



# ROSCOMMON SCHOOL

WHAKAPONO KIA KOE – BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

NEWSLETTER  
Wednesday 30 May 2018  
Week 5, Term 2

Kia ora, Talofa, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Namaste, Bula vinaka, Fakalofa lahi atu  
G'day, and Greetings to all our families!

## 2018 ANNUAL THEME



We are almost half way through Term 2. If you are wondering where our last newsletter got to, it's been in draft for some time. Apologies for the oversight as it did not get out on time, hence the longer than usual newsletter this time around. We hope you are tucked up somewhere warm when you get to read this. Winter is surely on it's way. Here's to continuing another great term of learning ☺

### KEEPING UP WITH THE CURRICULUM

A regular feature in our newsletters will be Curriculum or learning updates for parents/ whanau. Sometimes we get so caught up in the busy-ness of school, that we can forget to keep you posted about what our core school business is all about: LEARNING.

### Samoan Language Week

This week we celebrate our Samoan Language. The theme for this year is:

**"Alofa atu nei, Alof mai taeao"**  
**"Kindness given, kindness gained"**

We love that it relates to one of our school values, ie. Aroha, and that it builds on the values and qualities we've been talking about recently with our

Pink Shirt Day, Bullyfree Week celebrations earlier this term (see also notes on this later in this newsletter). Thank you to Fotu o Nu'u Pule, our Samoan staff, students and their families for promoting the use of our Samoan language this week, and throughout the week. It's always good to remind ourselves of the benefits of speaking more than one language, not only for our brain development and our learning, but also for our culture and identity. Be kind to one another ☺

**VAIASO O LE GAGANA SĀMOA 27 MĒ - 2 IUNI 2018**



## **Korero Maori!** **He Pua Mai i Rangiatea** **(Maori Immersion Unit)** **Celebrates their Te Reo successes**

Earlier this term our Year 7/8 netballers from He Pua Mai i Rangiatea entered a netball competition of a different kind. The way the game was played was still the same, but the big difference was that all the 'calls' and all their language on the courts had to be in Te Reo Maori. The students practised their reo in their lead up games here at school. They even played the teachers (we won't tell you who won...you can guess!).

The tamariki played really well, considering the limited numbers of students we do have. They placed 7th out of all the kura who entered....but the big award of the day, the one which the promoters announced was the most important, given that the competition was about using Te Reo actively as you play, went to none other than....Roscommon, He Pua Mai i Rangiatea!!! The tamariki and kaiako were stoked to win, and we are certainly proud of such an acknowledgement. Tino pai He Pua Mai i Rangiatea tamariki me to kaiako.



Quintin Te Maari (Centre)  
with this brother Curtis  
his sister Emily and Mother Mary

When HPM arrived back at school, they received more good news from a recently graduated HPM student. Quintin Te Maari entered the English section of Mana Whaikorero. Although Quintin has developed fluency in Te Reo, he was able to draw on his excellent communication skills developed through his ability to mihi and whaikorero. Congratulations Quintin. We know we haven't heard the last of you yet!



Quintin with his Roscommon Teacher  
Whaea Pare

Last week HPM also participated in the Rā Whakawhanaunga at the Manurewa Marae. It was amazing to see the growth of this event, which was initially inspired and run by HPM kaiako themselves. The more we celebrate all that is beautiful about our reo and culture, the more we will see it being strengthened and increased. Well done HPM whanau for keeping on with all you are doing.

## **Hoops in Schools**

Last year we managed to connect with 'Hoops in Schools' which is largely sponsored and inspired by Steven Adams and his associates. Tomorrow they are coming in to officially hand over our basketball equipment, which has included the new hoops erected in the senior court area outside the hall. Already our kids are loving this new gear. The Hoops in Schools will also provide some training for staff and students. Thank you Steven Adams and Hoops in Schools for your generosity.

## **Caught Being A Good Mum**

Congratulations to Cairo and Raelia's lovely Mum Ollie Henry for 'Caught being a Good Mum'. We had so many nominations that it was indeed difficult to choose. Even if you didn't get selected, please know that we think all our mum's are amazing and we hope you had a wonderful Mothers Day earlier this month.

