



Reremoana School Newsletter Term 2, Week 6 2021 - Thursday June 10

Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Malo e Lelei, Fakaalofa Lahi Atu, Talofa Lava, Nǐ hǎo, Salut, Namaste, Bonjour, BuLa Vinaka, Guten Tag, Goeie Dag, Shalom, Cześć,
Hello, Cìao, おはよう (Ohayou), 안녕 Ahn Nyeong, Olá, Privat!, Xin Chào, Salam

This year as part of our wellbeing strategic goal, we are implementing the FRIENDS Resilience programme (further explained in the newsletter) across our school. The first part of this programme focusses on Adult Resilience - "Strong not Tough" and the staff have been working through the modules all year before student programmes are introduced in Term 3.

At our Teacher Only Day on Tuesday, we completed adult programme and began to unpack and explore the content of the student programmes.

One of the elements of the programme is looking at conflict resolution and effective communication. Obviously dealing with conflict situations in an assertive, problem solving way that leaves us feeling understood, is vital to our wellbeing, no matter how old we are.

We discussed how conflict often arises out of miscommunication and how communication is impacted by our emotions and our prior experiences, and that we all interpret communication differently, through our own 'lens'. It's really quite complex – no wonder miscommunication happens sometimes!

Have you heard of Kid President? A series of amusing yet undeniably wise videos are available on youtube, including [this one](#) around dealing with disagreements, and is useful for both kids and adults!

Some of the key points...

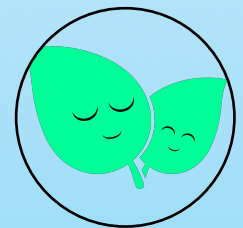
- Treat people like a person
- Listen, listen, listen
- Pause, breath, love (I translate the 'love' part to act with respect)



Also a reminder for us as adults, that our kids are watching how we disagree and deal with conflict/concern, and will base their actions and words off what they see and hear.

Other key ideas we discussed as a staff to help resolve conflict included:

- Start with a smile (we are all people and we need to work together)
- Seek first to understand where the other is coming from and what they are saying they need
- Sometimes 'now' isn't the right time to discuss the issue; we might need some thinking time, cooling down time or just have the conversation at a time when both people can focus.
- Be aware of body language (both parties)
- Apologise when wrong or if you have misunderstood
- Bring solutions (the more the better)



FRIENDS Resilience



NZ Police at school



Be Respectful @ Reremoana



Parent Portal Access

I'm sharing this discussion with you all for 2 reasons,

- 1) It's important everyone has some idea of the kind of things that happen on Teacher Only Days (they aren't days off for the teachers!)
- 2) Unfortunately over the past few weeks we have had several incidents where teachers/staff have been left upset and negatively impacted after Interactions (in person and via email) with parents.

We understand that when our children are involved, emotions are high and often as parents we want solutions/resolutions immediately. Absolutely it is our job as parents to advocate for our children. Teachers/staff also feel deeply if children are hurt, upset or unhappy, and we all do our utmost to remedy these situations as soon as we can. We care for your kids, too.

The best way to get a resolution is to work together, and this starts with respectful communication between all parties. So please may I request that when raising or discussing a concern or incident, you remember the wisdom of Kid President ... to pause and take a breath, to treat people like a person, to listen and consider the other sides of the story.

Often making a time to discuss your concern is better than raising it before school when there are children around and teachers are focussed on preparing for the day. When you compose an emotionally charged email, let it sit in your drafts for a while and re-read it thinking about the person on the other end who will be reading it, before you hit send. Respectful communication is more likely to result in a timely and positive outcome,

We have a school policy 'Community Conduct Expectations' that may help to clarify – you can find it here: https://reremoana.schooldocs.co.nz/24792.htm?zoom_highlight=conduct

(Username: reremoana password: learnrowsucceed)

And I'm signing off..

The youngest member of the Cowan family will be making her entrance within the next 2 weeks, so from next week I will be on parental leave until the start of the school year in 2022. Ms Lynn Fothergill will be leading the school as Acting Principal in my absence, supported by Mrs Marama Crosby and Mrs Karien Fourie and our wonderful team leaders.

