



REMUERA  
INTERMEDIATE  
SCHOOL  
RELIABILITY INTEGRITY SERVICE



## OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

#### Children are so resilient...aren't they?

This year has clearly been one that will live on in the minds and hearts of everyone alive today and especially our young ones. Some of our strongest early memories relate to these formative years that our young people are currently navigating. No doubt many of them will recall these years with a vast array of feelings and mixed emotions. I often hear the expression that children are so resilient and that they just seem to get on with things, completely unphased. It would be fair to say that this is the case for many however, there is a significant group for whom this is not so.



In these past months we have noticed an increasing number of students behaving in ways that are not typical for their age. We have seen children react to relatively normal situations with heightened emotions. In a nutshell we have observed more children experiencing higher highs and lower lows than in previous years. Whilst many children do have strong resilience and do move through adversity relatively unaffected, there is clearly a group who have struggled and often these are ones who we might least expect.

I would encourage you in the coming days, weeks and months to take time to listen to your young ones. Lean in and hear what they are really saying, pay close attention to their friendships and their behaviour online, pop your phone away and take a walk or play a game of cards. Children of this age are experts at convincing us that everything is fine even when it may not be. I am certainly not suggesting we start wrapping our children up in cotton wool and hiding them away. My plea to you is to simply be there for your young ones in case they stumble. Be alert, be ready to catch them and prop them back up again. In my experience, children are pretty resilient, until they are not.

#### Educational Impact of COVID-19

Recently we completed a deep analysis of our achievement data and I am very pleased to share that across both year groups the overwhelming majority of students have made greater than expected progress this year despite the obvious challenges. In particular, progress in Maths was well above national norms and Literacy tracking very well also. Average achievement overall continues to be well above national norms and with the outstanding progress made this year our students are very well placed heading into 2021.

Another positive outcome is that both ends of the achievement spectrum have demonstrated continued growth. We are often asked what is being done to challenge our more academically able students and this data provides clear evidence that we are challenging all students. These outcomes are a real testimony to the quality and commitment shown by all our teachers, students and families throughout a year with its fair share of challenges.

Kyle Brewerton

Principal

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## CENTRAL ZONES BOYS BASKETBALL

It's been a tough year for sport and basketball is no exception. Heading to Central Zone Basketball, the boys were nervous due to the lack of practices they'd been able to have this season due to COVID. Despite this, they played extremely well, demonstrating fantastic teamwork, accurate shooting and ball skills that the NBA would be impressed by!

They were extremely lucky to be accompanied by their supportive coach Johnny, the day wouldn't have been as successful if he wasn't there.

Overall the boys were grateful to have the opportunity to have a run around at zones, considering many events have been cancelled this year.

They finished up with a respectable 7th place and were satisfied with their efforts on the day.



## CENTRAL ZONES GIRLS BASKETBALL

Imagine this...9 hardworking girls, 24 minute games, 7 matches, questionable fractured fingers, ZERO breaks for food and one stressed out Miss Sellon. Yes, this is what Central Zones looked like this year!

What a ride this season has been, not only did COVID wipe out our training sessions, we were scheduled 7 back to back games at the one tournament of the year.

Since day one this group of girls have proven to me how coachable, resilient, skilled, energetic, aggressive and mature they can be. We ended up playing our toughest competitor first (Kowhai) which the ladies put up a good fight!

The next 7 games were an emotional roller coaster with some wins and some losses. However, I can't express enough how the girls didn't back down, despite never having a break for food.

Throughout these exhausting games the girls managed to keep smiling and positive. Honourable mentions to Loreeta Sadd with her constant energy and numerous baskets. As well, Christelle McGuire for making a shocking 3-pointer!

We ended up tying for 6th place, I am very proud of how this team kept their composure and smiles throughout the entire day!





## AUCKLAND RUGBY U55KG

Avondale Racecourse - Wednesday 14th October 2020

Rd 1 RI v Royal Oak	Lost 5 – 12
Rd 2 RI v Kelston	Won 38 – 0
Rd 3 RI v Sacred Heart	Won 24 – 14
Rd 4 RI v Glen Eden	Lost 24 – 0
2nd Place	

What a day of rugby...at last! For a tournament that was postponed three times it was worth the wait!

