



NEWSLETTER

Rākau Pai, Hua Pai

Roll: 356 | Term 1 | Week 11

Contact

Redwood School

Ph +64 4 232 7704

Office email:

office@redwood.school.nz

Finance email:

accounts@redwood.school.nz

Website:

www.redwood.school.nz

Facebook:

@RedwoodSchoolTawa

PFG:

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

Like many of you, the team at Redwood were all hoping that there would be an announcement about a change in alert levels last week. Sadly, this was not to be. We are hopeful that a change may come during the upcoming school holidays, so that we can start Term 2 with some more normal school systems and routines. Please keep an eye out for any emails over the holiday break outlining any changes to the way we will be operating.

One of the events we are hoping to go ahead with in Week One of Term 2 is our annual cross country event at Redwood Park. We hope that a change in settings will allow us to have parents cheering on their children as usual. We have planned to have this event on Tuesday 3rd May or Wednesday 4th May depending on the weather.

We have been steadily managing Covid-19 cases and are pleased to see the majority of our positive cases back at school, happy and healthy. To date we have had 113 student cases and 9 staff cases. We have found it interesting to note that when there have been a couple of cases in Year 1-3 classes then there seems to be a few more students getting it within that learning space. This has not been as evident in our Year 4 -6 classes, which suggests that the wearing of masks really does slow the spread of Omicron. It will be very interesting to see if there is a change of guidance around mask use in schools if we move to the Orange setting of the Covid Protection Framework.

One of our staff who did, unfortunately, catch Covid was Caitlin Roberts. Fortunately, she managed to do this the week prior to her wedding. Congratulations to Caitlin and Toby. We now have another Mrs C. Arlidge on the staff!

Dates for your diary

Thursday 14th April - Term 1 ends
Friday 15th April - Good Friday
Monday 2nd May - Term 2 begins
Tuesday 3rd May - School cross country

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.

Last week, Pūkeko Syndicate ventured to Te Ngahere O Tawa. This was a follow up trip to the one last week to Willowbank Park, and is part of their Turangawaewae unit connecting the Pūkeko students to their local environment, awa and maunga. A big thank you to all the parents who were able to support this trip, it was very much appreciated by the Pūkeko teachers. We are hoping that this year we can get out and visit locations that bring learning to life, as this has been a real challenge for the last couple of years.

It was great to have some feedback from my last newsletter article about reading, behaviour and gaming. Judging from the comments there are definitely a few people with concerns around the impacts of gaming and the reading habits of their children. As a parent of teenagers I have seen their love of reading decrease over time - if only my 15 year old loved reading as much as my 10 year old! I did receive some responses challenging my connection with young students gaming habits and their learning and behavioural difficulties at school. Whilst my belief around this comes from my experience over 25 years of teaching, it is also backed up by research and neuroscience. As a Deputy Principal I worked with some students who at the age of 7 were completely addicted to gaming and were completely obsessed with death and violence. Through trying to support these students I was fortunate to work with some specialists in trauma-based medicine and learned about how the brain develops and works, and the impacts gaming can have on developing brains. I have included an adapted presentation (with additional notes) I presented at the education conference ULEARN in 2018 around this very subject, which also includes a very fascinating video from Kathryn Berkett's TEDX Talk on 'Digital Zombies'.

A big thank you to everyone who has paid their school donation, we really appreciate your support. If you do have any queries or questions regarding payments or accounts please do contact Christine via her email accounts@redwood.school.nz

As this is a final newsletter for the term, I'd like to take the opportunity to wish everyone a good holiday break. Fingers crossed for a change of level, and change of protocols next term.

Ka Kite!

Zac Mills - Tumuaki / Principal
zacmills@redwood.school.nz



Welcome to Redwood School

Riley Creet

Board Shorts

Messages from our Board of Trustees

Due to Covid isolation, our last meeting was held virtually:

Key items discussed:

- Covid disruptions are challenging for our budget. Additional costs for relievers are substantially higher than normal. Whilst this was allowed for in the budget it will be a challenging year financially
- School roll is dropping this term due to people moving out of the area. This will impact our budget
- Changes we can make to operational procedures when there is an alert level change
- Property:
 - Weather tightness design work is beginning
 - Whole school fire alarm upgrade has been approved by MOE

PFG News

Messages from our Parent Fundraising Group

From our fundraisers so far this term we have raised:

- Sausage sizzle \$536
- Easter Raffle \$916

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported our Hot Cross Bun sale and Easter raffles. Your support is really appreciated.

Thank you to following supermarkets who have kindly donated prizes for our Easter Raffle:

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

The PFG will be looking to have a meeting early in Term 2 on Thursday 5th May at 7:00.

Community Advertising



View Finders photo competition
April school holidays, 16 April–1 May
 Take a photo that tells a story and win cool prizes! For tamariki aged 5–12 and rangatahi aged 13–18 years.
 Categories: nature, whānau, and objects/books.
 Pick up an entry form and drop off your photos at any library, or enter online at wcl.govt.nz/viewfinders

wcl.govt.nz **Splendid Photo** **Wellington City Libraries** Absolutely Positively Wellington City Council



**Comicy Your Life!
 ComicFest Art Competition 2022**
April school holidays, 16 April–1 May
 What would your life look like if it were happening on the pages of a comic book? Draw yourself as a comic book superhero, villain, or just an ordinary 'comified' human, and be in to win a bevy of sweet prizes.
 We have four age-based categories: 0–8, 9–12, 13–17 and 18+
 Pick up an entry form and drop off your photos at any library, or enter online at wcl.govt.nz/comicylife

wcl.govt.nz **Wellington City Libraries** Absolutely Positively Wellington City Council

Racketlon Holiday Programme

Once again Tawa Tennis, Tawa Squash and Wellington North Badminton are running the Racketlon holiday programme these school holidays.

Players rotate around each sport spending 1.5 hours at each club. Qualified coaches will take each session.

Please note holiday programme is for age 6 years and older.

Thursday 28 and Friday 29 April 2022, 9am - 3pm

Cost per day: \$50 or both days for \$85

Registrations: <https://bit.ly/3ICegs2>

For more information contact Babette at babette@wnba.org.nz or call 042324774