Julie Cowan,

Principal

Learn Grow Succeed

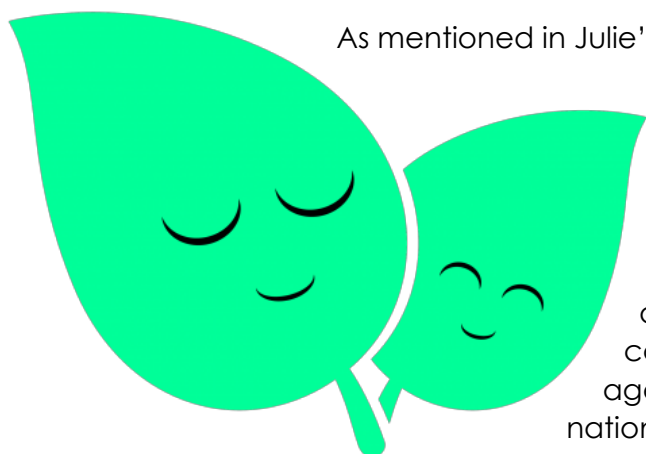
FRIENDS Resilience

As mentioned in Julie's piece, and as part of our Wellbeing focus, next term all students will be involved in the FRIENDS programmes at an age appropriate level.

The FRIENDS programmes are Australian developed, cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) based programmes, endorsed by the World Health Organisation, as best practice for the prevention and treatment of anxiety and depression, promoting resilience in families, schools and communities. The programs are proved effective across all age groups from children and into adulthood, both nationally and internationally.

The suite of FRIENDS programmes (Fun FRIENDS, FRIENDS for Life, My FRIENDS Youth and Adult Resilience – Strong Not Tough) have shown effectiveness at post, 12 months and 3 years follow up, by reducing reported anxiety and depression symptoms and increasing resilience, self-confidence, self-efficacy, self-esteem and social emotional skills. The programmes have also been shown to improve peer relationships and positive attitudes towards learning and the school environment generally.

A key to the success of the programmes is **partnership between home and school**. As a school we will be sharing with our families what is coming up in our FRIENDS lessons, and also what has been taught, on a weekly basis. Additionally, **we would like to invite parents/guardians to come and find out more**



about the programmes and how you can support and reinforce what your children learn, at home. The first of these sessions will be held in Week 9, Thursday July 1.

Please complete [this google form](#) to register your interest for the parent sessions

We are happy to run both morning and afternoon sessions if there are enough people interested to warrant this.

Be Respectful @ Reremoana School

School is a place for learning, growing and succeeding with behaviour and social skills.

At Reremoana School an important part of our local curriculum is our language of learning. Be Respectful is one of the 6 strands of our language of learning.

Being respectful is how we organise our social curriculum. Teaching about wellbeing, social skills, behaviour, through how we can respect ourselves, others and the environment.

We use the Ministry of Education Positive Behaviour 4 Learning framework to organise this curriculum and the evidence based strategies that are in the framework to respond to behavioural incidents.

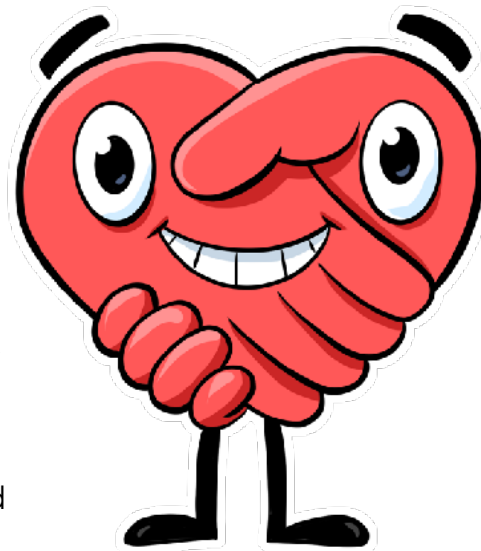
PB4L takes the approach that opportunities for learning and achievement increase if:

- the school environment is positive and supportive
- expectations are consistently clear
- students are consistently taught desired behaviours
- students are consistently acknowledged for desired behaviours and undesirable behaviours are responded to in a fair and equitable way.

