

# NEWSLETTER

## Rākau Pai, Hua Pai

Roll: 328 | Term 3 | Week 2

### Contact

#### Redwood School

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### Kiwi Syndicate

Vanessa Serci - Reception - Room 7

Fiona Boag - New Entrants - Room 6

Nic Wilkinson - Y1 - Room 5

Amy Tinker - Y1 - Room 4

Michelle Morpeth - Y 2/3 - Room 3  
(Syndicate Leader)

Cassie George - Y2/3 - Room 2

Danielle Smith - Y2/3 - Room 1

Diane Young - Y2/3 - Room 9

Melanie Goonan - Y2/3 - Room 10

### Kererū Syndicate

Caitlin Arlidge (Syndicate Leader) -  
Y5/6 - Room 14

Hazel Handley - Y5/6 - Room 15

Erin Baker - Y5/6 - Room 16

Anna Truesdale - Y5/6 - Room 17

Marlene Schweizer - Y4 - Room 18

Kelsey Moore - Y4/5 - Room 19

Matoia Record - Y4 - Room 20

Anna Young - Junior Literacy Support

Nic Webb - Science Release Teacher

Carmel Wilson - SENCo

Mark Kyne - Release Teacher

Jo Montague - Release Teacher

Rachel Gargan - Deputy Principal

### Principal's Post

#### Tēnā tatou katoa e te whānau

Welcome back to Term 3.

We've got straight back into our learning and classes are settled and busy, after the holiday break. Kererū Syndicate continue to explore Ancient Civilisations, now looking to design their own civilisations with the varying elements associated with such societies. Kiwi Syndicate have begun their new InSTEAD project looking at the science behind weather. In Maths, the entire school has started or is about to start their units looking at the Rational Numbers aspect of the new Maths curriculum. This focus on fractions, decimals and percentages is one of the most challenging aspects of the new Maths curriculum, with expectations for learners significantly higher than in the previous curriculum. However, as I've popped into classes over the past two weeks I've been really impressed with the maths learning I've seen in action and the knowledge and understanding students are building.

As I've alluded to in previous newsletter posts, there is a lot of change happening in the world of education at the moment. This Radio New Zealand [article](#) is a great summary of all the announcements and initiatives happening at the moment and, to be honest, it is quite hard to keep track of everything that is changing. With regard to some of the MOE property announcements, we have always had a strong community mandate not to pursue large open-plan, modern learning environments from our community, and I have personally never felt they were conducive for focused learning, despite seeing some effective MLEs in operation. I also welcome the potential for a new crown entity to specialise in educational property. Anyone who has spoken to me will know my frustrations with the speed, complexity and expense of school property work and anything that can be done to streamline this process is a positive move. Happening within this context of change are Collective Agreement negotiations for support staff, primary teachers, secondary teachers, and principals. The news from these negotiations is not positive, with Support Staff already rejecting three offers, MOE specialist support conducting strikes and moving to mediation, and the secondary teachers negotiation team rejecting the opening offer from the MOE. Sadly, I am fully expecting that there will be calls for industrial action before the year is out, and, of course, I will be keeping you fully up-to-date should this eventuate.

## Dates for your diary

- .....
- Tuesday 29 July** -  
BoT Meeting
- Thursday 31 July** -  
Vision & Hearing testing
- Friday 1 August** -  
Hui-a-kura
- Sunday 3 August** -  
PFG Quiz
- Monday 4 August** -  
Kathryn Berkett presentation
- Tuesday 5 August** -  
Bee Healthy Dental van arrives
- Friday 8 August** -  
Kererū InSTEAD Sharing
- Monday 11 August** -  
Maths Week begins
- Friday 22 August** -  
Staff Only Day

## School Bank Account

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For all online payments our school Internet banking details are:  
ASB bank 12-3140-0316668-01

Please include your child's name, their room number and what the payment is for.

## PFG

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The Redwood PFG are a group of volunteers who co-ordinate and support our fundraising efforts. If you are interested in joining the team please contact Anna Gandy:

[pfg@redwood.school.nz](mailto:pfg@redwood.school.nz)

## Compliments & Complaints

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If at anytime you have a compliment or a concern please do contact your child's teacher. Please appreciate that during the school day they are busy teaching and may not be able to respond to an email.

The Syndicate Leader, Deputy Principal or myself are always available if the concern cannot be resolved or if the compliment needs to be shared.

Next week is our final BoT meeting for this Board cycle. The board have had some challenging things to manage during their cycle, particularly around property, finance, and curriculum change. The Board are all members of our school community, bar myself and the Staff Rep and are therefore not "experts" in education. However, their ability to ask the right questions, investigate solutions, and read documentation has made them highly effective in their governance role and has helped them navigate these challenges well. The opportunity to redevelop the playground is a great swansong for this collective. Whilst many will be seeking re-election at the forthcoming Board elections, one trustee who will not be returning is Clint Schoultz. Clint is the most long-standing member of the Board, with his time pre-dating mine, including five years as Board Chair. With Clint's daughter, Mila, now in Year 8, Clint has decided it is time to step down from the Redwood Board. I'd like to publicly declare my gratitude and thanks to Clint for all the hard work he has dedicated to his governance role and to Redwood School. Clint's input into meetings with the MOE around zoning, property, and support for students with additional needs has been invaluable, and he has been a strong advocate for all the members of the Redwood School community. His connections to other community organisations through his Take 10 charity enable us to provide fruit in the admin area, as well as some provisions for making lunches for students who have forgotten theirs. These are things that we would be otherwise unable to provide. Thank you, Clint, for all your service to Redwood School.

