



# NEWSLETTER

## Rākau Pai, Hua Pai

Roll: 359 | Term 1 | Week 8

### Contact

**Redwood School**

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

**Website:**

[www.redwood.school.nz](http://www.redwood.school.nz)

**Facebook:**

@RedwoodSchoolTawa

**PFG:**

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

### Kiwi Syndicate

Nic Wilkinson - Y1 - Room 5

Nancy Manu - Y1 - Room 6

Vanessa Serci - Y1 - Room 7

Cassie Stewart - Y2 - Room 1

Nic Webb - Y2 - Room 2 Michelle  
Morpeth - Y1/2 - Room 3 (Syndicate  
Leader)

### Pūkeko Syndicate

Belinda Evans - Y3 - Room 11

Emma Ashington - Y3 - Room 12

Grace O'Rourke - Y3 - Room 13

Rachel Gargan - Y4 - Room 14  
(Syndicate Leader)

Kim Perkins - Y4 - Room 15

### Kererū Syndicate

Caitlin Roberts - Y5/6 - Room 16  
(Syndicate Leader)

Michelle Kealey - Y5/6 - Room 17

Carmel Wilson - Y4/5 - Room 18

Donna Glenn - Y5/6 - Room 19

Mark Kyne - Y5/6 - Room 20

Emma O'Leary - SENCO

Claire Hughes - Deputy Principal

### Principal's Post

**Tēnā tatou katoa e te whānau**

We're well over halfway through the term now, and I think I can safely say it's been the strangest term of school I've encountered in my 25 years of teaching. Whilst over the last couple of years we have become accustomed to not having parents coming onto site and staggered ends of the day, we have previously not had to implement many of the systems we have operated this term. Talking to our students the biggest impact on them has not been the mask wearing or the staggered finish times, but the fact that our syndicate break times have not been at the same time and that they can't play with other students across syndicates. This is certainly one of the things we will aim to reset as soon as possible.

With staff absences due to isolating or being Covid positive, we have had an unprecedented number of relievers in the school. Whilst we have a great group of regular relievers we have also had to cast our net wider to ensure classes are covered. Whilst we aim to have consistency for classes when there is a multiple day absence, the demand for relievers has been extremely high and sometimes this has been unable to achieve. I would like to acknowledge the hard work and organisation of Claire Hughes, our Deputy Principal, who has done a fantastic job of juggling and managing all our relievers this time. Ka rawe, Claire! It has not been an easy job, but one she has done very well.

Today, we have had a staff only day. On this day we have been continuing our work around Assessment for Learning and Mathematics. This work is about building our capacity to effectively teach and assess mathematics, something that has been identified as a concern nationally. Whilst our data indicates that most students are achieving well, we know that improving our teacher and student confidence in this area will help all our students achieve.

## Dates for your diary

Friday 25th March - Staff Only Day  
Thursday 14th April - Term 1 ends  
Friday 15th April - Good Friday

## 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 Charlotte France:

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.

After last year's outcry about the state of mathematics, also in the news recently has been the concerning state of Literacy in Aotearoa New Zealand. You may have seen the media reports referring to the The Education Hub's "Now I don't know my ABC" report published earlier this week. It is a fairly damning report on why Literacy levels have dropped over the last 20 years. At Redwood over the last couple of years we have been addressing some of the issues identified in the report. The development of our Redwood Writing Progressions has been a significant piece of work, clearly outlining what students should be able to do at the different year levels in writing, with additional documents for teachers to support them in teaching aspects of these progressions. We've collecting specific data around aspects of writing such as spelling, and are being much more systematic in the way we teach this and use phonics to support spelling. Our Summer Reading Programme is deliberate in trying to support 'the home literacy environments' of our students, and we endeavoured to add to this with our Reading Workshop for Kiwi parents last year.

One of the biggest challenges identified is the 'decrease in the number of young people reading for enjoyment and the amount of time young people are reading'. The challenge of competing against digital devices is real, and one that I have encountered in my own home life. Having 3 girls between the ages of 10 and 15 I have seen how technology has insidiously crept into their daily lives, and how as a result the time they spent reading independently dropped. Last year as a family we instigated a 'Reading Hour' twice a week, where the whole family shutdown devices and read their own books, which had to be actual books and not devices. This has been great for forming the habit of reading and I've seen all my girls more readily choose to read a book when they have some down time, especially before bedtime, which all the research says is a great enabler of a good night's sleep. Many students I talk to at school who are having some challenges with their behaviour in classrooms often talk about spending a lot of time on devices and about having trouble sleeping. Perhaps by reading more and gaming less, we not only help New Zealand's literacy rates, but improve the behaviour in our classrooms!