In the next newsletters you will hear about how teachers respond to students who are not following our behaviour expectations. The interventions that the school puts in place to respond to students needing more support and the driving forces behind behaviour.

Our Language of Learning at Reremoana has been through a series of changes and improvements as we have worked on it over the years. If you have older students you may have been familiar with our Behaviour ABCs. These ideas and concepts developed after consultation with the community have been woven within the Language of Learning areas. We now have many of these expectations sitting within the Be Respectful strand of our Language of Learning. (We are in the process of updating signage around the school to reflect these changes).

Using the value of Be Respectful, teachers and students develop expectations for all the settings or areas in the school. We then teach lessons about each of these areas and how to behave in them. We then have a weekly focus for the school and for each team. This weekly focus is chosen based on information from behaviour incidents and the teachers from the weeks before. For example one week's focus might be managing distractions and another might be using kind words and manners.



“Retired” BEHAVIOUR ABCS

Teachers teach lessons around these areas to students and then reinforce these with a reinforcement system developed by each team. For example in the Tui Team we use "Terrific Tuis". These systems are based on students' developmental needs and abilities. In the playground tokens can be given out for behaviour that meets school expectations. These tokens are then accumulated in the house boxes and contribute to school house points.

Marama Crosby

Paid Union Meetings 7 July

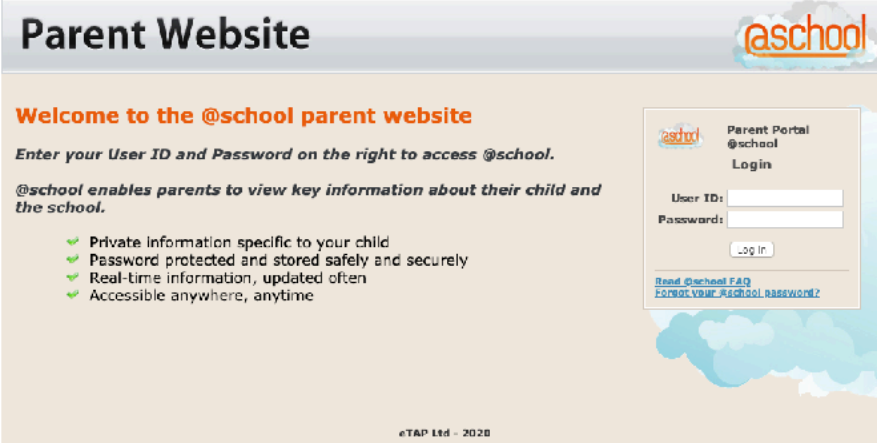
Reremoana School teachers who are members of NZEI Te Riu Roa will be attending a paid union meeting on Wednesday 7 July with some attending in the morning and others in the afternoon.

The purpose of these meetings is for teachers to discuss the priorities for the renegotiation of their collective agreement in 2022. Issues being discussed, such as school staffing levels, directly impact on the education of your children. These meetings are a critical component of the negotiation process and it is the legal right of all members to attend a meeting and have their say.

While there will be some impact on the usual school programme that day, we have adjusted our programmes to minimise disruption, and the **school will remain open**.

Parent Portal - Accessing Reports

In Week 10 mid year reports will be available for parents. For those new to our school or for those who need reminding, access to reports is via our Parent Portal (they don't get sent home in a printed copy).



The screenshot shows the login page for the @school Parent Website. The page has a header with the @school logo and the title "Parent Website". Below the header, there is a welcome message: "Welcome to the @school parent website" and "Enter your User ID and Password on the right to access @school." A sub-header states: "@school enables parents to view key information about their child and the school." There are three bullet points with green checkmarks: "Private information specific to your child", "Password protected and stored safely and securely", and "Real-time information, updated often". A fourth bullet point says "Accessible anywhere, anytime". On the right side, there is a login form with the @school logo, the text "Parent Portal @school Login", and fields for "User ID:" and "Password:". Below the fields is a ".log in" button. At the bottom of the form, there are links for "Read @school FAQ" and "Forgot your @school password?". The footer of the page says "eTAP Ltd - 2020".

