



ROSCOMMON SCHOOL

WHAKAPONO KIA KOE – BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

NEWSLETTER
Tuesday 4 December 2018
Week 8, Term 4

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



Can you believe it's almost the end of the year? Where did all the time go? I guess as they say, time flies when you are having fun! Read what we've been up to in the past few weeks, and also some reminders about what's coming up in our last couple of weeks of school....

2018 ANNUAL THEME



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.

Garden to Table (GTT) Programme- Our NZ Garden Show entry wins GOLD!!!

Last week the NZ Garden Show was held at Trust Arena in Henderson. Our school entered last year and came away with a Gold. Based on the high quality of our entry, we were asked to come back again as a guest exhibitor. Our theme for our entry was called NESIAN FUSION. The garden was inspired by our Maori/ Pacific flavours of Roscommon School community.

Well done to all our tamariki who have engaged in our Garden to Table Programme (which involves children in growing, preparing, cooking and eating food- from the Garden to the Table!).

Thanks also to the amazing kaiako, Ms Tania Lunjevich and Mr Koteka Cuthers, who champion the GTT work in our school and for their additional mahi to get our entry this year all prepared. Congratulations, your hard work has paid off and we have been awarded another GOLD AWARD!



Roscommon School garden at the 2018 Flower and Garden Show.

JASON DORDAY

MOANA-NUI-A-KIWA - 2018 SCHOOL PRODUCTION

It's been a crazy busy time over the past few weeks as we prepared extra long and hard for our major school production. The time and energy poured into this, however, paid off when the shows were a fantastic success.

The actors, singers, and dancers all brought their very best to the stage, and reminded us of the many talents our students have, and the importance of the Performing Arts as opportunities for these to be realised, developed and promoted.

Thank you to all our whanau who managed to get along to our shows. We do know that securing seat-

ing for some of the shows was at times tricky due to the high demand and limited seating. Despite this, everyone we spoke to raved about the quality of the show and how much they were entertained as well as educated. Mission accomplished!

Thanks also to our amazing staff- everyone who in some way helped to make this happen, and a special 'shout-out' to Whaea Pare and Miss Kiripati our playwrights and team of directors who, like Maui the shape-shifter, shaped and moved this production along to where it got to...you are truly talented too!



Reporting for Learning

By the end of Week 9 all students will have received their End of Year Reports, sharing their progress over the year. We know that for most students this will be a great time of celebration, as they consider just how far they have come since the Mid Year Reporting.

We have also been collating and analysing student achievement data which we will be using to report to the Board of Trustees next week, as well as to inform our planning for 2019.

We'd also like to thank our whanau for supporting us to have our Teacher Only Afternoon a few weeks back so that teachers could share their Teaching Inquiries (which is where we share what we've been doing to improve our practice in areas where our students may not have ordinarily made shifts in their learning).

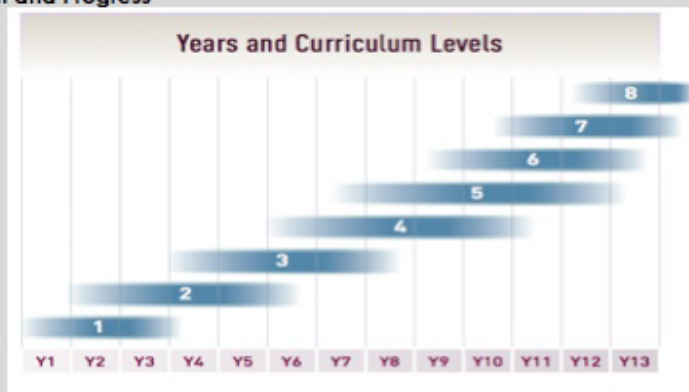
From the student achievement information and the teachers shared practice, some of the things we've learned this year that will help us to continue to improve our students achievement include:

- Ensuring our students have the foundational skills needed as learner writers, particularly helping them with Hearing and Recording Sounds when attempting their writing, and the importance of teaching Letter formation well.