Ka Kite!

**Zac Mills - Tumuaki / Principal**

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



## Board Shorts



### Messages from our Board of Trustees

- The deadline for Out of Zone enrolments closed yesterday
- Our ballot took place today

## PFG News

### Messages from our Parent Fundraising Group

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our sausage sizzle fundraiser yesterday, and a big thank you to all our helpers who cooked and served the sausages.

The PFG are selling Hot Cross Buns - these are being baked for us by Brumby's, who bake all their products fresh daily.



Packs of 6 are for sale at \$9.00, and there's a great range of flavours for the traditionalists and those looking for something a little different.

There are also 3 awesome hampers being raffled. These are packed with lots of yummy Easter goodies.

These have kindly been donated by :

- New World Tawa
- Countdown Tawa
- Pak n Sav Porirua



## Former pupil success

At Redwood we like to celebrate the success our students have, both in school and out of school. This goes for our former pupils too. Angel Mulu, who is a former pupil, and whose sister Shiphrah-Eve and brother Shiloh currently attend Redwood, plays for the Chiefs Manawatu rugby team. Last weekend the Chiefs, featuring Angel, won the inaugural Wahine Super Rugby Aupiki tournament, facing off against the Blues in Hamilton. Ka mau te wehi, Angel!



## Community Advertising

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR JUNIOR FOOTBALL**

**FIRST KICKS FOOTBALL FOR CHILDREN TURNING 4 TO 6 YEARS.**

**JUNIOR FOOTBALL FOR PLAYERS AGED 7-15 YEARS.**

**GIRLS ONLY SUNDAY LEAGUE TEAMS FOR U8, U10, U12 & U14**

**MULTIPLE TEAMS IN EVERY AGE GROUP FOR PLAYERS OF ALL ABILITIES.**

**SCHOLARSHIPS TO REMOVE THE FINANCIAL BARRIERS TO PLAYING ARE AVAILABLE**

**EMAIL: OFFICE@WESTERNSUBURBS.CO.NZ**

**NOW OPEN**

**TAWA A.F.C.**

**TAWA JUNIOR FOOTBALL REGISTRATIONS**

**ALL CHILDREN AGED 4-14**

Register at:

- [www.tawafootball.org.nz](http://www.tawafootball.org.nz)
- [Juniors@tawafootball.org.nz](mailto:Juniors@tawafootball.org.nz)
- [Tawa Junior Football](https://www.facebook.com/Tawa-Junior-Football-100000000000000/)

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**Tawa Community Patrol**

**TE HUNGA TŪĀO STUDENT VOLUNTEER ARMY**

**NW NEW WORLD**

**Groceries**

**Grocery delivery service available now**

With the help of the Tawa Community Patrol, the Student Volunteer Army grocery delivery service is now available.

This service is ideal for those living in Tawa who are:

- Aged 65 or over;
- Self isolating;
- An essential worker;
- A solo parent, home carer or live with a disability or mental health challenge.

After you place your order, the TCP team will safely & securely shop for and deliver your essential groceries - from New World Tawa - to your door in a contactless manner.

The standard delivery fee is \$15 per delivery. SuperGold Card holders pay only \$7 per delivery, and Community Services Card holders pay only \$3 per delivery (pricing is subject to change).

Deliveries are 7 days a week.

To place an order, head along to <http://shop.sva.org.nz> or call the friendly SVA team on 0800 005 902.



- 1 You pick your groceries and pay with your credit card
- 2 We collect your groceries from a participating store
- 3 We deliver contactlessly to your doorstep

**COVID-19 Self-Isolation now 7 days**

If you are a household contact  
Tests negative at day 3 and day 7

Day 1 2 - 4 5 6 -

If you are COVID-19 positive  
Positive at day 0

+ Day 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

If you are a household contact who then tests positive  
Tests positive at day 3. Restarts 7 days self-isolation. No further tests.

+ Day 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Your 7 days of self-isolation starts again on the day of **your** positive test or the day your symptoms started. Whichever comes first.

[covid19wellingtonregion.health.nz](http://covid19wellingtonregion.health.nz)

Capital & Coast DHB | Hutt Valley DHB | Wairarapa DHB

**Unite against COVID-19**