Caught Being A Good Mum Nomination	
My name is <u>Cairo</u>	I am in Room <u>12</u>
I would like to nominate my Mum <u>Ollie Henry</u> because	
<u>She's always really nice to everyone,</u>	
<u>and she buy's really cool stuff for me</u>	
<u>and my sister. She always has a positive</u>	
<u>attitude around everyone even if she doesn't</u>	
<u>actually know them. My mum always</u>	
<u>buy's lollies for us my mum means</u>	
<u>everything to me in the world. My mum</u>	
<u>is the I needed to complete my life</u>	
<u>She will always help's me with my</u>	
<u>homework if I need it. She play's</u>	
<u>with me on my xbox 360 Sonic</u>	
<u>racing games untilt we changed it my</u>	
<u>mum is the Mum I have always wanted!!!</u>	





Cairo & Raela with their Dad Mitch and our 'Caught be a Good Mum' Ollie!

## **Pink Shirt Day, Bully Free Week**

Below you will see some photos of Pink Shirt Day. This special day celebrates that it's good to say "It's not okay" to bullying type behaviour. Well done to all those who managed to find something pink to wear, and to acknowledge that at our school, we try to interact in a way that is kind, helpful and encouraging.



Lately there has been a number of 'bullying' incidents in the media and often on social media too. The Bullyfree week recently celebrated was a good reminder for our students and Roscommon Whanau as a whole about what bullying is and isn't.

Thank you to all those who bring any kind of bullying behaviour to our attention- we rely on your help, so that we can address this and provide support for all involved.

As you will see in our guidelines below, we avoid labelling students as being 'bullies' so they don't end up living up to such labels. We try to help students to develop empathy for others, which is the one thing that many people who ended up bullying their way through life, without intervention, don't develop, i.e. empathy. When you have empathy for others, you are more likely to be considerate of your actions and how they may impact on yourself and others wellbeing.







## PRO-SOCIAL [ANTI-BULLYING] GUIDELINES

Bullying is defined as being the use of aggressive behaviour towards others with the intention of causing harm to them. It is usually repeated behaviour and it is often difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. Bullying can be physical, verbal, emotional, sexual, racial, homophobic and cyber misuse.

### **Principles:**

1. Students will not be called bullies or victims. They will either be someone who is using bullying behaviour, or someone who is being bullied by another person.
2. The whole school community- board, teachers, non teaching staff, students and parents will have a shared understanding of what bullying is.
3. All members of the school community will be aware of how bullying behaviours will be dealt with.
4. A school culture of 'telling' or reporting bullying behaviours will be fostered.

### **Guidelines:**

1. When a bullying behaviour is identified the priority will be to take immediate action to stop the abuse.
2. Support will be provided for those experiencing bullying behaviour.
3. Students will be made aware of what the expected procedure is if they need help from being abused/ bullied.
4. All staff will know this procedure and how to respond in ways that are supportive for everyone involved [See Relationship/ Behaviour Management notes].
5. Students engaging in bullying behaviours will be given support to learn more appropriate ways of interacting with others.
6. Students who have been bullied will receive support to learn how to manage themselves safely if they are being bullied or in situations of conflict.
7. The school curriculum/ classroom programmes will plan for teaching about 'bullying behaviours' and how to respond to them, including encouraging and expecting students to TELL when they are experiencing or know of bullying behaviours.

## Music is in our bones



NZ Music Month is almost over, but we've been celebrating this in our own classes and to some degree, across the school.

Some of our teams this week have visited "A Day At Auckland Live" in Aotea Centre, where they've been able to see and hear what goes on with musical type performances held at that venue.



## **JUNIORS AT AOTEA CENTRE!**



We've also had our Roscommon's Got Talent auditions, as well as auditions for our school production coming up later this year. Added to that is our school choir who've been rehearsing for the upcoming Music Festival, and also a band who we are anticipating will enter into some kind of rockquest competition.

Whew...it's more like Music Year and not just Music Month at Roscommon. Such talent indeed!

