



## Remuera Intermediate School

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### NEWSLETTER - April 2015

#### TEACHING YOUNG ADOLESCENTS

Teaching young adolescents is a privilege, and a challenge! These young people are experiencing the greatest physical, emotional, intellectual and social changes in their lives.

Did you know . . .

- The 10-14 year age group is the only age group whose psychosocial health status has not improved in the last 40 years.
- Between 10-14 years the brain goes through a second growth spurt. This is a period of "use it or lose it".
- Puberty represents the greatest change that students face during schooling. It is a time where many disengage from adults, both parents and teachers. As a consequence, some disengage from the learning process.
- The 10-14 year old's brain is not developed enough for them to make sensible decisions without help and guidance. This age group is described by research as having the highest incidence of "dropping out" of education. If we lose them now, it is difficult to get them back.
- During early adolescence, students are most likely to challenge prevailing values, before firming up their own personal values system.

As teachers of young adolescents we are always aware of the following:

- Nothing is more important to success with young adolescents than solid and supportive relationships. When these students believe we care about and respect them, they are more likely to join us in learning.
- Young adolescents learn best when they are engaged with topics, issues, and problems that have meaning and relevance for them.
- No matter what they say or how they look, young adolescents still have a lot of child in them (more "young" than "adolescent"). They still need and want support and guidance from adults who know and care about them.
- Young adolescents learn best when they have the support and understanding of their families.

International research gives clear signals as to what teachers should be doing to meet the needs of these students:

- teaching students about strategies for learning on their own
- setting gradually higher expectations
- building analytical and problem solving skills
- recognising and building on past learning experiences
- preparing students for transition to secondary school.

Teachers at Remuera Intermediate School recognise that teaching pre-adolescents is "special". We are fortunate to have teachers who are committed to, and passionate about, teaching this age-group.

*In the end, the path to student engagement starts where young people are, and helps them where they need to go. On the way, the more they can find and use their voices to express who they are and what they want, the greater is the likelihood that they will seek and find what they need. Engagement is a habit of mind and heart. It is what we want young people to cultivate not just to get their diplomas, but as a lifelong way of being. It is what we want our schools and programs to foster with every aspect of their curriculum, organisation and culture. To engage young people requires of us what we ask of them: full commitment, a belief that it is possible, and vision of a viable and productive future. (Joselowky, 2007)*

**Janet Exon**  
Principal

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER

*Not all newsletters reach home! In an attempt to ensure that parents/caregivers do receive the monthly newsletter, students are asked to return this slip to the school office by Wednesday 22 April.  
There will be a 'Lucky Draw' from returned slips.*

Parent's signature.....Student's Name..... Rm.....

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

By Week 3 Term 2 all students should be in winter uniform. Students must attend school dressed in the correct uniform at all times and are expected to take a pride in their appearance whilst at school and in the community.

- Girls Winter Uniform** - Culottes or skirt (as for summer)
- Blouse
  - Jumper - regulation RI red jumper
  - Footwear - black leather lace-up  
Shoes
  - White ankle socks or
  - Black opaque tights

- Boys Winter Uniform** - Shirt (as for summer)
- Shorts (as for summer)
  - Jumper - regulation RI Black

The official school scarf (red and grey stripe) may be worn outside during Term 2 and 3.

Regulation RI jacket is optional and for outdoor use only. All items are available at the School Uniform Centre, 553 Remuera Rd, Remuera.

## OPEN DAY SUCCESS

Thank you to the many parents and friends of the school who attended our Open Day recently. We enjoyed having you with us for the day and appreciated the positive comments of support. Our teachers work extremely hard and they value the encouragement they receive from the community.

Please remember - the school welcomes parents at any time. We are always keen to show what we are doing and want our parents to feel comfortable about visiting and enjoying the activities we provide.

## Year 7 and Year 8 CAMPS

A big thank you to all the parents who helped make the camps a great success.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Student Leadership is catered for in many ways at R.I. We are fully aware that we are educating our future leaders and opportunities to take a leadership role are crucial. The Student Council is one such opportunity. Pupils wishing to be on the Student Council prepare a speech, which they present to their class. Their peers then hold an election in order to select their class representative.

The Student Council has a very important role to play in our School, not only are they involved with organising events such as mufti days, prize giving, socials and fundraising but most importantly they are the role models and represent the 'student voice' for our school.

The Student Council meet weekly with the Deputy Principal to discuss a variety of topics including school life, current events, charities, events and student welfare. The Councillors are responsible for being the link between the class they represent and the school's management team. The dark blue badge identifies a Student Council member and the light blue the Deputy. Being presented with this badge, as with our other leadership badges, is an honour and the students show a great deal of pride in wearing it.

### STUDENT LEADERS

<b>Head Boy</b>	<b>Ben Alexander</b>
<b>Head Girl</b>	<b>Samantha Smith</b>
<b>Deputy Head Boy</b>	<b>Pranav Balamurali</b>
<b>Deputy Head Girl</b>	<b>Abigail Liggins</b>

### STUDENT COUNCIL 2015

Room	Councillor	Deputy
1	Josh Irwin	Toni Aimer
2	Fraser Bland	Oscar Yee
3	Ruby Sussock	Eric Kim
4	Saja Tautua	Tom Patton
5	Rory Greer	Catie van der Burgh
6	Paulo Cousens	Kennedy Smith
7	Tim Young	Abby Hewitt
8	Gabe Melrose	Anna Pittar
9	Cindy Huang	William O'Shannessy
10	Trent Thompson	Maddie Thompson
11	Saylor Bostic	Charlie Barclay
12	Neo Sangkaew	Thomas Murray
13	Leon Sittisart	Riley Mitchell
14	Manveer Kaur	Georgie Christie
15	Jessica Folomu	Eddie Kim
16	Jacob Jones	Meleana Payn
17	Jessica McGeorge	Forester Christensen
18	Ashley Terveen	Chris Kim
19	Aiesha Rai	Olly Collier
20	Tessa Dyzell	Dominic Domazet
21	Joe Kelsey	Emily Mackie
22	Emma Whitlock	Isobel Rocha
23	Tim Johnson	Jaxson Murphy
24	Hariene Prabakaran	Zac Cabiling
25	Marley Cowlard	Chiara Thorburn
26	Palak Bhatnagar	Jake Moon
27	Tomas Broderick	Blake Richardson
28	Promise Akindeju	Luka Pesic

## RI WEBSITE

Our school's new website went 'live' last week. We trust that you will visit the site often and will find all the relevant information about school events and activities easily on the new website.

**Please note that parents can now notify absences through the website.**

**Check it out on [www.remint.school.nz](http://www.remint.school.nz)**

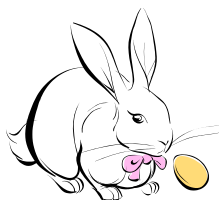
## TERM 2 EVENTS

Monday 27 April	-	School closed - Anzac Day Mondayised
Week 2 28 April – 1 May	-	Parent Interviews Year 7 & Year 8
Friday 8 May	-	International Day
Weeks 4 – 6	-	Chocolate Fundraiser starts
Week 5	-	Tahuna Intermediate visit RI
Monday 1 June	-	School closed – Queen's Birthday
Friday 5 June	-	World Environment Day
Friday 12 June	-	Awards Assemblies
Wednesday 1 July	-	Art Evening

**Term ends Friday 3 July at 3.00 pm**

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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS



**Term 1 finishes - Thursday 2 April at 3.00 pm**

**Term 2 commences - Monday 20 April at 8.30 am**

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# Open Day - March 2015

