



REMUERA  
INTERMEDIATE  
SCHOOL  
RELIABILITY INTEGRITY SERVICE

## OCTOBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

### WELLBEING FOR CHILDRENS' SUCCESS

All young people want the same things. Things like being included, learning, taking risks and experiencing success, having friends who value and accept them, and feeling competent and confident. They want teachers to be interested in them, to care for them and be trustworthy.

Likewise, parents want similar things for their children. To be happy at school, to feel safe, to be understood, to be well cared for by other adults, to relate well to others and become independent, and to experience success. They want to know that, if something goes wrong for their children at home or school, teachers will help them develop strategies to make things right again.

*ERO (Feb 2015)*

During 2013 the Education Review Office developed a set of evaluation indicators for student well-being in schools. We know that student well-being is strongly linked to learning, and that for 11-13 year olds especially, their level of well-being at school is indicated by their satisfaction with life and school, their engagement and success with learning, and their social and emotional behaviour. Well-being is at its best when students have predominantly positive feelings and attitudes, when they develop positive relationships at school, show resilience, self-optimism and a high level of satisfaction with their learning. ERO identified nine key concepts that are the desired outcomes for student well-being:

- Students have a sense of belonging and connection to school, to family and whanau, to friends and to the community
- Students experience achievement and success
- Students are resilient, and have the ability to bounce back
- Students are socially and emotionally competent, are socially aware, have good relationship skills, are self-confident, are able to lead, self-manage and are responsible decision-makers
- Students are physically active and lead healthy lifestyles
- Students are nurtured and cared for by teachers at school, have adults to turn to who grow their potential, celebrate their successes, discuss options and work through problems
- Students feel safe and secure at school, relationships are valued and expectations are clear
- Students are included, involved, engaged, invited to participate and make positive contributions
- Students understand their place in the world, are confident in their identity and are optimistic about the future.

To assist us in promoting and responding to the wellbeing of our students, we will be surveying our Year 7 students about their perspectives on the following:

- Belonging, and connection, and inclusion
- Resilience
- Strong sense of identity
- Nurtured and cared for
- \* Achieving
- \* Socially and emotionally competent
- \* Active
- \* Safe and secure

I look forward to sharing the results with you.

**Janet Exon**  
**Principal**

## ICAS RESULTS ENGLISH and MATHS

Recently all students at RI took part in ICAS Maths and English testing. Results were extremely good, with a number of students achieving High Distinctions – top 1% in New Zealand.

### English

#### High Distinctions

Michelle Guan, Ari Nikoloff-Kraan, Bridget Thomson, Hannah Warn, Tyler Ye, Peace Al-En Yin, Alesha Kant, Alexander Komatas

**40 students received Distinction – top 10% in New Zealand**

### Maths

#### High Distinctions

Julian Mo, Sota Osaki, James Xu, Luke Bao, Kiran Chung, Leslie Huynh, Jake Moon, Ming Wang, Daniel Zang, Eddie Zhang, Selina Zhang

**70 students received Distinction**

## CAROL SERVICE AND PRESENT DONATIONS

The school's Carol Service will be held on the evening of **Tuesday 8 December at school.**

Each year we ask students to donate presents to the Auckland City Mission. These are then distributed to needy children throughout Auckland. Presents need not be new, but need to be in good condition, gift wrapped and labelled to show suitability for boy/girl and age group. This is just one way that we can show service and 'giving'.

The Christmas tree will be in the foyer from 23 November. We would love a large number of presents for the City Mission by Carol Service night.

## SCHOOL DONATIONS/CONTRIBUTIONS

As our school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the families who have supported the school with school contributions/donations.

School donation funding supports the many extras the school provides in specialised and progressive teaching programmes.

Thank you – without the extra funding, these programmes would not be possible.

**RI Cheerleading Team success at recent National competition in Wellington.**





This year has been the second year we have run the William Pike Challenge Award at RI and What a year it has been! 30 of our Yr8 students took on this challenge and we are extremely proud of them.