One of the Board's objectives over the past couple of years as part of our school strategic plan is to try to "foster a strong sense of community and connectedness within and beyond school, and with whānau." A part of this was to try and connect parents with experts that the school was using to inform their practice. Last year, Rob Cope, presented about digital safety and responsible use of digital devices. This year, we are proud to present Kathryn Berkett. Kathryn is an experienced educator and presenter in the field of neuroscience. A Wellington local, she has been empowering people to understand their minds and behaviours for over 20 years. I last worked with Kathryn about 8 years ago at my previous school and am thrilled to work with her again. The impact that she had on that school community was significant. A great taster to Kathryn's presentation style is this [TEDx talk](#) about 'digital zombies'. I was fortunate enough to see her speak a couple of months ago about girls' brains in relation to motivation for and interaction with Sport, which as a parent of three very sporty girls I found fascinating. Kathryn will be working with staff during the day to support our understanding of how to support the range of learners we have in our classes from a neuroscience perspective. On the evening of Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August, Kathryn will be presenting about how to support our young people to develop resilience. This is an essential life skill, and one that can be influenced by the actions of parents, teachers and young people themselves. This is a free event, so please come along and bring friends and family. The presentation starts at 7:00pm and will run through to about 8:30pm.

Ka Kite!

**Zac Mills - Tumuaki / Principal**

[zacmills@redwood.school.nz](mailto:zacmills@redwood.school.nz)



## Welcome to Redwood School

Ren Alexander	Brooklyn Elson
Khanak Jangral	Alaya Henry
Daniel Miller	Krishi Patel

## Board Shorts

### Messages from our Board of Trustees

Our final meeting for this Board cycle will be held on Tuesday 29th July, at 6:00pm.

## PFG News

### Messages from our Parent Fundraising Group

#### Lights, Camera, Quiz!

Sunday 3rd August @ the Sprig and Fern Tawa 7pm

We are holding our annual Quiz Night on Sunday, 3rd August at the Sprig and Fern in Tawa. This event is proudly sponsored by Harcourts Tawa.

Tickets are \$20 per person, and we can accommodate teams of 4 or 5 people per table. We'll have an experienced quizmaster, and a brand new Movie and TV Show themed quiz, all courtesy of Yeah Nah Quizzes — thank you!

On the night, we'll have fantastic prizes and a range of amazing 'spin the wheel' raffles you can purchase. Please bring along your cash to purchase raffle tickets or to be sneaky and buy an answer if you need help in those tricky rounds (make sure you let your teammates know)! There will be prizes for the best dressed, so pick your favourite movie or TV character and wow the judges.

Ticket sales are limited, so secure yours by completing the form below.

A big thank you to the Harcourts team for supporting us and Yeah Nah Quizzes for providing the quiz — we couldn't do it without your support.

<https://forms.gle/vh8BqagF3xSYCzVGA>

#### Raffles

In addition to the raffles on the quiz night we will have 6 amazing raffles to purchase from the start of Term 3 from the office and PFG members will have these on sale after school outside the office. We have over \$2,500 worth of monetary prizes to be won and some amazing goodies! Tickets will be only \$2 each - more details soon!

## Community News

**AN EVENING WITH  
KATHRYN  
BERKETT****NEUROSCIENCE TRAINER****RAISING RESILIENCE****MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup>  
AUGUST****7:00PM - 8:30PM**

Redwood School is proud to be bring Kathryn to our school community.

Kathryn Berkett is an amazing neuroscience educator and presenter who has been empowering people to understand their minds and behaviours for over 20 years. Kathryn is a mother of two adolescents, with a Masters in Educational Psychology and certification in the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics from the Child Trauma Academy founded by internationally renowned psychologist, Dr. Bruce Perry - author of the International best seller 'The Boy Who Was Raised As A Dog'.

Understanding the neuroscience of how resilience develops will help us recognise what we can do in our everyday lives and interactions to increase resilience in our young people. This session will help you understand how our brains react and respond to stress, how we can help manage these stress responses and, ultimately, how we can build resilience.



### Community News



*Fundraiser*  
**FASHION SHOW**

**7 PM**  
DOORS OPEN AT 6.30PM  
**SATURDAY 26TH JULY**  
**\$20 ENTRY**

📍 177 Main Road Tawa  
📞 RSVP (04) 2328023 ( 100 person cap)  
📧 RSVP tawa.corps@salvationarmy.org.nz



Light refreshments included.



All clothing and accessories modelled on the night will be quality, pre-loved and available for purchase. Cash or online payment options available.

Funds raised will support:

- 1/3 of ticket sales - Suva Family Care Centre - caring for and providing secure accommodation for female survivors of family harm and human trafficking, alongside their children.
- 2/3 of ticket sales - Will be utilized to empower women through programming and activities in our community.
- Takings from clothing sales will be used to support Salvation Army community ministries.




**Does your child like to sing, dance, act and perform?**

**Would you like your child to build more confidence and make more friends?**

Performing arts classes led by a London West End performer!

After school and weekend classes in Aotea, Johnsonville, Karori, Newtown, Lower Hutt, and Upper Hutt!

Two-week trials available.

For more information, please visit [www.spotlightperformingarts.co.nz](http://www.spotlightperformingarts.co.nz)



**SPOTLIGHT**  
PERFORMING ARTS



### Neurodiversity in Education Project

The Neurodiversity in Education Project is a resource we are using at Redwood to make our school more neuroinclusive. It has great resources for parents and learners too. [Click here for the link.](#)