

14 October 2024



Te Kōhure Term 4 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to students and whānau. We hope you have enjoyed the break. Te Kōhure students are to be commended for working hard and maintaining high standards throughout the previous term. Term 4 is always busy for the senior school, so please stay informed by reading newsletters, emails, and app communications. In this circular we are also seeking **parent assistance** for our **Fun Day** and a **Careers Expo** (see below).

At the beginning of term, we will be looking at “**Sexuality Education, Navigating the Journey**”. Later, we look at **Careers** (more information below) and we also have **Life Education** visiting Russley.

Athletics

We ask that students have a change of clothes for PE training each day in the leadup to our senior athletics day on Thursday 31 October. Due to our field now being smaller in size, only Years 5-8 will participate on this day. Years 1-4 will have their athletics later in the term. A number of Te Kōhure students will progress to the NW Zones which will be held at Ngā Puna Wai on 12 November.



Year 8 Formal

Year 8's will have an end-of-year formal on Tuesday 10 December. This is a wonderful evening and a highlight of the year. In preparation, Te Kōhure students will have four formal dance lessons with instructor Vanessa Cole. A letter will follow shortly, giving parents further information about the evening. The cost for the formal is \$40, which includes dinner and entertainment. Payment in full required by Monday 2 December.

Careers

We are having a Careers Expo on Tuesday 19 November where parents share with small groups of students what their occupation entails. We have run this event before, with excellent support from our parent community. More information soon.

Team Fun Day

We are currently working on a team fun outing on Thursday 5 December. This is to acknowledge hard work and positive behaviour and by far the majority of the team are invited to this event. In the morning we go to South New Brighton Park and participate in the Tough Kids event; then we move to New Brighton to enjoy ourselves in the Hot Pool and the beach. **We require 16 parent helpers for this day** (to meet the required adult/student ratio for supervising students around water). The cost per student is \$10 (the school is subsidising the bus cost.) A notice will go home early this term.

Year 8 Visit to Riccarton High School

Riccarton High School has invited all Year 8s for a visit on Thursday 21 November. In the past, this has been valuable to our seniors. We are also having a Year 8 transition afternoon (Tuesday 26 November) with Serena and other youth workers from 24/7 Youth Work Trust who work in the high schools our leavers will attend next year. There is no cost for these events.

Kapa Haka / Technology

- Kapa Haka continues in preparation for the Tūhono Festival on Sunday 24 November.
- Hornby technology continues Wednesdays. Some whānau have outstanding technology fees, please see that these are paid promptly.

Lunches

Teachers have noticed that some students are not eating lunch. When asked, they say they've already finished what is in their lunchbox. Please check to see if your child has enough food - our students need a lot of energy during the day!

Digital Safety

If you are not already involved in monitoring your child's use of devices and/or social media, we strongly suggest parents do so. You may be surprised at the amount of social media chat within the team. Much of it is positive and fun but there can be instances when things are said that cause issues and stress within friendships and relationships. Please remember that children of intermediate age do not have the same maturity as adults when it comes to making decisions around social media. As parents and caregivers, we have the right and responsibility to be involved in our tamariki's online life. A provocative question - what are we adults modelling to children with our use of devices? Are the adults in the house restricting their use of devices as well?

Home Learning / Excellence Awards

Many Te Kōhure students have undertaken the optional home learning programme which incorporates an Excellence Award badge. Home learning is designed to have students acknowledge and take ownership of their own learning. We have been awarding excellence badges throughout the year and it has been fantastic to see the extra learning that some of our students have completed.

Uniform ✓ Drink Bottles ✓ Bubble Gum X

Te Kōhure students are role models for the rest of the school in how they wear the Russley uniform, and we expect this to continue. **Sun hats are compulsory this term** and we also recommend that students wear sunblock. Please ensure your child takes a named drink bottle to school every day. We do not permit chewing gum at school.



Important Dates:

Teacher-only Day (school closed) – Friday 25 October

Labour Day (public holiday) – Monday 28 October

Canterbury Show Day (public holiday) – Friday 15 November

PTA Christmas Picnic – Friday 29 November 5pm

Annual prize giving – Wednesday 4 December 1.15pm

Year 8 Leavers' Assembly – Friday 13 December 11.00am

Last day of school – Friday 13 December, school closes 12.30pm



Contact Us

Don't hesitate to ask if you require further information. You can contact your child's teacher by emailing them directly. We look forward to working with you and your children throughout what we hope will be an adventurous term.

Yours sincerely

Te Kōhure Teachers

Phil Innes	phil.innes@russley.school.nz
Kerry Aitken	kerry.aitken@russley.school.nz
Michelle Duxfield	michelle.duxfield@russley.school.nz
Ashley Nuttall	ashley.nuttall@russley.school.nz
Rochelle Paul	rochelle.paul@russley.school.nz
Christy Greenall	christy.greenall@russley.school.nz