## **We're famous in the Education Gazette** **(a publication that goes to all schools in NZ)**

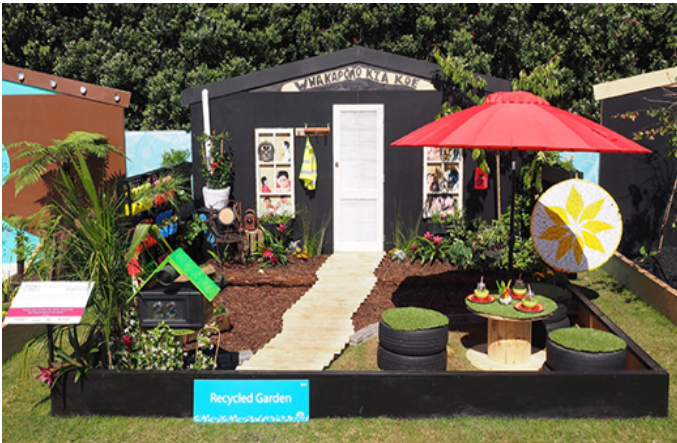
Here's an article that was published about our Garden to Table programme....

*School gardens reap gold*

*By Education Gazette editors*

*ISSUE: VOLUME 97, NUMBER 5*

*Gold-winning creations by primary school students were among the stars at the country's top garden design and horticulture show in November.*



*Roscommon School in Manurewa, Auckland designed an entry that reflects the school's commitment to environmental awareness.*

*The New Zealand Flower and Garden Show 2017 held in Auckland was a celebration of gardening, horticulture and design, and included a category for schools to compete in by creating a themed garden of their own choosing.*

*Eight schools took part in the competition organised by the Garden to Table Trust, which works with schools and students to foster food knowledge and growing skills.*

*All gardens were judged on their own merits and the standard was so high that four out of the eight entries won a gold award.*



Year 8  
Roscommon School  
student Torian  
Boroevich-Gage holds a  
bowl of coleslaw made  
from one of the  
cabbages grown  
at the school

Student Response  
TORIAN

*"Winning was cool, and really motivates the students to continue recycling."*

*There was a fixed space to work within – the schools had to design and build a 4.8 square-metre garden bed – but, apart from that, imaginations could run riot. They could*

*pick any theme and the only rule was that edible plants had to be included in the design.*

*The displays proved a real hit amongst show-goers, including a much talked-about 'Recycled Garden' by Roscommon School in Manurewa, Auckland, which featured brightly painted planters made out of milk bottles, tyres used as garden seats and even a letterbox that used to be a microwave oven.*

*An upturned umbrella placed on a door was filled with water and used as a flower vase, and the creative kids also showed that decorative art can be made from everyday things. A striking circular artwork featuring a flower was made entirely of reused plastic bags (see photo) from supermarkets. Yellow petals were created out of woven Pak'nSave bags, and the white background came from recycled New World bags.*

*The other gold winners were Dawson School in Otara, Auckland, (with theme of Kari Ki Te Tepu, or Learning In Nature); Bellevue Montessori School in Tauranga (Food Over Fear); and Karaka School, south of Auckland (Country School Hideout).*

*Roscommon School Operations Manager Tania Lunjevich was in charge of the Recycled Garden entry. She says it reflects the school's values and commitment to environmental awareness, recycling and sustainability, and that links it to the curriculum. Each class at the school has a garden, and the Year 7/8 kids were "blown away" by the gold medal result, she says. "Winning motivates the children, as well as teachers and parents. There's a huge sense of pride at what we have achieved." Their entry was a joint effort and had contributions from over 100 students.*

*The school now has a garden centre with a greenhouse, a fenced-off area with raised beds, and a potting-up area, thanks to a design by Enviro teacher Koteka Cuthers, who has also been fully involved in the Garden to Table programme.*

*'Whakapono ki a koe' or 'Believe in yourself' is the school motto which underpins much of the learning.*

*Established in 2008, Garden to Table now works with over 6,000 primary-school-aged children across New Zealand, helping them discover a love for fresh food and skills that will last a lifetime.*

*Its goal is to change the way children approach and think about food, encouraging them to get their hands dirty and learn how enjoyable it is to grow, harvest, prepare and share fresh, seasonal food.*



## Sporting Updates

Congratulations for our recent sporting successes. The following teams entered the Manurewa Inter-school Sports Competitions. This is how they fared:

### **Rippa Rugby - Coaches Siamani Pese, Karl Ropati and Mr Cuthers**

- We won against Weymouth School 5 to 3, Ho-mai School 8 to 2, and Rowandale School 7 to 3.
- Overall we placed 2nd against Clendon Park 4 to 3.

### **Rugby - Coaches Siamani Pese & Mr Cuthers**

- Overall we placed 2nd with a draw against Manurewa West School 2 to 2.