- The role and importance of student or learner talk in relation to our learning, and the teachers' role in ensuring learning talk is valued and used to further promote learning.
- Teachers designing learning tasks that both build on what students know, but also challenge them to seek out what they don't quite know, in order for them to develop as inquiring learners (who learn 'how to learn' and not just 'what to learn').
- Really knowing our learners, and using this knowledge to help their motivation for learning, ie. considering topics of interest, strength and challenge they can readily connect to.
- Better understanding the potential and role of ICT or digital devices and digital learning to improve students overall learning abilities, and our role as teachers and whanau in ensuring they use these as a resource and not as 'the main or only source' to support them processing their thinking and learning.

We also remind our whanau that as of last year, schools no longer are required to report against what was then the National Standards. Our school now reports on student progress as they work within the NZ Curriculum Levels. Here is a copy of the explanation for reporting Achievement and Progress from our End of Year Report:

Achievement and Progress



This diagram shows the curriculum levels and suggested achievement expectations at year levels*. Your child's achievement and progress will be reported in relation to the NZ Curriculum levels in Mathematics, Reading and Writing. Their progress will be reported as: **Early** or **Within** that level, or **Towards** the next level. The report comments will further explain what your child is currently working on in that area of learning, and what the next steps are for their learning.

This report will also state your child's progress in the other learning areas of the curriculum, including Unit Studies [Science, Social Studies, Technology] and PE/ Health.

Your child's overall progress as a learner, including their academic, social and emotional development will be written as a General Comment by their teacher.

*NB- not all learners will progress at the same rate as others. This may include students with specific learning needs or abilities, students learning English as an additional language, or students who have had high health and wellbeing needs that have impacted on their schooling.

Junior Spelling Bee Competition

Apologies to our Junior Syndicate students who we overlooked in acknowledging in our last School Newsletter...



Front row: Teina, Tatiyana, Neilam, Alfred
Back row: Patrick, Krishant, mele, Izriel

The Junior Spelling Bee competition had two divisions for Year 1 students and Year 2 students. It provided an opportunity for all students to learn new words and explore the English language. It also helped students to improve their spelling, expand their vocabulary, learn language concepts, and develop the ability to use those words in their story writing.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS...

~ Year 1 - Neilam Graham

~ Year 2 - Izriel Seu



Proud family members
with our Spelling Bee winners!

We believe that Spelling is the cornerstone of literacy, and the Spelling Bee was invaluable in promoting the development of skills necessary for translating ideas into writing effortlessly.

"It encourages our students to embrace a love of spelling and, in turn, a love of reading which will stay with them for the rest of their lives."

Huge thanks to all our students and teachers for an amazing effort!

Aquatics Education- Swimming and Water Safety Lessons



This term our students in Years 3-6 have been attending the free funded swimming lessons at the Manurewa Aquatic Centre on Sykes Road. This programme has been supported by the Field of Dreams (John Walker) initiative where transport was also provided.

The students have loved the lessons, although our feedback has been on better teaching the connection between the water safety lessons back at school to when they are actually in the water. We encourage all our whanau to use these facilities if possible and to help yourselves and your child become more confident in and around the water.

We are especially mindful of the summer period when there is a notable increase in water activities, and unfortunately drownings. Last year there were 86 drownings, and two thirds of NZ children did not know how to swim. Let's keep ourselves, and others safe in and around the water, now, and in the future.

Burundi Care

Congratulations to our winner of the Burundi Care Enrolment Draw which took place at the end of our Production last Thursday night. Parent Mel Pou won the yummy hamper treats when she enrolled her child during the special Burundi Care promotion!



This week is Chocolate Week at Burundi Care and it promises to be a lot of fun!

Don't forget to enrol your kids for our Holiday Care. Yes, we are open! Keep an eye out for the BC flyer for details! Enrol your kids now!

BURUNDI CARE CONTACT DETAILS

- Phone - 027 232 6533
- Or email - burundicare@roscommon.school.nz
- Or visit the friendly Burundi Care Staff in our School Hall 8am to 6pm everyday.

Intermediate Enrolments

Well done to all those families who have managed to sort their child's enrolment for Intermediate next year. If your child is going to Waimahia or another local Intermediate next year, you should have already sorted their enrolment by now. This will ensure the school has carefully considered placement for your child, rather than trying to fit them into a class last minute.