### So what is the William Pike Challenge Award?

It is an outdoor education program, similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award, for intermediate school pupils. It was developed by William Pike, an outdoor enthusiast and teacher who was caught in a volcanic eruption on Mt Ruapehu in 2007, resulting in him losing his right leg. William got motivation from his accident and created the WPCA to provide young New Zealanders with a pathway to new experiences outdoors. Some of the main values instilled and nurtured in pupils through the the WPCA are **Courage, Teamwork, Resilience, Compassion, Pride and Enthusiasm**. These are values which are important for any person to develop and match closely with our own school values. Please visit the William Pike website for more info: [www.williampike.co.nz](http://www.williampike.co.nz)

### So what do you have to do to pass the WPCA?

Throughout the year the group have met every Friday lunchtime and have completed the following components:

- 8 outdoor activities.
- 20 hours learning a new sport, skill or hobby.
- 20 hours of community service.

This year for our activities we have gone snorkelling at Goat Island Marine Reserve, tramping with an overnight survival skills experience in the Hunua Ranges, surfing at Muriwai Beach, rock climbing at Mt Eden Quarry, mountain biking at Woodhill Forrest, river gorging in the Waitakere Ranges and had an overnight water adventure challenge experience at Wenderholm. We have done some amazing things, seen some incredible sights, felt some unbelievable feelings, smelled some astonishing smells, learnt new skills, made new friends, grown both physically and emotionally and had a blast!

**If you are a Yr7 and interested in taking part in the programme next year, you MUST come along to the Launch Evening on the 10th November at 6pm in the school hall with a parent or guardian. Look out for the posters around school advertising this soon!**

We would also like to extend a huge thank you to our financial sponsors this year for helping make the programme possible; The School Uniform Centre, Konica Minolta, Remuera Lions, New Zealand Home Loans Ellerslie and Jacqueline Young and Robin Montgomery. If you are a business owner (or enthusiastic independent do-gooder!) and would be interested in financially supporting this fantastic programme in 2016 to make it more available to all students, we would love to hear from you so please get in touch with the school.

2015 coordinator: Toby Patton - [tobyp@remint.school.nz](mailto:tobyp@remint.school.nz); 2016 coordinator: Angela Karl – [angelak@remint.school.nz](mailto:angelak@remint.school.nz)





## Board of Trustees Newsletter, Term 4 2015

Welcome back to Term 4 which promises to be as busy as ever with the school conducting “business as usual” as well as preparing to celebrate what has been another fantastic year for our staff and students.

### Resignation of Principal

As you are aware, Janet Exon has resigned from her role as Principal, effective end of Term 1 2016. Janet has been in her role for 12 years and under her stewardship, RI has developed into a school recognised by ERO as providing our students “a high quality education that prepares them well to make choices for their future”. The Board is grateful for the expertise and commitment Janet has shown and wishes her the very best in the future.

The process of appointing a new Principal is already underway. The Board has engaged a professional advisor with personal knowledge of our School to assist us in this critical decision. We are committed to identifying an individual who can continue to lead our School in providing excellent educational opportunities for our students.

### Property Update

Detailed planning is underway for our new classroom block. The development will provide six new classrooms in a two-storey block on the site of the existing relocatable classrooms rooms 26-28. Plans will be available to view on the School web site as soon as they are finalised. We expect that relocation of existing classrooms to make space for this development and site preparations will commence during the 2015 summer break.

### Parent Survey

Over 160 parents and caregivers provided feedback via the Parent Survey earlier this year. The responses have been collated providing some very useful information for the Board regarding areas on which we can focus attention as well as highlighting where the School is performing well. This information provides input to strategic planning, budgeting and is valuable as we undertake the recruitment process for our new Principal. We would like to thank all those people who took part in the survey.

### Digital Technologies at RI

With the upgrade of our wireless network and server complete, the platform is in place to enhance our use of digital technologies to support teaching and learning throughout the School. A cohesive strategy has been developed incorporating the Ultranet and use of Google Apps for Education across all curriculum areas. The Board has committed to expenditure that will see sets of Chromebooks available in all syndicates to complement the existing iPads and laptops. Implementation of a new Student Management System has also provided opportunities to streamline administrative processes and provide the platform for digital interactions with parents and caregivers.

Phil Bracey  
Board Chairperson  
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