RANDWICK SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

9TH FEBRUARY 2026

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hola and welcome back to week 2 and the official first school newsletter of the year. Well, it's been wonderful to see the children and whānau return. It always amazes me how much the children can grow over the break. We have had a large number of new enrolments over the past week and we are delighted to welcome them and their families to our awesome little school. We have a smaller group of year eights leaving us this year (only 7) and we look forward to them stepping up into leadership roles this year.

We welcome one new staff member, Jodi Lundt and she has already been working throughout the break to get her class ready in Nga Whetu. Be assured, the school goes to great lengths to find the best people to have in front of our tamariki and we are delighted to have Jodi. She had traveled with her two children and husband from South Africa and has over 15 years of experience bringing curriculum advisory experience to the staff.

There is no doubt we live in some very interesting times both politically and educationally. Randwick School and many others with low decile or what they call now high equity ratings are being targeted by the government to lift achievement and attendance. While I'm leader of this school we will always put safety first and this means emotional as well as physical. Your child's sense of belonging and mana is what's most important to us. With these things embedded in practice, achievement will improve. People will always come first, and after all, it leads our WAKA values - Whanaungatanga.
Randwick School celebrates New Zealand's cultural diversity and ensures that all students feel culturally safe and valued. By understanding our school's diversity and perspective, we can adopt a culturally aligned leadership approach to embrace a set of beliefs, goals, priorities and values, guiding coherent expectations and practices, and committing to Te Tiriti ō Waitangi.

Tet - Vietnamese New Year 17/02/26. To Vietnamese people, Tet Nguyen Dan – or Lunar New Year – is the year's most important celebration. On this special occasion, the whole country becomes a beautiful symphony with brilliant shades of red lanterns and pink and yellow blossoms, along with a sense of hope and celebration. As Tet marks new beginnings, people would spend half of the month before Tet cleaning their houses, from dusting all the furniture to trimming their gardens.

This Friday we have a pōwhiri in our school hall at 9am to welcome new and current whānau and students to the school.

On Wednesday, February 18th from 3pm - 5.30pm, we will have an open afternoon for you to walk around your child's classroom and meet the teacher. I will have the BBQ fired up with some kai to support this event.

I love the cultural diversity of our school and wider community. It is something to be embraced and valued. We have a fully committed, diverse team of amazing people who all put our tamariki first in their decision-making. We wish you all the best for this new year and please remember that my door is always open.

Nga mihi nui,
Andrew Wooster

ABSENTEES

If your child will be absent from school, please let us know the reason by 9.10am via any of the following methods:
Hero App - report an absence tab
Website - randwick.school.nz
{hone: 04 568 5621
text 027 568 5621
Email office@randwick.school.nz

Birthday wishes over the next week to:
Khang, Arjo & Nicholas

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 10th February 12.45-3pm
Yr 7 & 8 - Technology at Avalon Intermediate

Wednesday 11th February 6-8pm
Board of Trustees meeting in library

Friday 13th February 9am
Powhiri in the hall - All welcome

Tuesday 17h February 12.45-3pm
Yr 7 & 8 - Technology at Avalon Intermediate

Friday 20th February 9am
Assembly in the hall - All welcome

AWHI ATU AWHI MAI - WELLBEING SPECIALIST

Kia ora, my name is Eden, and I am the new Awhi Mai Awhi Atu | Wellbeing Specialist for your school. I can work individually with students and/or whānau, with groups, or with staff, to help you understand and deal with any issues or problems you may be experiencing. By working with you from a holistic perspective, I can assist you to develop the necessary coping skills and provide the right support, advice, and guidance to increase the chances of being effective or successful in overcoming the challenges and barriers you face.

If you would like to know more about Awhi Mai Awhi Atu you can visit Awhi Mai Awhi Atu – Wellbeing Support in Schools - HealthCare NZ. Or if you'd like to make a time to chat you can email me (eden.rutherfurd@explore.org.nz) or text/phone/WhatsApp me on 022 011 7413 or drop into my office located within the school library.

WHANAU WELLBEING KAIAWHINA

Kia ora, my name is Kaiya and I am our schools whānau well-being kaiāwhina. I am available on Wednesdays from 9am-12pm.

I can help with food parcels which you can request through the form on Hero. I can also help with applications for Variety's Kiwi Kids Sponsiorship .

If you just want to talk or need a hand with something, please let me know You can contact me via email kwarbrick@randwick.school.nz or (04) 568 5621.

REGISTERED HEALTH NURSE

Kia ora, my name is Jamaica, I am a Registered Nurse working for National Public Health Service based at Hutt Hospital.

I have almost 15 years of solid and practical community nursing experience both in the Philippines and New Zealand. Previously, I worked as a Plunket nurse and with recent experience as a District nurse.

I was born and raised in the Philippines. My family and I came to New Zealand in 2016 and so far, we are enjoying our stay here.

I aim to work with families and teachers to support and identify any health problems that may affect children's learning. Our services are confidential, free of charge and require your consent.

I visit your school on a weekly basis. I can be contacted through the school office, or by phone / txt and through email at jamaica.arnaiz@huttvalleydhb.co.nz.

Regional Public Health's website www.rph.org.nz has plenty of up to date health information and advice that you may find helpful. You can also follow RPH on Facebook and Twitter.

AROHANUI STRINGS+

Arohanui Strings+ will be holding after-school sessions at Randwick School, starting on Thursday 12 February.

We offer group lessons on violin for tamariki age 6 and above, with qualified and experienced teachers. The sessions are held from 3 pm to 4.15 pm and afternoon tea is provided.

Please register using this link: 2026 Hutt Valley registration form or email jane.young@arohanuistrings.org for more information.
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