The U55 kg boys represented the school with distinction. After a tricky start to the day with some 'organisational' issues the boys took to the field a little ring rusty but settled into the Royal Oak game to perform better in the second half.

With the initial game out of the way the boys realised they had a lot more to offer. They approached the next game with a far more clinical approach, with a superb attacking performance. They were far more cohesive and recycled the ball well to dominate the Kelston boys.

With a similar performance against a tough Sacred Heart side RI were in a commanding overall position.

In the final game the boys came up against a very polished Glen Eden side and struggled to retain their own ball. With a great spirit and tired legs they persevered but Glen Eden deserved the win.

A great day of rugby in the sun. Well done boys!



## ATHLETICS DAY 2020

Athletics was one of the few sporting events that was able to go ahead this year. We had great weather and everyone got involved, whether it was at Lloyd Elsmore park at the competitive event or at school getting into all the games and activities.

It was an awesome day for everyone and the students at both events showed great sportsmanship, participation and most importantly effort.





## GIRLS CRICKET FINALS

Once again we have done it! For an amazing third year in a row, our girls Cricket team have been crowned Auckland Champions!

After suffering a close loss to Pt England School during pool play our girls performed extremely well on finals day to beat Holy Cross and then Pt England in the final.

The girls now head to Palmerston North to compete at Nationals.



## WATER POLO

Tim Sonderer Memorial Tournament took place from October 30 to November 1st. We had two teams entered in the competition and both the Remuera Green & Orange teams won the Golden Plate for the B & C grades respectively. Well done to all the students involved and thank you for your commitment, playing six games over the weekend! Also many thanks to our parents, coaches and managers, with a special shout out to Brenda McKellow for all the time she has put into organising RI Water Polo this year. We think you are amazing!

Good luck to the team entered in the North Island Champs held in Tauranga.



## AUCKLAND MATHEx COMPETITION

On the evening of 29 October, Remuera Intermediate sent two Year 7 and two Year 8 teams to compete in the Auckland Mathex Competition held at the Barfoot and Thompson Stadium. It was great for this event to be able to go ahead as it was originally scheduled to be held during the 2nd lockdown.

As usual, the competition was fierce with over 200 teams and 93 schools competing. All four of our teams are to be commended for their wonderful results on the night. They should be very proud of the effort they put in at the competition and for their commitment to practices at school prior.

Year 7 teams - Both top 15

Year 8 A team - 2nd place in Year 8

Year 8 B team - Top 10



## FLYING ROCKETS

To begin our Term 4 unit in Inquiry, Year 8 students from Rooms 2, 3, 4 and 5 designed and launched rockets. It was a fun activity which made us curious about the physics of rocket flight.

Some time was spent reading, researching and gathering information about the significance of different parts of rockets. This information became handy when groups started designing. There was a lot of collaboration and teamwork to design rockets that might compete across our syndicate to have the one that flew the furthest.

The winning group was from Room 5 – Jordan Gibson, Ian Parker and Wayne Zhuang.





## ART WEEK 2020

Well what to say about this year! One we hope not to repeat, but in true RI style, both teachers and students rose to the occasion and produced yet another year of a consistently high standard and wide range of genre, to celebrate art week.