### **Soccer - Coaches Siamani Pese & Mr Cuthers**

- Overall we placed 3rd in Premier B
- Overall we placed 7th out of 16 teams



*Rippa Rugby Tournament  
Photos courtesy of Elaine Graham*



*Rugby Tournament Team  
Photo courtesy of Siamani Pese*



## Welcome New Staff

We have a number of new staff who have started with us this term. We'd like to welcome the following people to our Roscommon Whanau:

Ani Tomokino, Ariana Tuau, Mesepi Talafaaoti, Tuli Fungavaka, Anarea Trinick who are our new Teacher Aides in the Junior and Middle teams; Whaea Dalena who is teaching in Ruma 8 for the remainder of the year; and our Trainee Teachers Leana Cvitanovich, Cecelia Kairua, and Ese To-filau who are with us over these first few weeks of Term 2. We are enjoying working with you all!

## Library Re-opening

In Week 2 we were so blessed to have Maggie Anaru's whanau join us as we re-opened the library, named after Ms Anaru. Hosted by HPM and FoNP, and representatives from across the school, the family enjoyed a morning of karakia, himene, waiata, and sharing stories about Ms Anaru and the library. It was great to celebrate and remember someone's life and work and the impact of a legacy of aroha and hard work. It was also awesome to have our library returned to it's purpose, after having being used as a classroom for all of last year.



*Maggie Anaru's photo and the trophy gifted to Roscommon by her family*

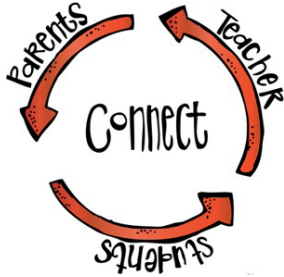


*Maggie's lovely family  
Her husband, children and grandchildren*

## Board Update

The board would like to thank all our whanau who were able to attend our hui/ fono last term. We now have finalised our strategic goals and are shaping up our long term plans accordingly. We will publish this over the next little while.

## Reporting to Parents Student Learning Conferences



At the moment teachers have begun to prepare their Mid Year Reports. These will be part of the Student Learning Conferences held later this term. Now that schools no longer report against National Standards, we have updated our reports accordingly. We will be having some parent sessions where you can come along and have these explained and any questions clarified for you. Please keep an eye out for these upcoming meetings.

## Teachers Paid Union Meetings

Later this term we will have some more Paid Union Meetings for teachers. We will keep you informed closer to the time about these, but it may involve us seeking your support in allowing our students to finish at an earlier time.

Teachers are appealing to the government to recognise the value of education for our future, and to try to attract and retain high quality teachers to the profession- as there is a shortage of teachers, and a decline in the numbers of people opting to train as teachers. We can see already how this can impact on our current provision for quality teaching and learning, and the pressure this can put on the teaching workforce as a whole.

Teachers are hoping the next round of pay negotiations will recognise the need for improved remuneration, to attract and keep good teachers, and so that you can be assured of the availability of such teachers for the future of your children.

## **REMINDERS**

### SMOKEFREE ZONE

A reminder that all schools and most public places these days are Smokefree. Please do not smoke inside our school grounds. Thank you.

## LATENESS LETTER HOME

Here's another copy and reminder of our 'Getting here on time' message. Thanks to all those who didn't need reminding, and to those who once reminded, improved their getting to school on time. You're awesome ☺

Tuesday 22 May 2018

Dear Parents/ Caregivers,

*We have noticed there has been an increase in the number of students who are arriving late to school, and being picked up late afterschool.*

*This is a friendly reminder that we expect students to be here ready for class to start at 8.55a.m. Your child should be arriving by the time the bag bell goes, at 8.30a.m. so that they are able to get prepared for their day's learning. We are also trying to teach our children that being on time, or punctuality, is a behaviour that is valued, in any relationship- at home, school, work or when they are participating in their community.*

*In regards to students still here after the 3.00p.m. bell, we remind our whanau that it is your responsibility to ensure the supervision and wellbeing of your child once the school day is over. There are just a few too many students being asked by their parents to wait at the office, while they finish work at a later time. If this is the case, the expectation is that alternative afterschool care arrangements be made. This could include enrolling your child into the afterschool care programme here at school, in which case you will need to organise that directly with the provider.*

