



NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

As you may be aware there has been a major review taking place across New Zealand looking at all aspects of our education system. One area that has been under the spotlight more recently is the area of progress and achievement. The New Zealand Curriculum that was introduced in 2007 was world renowned and set out to address many of the challenges we face today. When National Standards were introduced they took precedent and became somewhat of a pseudo curriculum of sorts. Under National Standards the focus shifted with significant time and energy being placed on getting everyone to achieve the same standard. Since these National Standards were removed at the end of last year the conversation has moved back to progress *and* achievement. A goal that many schools have welcomed as this allows much greater focus on each child and their individual learning journey. All children have varying strengths and weakness. The pace at which they progress through their learning fluctuates from year to year and even month to month. Whilst achievement at a given level is the goal, the journey looks different for everyone. The following graphic outlines the overarching themes of the review currently taking place in this area. I would encourage you to take a moment to consider how this aligns with your aspirations for your children nether future they are working towards.

**Curriculum,
Progress &
Achievement**

Imagine a system that is committed to learning...

**Kōrero
Mātauranga
He iwhero tikiri**

Our central premise is that if we are to create a system in which all ākonga experience rich opportunities to learn, we need to create a system that learns. We have identified some ideas that we believe are integral to the creation of a system that learns. The diagram and explanation in this section introduces these ideas and explains how they are connected.

The diagram uses the metaphor of a koru as a way of suggesting important concepts about learning, including the way learning unfolds as we grow and develop and how the creation of space lets in light and encourages us to broaden our thinking. The koru is a distinctly New Zealand metaphor and one that reflects te ao Māori. It symbolises creation and movement, yet is firmly rooted in our whenua.

The diagram also includes nodes that represent the many people involved in a system that learns. The connecting lines convey the ideas, experiences, and insights that flow between people as they work and learn together to support our aspirations for ākonga. The pohutakawa roots in the purple layer of the diagram reinforce the idea of a system that learns, by drawing on strong networks, from the past, for learning now and in the future.

To create a system that learns, we need...

- ...to recognise that a learning system is inherently relational. It requires **people** across the system to work together, each with an unrelenting focus on ākonga. Progress and achievement are fostered by strong **partnerships between kaitiaki and whānau** and strong **collaborative inquiry networks** across the system.
- ...opportunities for people to develop their **inquiry and evaluation capability**. These capabilities, supported by **assessment and data literacy**, enable people to notice, recognise, and respond to learning as they work together to enrich the **learning opportunities** for all ākonga.
- ...to ensure there is clarity about **curriculum aspirations** at both the national and local level. Clarifying **progress pathways** across important domains of learning, and creating **rich records of learning** will ensure we can notice, recognise and respond to ākonga progress in ways that promote equity and enable national and local curricula to **evolve, be responsive, and improve**.

Have your say about the future of education.

www.education.govt.nz

Curriculum, Progress & Achievement Ministerial Advisory Group

www.CPAG.govt.nz

Whāngaitaka ā whānau mā te ākonga o te mātauranga.

www.mtauranga.govt.nz

STAFFING AND PROGRAMME UPDATE 2019

As the year draws to a close we are in the final stages of finalising staffing and programmes for 2019. We are feeling very positive about the appointments we have made for next year, especially in the current climate. With these changes we do have a couple of important announcements to make.

In 2020, all schools will be required to deliver the Digital Technology Curriculum. Our initial plan was to review our current Technology programme next year along with other specialist subject offerings in readiness for 2020. However due to major property upgrades, which will require space to temporarily relocate classes, key staffing changes and the imminent technology review, our timeline has been brought forward slightly which has resulted in Bio Technology not being offered in 2019. Whilst this is not ideal for the coming year, we are excited by the opportunities that lie ahead for 2020 and beyond.

PROJECT-A-THON

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for the time and effort everyone has put into raising money for the Project-a-thon currently being run by our PTA. To date we have 6 classes that have fully funded their own projector and whiteboard upgrade. In addition, we have a number of others on the cusp of meeting this target. As of Wednesday this week we had raised a little over \$36,000, an outstanding effort!

Kyle Brewerton
Principal

CHANGES TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One of our Parent Trustees, Rashid Bharuchi, has resigned from the Board due to high work and other commitments. We are very grateful for his contribution to the team.

Given that we are approaching the triennial elections due to be held in May next year, the Board has opted not to hold a by-election to fill this vacancy.

We have however co-opted two new Parent Trustees until the election – Anna Scott and Tom Reeves.

Anna is currently on the Board at Victoria Avenue School and her oldest child starts at RI next year. Anna has an Engineering background and has worked in the Financial Services industry both here and in London.