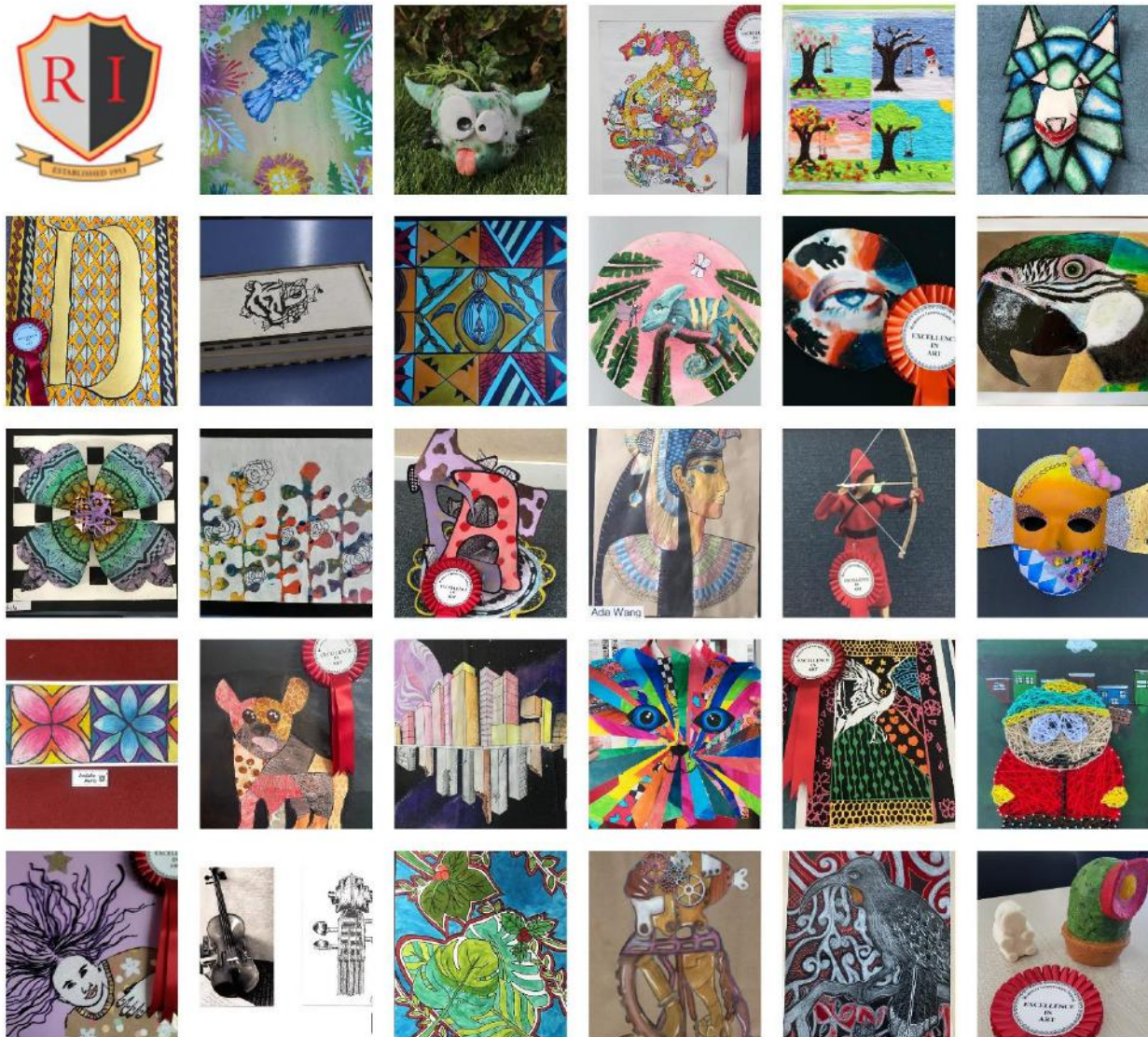
Each class worked on their own pieces of art, normally accumulating with a large community event, supported by the parent group.

Art week was pushed back from Term 2 and instead of having it over one week, we extended it to two. Some teachers used art week as a nice way to transition back to school after lockdown.

Because we couldn't exhibit in the hall, classes displayed their work in their classes or corridors. The three top art pieces were then on show in the St Vincent Foyer for the school to view. Mrs Sturgiss, Mr Rasmussen and head students, Kayla, Scarlett and Hamish visited all classes to award the red rosettes. There was much discussion and luckily no arguments, considering the quality of art on show.

This year we also have an on line art gallery displaying all the students work [click here](#)

This year the PTA generously awarded a \$20 Gordon Harris voucher to acknowledge each red rosette recipient, which will be presented at an assembly next term.





## DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA 2020

On Thursday 22 October we held our annual dance performance evening featuring 15 of our dance troupes plus some amazing soloists and duos.

The evening was super fun, with the 150+ dancers very excited to perform - something made even more special after the two lockdowns and restrictions of COVID.

After a long day of rehearsals the night exceeded all our expectations and overall an amazing time was had by all. A special shout out needs to go to the hosts & backstage crew who helped out.





