



# UPDATE

## Rākau Pai, Hua Pai

Term 1 | Week 10

Tenā koutou Parents, Caregivers and Whānau

Although it is not a normal newsletter week, we do have some important news to share with you.

### Paid Union Meetings

You will have seen in the media that the Primary Teachers union, NZEI, have rejected the latest offer from the Ministry of Education. The union membership felt that the most recent offer did not address the union's concerns around pay, release time, pay parity with Secondary teachers, or their concerns around retention and recruitment into the profession. As a result a round of Paid Union Meetings has been announced for Week 2 of Term 2. You may remember that the last round of PUMs were postponed in the wake of the Christchurch shootings.

The timings of these PUMs coincides with a particularly busy week for staff and students at Redwood School, with our ASB Getwise programme booked as well as staff professional learning. As a result we have made the decision that we will be closing the school for instruction on Wednesday 8th May from 12:30. NZEI members will be departing school to ensure they are ready for the meetings to start at 1:30. If possible we would appreciate if parents could collect their children from 12:30 to 1:30pm, signing them out at the office. Unfortunately, with many staff members off site we are unable to guarantee the safety of everyone if we were to remain open. We understand that not all parents will be able to accommodate this; we will have alternative arrangements here at school, whereby teachers not attending the PUM will supervised students. Remaining students will be dismissed at the end of the day as per usual. Kelly Club will be operating at their normal times on this day.

A further notice regarding this matter will be handed out on Monday 29th April. This follow-up notice will ask whether or not your child will be picked up from school or remain at school on this afternoon.

We understand that this may cause inconvenience for families, but do appreciate your support as we work towards a negotiation with the government which will result in better conditions for teachers as well as an increase in the number of people taking up the profession.

### Hannah Smith

Hannah Smith (Room 13) will unfortunately be leaving us at the end of Term 2. She is taking the opportunity to travel and work overseas. We will be advertising for her position over the school holidays.



## PFG

It is with sadness that I am informing you that Louise Owen has stepped down as Chair of the PFG. Many of you who are connected to our PFG page on Facebook will have already been aware of this. Louise has worked tirelessly to organise and co-ordinate PFG events this term, including today's ice block sales and our very successful discos. She has also already organised and acquired a number of prizes for our Mothers' Day raffle in Term 2. I would like to thank Louise for all her hard work and effort this term, and for already laying the foundations for further events this year.

As Louise has resigned from this role, it does mean that we have a vacancy as Chair of the PFG. The PFG is a vital group within our school community. If this is a role that interests you, please contact me on the email below.

One of the successful events Louise and her team have co-ordinated has been our Easter Raffle. Our prize winners were:

1st 462 Meghan Gibbs  
2nd 700 Dexter Taylor  
3rd 503 Ruby Farrow  
4th 469 Eva Lyons  
5th 107 Ari Janes  
6th 20 Cooper France  
7th Sienna Santi

Congratulations!

Make sure you keep an eye out for our Mothers' Day raffles in Term 2.

## Grand Traverse Success

Last Saturday we had a number of students and whānau take part in the Porirua Grand Traverse. One of these competitors was Jack Jenkins. Jack completed the 9.5km run in an impressive 56.08 minutes, coming first in the Year 3 & 4 category. Ka mau te wehi Jack!



## Have a great break

Thank you all for your support during this term. It is important to me that we work together in partnership to ensure Redwood School enables our students to learn and thrive. I hope you all manage to have some time to relax and connect as whānau over the next 2 weeks, and over the Easter break in particular.

Term 2 begins on Monday 29th April.

Noho ora mai - All the best

Zac Mills - Tumuaiki / Principal

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