Tom is currently on the Board at Remuera Primary School. Tom has more than 25 years' experience in the Health and Safety sector which is a key area of focus for all Boards. He has three sons, one who has already been to RI, one currently in year 7 and one in year 5.

We are looking forward to working together in the lead up to the next Parent Trustee election. Further information about standing as a Parent Trustee will be available early next year but if anyone would like to discuss this further in the meantime, please contact me on BOTchair@remint.school.nz

Liz Schellekens
BOT Chair

BOYS BREAKFAST

On Tuesday 30 October both Year 7 and Year 8 Boys enjoyed breakfast at the school with their male caregivers. They were joined by special guest speaker John Burton, founder of John Burton Coffee Ltd, coffee bean importers.



CENTRAL ZONES BADMINTON

On Wednesday 14 November our team of 12 students plus reserves played at Badminton Hall, Gillies Avenue. Each year group consisted of 1 singles player and 1 doubles pair. Everyone played 8 games as a round robin competition.

YEAR 7 GIRLS

3rd Place Singles Oshadi K. Don
3rd Place Doubles Thanishka Satheeskumar and Joshita Subramanian

YEAR 7 BOYS

1st Place Singles Ethan Chuang
1st Place Doubles Joshua Chai and Jingheng Tian

YEAR 8 GIRLS

2nd Place Singles Rebekah Hall
6th Place Doubles Jenny Wu and Simonie Lam

YEAR 8 BOYS

1st Place Singles Owen Wu
1st Place Doubles Jefferson Wu and Anson Tea

Our 4 reserves, Ann Ryu, Aritha Abeyawardana, Angela Li and Wei Cheng Yao, also participated playing for other schools missing a player. Remuera Intermediate dominated the day with fantastic play and excellent sportsmanship.



Ascot Avenue, Remuera, Auckland 1050, New Zealand

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PROJECT-A-THON PRIZEGIVING

What an exciting assembly we had, where we were able to recognise the top 10 fundraisers, as well as give out prizes to the students who were selected from our lucky dip!!

Top 10 Students

Shanyu Chawdrapu	Jacky Niu
George Butler	Gina Graham
Nadiya Mudaliar	Micayla Isaacs
Sophia Cook	Gabrielle Francisco
Ethan Ropati-Delaney	Matthew Moody

Top choice of prize was the Google Home closely followed by the bluetooth speakers and Google Chromecasts!!

Thank you to all of our students and families who got behind our PTA Fundraiser. The donations continue to trickle in and we start installation of the projectors this month!!



WILLIAM PIKE

Our last William Pike Challenge trip of the year and one of the best! Camping at Wenderholm in Bivvies, kayaking up the Puhoi River, raft building, hiking, team challenges, BBQ and sausages it had everything! It was a truly wonderful way to send off this year's lovely group of William Pikelets.



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NZ SCULPTURE OnSHORE



20 lucky students from RI got a chance to visit NZ Sculpture OnShore on Friday 9th of November. It is an exhibition held at Fort Takapuna every two years to raise money for womens' refuge. They included adult sculptures as well as a students exhibition in which RI had three ceramic and metal trees on display. It was a brilliant opportunity for us to broaden our knowledge in visual arts. We even got an explanation by none other than Sofia Athineou who created a fascinating cast glass sculpture named Zoe. She talked us through the process of how she made that sculpture which made it more real for us. For all of us, including Mr Brewerton, Mrs Sturgiss and Mr Rasmussen it was an inspiring afternoon.

By Cindy Kim and Sora Endo



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ATHLETICS DAY – MOUNT SMART STADIUM

On a cloudless sunny Wednesday 31 October 2018, 320 athletes competed in the School Competitive Athletics Day at Mt Smart Stadium. Events were Track - 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m 1500m and Relays. Field - High jump, Long jump, Discus and Shot Put. From the results, a team was selected to compete at the Central Zones Athletics Championships on Thursday 22 November at Mount Smart Stadium.



ATHLETICS DAY – RI

Meanwhile, 550 students enjoyed a day of fun team sports on the field at school. Everyone competed in Tug of War, Gumbboot toss, Bulls Eye, Capture the flag, Sack races, Track events, Noodle tag, Kingball, Basketball, Dodgeball, Frisbee throwing. Students had a great time!



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Some of the highlights of our amazing end of year evening showcases featuring the many talents across RI in 2018!

DANCE SHOWCASE



MUSIC SHOWCASE



PLANTING OF THE NATIVE GARDEN

On the afternoon of Friday 19th October a small group of dedicated parents, our group of 'Tremendous' students from Year 8, Mrs Jeffrey and Mrs Sturgiss helped plant up the native plant garden behind the new building.