## TALENT QUEST 2020

Thursday 29 October saw the annual RI Talent Quest.

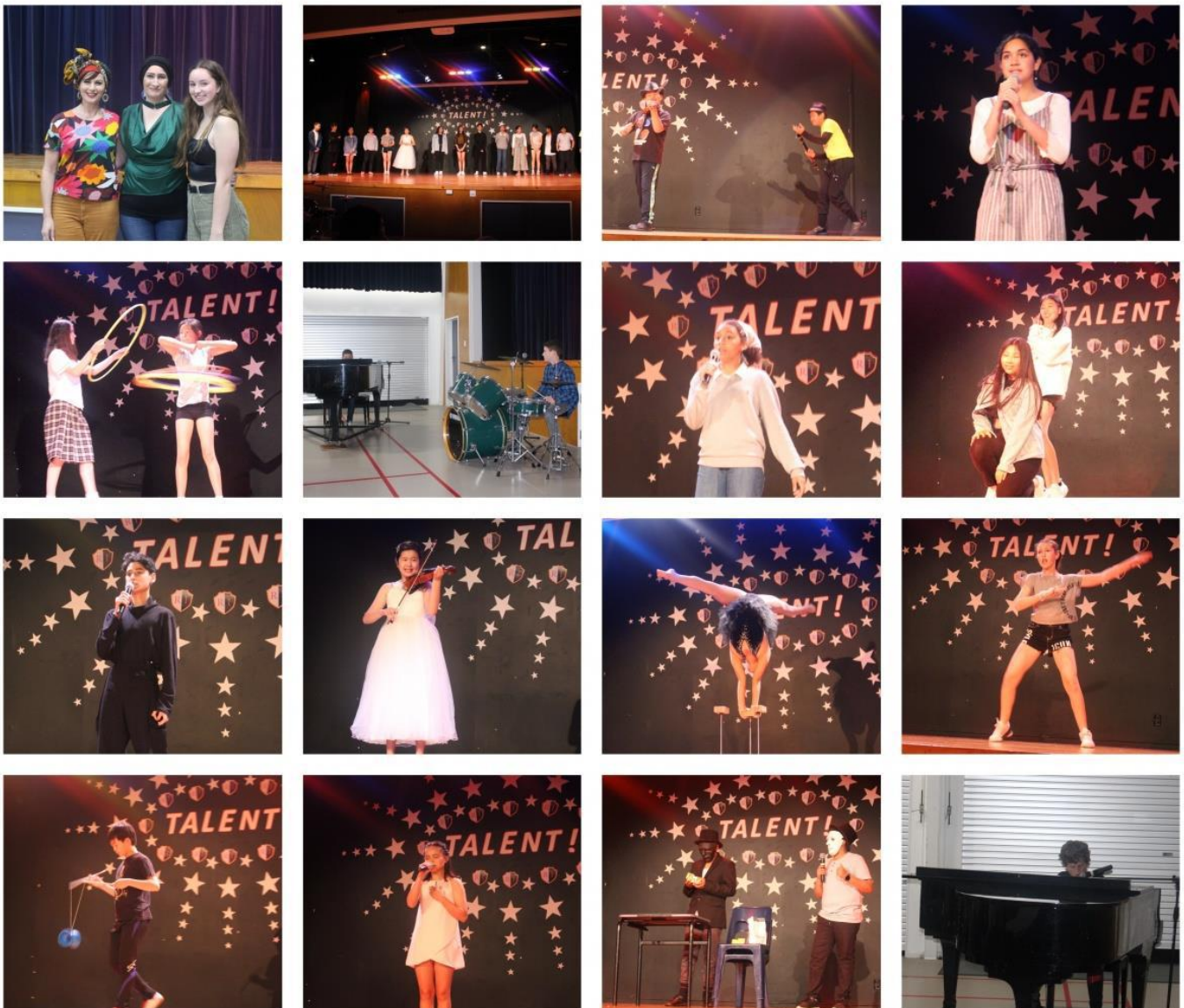
Many acts of various genres showcased their talents including dancers, singers, acrobats and musicians.

What a lot of talent we have at RI!

