



Remuera Intermediate School

Ascot Avenue, Remuera, Auckland 1050
Email: admin@remint.school.nz

Ph: 522 9890
www.remint.school.nz

NEWSLETTER - February 2015

WELCOME TO REMUERA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL



Welcome to everyone who will be associated with the school during 2015. Our vision is to provide an educational environment specialising in programmes and opportunities specifically for pre-adolescents.

We believe:

- Every student is unique and special, and deserves warmth, respect and acceptance from others.
- Every student needs the care, guidance and support necessary to develop a sense of security, awareness and identity
- Every student requires a solid foundation of cultural, social and emotional experiences to achieve success and challenge failure
- Every student should be given the experience of rich and enjoyable learning opportunities which allow them to reach their full potential.

At Remuera Intermediate we have high educational standards. We celebrate success and we want our students to know that it's OK to be the best and it's OK to strive for excellence in all they do. To have high standards we must have high expectations. We expect our students to be well behaved, focussed, motivated and actively involved in school activities.

Our school is proud of the culture it has developed over the years. Students want to be at this school. Teachers want to teach here, and the community support for the school is huge. We have established a reputation as a school that respects its students, cares for its staff and welcomes the community in. We work hard to foster strong links with the community, and enjoy the support and involvement of the PTA and Board of Trustees. We recognise the importance of the partnership between home and school, and we want to create real opportunities for parents to become involved in the activities of the school.

Our school community can feel assured that this Intermediate School has a focus on educational excellence, and caters for young people who require a specialised teaching and learning programme – preparing the way for their future success.

Doors are always open for parents to visit and look in at any time. We want you to be part of the excitement and challenge of Remuera Intermediate School.

Janet Exon
Principal

WHAT OUR TEACHERS WANT YOU TO KNOW

Don't be a Stranger – take a moment to introduce yourself to your child's teacher, and stay in contact.

Learning doesn't stop at 3.00 pm – support the teacher by encouraging your child to talk about the school day and what they are studying.

Keep your child organised – check for newsletters, permission forms needing a signature etc. Encourage your child to have a timetable displayed so they know when PE gear is needed.

Teachers are on your side so give them support – some parents go into 'attack mode' when their child complains about a teacher. Try to get the full story by contacting the teacher in a positive way, and working together on the situation.

Let your child make mistakes – teachers want students who try hard, and not all students are going to get all work correct all the time. Support your child but don't put too much pressure on them to be perfect.

If the teacher is doing a good job let them know – teaching isn't easy so it's incredibly uplifting, and appreciated when someone takes the time to say thank you.

We want the year to be a great one for all concerned.

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 11th February.

There will be a 'Lucky Draw' from returned slips.

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

NEWSLETTERS – WHAT TO EXPECT

There is a monthly Newsletter issued to all students, usually on the first Friday of each month. Class teachers may also issue Newsletters to parents of their students, stating information about programmes, and class events. Notes will be sent home regarding camps, class trips etc.

MEET THE TEACHERS EVENING

Thursday 26 February

- 7.00 pm The school's Mission Statement
Principal's Welcome
BOT Chairperson/PTA Chairperson
- 7.20 pm Introduction of staff in hall
- 7.30 pm Meet the teachers in classrooms

Please note: This evening is designed for you to meet the staff, and for teachers to outline their teaching programme. Should you wish to discuss your child's progress, please make an appointment with the teacher for some later date.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1

Thursday 26 February	Meet the Teachers Evening 7 pm in Hall
Tuesday 24 February	RI Swimming Sports
Wednesday 25 February	Photolife photos
Tuesday 3 March	PTA Community Picnic School grounds 5.30 pm
Friday 20 March	Open Classrooms am
Weeks 4-7	Awards Assemblies pm
Week 8 23-27 March	Year 8 Camps
Thursday 2 April	Year 7 Camps
	Yr 7 Reports issued
	TERM 1 ENDS 3.00 pm
Term 2 starts -	MONDAY 20 April

ABSENCES

Parents are asked to phone the school by 9.30 am to report student absences. There is an answerphone available to record messages, or office staff are available from 8 am. Should we not receive a message about the absence, we will then endeavour to contact parents. It is imperative that the school has correct contact details for parents. If details have changed from those on the enrolment form, please contact the school office to update them.

522 9890

MUSIC

RI Music Auditions

Please check on our website - www.remint.nz - or your child's yellow music letter for further information

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The school recognises the importance of extending the talents of our students. Teachers make themselves available outside of the normal teaching times to provide extra curricular activities. Next week all students will receive a booklet 'Opportunities for Success'. The booklet contains a comprehensive list of programmes on offer and we encourage parents to promote the importance of 'getting involved'.

EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

Remuera Intermediate School has a sister-school relationship with Befu Elementary School in Fukuoka, Japan, and Tahuna Normal Intermediate School in Dunedin. Each year 30 students are chosen for each trip.

The objectives set for these exchanges are:

- To provide an opportunity for our students to develop understanding, knowledge and an appreciation of other cultures.
- To provide opportunities for comparing lifestyles.
- To foster ongoing friendships.
- To develop skills of interdependency and social integration.

All families will receive information about the Japan trip in March, and the Dunedin trip in May.

INTERNET SAFETY

At this school the internet is made available to staff and students under strict access conditions. Users are required to sign a copy of the Internet Safety Policy.

