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**Newsletter 31 October 2019**

*Dear Parents, Caregivers and Families - kia ora, kia orana, talofa, malo e lelei, fakaalofa atu, hello and greetings*

## **From the Principal**

Boo! However you celebrate or not celebrate Halloween, make sure to keep your children safe. Short weeks always seem to take the longest to get through! I hope you all had a wonderful Labour weekend and enjoyed the hint of Summer that we got. Sorry for the late newsletter- I thought it was Tuesday today!

This time of the year is when all those lovely childhood ailments rear their heads. We have had the first cases of chickenpox appear- so if your child hasn't had them before, and comes up in suspicious bumps that itch like crazy- it could be the Chickypops (as described by a cute 5 year old yesterday). If it is, your child is infectious until the last blister appears, so please keep them at home.

EXCITING NEWS. Our new revamped website is now live. There are still a few segments that need filling in, but it is up and running. If you have any suggestions for what you would like to see on it please let me know. **IMPORTANT we will no longer be doing paper copies of the newsletter from next week on. It will be posted to the Website, Facebook and to your emails instead. The cost of printing is becoming too high.**

The Helping Hands are still looking for lovely volunteers to fill in some time slots for Guy Fawkes Night. If you can support them by offering assistance please contact the office. This is our major fundraiser for the year to help us get those extras that make school more engaging for your children. Lunches will be happening tomorrow, so don't forget to put your order in.

On the 7th November, from 6:30-7:30 pm we will be holding a parents sports workshop in the staffroom. This is being provided by Tony Mordaunt from Harbour Sports. It is about parents being coaches, and how to make it easy and enjoyable. It is a free workshop, and as I know a lot of you coach teams, it is a night worth attending. I hope to see you there!

A few weeks ago I sent out a Health Survey to the community regarding our Health Curriculum and delivery at Tomarata School. Many thanks to the 8 people who took the time to respond. I am taking this low response as the majority of our families are happy with what we do at Tomarata School. A summary of the findings is:

- most families feel we meet the needs of our children
- we could do better with teaching our children how to identify feelings and express them
- we need to continue to work on addressing bullying through PB4L
- parents need some guidance on healthy lunches in lunchboxes
- there was an overwhelming request for Tomarata to provide a counselling service
- most families would like to see Mindfulness to lessen stress and anxiety be taught at Tomarata using the Pause, Breathe, Smile programme

Next week is testing week so we would really appreciate it if your children are at school. It makes the assessment and reporting cycle much more manageable if we don't have to do catch up tests on children. November tomorrow. Of course it's the best month of the year as some of us may or may not have our birthdays in November.



**Cherylene Neels  
Principal**

Nga mihi

## Key Dates - for this term

4-8 November	School testing week
Wednesday 6 November	Seniors Manual Rodney College
Tuesday 5 November	Helping Hands meeting 7 pm
Thursday 7 November	Rodney Rural Schools Cross Country-Pakiri Parent Meeting- Coaching Sports with Tony Mordaunt: North Harbour Sports 6.30pm
11-16 November	Rodney College entry testing
Tuesday 12 November	Rooms 4 & 5 overnigher
Saturday 16 November	Guy Fawkes Night
25-29 November	Book Week
Friday 29 November	Character Parade
Monday 2 December	School library closed- <b>PLEASE HAVE ALL BOOKS RETURNED</b>
Wednesday 4 December	School Athletics day
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Prize giving and last day of Term 4

**Please return all trophies from Show day so they can be engraved.**

**'Kids Art Work' forms and money due back 1<sup>st</sup> November**

**PLEASE remember to shut the gate when coming in or leaving the school.**

**School Lunches Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

We would like to congratulate Genevieve Wallace-Neil for coming runner up in the net out of all the ladies G J Gardner Golf tournament at Labour weekend

Fishing Contest Max 2nd for largest Kowhai and winning the mystery prize.

Waipu School Golf Tournament. Genevieve 1<sup>st</sup>, Max 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Taupo Junior Masters Tournament. Genevieve 1st in the net under 14 girls. 1<sup>st</sup> overall U19. Max 10<sup>th</sup> overall.

Mangawhai Club Champs Max 1<sup>st</sup> D/play. Both came 4<sup>th</sup> in the Aims games held in Tauranga.



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Please see face book for details on the Haunted House at the Kaiwaka Sports Complex this Sat at 5.30pm

Balance (Slackline) lessons over summer at my house; 53b Cemetery Road Te Arai on Tuesdays 3:30-5:30 over 6yo all are welcome. For more information find us on Facebook: Summer Slackline Sessions Te Arai.

Chris Rhodes

We would like to thank Bayleys Wellsford for their sponsorship