Special thanks to the 2 judges who joined our Dance and Arts teacher Pip Faulknor -

Lisa Chappell - one of NZ's leading actresses who is best known for playing Claire on McLeod's Daughters, an Australian TV Drama, and for her current role on Shortland Street.

Emily Robinson - a 19 year old performer based in Auckland who is a former student of RI. Most recently, Emily played the role of Éponine in Auckland Music Theatre & Amici Trust's production of Les Misérables at the Civic Theatre.



## TRASH TO FASHION 2020

We finally made it to the Trash to Fashion extravaganza after so many false starts and a delay of 6 months!!! So congratulations to all the contestants who stuck it out through 2 lockdowns and the resilience to keep creating through what has been an unusual year.

Our judges this year were Joanne Chaplow, a past judge and parent at RI, and our very own Sarah Choat. They went backstage earlier in the evening to check out the garments and talk to the creators about the construction. Trash to Fashion is all about recycling, reusing materials and the message the garment brings to the audience as well as it's stage presence.

There were 3 categories:

**Most sustainable garment** – judges looked at methods of construction and use of materials. How well did the garment embrace the ethos of sustainability.

Fire Princess by Berengere Profit, Anais Khellaf and Aimee Logan.

**Most striking garment on stage** – the garment that has the biggest WOW factor on stage.

Good G-reef by Anita McFedries and Armelie Crighton.

**Most innovative use of materials** – how the garment was put together to give an overall unusual effect. It has a different material or mix of unusual materials.

Crazy for Colour by Amber Allport, Hannah Kynoch and Josphine Nataatmadja.





## PINK SHIRT DAY

On October 16th RI participated in the nationwide event, Pink Shirt Day! This is about raising awareness about bullying and the effect it can have on people's mental health. We raised over \$900 for the Mental Health Association and it was so great to see so many students and staff members getting into the spirit of the event!



## LIONS CITIZENSHIP AWARD

On Wednesday night we attended the Remuera Lions Citizenship Awards. It is a very special event and thank you to Dillworth Junior School for hosting us. From our Y8 cohort we select two students who best encompass the ideals of the Junior Citizenship Code:

Honest in word and deed  
Friendly and helpful towards other people  
Generous with their time and talents  
Courteous and well mannered  
Respectful towards senior citizens  
Willing to accept responsibility  
Sympathetic towards those in distress  
Careful with their criticism  
Liberal with their praise  
Determined to build up, preserve not destroy  
Loyal to their city, community and country  
Prepared to accept criticism of themselves and be willing to improve.

Congratulations to Emily Hill and Dylan Marsh for receiving this prestigious award.



## STARBURST PERFORMANCE

Come along and watch this year's re-scheduled Starburst Performance in the RI school hall - Vision of Hope.

All are welcome!



## IMPORTANT DATES

17 November	BOT Meeting	25 November	Annual Prizegiving
18 November	Starburst Performance	27 November	New BOT takes office
19 November	Awards Assemblies	2 December	Sports and Arts Awards
20 November	BOT Election Day	4 December	Reports sent home
		11 December	Term 4 Ends

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

## REMUERA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL APP

You can download the free app from the App Store or Google Play. It works on both android and Apple phones. It sends important school messages and 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/>

### 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



## ABSENCES

All absences need to be reported by 8:45am at the latest. To report an absence please:

Use the 'Report an Absence' link in the top right corner on the school website homepage <http://www.remint.school.nz>

Use the school app or

Phone the office on 09 522 9890 Option 1

Please do not email absence notifications to classroom teachers

## ABSENCE TEXT NOTIFICATION

Your children's safety is of paramount importance to us. In order to ensure the safety of all our students, at 9:30am if your child has not been marked as Present we will send out a text notification to alert you of his/her absence.

We are aware many parents are simply very busy people and forget to notify the school so please respond with a Y and a reason for the absence/lateness. Respond with an N if you have dropped your child at school or know that he/she was coming to school and we can investigate this promptly.

**Should your mobile number change, please notify the school immediately so that we can update our records accordingly.**

## PARENT PORTAL

Parents are able to use our portal to pay for their child's donations and fees. We encourage anyone who has not already signed up to do so. The address is <https://parent.musac.school.nz/>

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