All computers are protected against inappropriate websites and the school has its own internal audit procedure to monitor website use. Students and staff are made aware that regular and random audits will be carried out to monitor site access. On occasions we become aware of student 'conflict' taking place through home email, chat rooms etc. Parents are asked to regularly check on how their child is using the Internet.



STAFF 2015

PRINCIPAL : Janet Exon
Deputy Principal: Tom Beckett
Senior Managers: Robert Rasmussen, Robin Gatfield

CLASSROOM TEACHERS:

Yr 7: Kylie Bourke (11), Rosey Dodson (12), Cameron Olliff (13), Janet Lowe (14), Wyn Morris (15), Clementine Hyndman (16), Megan McGaw (17), Shirley Christie (18), Hayley Robinson (19), Alex McGregor (20), Natalie Park (21), Alex McGregor (22), Angela Karl (23), Frances Brown (24), Toby Patton (Support)

Yr 8: John Houston (1), Steven Sinkovich (2), Kelly Lynch (3), Debbie Western (4), Alan Whitehouse (5), Alaric Nicholls (6), Julie Miller (7), Joseph Hagemeister (8), Rebecca Collins (9), Jacqui O'Donnell (10), John van Mulbregt (25), Sahear Dabbour (26), Pip Faulknor (27), Tom Rowley (28)

SPECIALIST TEACHERS

Bio Technology: Iain Lafimer	Soft Materials: Lorraine Herbert	Hard Materials: Geoff MacCulloch
Food Technology: Sonja Potter	Media Studies: Kris Zemke	Music: Sharon Kearney
Art: Billie Sturgiss	Drama: Kris Zemke	Violin: Dr John Thomson
French: Jane Gordon	Japanese: Joanne McNeil	Te Reo: Odie Johnson
Learning Support/ESOL: Richard Peters, Jan Hedges, Jude Goldwater, Marguerita Muirhead		
Part time teachers: Natasha Jeffrey, Kiri O'Neill, Cath Ngan Kee		

SUPPORT STAFF

Reception: Jan Covacich/Mandy Brynes		
Administration: Pam Birkinshaw	Enrolments: Christine Cranfield	Finance Officer: Giok Choong
Resource Manager: Jossie Dunlop	Student Payments/Stationery: Helen Master	Finance Assistant: Jan Covacich
Library: Jenny Inverarity		
Teacher Aides: Michelle Krishna, Rachel Lovrich, Julia Whittaker, Szu Wong, Vanita Bhanabhai, Kelly Redman		
Property Manager: Lloyd Thomas		

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS HOMESTAY OPPORTUNITIES

Remuera Intermediate School has some International Students this year. These are students who do not qualify for free education in New Zealand. Remuera Intermediate does not arrange accommodation for these students. From time to time we are asked by Ministry of Education approved agents to identify families who would like to homestay such students. If you are interested in being a homestay family (with financial reward), please contact Robert Rasmussen at RI (phone 522 9890). Your name can then be forwarded to agents who will contact you.

DONATIONS/FEES/STATIONERY

During the first week of school the students should have received a notice explaining the fees requirements. The stationery packs provide the basic requirements for the start of the year. The Activity Fee covers the cost of a range of schoolwide events involving transport and additional tuition costs. Technology fees cover the cost of the materials used and taken home as end products. We request that parents take advantage of the credit card facility that is offered for these payments.

Donation (appreciated by 27 February 2015) \$275.00

Parents will receive information within the next two weeks about this voluntary contribution. Automatic payment and credit card facilities are available. Donation funding provides for resources and opportunities such as the staffing for second language learning (Japanese and French), additional facilities not provided by the Ministry of Education, specialised teaching resources, sports equipment and information technology advancements.

ROAD SAFETY

The school has safety rules that our staff strictly enforce, particularly at the end of the school day. We are very aware of the dangers the students face crossing the road at the Ascot Ave/Greenlane lights, and there are concerns about the traffic congestion along both Ascot Ave and St Vincents Ave. We expect parents to support our "safety rules". For example:

- **Parents should not call out to their children to run across the road at points that we consider extremely dangerous.**
- **PARENTS ARE NOT TO DRIVE INTO THE SCHOOL or block driveways to pick up or drop off students unless authorised.**
- **Students should use the crossing at Ascot Ave/Greenlane Rd to cross, not the crossing on Greenlane Road close to St Vincents Ave.**

We do our best to ensure your children leave our school safely. We appeal for parent cooperation. During school hours if children have arranged to leave the school, they **must** be picked up from the school office.

PTA BBQ PICNIC AT SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Tuesday 3 March commencing 5.30 pm

Food & Refreshments will be available or Bring your Own Picnic

The PTA is the team of parents which provides support for the school through fundraising projects, community/school social activities, environmental improvements and community education awareness programmes. The group meets once a month. Through this association parents become very involved in a wide range of school activities. It is all about getting involved, sharing and supporting the school to benefit your children.

Contact: Email: PTAChair@remint.school.nz

MOBILE TELEPHONES

Mobile phones are **NOT** permitted at school. We ask that you actively **discourage** your child from bringing his/her phone to school. However, should your child need to bring a phone for after-school use, the phone must be turned off when entering the school site and we strongly recommend that it is handed to the class teacher for safekeeping throughout the day.

The school will take no responsibility for any phone brought to school.

SCHOOL OFFICE

Please ensure the school office is advised of any change of address/phone numbers as it is vital that the school has up-to-date information.

Phone: 522 9890 Email: admin@remint.school.nz

