Earlybird rate save \$25)
- Juniors - \$125 (Earlybird rate save \$25)
- Hurry! Earlybird rate available until 8 Jan
- Scholarships available

**TeTuhi**  
22 - 25 January  
13 Reeves Rd / Pakuranga

**REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE – [WWW.NZCHILDRENSCHORALACADEMY.CO.NZ](http://WWW.NZCHILDRENSCHORALACADEMY.CO.NZ)**

### Parent Group

Thank you to all those who have helped to support the Parent Group this year. Thank you to Megan Webster and James McQueen for their mahi earlier in the year and special thanks to Craig Smith who took over the reins after the AGM. Craig was also supported by Libby Jackson, Amy Kirby and Alex Botha on the exec - thank you all so much. All the best to Craig and his whānau who are leaving us to move overseas at the end of the year. Special thanks also to Liddy Sanders who has organised our second hand uniform sales for quite some time, supported by Anne Tjaberings. Liddy's whānau also leaves us at the end of this year.

Our next Parent Group meeting will be next **Wednesday 7 February in the Staffroom at 7pm.** All are welcome. Please do join us!

### Acorns' School Athletics Results

What a fabulous Acorns' Athletics day we had! A big thank you to Whaea Julia for her meticulous planning and organisation. All the tamariki tried their very best and we really do have some budding Olympic runners in the Acorns! The looks of determination were a sheer joy to watch. Congratulations to all our 80m sprint winners.

The relay races were a huge hit, with most tamariki running in a team. It is quite a feat to pass a baton and not a single one was dropped!!!!

Thank you to the many whānau who turned up to cheer the tamariki on. A special mention to those whānau that stayed behind to help us with the gazebos - as always, your help is most appreciated, and many hands do make light work!!!

### **Acorn 80 metre Sprint Winners 2023**

Year Level	Girls	Boys
Year 0	1 First equal Isabel Gilbert	1 Kingston Kalotau
	1 First equal Quin Evangelista	2 Yousef Mohamad
	3 Rudzah Kabir	3 Wolfie Marchant
Year 1	1 Alexandra Haydock	1 Liam Gillingham
	2 Chloe Boivin	2 Charles Misi-Penitani
	3 Bella Klink	3 Peter Smith
Year 2	1 Quinn Arnold	1 Noah Haumonte
	2 Sienna Simich	2 Nash Corpuz
	3 Ameliya Mihaere	3 Hudson Spiers
Year 3	1 Alice Barnett	1 Sione Pasa
	2 Frankie Jacobsen	2 Thomas Godfrey
	3 Tahliya Mihaere	3 Kean Panadero

### Classes for 2024

Classes for 2024 are very close to being finalised. Rest assured that much thought and effort is put into this process. The tamariki will be informed of these and will have an afternoon session with their 2024 classes/teachers on Thursday 14 December. If your child is leaving the school, we will have alternative arrangements for them that afternoon. We will not be publishing the class lists; however, on Thursday your child will know what class they are in - the Acorns will have a slip saying what class they are in. Please look upon this process positively, there has been much time taken over it. If it seems that your child isn't initially happy, don't panic. We give them a good month at the start of the year to settle in and they are, more often than not, very happy by that stage.

### Lunch Ordering

The last day for Brunch'n'Lunch orders is Wednesday 13 December, the last day for Ninja Sushi orders is Tuesday 19 December.

Lunch orders will recommence for Ninja Sushi on Tuesday 13 February 2024 and for Brunch'n'Lunch on Wednesday 14 February 2024

### Events Coming Up:

Please do check this each time a newsletter comes out as events sometimes are subject to change. It is also very good to keep ahead of what is coming up.

### **Term 4 2023**

Week 10	11 9.00 am Certificates Assembly Oaks  Board Meeting	12 Second Hand clothing Sale	13 Parent Helper Morning Tea 10.45ish	14 2.00-2.30 Visits to 2024 classes	15 Junky Monkeys for Acorns Onehunga Pools for Oaks 11.00- 3.00
Week 11	18 9.00 Year 6 Leavers Assembly 12.30:Year 6 Leavers Lunch  Reports go home	19	20 School closes 12.00pm		

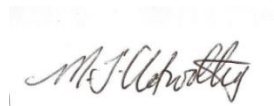
### **BOT:**

Our next Board meeting is Monday 26 February 2024 at 6.00pm in the Staffroom. You are always most welcome to attend.

Congratulations to our returning Board member, Georgie Shanks and our new Board member, Anna Jennings. Many thanks to our departing Board member, Jenny Hoskin-Wyber, for the mahi she has done as a Board member over the past three years. Many thanks to all the Board who have supported me as the tumuaki throughout 2023.

Have a happy holiday break.

Ngā mihi nui,



Megan Clotworthy  
[meganc@rops.school.nz](mailto:meganc@rops.school.nz)

## Community Notices



# Waiwise Indian

Learn how to be safer on  
the water this summer

**Free intro programme for ages 15+**

- Try paddleboarding, kayaking and rafting at a world class venue
- Learn practical skills and water safety knowledge

**Sign up for a Saturday session**  
December - April  
9.30am - 1.15pm  
Vector Wero Whitewater Park



**Drowning  
Prevention  
Auckland**

[dpanz.org.nz](http://dpanz.org.nz)

SCAN TO SIGN UP

An annual highlight for our ROPS Oaks students is our fun outing to our local pool, Onehunga War Memorial Pool. It is always an exciting and relaxing day out for our tamariki. As New Zealanders it is important that we all understand how to keep ourselves safe around our pools, rivers, lakes and ocean that surround us so we are keen to support this initiative from DPANZ - Waiwise. This organisation offers free water safety programmes to our community. Please click on the link for programmes specifically for our Indian community. These free activities are available throughout the summer. <https://www.dpanz.org.nz/waiwise-indian/>

For other water safety modules for young people, please click on the following link. <https://www.dpanz.org.nz/courses/youth-and-young-adults/>





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THE PUMPHOUSE  
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Wright Family FOUNDATION  
MORE FM  
PLAYMARKET  
The Pumphouse Theatre  
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Future thinkers.

# Free Coding Holiday Activity

Summer 2023/24

Educational? Yes!

Fun? Yes!

Affordable? Yes! (it's free!)

Suitable for  
beginner to  
advanced  
coders.

Ages 9 & 10,  
11 & 12,  
13 & 14,  
15 to adult.

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[codingnz.com/freeactivity](https://codingnz.com/freeactivity)

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7 Harrison Rd, Ellerslie  
197 Riddell Road, Glendowie  
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