



NEWSLETTER

Rākau Pai, Hua Pai

Roll: 344 | Term 4 | Week 9

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

We are just over a week and a half away from the end of the school year. As usual at this time of the year, there is a lot still to do and everyone is tired and a little grouchy. We have definitely noticed that the students are less tolerant, more irritable, and definitely in need of a good break. It is the time of the year when everyone's resilience levels are a little bit lower, and you may hear some grumbles from your child about others in their learning spaces. We have certainly noticed this in the playground. Students also start to get a bit anxious about the end of the year, and thoughts turn to next year. Again, this is perfectly normal and the way to approach this is with a positive outlook and positive messaging. Whoever decided that an eleven-week term in Term 4 was a good idea needs a serious talking to!

Sadly, one of the things we have noticed over the past few weeks is a rise in racially unkind language in our Junior school. This sort of behaviour has no place anywhere in our society, but especially in a school. We're not sure where it has started from but at our whole school hui today I spoke about our value of Responsibility, which includes 'I am kind' and 'I include others'. We will be keeping a close ear and eye out for any further instances of this, but I would really appreciate it if you could take some time to reiterate what I've said today and encourage kind words and actions in these last couple of weeks.

This week we've had our 'academic' learning conferences, which will be followed by our End of Year report comments published on Monday 15th December. We pivoted to a learning conference model after the changes to the Maths and English Curriculums made the way we were communicating progress in the areas null and void. We decided we wanted to focus on what students could do and what their next steps were, regardless of changes to the curriculum. We hope you found them useful and informative and also enjoy the celebration of your child's year when the reports go live on your child's Learner Profile 2025 Report on HERO on Monday 15th December.

Dates for your diary

- Monday 8th December** -
Kiwi Syndicate Teddy Bears' Picnic
- Monday 8th December** -
Kererū InSTEAD Expo
- Tuesday 9th December** -
Kererū Christmas Day
- Tuesday 9th December** -
Kiwi Christmas Concert
- Tuesday 9th December** -
Final BoT Meeting for the year
- Wednesday 10th December** -
Kapa Haka Whānau Performance
- Thursday 11th December** -
Summer Reading
- Thursday 11th December** -
Kererū Water Fight
- Friday 12th December** -
Fun Day
- Monday 15th December** -
Kiwi Water Play
- Tuesday 16th December** -
Leavers' Supper
- Thursday 18th December** -
Last Day for 2025 - 12:30

School Bank Account

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

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

Compliments & Complaints

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.

Also this week, we finally got the last part of the playground installed. The bridge connecting the two climbing towers was damaged during installation but has been replaced. This has been an exciting development, as it means that the entirety of the playground can be traversed without touching the ground! Sadly, we have noticed some damage to other ropes that, unfortunately, seems to have been deliberate. We know that our playground is well-used during the weekends and in the evenings, and we expect that during the Summer break it will get a lot of traffic. If you are on site during this time and see people not treating the playground respectfully, please do contact the police. One of the Annual Aims for the Board of Trustees is to continue to develop the school environment, but we also need to make sure we look after the improvements we make when we do them.

Last Friday, our amazing Kererū Kapa Haka rōpū performed at the Tawa Cultural Festival. This was another amazing day with some fantastic performances from all the schools. It always gives me immense pride to see how students perform and also to see ex-students performing for Tawa Intermediate and Tawa College too. Our rōpū were particularly impressive, as their bracket had some complex waiata with multi-part arrangements. If you haven't had the opportunity to see the performance, then you can view it [here](#). All of our Kapa Haka Performance Groups will be performing for whānau on Wednesday 10th December at our school hall.

Sadly, today we farewelled Matoia Record who has been teaching in Room 20 since the beginning of Term 3, covering for Grace O'Rourke. Unfortunately, Matoia has an urgent family matter to attend to in Northland, and given the distance, it was impossible for her to remain at Redwood for the remainder of the term. I'd like to thank Matoia for all her hard work in the two terms she has been here. It is hard to pick up a class midway through a year, especially when it is a new school too, but Matoia has done a great job in Room 20 and across the school with her passion for Te ao Māori and Kapa Haka. Sadly, Matoia won't be returning to Redwood in the New Year, but we're pleased to hear that she has secured a position at Porirua East School for 2026.

As we enter the last couple of weeks of the term, there is still plenty going on with lots of opportunities for you to join in the fun. We appreciate that it is a busy time of the year for everyone and know that attendance at all these events can be hard to manage. Some events you might want to note in your calendar are:

- Kiwi Teddy Bears' Picnic - Monday 8th December
- Kererū InSTEAD Expo - Monday 8th December
- Kiwi Christmas Concert - Tuesday 9th December
- Kapa Haka Whānau Performance - Wednesday 10th December
- Leavers' Supper - Tuesday 16th December -
- Final Assembly 12:00, School Finishes 12:30 - Thursday 18th December

Ka Kite!

Zac Mills - Tumuaki / Principal

zacmills@redwood.school.nz



Welcome to Redwood School

Oakely Rademaker

Board Shorts

Messages from our Board of Trustees

Key discussion points at our last meeting:

- Continuing to honour Te Tiririti o Waitangi
- Annual Plan Goals for 2026

PFG News

Messages from our Parent Fundraising Group



Community News

NEW WORLD CLUB CARD PARTNERSHIP

An easy way to help us raise funds.

Have you registered your New World Club Card yet? Fundraise for Redwood School simply by linking your New World Club Card to the school and shopping at New World Tawa. For every \$100 you spend \$1 will be donated to Redwood School. Linking your card does not impact any of your card benefits. Simply email your 16 digit card details to office@redwood.school.nz Friends and family are welcome to link their cards too.



NEW WORLD
Tawa

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.

SPOTLIGHT
PERFORMING ARTS

For more information, please visit

www.spotlightperformingarts.co.nz

Redwood School End of Year Whānau Events

Monday 8th Dec	Tuesday 9th Dec	Wednesday 10th Dec	Thursday 11th Dec	Friday 12th Dec
<p>Kiwi - 12:30pm Whānau Invited Teddy Bears Picnic Field/Classrooms if wet</p> 	<p>Kiwi - 2:15 Whānau Invited Christmas Concert Hall - Bring a cushion</p> 	<p>Kapa Haka Community performance 5:15 arrive 6pm performance Whānau Invited Hall</p>	<p>Y2-5 All Day Summer Reading Book Selection</p>	<p>FUN DAY - Everyone Wear Whānau Rōpū colours 12:30 Whānau invited Field - Tug of War Preordered BBQ lunch</p>  
<p>Kererū 1:40- 2:45 Whānau Invited InSTEAD Sharing Hall</p> 	<p>Kererū Christmas Shared Lunch Pls bring a plate to share</p> 		<p>Kererū Water Fight Pls remember togs towel, water guns</p> 	
Monday 15th Dec	Tuesday 16th Dec	Wednesday 17th Dec	Thursday 18th Dec	
	<p>Y6 - 6pm Y6 Whānau Invited Leavers Supper Hall</p> 		<p>12:00 Final Assembly Hall Whānau Invited</p>	