If you have not yet logged in to the Parent Portal (which is by way of a unique user ID), or you have forgotten how to get in, please email [Helen Hogg](mailto:Helen.Hogg@reremoana.school.nz).

Helen is more than happy to help you. Pop "Parent Portal" in the subject line. Helen's email is helenh@reremoana.school.nz.

We don't want it to get to Week 10 and have parents not knowing how to access and read their child/ren's reports, so we encourage you to get this sorted asap.

P.S. A heap of information can be accessed via the Parent Portal, not just reports!

Thank You NZ Police

The police force are very valuable friends to have. At some point in life everyone might need to interact with the police or ask for help. That is why it is important to support our police friends with the important work they do.

So far this year Constable Nikki and Constable Ange have been teaching parts of the anti-cyberbullying program in the Kereru team. To keep on making our students aware of the fact that the police officers are real people doing an important job, we will have the first ever sports exchange with the police next Wednesday 17th June. This will help create awareness that the police are a very important part of the community and are there to help. We will be playing netball, ripper rugby and hockey against them in the afternoon from lunchtime onwards.

Johan Fourie

Jump Jam Date Change

As Jump Jam team members have already been advised, we received the disappointing news that unfortunately there are not enough South Auckland schools entered to make a Pukekohe competition viable.

Term 2 Important Events and Dates

11 June - Preloved Uniform Sale

Week 7 14-18 June

16 June St Annes Tree Planting

16 June - WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY

Week 8 21-25 June

22 June Counties Boys Hockey

23 June - MPSSA Hockey

23 June - WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY

Week 9 28 June-2 July

29 June Counties Girls Hockey

30 June - WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY

1 July - Parent session, FRIENDS Resilience

Week 10 5-9 July

1 July - WASTE FREE WEDNESDAY

8 July - Reports available

9 July - Term 2 Ends

Link to [Community Calendar](#)

Term 2 3 May - 9 July (Teacher Only Day June 8)

Term 3 26 July - 1 October (Teacher Only Day Monday 9 August)

Term 4 18 October - 14 December (Teacher Only Monday 8 November)

For this reason, we have been asked to compete alongside the central Auckland schools at Oranga Primary in Ellerslie on Saturday 31st July, timed to approximately run from 1-6pm.

Board of Trustees News

School Donations 2021

At Reremoana School we are heavily reliant on school donations in order to provide all the opportunities for the students that we would wish to. We appreciate any amount families are able to contribute.

As we are a Decile 9 school we receive lower funding from the Government than schools of lower deciles. We are also not eligible (as a Decile 9) to opt into the Government's 'donations' scheme where schools get \$150 per child instead of asking for a donation. Money raised from donations will be put directly into supporting and enhancing classroom programmes, e.g. art supplies, sports equipment and reading books. Your children will benefit directly from the payment of school donations.

We all want our children to have the best opportunities while at Reremoana School.

However to achieve this we need your support – through school donations and through support of the fundraising initiatives of the support team.

We appreciate, are grateful for and will accept ANY donation if the suggested amounts aren't possible for your family. **The Board of Trustees is suggesting the following amounts, with a discount offered if paid by full by 30th June or if having paid part of the donation in a payment plan.**

One Child **\$200** OR if paid before 30 June **\$175**

Two Children **\$350** OR if paid before 30 June **\$325**

Three or more Children **\$525** OR if paid 30 June **\$450**

Payment of your donation can be made through the School Online Shop (access through the school website) or you can pay by cash or internet banking. You may wish to pay by way of weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments.

Remember that 33% of any school donation made (over \$5) can be claimed as a rebate/ tax credit from Inland Revenue by completing a tax credit form (and attaching the receipt), available from the IRD website.

All families who have paid their donations in full or shown a commitment to a regular payment plan between 1 Jan 2021 and 30 June 2021 will go into a draw to win a family voucher.

We thank you in advance for your support.

Kind regards

Reremoana School Board of Trustees