

Community Housing Collective – Progress update

Housing challenges for disabled people are significant and varied. Those of us with physical impairments have non-negotiable housing criteria that restrict our choices. Families whose children have intellectual disabilities are asking for carers who are better trained and supported to provide what they need to live the best lives they can and suitable housing for residential and respite so they have a home after we die. The rising cost of housing reduces our choices further, pushing disabled people into homelessness and keeping families in substandard homes that are further contributing to declining health both physically and mentally.

There is no quick fix to the housing crisis. We are calling on the government to work with us on the housing needs of disabled people. Houses take years to build. Carers take years to train properly. Our leaders need to be aspirational and visionary if housing availability and affordability for all disabled people and their families is to be realised in our lifetimes. Commitment to a better equipped support and carer workforce who are valued and better compensated is essential. We are continuing to push for 100% of Kainga Ora's new homes to incorporate Universal Building Designs by 2040. Such houses can be readily adapted to meet the needs of disabled people and have standards for window latches, safety and accommodation of accessibility animals among many other disability friendly features.

Our Community Housing Collective has been conducting housing research under the oversight of Alan Johnson, former social policy analyst for The Salvation Army's Social Policy & Parliamentary Unit. We will be using the data to elevate our need for a housing plan with our government and community housing providers.

Thank you also to New World Metro, Neighbourhood Support and New Zealand Police for providing food parcels and support for families on two days during Lockdown Level 3. "You don't know what a difference this makes, thank you for thinking of us" was often heard by the volunteers who provided safe social contact when visiting homes to make the deliveries.

Volunteers spent time and effort driving the streets of Auckland to share kindness and care to families experiencing significant isolation and anxiety. It has been wonderful to be able to make a difference to the lives of people with disabilities and their families through lockdown.

We have many more families who are needing our support. A one-off donation would help Disability Connect to expand our work through face to face and online support.

If you would like to give a gift to help parents find the best choices for their disabled children through Disability Connect, this can be done on our website or via the details below.

Account Name: Parent and Family Resource Centre Inc
 Account Number: ASB 12-3025-0216960-00
 Particulars: Surname
 Code: First name
 Reference: Donation

To enable us to provide you with a tax-deductible receipt, please email accounts@disabilityconnect.org.nz after you donate via internet banking with your first name and surname, email address, phone number, how much you donated and the date you donated.

Thank you from us for your support that is helping people with disabilities and their families to live the lives they want.

2021 Term Dates



Term 1

Tuesday 2 February to Friday 16 April

Term 2

Monday 3 May to Friday 9 July

Term 3

Monday 26 July to Friday 1 October

Term 4

Monday 18 October to Tuesday 14 December

Rosehill School

Creating Inspiring Pathways for Real Life Success • He waihanga ara whakahihi, kia angitu ai

TERM 3, Issue 2

NEWSLETTER

Sports Day

Due to the disruptions and restrictions this year that come with COVID 19, we were unable to have our planned annual sports day.

Classes were still encouraged to have sports activities within their classes/satellites. Here are a few highlights of our students in action. The participation and enthusiasm was incredible to watch.

Physical education programs can do a great deal to improve the lifestyle of children with special needs; they can increase competency in gross motor skills, help to control obesity, improve self-esteem and social skills, encourage an active lifestyle, and maintain motivation in various areas of life.



From the Principal - tena kotou katoa

Me mahi tahi tatou mo te oranga o nga tangata katoa.

We should work together for the well being of everyone.



We would like to thank all of our community, parents whanau, staff, Board of Trustees and community supporters for coping so well after such an unusual and challenging 2 terms. It has been wonderful to see and hear how well everyone has pulled together and supported each other. One of our school values is Manaakitanga, showing kindness, care and respect for ourselves and everyone in our community. We have certainly seen this demonstrated by our students and community. Thank you everyone and have a good break. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your teacher, syndicate leader or Gill Hedley. We are here to help.

Gill Hedley, Principal - Tumuaki

Welcome



Welcome to our 2 newest students Braydon and Keegan.

We are pleased to have you at Rosehill School and it's great to see you settling into class.

Sharing our learning...