*Over the next little while we will be monitoring more closely those students who are either arriving late or being picked up late, and making contact with families where it is becoming a concern. Please contact us if you require any support with finding alternative arrangements for your child's afterschool care, or strategies for helping your kids to get ready and be here on time in the mornings.*

*Thank you for your consideration of these matters and for your ongoing support of our school.*

Sonia Johnston  
Principal

*PS- our message to students whose families haven't picked them up afterschool, will still be "Go to the office and let them know to contact your family", and then wait there. The above letter is mainly addressing those students for whom lateness has become a habit, not for those students, for whom lateness is an unexpected or one-off event.*



### CONTACT DETAILS

A reminder Parents that if any of your contact details change i.e. address, phone number, emergency contacts etc. to please let the office know so that we can update our records for your child/children.

### DROPPING LUNCHES TO SCHOOL

Due to the increased number of lunches being dropped off to school, we are asking parents/caregivers to consider the following:

- Please try to prepare your child's lunch so they can bring it to school themselves so there is no need to drop off lunches;
- If you do bring their lunch, please drop it off at the office and we will organise for the daily runners to drop off their lunch to class. We are trying to reduce the number of interruptions for our students learning in class. We take all care but no responsibility for your child's lunch.

The updated school timetable and break times (for Terms 2 and 3) are as follows:

- 8.30am - Bag bell
- 8.55am - Start of school bell
- 10.35am - Interval eating bell
- 10.45am - Interval play bell
- 11.05am - End of interval bell
- 12.35pm - Lunch eating bell
- 12.45pm - Lunch play bell
- 1.25pm - End of lunch bell
- 3pm - End of school bell

Thank you for your support in this matter ☺

### SCHOOL TIMES, LATENESS

School starts at 8.55a.m. each day. The bag bell goes at 8.30a.m. to let children know to go to class and prepare for their school day. Remember if you added up the lateness over time, it can add up to a significant amount of learning time that is lost!!!



### 'BREKKY BUSTERS' CLUB- ROSCOMMON BREAKFAST PROGRAMME

The Brekky Busters breakfasts are in the hall, from 8.00am to 8.30am. Children who come to this programme always remember their wonderful manners and behaviour. Masela Savelio and Marie Masiutama and their team of helping hands will continue to provide this service.

### VISITORS TO SCHOOL

Thanks to all those who are remembering to sign in at the office if they are visiting our school grounds during the school day. This is for your own and our students safety, that we know at all times, who is in our school- particularly if we have to account for people in an emergency situation.

### ROAD SAFETY



Land Transport will send home pamphlets reminding parents/ caregivers about road safety issues around schools. This includes keeping their speed to no more than 40km in school zones; not illegally parking, so that students and drivers can see one another clearly; and being mindful of newly trained road patrollers. Traffic enforcement will be patrolling our local schools to ensure the message is getting home about road safety.

**A reminder too to parents parking on the opposite side of the road when dropping off or collecting their children...**please don't walk them across to/ from your car across that busy road. Please walk them down to the school crossing and then cross them using this safer way. When you don't do this, you teach your children to ignore the road safety practices that are there to keep everyone safe... and you are teaching them that it is okay to take a risk with their own/ others lives by crossing dangerous traffic situations.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our children's road safety.

### *Last Thoughts*

Last thoughts are quotes that relate to our Annual Theme, leaving you with something to think about, or be inspired by....





## TERM 2 DATES

### ROSCOMMON SCHOOL

23 Burundi Avenue, Manurewa, Auckland

Phone: 266-5731 Fax: 266-5226 Email: [admin@roscommon.school.nz](mailto:admin@roscommon.school.nz)

MAY	
28 -1	Samoan Language Week
JUNE	
4	Queens Birthday Holiday (Monday- School Closed)
5	Arbour Day
7	Matariki begins
18	Paid Union Meeting- School finishes at the earlier time of 12.30p.m.
25-29	Roscommon's Got Talent Finals (date to be confirmed)
JULY	
2-6	Houses Event - Ball games (to be confirmed)
6	Last Day of Term 2 - Early finish at 2pm



## 2018 TERM DATES

(as per Ministry of Education)

Roscommon School

*Term 2:* Monday 30 April to Friday 6 July

*Term 3:* Monday 23 July to Friday 28 September

*Term 4:* Monday 15 October to Thursday 20 December

\*Each term is 10 weeks duration