



Remuera Intermediate School

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NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2015

The NZ Curriculum for R.I.

The N.Z. Curriculum provides the framework for common direction for schools – regardless of type, size or location. It gives schools the scope, flexibility and authority to design and shape their school curriculum so that teaching and learning is meaningful and beneficial to their particular community and students. In turn, the school curriculum allows teachers the scope to make interpretations in response to the particular needs, interests and talent of individuals and groups in their class.

We are

Mission Statement: Thinkers, Achievers, Leaders & Innovators

Vision: We will:

- Set and maintain high standards
- Ensure all students achieve personal success
- Ensure relationships underpin everything we do
- Meet the needs of early adolescents
- Ensure teachers and students are both learners and teachers
- Recognise and value diversity
- Employ our effective practice model
- Foster leadership
- Create a culture of innovation, inquiry and creativity

R.I.S. Learners are:

- Lifelong learners
- Independent
- Critical and creative thinkers
- Communicators
- Reflective
- E-learners
- Leaders
- Participators
- Contributors

At R.I.S. we value:

- Respect
- Reliability
- Integrity
- Service
- Excellence
- Diversity
- Innovation
- Sustainability
- Leadership

R.I.S. Effective Practice is:

- Student Voice
- Relationships
- Assessment for learning
- Culture of inquiry
- Meeting students individual needs

R.I. Principles

<u>Meeting the needs of early adolescents</u>	<u>Excellence & High Expectations</u>	<u>Future Focus</u>	<u>Integration and Coherence</u>	<u>Treaty of Waitangi</u>	<u>Cultural Diversity and Inclusion</u>	<u>E-Learning</u>	<u>Community</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reflect middle education philosophy (e.g. specialisation, opportunities, life/social skills) - Ensure engagement of students in learning - Ensure smooth transitions and progressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support and empower all students to achieve personal success - Set high standards - Consider both the curriculum and extra curricula activities - Consider the National Standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explore issues (e.g. Sustainability, citizenship, justice) - Make learning authentic, act locally and globally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure a balanced Curriculum - Make links between and across learning areas - Make links between classroom and other programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acknowledge the Treaty of Waitangi and our bicultural foundations - Opportunities to extend knowledge of Te Reo and Maori Tikanga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reflect our cultural diversity - Ensure our students identities, languages, abilities and talents are recognised and affirmed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage students to explore their uses of ICT - Integrate a variety of ICT tools into learning - Consider the use of ICT for content, process and product 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage families / whanau and our communities - Connect with students wider lives

This will be supported by the Key Competencies:

- * Managing Self
- * Participating and Contributing
- * Relating to Others
- * Thinking
- * Using language, symbols and texts.

When planning programmes our Curriculum Managers will ensure that learning relates back to our Vision. This is an exciting time for schools, as the NZ Curriculum allows schools to provide learning experiences that are relevant and appropriate for their students. Ask your child about Thinkers, Achievers, Leaders, Innovators. That's what we are!

Janet Exon
 Principal

A GREAT START TO 2015

Congratulations to our students for a great start to the new school year. We have been impressed with the way students have settled into new classes, and it has been pleasing to see so many becoming involved in the extra activities offered. The leadership and responsibility displayed by our Year 8 students is impressive, and they are proving to be excellent role models.

The friendly and positive atmosphere throughout the school is certainly a credit to all concerned. Students very quickly come to know that they are respected and valued, and in turn show their respect for the school by working hard, displaying excellent manners and wearing their uniforms in the appropriate way. Their good behaviour in public – on the streets, on buses, in shops and at sports events – brings credit to themselves and their school. Our teachers are enthusiastic, and work hard to provide excellent classroom programmes, and also a wide range of extra activities for the students.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

As part of the implementation of National Standards, schools are required to report to parents in writing and using plain language at least twice a year. At least one of the written Reports should include :

- The student's current learning goals
- The student's achievement and progress in relation to the National Standards
- What the school will do to support the student's learning
- What parents, family and whanau can do to support their child's learning.

Year 7 – it is important that our Year 7 students are assessed early in the year so that teaching and learning can be at appropriate levels. With students joining RI from over 40 primary schools we need to ensure consistency in our assessments and Overall Teacher Judgement.