FoNP, HPM Year 7 Placements 2019

For Year 6 students in our bilingual units ie. FoNP and HPM, they will automatically continue on as Year 7 students in those programmes. We will however be contacting our whanau to confirm our numbers for 2019 for planning purposes, ie. ensuring we order additional devices, and other resources, etc for these students. Please keep an eye out for notices about any hui/ fono.

Beginning Teachers to Fully Registered Teachers

Congratulations to...

Miss Flavell, Miss Lal, and Mr Televave for being acknowledged as graduating as Fully Registered Teachers.



Miss Flavell, Miss Lal & Mr Televave

These Beginning Teachers have now completed two years teaching practice in order to become fully registered.

We cheered them on as they were acknowledged at our local NZEI branch celebration. Well done Mistery, Malvina and Terry on your successful start to a career that can be hard work, but is also one of the most rewarding jobs you'll ever do. We are blessed indeed to have you as teachers here at Roscommon School.



Roscommon Staff singing to our graduates



*All the graduates
from various schools around Manurewa*

More Graduations!!!



We would also like to acknowledge two more groups of people who will soon be celebrating their graduations.

ELA (English Language Assistants)

This coming week some of our teacher aides who've been involved in the ELA (English Language Assistants) training/ professional development are being recognised for their year long study. Congratulations to Mrs Fuarosa Motuga, Ms Tino Leaupepe, Mrs Flo Losivale, Miss Pai' Taupa'u, and Mrs Masela Mataia.

mindlab Graduates

Our other group who have now finished their Post Graduate Certificates in Digital and Collaborative Learning through the Mindlab, will go on to graduate at their special celebration early next year- these are about 20 of our teaching staff. Well done to you as well and we hope you can now relax a bit before continuing to put this into practice in the new year and beyond.

A special mention too to Mrs Christina Patea who has been helping both the ELA and the Mindlab folks with their studies...what a great leader you are for us all. Thank you!

Congratulations Mrs Manoa

Mrs Rebecca Manoa (nee Miss Yeung Tung), gave birth to a healthy baby boy *Penitani Pulusea Junior Manoa*. Congratulations to Mrs Manoa and her husband. We are sure all your years of looking after Roscommon students, including in FoNP have prepared you well for parenthood. Enjoy your time with baby Mrs Manoa!

Congratulations to our Chaplan Lynette Farhi 10 Year Anniversary!



My name is Lynette Farhi and I have been Roscommon School Chaplain for ten years. It is a blessing and privilege to work in such a supportive and caring environment, alongside amazing teaching and office staff and Sonia Johnston, our Principal.

School chaplaincy is done in a voluntary capacity through Lifewalk Trust, but we are under contract and expected to work as professional support for children in body, soul and spirit. We work with stipulations that we work with compassion, tolerance, empathy and diligence.

I have a background in Psychology, Biology and Theology as well as a keen interest in art and design. Art therapy is an area where I continue to learn and I often use it with my pupils.

I am there to be part of the pastoral care support and to care for the school and children and have now seen several children throughout the full length of their Primary School years.

Although I also qualified in Applied Mental Health, chaplaincy has provided plenty of surprises. So I pray for the school daily. No two people are the same and this is especially true of children. When a child experiences trauma, grief, fear, bullying, feels overlooked or isolated, or experiences an alteration in family dynamic, a chaplain's role is to companion through the changes, help the child to process the different aspects of change and to work towards resilience.

Many children only come for two or three sessions, others see me occasionally through a year and some check in weekly or fortnightly. Sometimes I am there specifically to encourage and cheer a child along. It can make a huge difference just to know there are people in your corner wanting to see you do well. It is extremely heart-warming when a stressed child gains confidence and begins to shine in everyday life.

I am employed elsewhere, so chaplaincy is confined to one day a week. My spare time tends to be spent on Nana duty, church activities and art. But I find myself astonished that ten years has passed so quickly. I look forward to starting my eleventh year in 2019 with the wonderful staff and pupils of Roscommon School.