It went from this...



...to this!



This Native garden will be used to help students identify New Zealand native plants and learn more about them, with the bonus of attracting bees, butterflies and insects. The mosaic walkway, consisting of mosaics of native flora, fauna and a variety of insects, was produced by students in the Room 31 - 33 syndicate who have left this permanent reminder of their time here at RI.

Special thanks to the PTA who paid for the plants and the path requirements and allowed us to see this garden bed through to fruition. Also thanks to the parents and students for your contributions, a fantastic team effort!

GIRLS CRICKET

The RI cricket girls have had a superb year this year, winning central zones and all their term 1 games. The girls started training again mid term 3 for the Auckland quarter finals in term 4. Ultimately this has paid off as the girls cruised to the Auckland regional finals in the 9 aside format. The finals were a repeat of last year, which RI ended up losing to Holy Cross. Luckily there was a reversal of fortune this year and we beat them handily. This has seen us invited to the NZ national cricket champs in Lincoln. We have been wonderfully supported by our new sponsor Synchrony Global, who have come to party with financial support at such short notice. Their efforts in supporting our girls becoming national champs has been hugely appreciated.



2019 ENROLMENTS

If you are living in the home school zone and have a Year 6 student who will be coming to RI in 2019, we encourage you to contact the school asap about starting the enrolment process immediately to ensure we are well prepared for the coming year.

The enrolment form is available on the school website or the office. If you have a query regarding the enrolment process, please contact Ms Margaret Khoong at enrolments@remint.school.nz

NEW YEAR 7 STUDENTS IN 2019

As we make final preparations for staffing and classes for 2019, we would like to ask that if you have made alternative arrangements for schooling in 2019 that you inform us via email to enrolments@remint.school.nz as soon as possible to ensure we can provide the best possible start of the school year for all students.

LIBRARY BOOKS RETURN

All RI library books must be returned to the library by **Friday 30 November**. Pupils with lost or overdue books will be billed for the replacement cost of the book.

IMPORTANT DATES		2019	
30 November	Awards Assembly	31 January	Term 1 Starts
4 December	Board of Trustees Meeting	12 April	Term 1 Ends
13 December	School Prizegiving - Parnell	29 April	Term 2 Starts
14 December	Term 4 Ends	5 July	Term 2 Ends
		22 July	Term 3 Starts
		27 September	Term 3 Ends
		14 October	Term 4 Starts
		17 December	Term 4 Ends

(For a full list of important dates, please see the calendar on the school website.)

REMUERA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL APP

We have launched our mobile App for important school messages. This App forms a big part of our school communications. If you have not downloaded the App, please click this link <http://remueraint.apps.school.nz/share/> You can also download the App for free from the App store or Google Play. It works on both Apple and android phones.



Features of the App:

- You can subscribe to alert groups of interest to you and your child
- You can complete the absentee form directly from the App
- You can access the school calendar, news and events directly through the App
- We can send out targeted alerts to everyone with the App or to specific groups

EARLY TEXT NOTIFICATION

We have launched our early text notification message service. The aim of this service is to ensure the safety of all our students and being able to notify parents of unexplained absences in a timely manner. We are aware many parents are simply very busy people and forget to notify the school, and we believe this service will be beneficial to all parents / caregivers. **Should your mobile number change, please notify the school immediately so that we can update our records accordingly.**

ABSENCES

To report an absence please use the link on the school website homepage www.remint.school.nz OR Telephone the school directly and leave a message on the absentee line indicating the room number, students name, reason for absence and when expected back at school.

Please note parents **must** report their child's absence from school before 9.00am. Please DO NOT email the teachers directly regarding your child's absence as they do not always get to check their emails first thing in the morning. Instead notify us via the website, the App or by telephone 522-9890 option 1.



CHANGE OF DETAILS

Please update any changes in contact details or address via the link on the front page of our school website. This is critical as we move towards more online communication and sharing of student records.

PARENT PORTAL

Thank you very much to the parents who have signed up to the parent portal. I would encourage anyone who has not signed up to try to do so. The address is <https://parent.musac.school.nz/>

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our website is constantly being updated with upcoming events and news. Most of the questions we are asked have the answers in the A to Z section of our website. Please take advantage of this fantastic resource www.remint.school.nz

PARKING

Please do not park in the school grounds when picking up your children. Parking is available on Ascot Ave or St Vincent Avenue. We have had complaints from the neighbours around our school regarding parents parking across their driveways when picking up students from school. Please do not park and wait across any driveways in the vicinity of the school. Also, please do not park and wait at Ascot Mercy Hospital Carpark to pick up your children.