At Te Ara Poutama our transition centre, we develop programmes around the ākonga, so that their mahi ako, teaching and learning experiences prepare them for independence and life once they leave Rosehill School.

Our student-led inquiry, transport training and enterprise programmes engage students in the community. They take part in a range of community groups and activities; at work placements where they learn a variety of skills; in the classroom where they are taught life skills and personal development are only a snap shot of what our ākonga are exposed to.

Our students, your children love it Te Ara Poutama Takanini and Te Ara Poutama Base!

"Life skills"



Te Ara Poutama

Kowhai Syndicate

The students of Kereru Park 5 satellite have been working hard to build confidence wearing masks and regularly washing their own hands.

To make this learning opportunity as exciting and motivating as possible, all students have been gifted hand-made reusable masks. Each student was invited and supported to choose their very own mask from a selection of different designs.

They also created hand washing art. These beautiful art pieces have been displayed in the hallway as a reminder to wash our hands.



Rainbow Toast



Our Redhill 3 satellite class made painted toast. Children used brushes and coloured milk to write the first letters of their names on the bread. Some of the children could put their toast into the toaster by themselves and waited patiently for it to cook and for the toast to pop out. Of course the children enjoyed eating this too! Oscar enjoyed his sensory play with the bread. Ka Pai Redhill 3.

Pohutukawa

Base Room 6 is part of our Intermediate Syndicate - Pohutukawa. During their recent cooking session, they made a tasty toad in the hole/hole in the rock.

Directions:

- Using a cup or cookie cutter, cut out center of 1 slice of bread
- Butter both sides of the bread
- Place the bread in a frying pan
- Crack an egg into the hole and flip when its cooked on one side
- Season with salt and pepper
- Enjoy!

We use these activities to help create a sense of independence for our students and to enjoy some of their favourite recipes.



Introducing

Lenore Lawrence, Deputy Principal.



I have been teaching and supporting students & staff for a very long time at Rosehill School...43 years to be exact! My passion is for our students to develop independence, to be healthy and happy citizens when they leave school & to keep learning something new every day. I believe fresh air and exercise stimulates our brains and is needed every day for learning. Many years ago, Rosehill staff formed the Papakura Special Olympics Club which is affiliated to Special Olympics NZ and provides a sporting outlet for our current and former students. It is supported and run by parents & whanau along with many of our staff who volunteer their time and skills to coach. My syndicate is Kawakawa and consists of a dedicated team of relief teachers who support our teaching staff. They release them for class planning, supervising and support colleagues with curriculum areas, assessing students and developing insights into the individual learning styles of our students.

Salad in a jar

Last week, Te Ara Poutama Base 3 trialled making 'Salads in a Jar'. We used many of the vegetables and herbs from our school garden and had these available for staff to purchase. The students have grown the vegetables and herbs, taken responsibility for caring for the plants, learned how to harvest the food and are now learning to work together to make salads for themselves and for others. The feedback from our salads has been so positive that the students will make salads again and we are already planning for Term 4.

The money we raise from our salads will go towards the Te Ara Poutama fun week at the end of the year.



James Cook High Satellite - Rimu Syndicate

Kākapo students at James Cook High have been learning about Ngā Tākaro – Traditional Māori Games. One of the earliest board games – Mū Tōrere. This game seems simple but can take some time to win, or can be won in one move!

Matimati is a game developed to train toa (warriors) to think quickly. Levi, reflected, "This game (matimati) is good for our brains because it's getting you to think fast and watch your partner."

Games using Tītītorea (short sticks)

incorporate rhythm, waiata, te reo and coordination. Anita, reflected, "This is so much fun to play. I can remember the actions and words easy!" Other games we are going to learn are Poi Rakau and Rūrū (knucklebones).

Through playing these games, students have strengthened hand-eye coordination, focus and strategic thinking, improved on working together, and reflected on the importance of not only exercising physically but mentally as well!



Dates to mark in the calendar!

25
SEPTEMBER
Last day of Term 3

12
OCTOBER
First day of Term 4

26
OCTOBER
Labour Day

30
OCTOBER
Senior School Ball

15
DECEMBER
Last day of Term 4
(12.30pm)