There will be parent interviews for Year 7 students at the beginning of Term 2. Teachers and parents will be able to discuss achievement, progress, effort and attitude, as well as personal and social development.

Year 7 students will receive a written Report at the end of Term 2 and a final Report at the end of the year.

Year 8 – Year 8 teachers have valuable information passed onto them by Year 7 teachers. At the beginning of the school year they use assessments to confirm and review this information.

There will be parent interviews for Year 8 students at the beginning of Term 2. This will provide an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss where students 'are at', what the next steps should be, and the general well-being of the student.

Year 8 students will receive a written Report at the end of Term 2, and a further Report at the end of the year.

OPEN CLASSROOMS – FRIDAY 20 MARCH

We invite all parents to visit the classrooms and specialist teaching programmes on the morning of Friday 20 March. The first Awards Assembly for 2015 will be at 12.45 pm (Year 7) and 2.00 pm (Year 8) on that day.

AWARDS ASSEMBLIES

The school celebrates student achievement through regular Awards Assemblies. The Awards Assemblies are held once a term throughout the school year. The school wants to recognise excellence in achievement, consistent effort to improve and the qualities of citizenship. Classroom teachers and specialist teachers present chosen students with certificates. The assemblies also provide an opportunity for our school choir and orchestra and individual musicians to perform. Where possible, teachers invite the parents of the award recipients to the Assembly. At this school, achievement is highly valued and promoted.

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 11 March.

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

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

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Over recent months our school has been working with an independent company, Harrison Tew, who specialise in emergency management for schools. The procedures implemented allow us to respond safely and quickly to a range of circumstances.

The company's Directors are both ex-Police and the procedures are in line with that of emergency services response.

Recently we conducted a school-wide Lock Down exercise under the guidance of Wade Harrison, one of the Directors. We are pleased to inform you that our students responded safely, maturely and with a nature of controlled urgency.

The Lock Down was carried out successfully and is now a part of our emergency procedures. We will be implementing emergency protocol exercises each term to ensure all staff and students remain familiar with our processes.

Should you hear of a lock down or evacuation at the school, can I please ask that you do not attend the school or phone, as we will not be in a position to respond. Your presence or contact may make it more difficult for us to manage a situation.

Any information pertaining to an emergency occurring at the school will be updated on our website as regularly as possible.

Janet Exon
Principal

SCHOOL FEES AND DONATIONS

In the next few weeks we will be posting out to families statements showing any outstanding fees to be paid.

These may include Activity Fee, Specialist Subject Fee, unpaid Stationery Fee items, and the school Donation.

The Activity Fee has already been used this term for Swimming Sports (buses and venue), Waterwise (Yr 8) and Athletics. Further activities are planned throughout the year.

The Specialist Subject Fee has already been used for the purchase of materials used in Technologies, Art and Music.

We rely on parents paying these fees to enable us to offer the wide variety of programmes that are expected.

We ask that you consider paying the Donation, as this is a big component of our budget and is used towards costs incurred for additional resources, learning support, facility upgrades etc.

Thank you to all parents who have paid fees and donations. Your support allows us to provide a quality programme.

RECEIPTS FOR DONATIONS

Thank you for all those who have paid your donations. Your receipts are being processed and will be sent as soon as possible.

ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBERS FOR STUDENTS

Please advise the school office immediately of any changes in students' addresses and contact numbers as these are vital in cases of illness/emergency.

A MESSAGE FROM SPORT AUCKLAND

Help us spend Kiwisport money in our community!

Sport Auckland are currently engaging in a community consultation to set the priorities for Kiwisport funding which has distributed over \$2 million into our local community over the past 3 years. To ensure we are providing the right sporting opportunities that meet the needs of your community can you and your son/daughter please take 2 minutes to fill in the survey applicable to you.

Parents - www.surveymonkey.com/s/KSParents

Primary Students –
www.surveymonkey.com/s/KSPPrimary

We appreciate you taking the time to complete these surveys. If you are interested in having further input please check www.sportauckland.co.nz for details on a local forum where you will have this opportunity.

The surveys will be open until Wednesday 11 March.

OUR SPECIALIST TEACHING AREAS