THANK YOU!

From all us at Roscommon, thank you so much Lynette for your diligence and the humility with which you carry out your Chaplaincy work at our school. We appreciate your kindness and love for our students and staff. Congratulations on your 10th Anniversary!



REMINDERS

BELL TIMES

- Morning tea eating time - 10.45am to 10.55am
- Morning tea play time - 10.55am to 11.35am
- Lunch eating time - 1.05pm to 1.15pm
- Lunch play time - 1.15pm to 1.35pm

HATS

In Terms 1 and 4 the expectation is that ALL students will bring a hat to wear when they are outside, whether during playtimes or during class activities outside of the classroom. Students that do not bring a hat will be redirected to play in the shaded areas around the school. Please send your child to school with a hat that is named. Ideally the most sunsmart and sunsafe hat is the bucket style hat.

ROAD SAFETY

A couple of reminders....

- When driving please keep your speed to no more than 40km in school zones.
- Please do not illegally park, so that students and drivers can see one another clearly.

Roscommon Social Media

A reminder that there are several ways you can keep up to date with school news, events and trips:

facebook

- Roscommon School Community Page
- Roscommon Senior Syndicate Parents
- He Pua Mai i Rangiatea
- He Pua Year 7 & 8's
- Roscommon Samoan Bilingual Unit FoNP



Roscommon School (look out for our school logo).

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Welcome to Roscommon School



SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS

A reminder that digital copies of our school newsletters (in colour) are available on our facebook pages and school website.

School Loop

HAVE YOU DOWNLOADED OUR SCHOOL APP YET?

NEVER MISS IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION AGAIN!



- *Events
- *Notices
- *Instant school messages
- *Absentee
- *Newsletters
- *Permission Slips



Simple free download: In the Play Store and App Store search 'Skool Loop NZ' & choose our school once installed.



Community Notice

Don't let your children / tamariki lose the skills they have learned at school this year! Keep their brains fired



A FUN, FREE Summer reading programme for ages 5-13.

Sign up online NOW, and pick up your English and Te Reo Māori activity booklet from Auckland Libraries. Come along to free events throughout the holidays. Meet other explorers and learn new and exciting facts.

Visit www.daretoexplore.nz or www.kiamaiatewhai.nz

OR pop in to your favourite library

Te Matariki Clendon Library for more details.

Last Thoughts

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





TERM 4 DATES

ROSCOMMON SCHOOL

CONTACT DETAILS

Address: 23 Burundi Avenue, Clendon Park, Auckland

Phone: 266-5731

Email: admin@roscommon.school.nz

| DECEMBER | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Juniors End of Year EOTC Trip to Aotea Centre |
| 4 | Senior Syndicate Counties Sports Day |
| 5 | Weetbix Kid TRYathlon, Mountfort Park |
| 5 | School Monitors Rainbows End Care Day |
| 5 | Board of Trustees Meeting pm |
| 7 | Year 8 Graduation at 9.30am |
| 7 | Senior Syndicate Parnell Baths Trip |
| 10 | School Athletics |
| 11 | Junior Syndicate Prizegiving at 9.30am |
| 11 | Middle Syndicate Prizegiving at 11.35am |
| 11 | Senior Syndicate Prizegiving at 1.30pm |
| 12 | He Pua Mai i Rangiatea Prizegiving at 9.30am |
| 12 | Fotu o Nu'u Pule Prizegiving at 11.35am |
| 13 | School Prizegiving at 9.30am |
| 13 | Year 6 Graduation Ceremony at 4.30pm |
| 13 | Year 6 Graduation Dinner at 6pm (Happy Days Restaurant) |
| 13 | End of Year Reports sent home |
| 13 | Yearbooks sent home |
| 14 | He Pua Mai Massey Park Pools Trip |
| WEDNESDAY 19TH DECEMBER - LAST DAY OF TERM 4 (EARLY FINISH AT 12.30PM) | |

PLEASE NOTE:

Our School Prizegiving is now on Thursday 13 December
(and not on the Friday as in earlier newsletters)



2019 - SCHOOL STARTS BACK ON
Thursday 7th February 2019