



REMUERA
INTERMEDIATE
SCHOOL
RELIABILITY INTEGRITY SERVICE

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OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

This week the New Zealand Herald ran an article which highlights the changing face of education. Schools are slowly moving out a model first developed for the industrial age in the late 1800's and into a system that prepares young people for success in the information age. When we consider our revised mission statement it is pleasing to see strong alignment between our aspirations and the points highlighted in this report.

NZ education 'top in world' for future skills, says British report

New Zealand's education system has been ranked top of the world in "educating for the future". The new ranking, produced for the first time by the London-based Economist Intelligence Unit, measures the extent to which young people in 35 countries learn six kinds of skills that are more about using information than rote-learning.

Despite frequent complaints by employers about the education system, Business NZ chief executive Kirk Hope agreed that New Zealand justified first place. "These kids might not be coming in [to work] with the soft skills that you'd expect, but this report says we are not doing it any worse than anyone else and are doing it better than many," he said. The report says "content knowledge is becoming a commodity" - now valued less than knowing how to use information. It says the six key skills needed to "flourish" are:

- Interdisciplinary skills
- Creative and analytical skills
- Entrepreneurial skills
- Leadership skills
- Digital and technical skills and
- Global awareness and civic education.

"The index highlights a widespread need for holistic educational techniques such as project-based learning, where students grapple with a subject (often of their own choosing) in great depth and with reference to several academic disciplines," it says.

It says equipping young people to face future challenges also requires involvement from business and a free and open society. "Those who are encouraged to develop independent thought while being willing to take risks will

flourish more than those from rigid or controlled societies," it says.

East Asian countries which score well in content knowledge are marked down in the report because "they only measure a far narrower range of traditional performance than in a future-skills framework involving project-based learning".

New Zealand is marked highly for focusing on "future skills" and project-based learning in its school curriculum and teacher training and for its careers counselling, collaboration between universities and industry and the country's cultural diversity and tolerance.

Our Government spending on post-secondary education is proportionately the highest of the 35 countries at 4.2 per cent of national income - a figure which appears to include student loans. However, our average high-school teacher salaries are only 19th highest, at US\$34,881 (\$48,158), measured in terms of what a dollar will actually buy in each country.

Hope said his school visits confirmed that almost all NZ schools use project-based learning, using state-funded broadband to let teachers merely facilitate while students do their own research online. However, he said these self-directed learning skills were not well assessed. "We'd probably argue that there is too much emphasis on assessment and in particular on certain types of assessment and not enough assessment of some of the key drivers of the workforce for the future such as critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration."

He said schools "could do much better" on career counselling and links with local employers. "One of the ways we could do that is professionalisation of career services, as suggested in Labour's [election] policy," he said. Post Primary Teachers Association president Jack Boyle said the report showed that New Zealand had "a highly performing public education system" and a project-based curriculum that was "ahead of the game".

Educating for the Future index - Top 10

1. New Zealand 88.9
2. Canada 86.7
3. Finland 85.5
4. Switzerland 81.5
5. Singapore 80.1
6. Britain 79.5
7. Japan 77.2

8. Australia 77.1
9. Netherlands 76.2
10. Germany 75.3

Source: educatingforthefuture.economist.com

provide a rigorous and enriching education in an environment that supports the unique social, emotional and academic needs of emerging adolescents. The aim of this education is to develop resilient, compassionate and responsible members of a global community.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE

At this year's Meet the Teacher evening I spoke about the Government's Communities of Learning initiative. In 2015 RI joined with 10 other local primary, intermediate and secondary schools to form the Auckland Central Community of Schools. The goal of this scheme is that by collaborating and sharing expertise, students' learning pathways are supported and their transition through the education system is improved.

Under the leadership of Jill Farquharson from Auckland Normal Intermediate, the ACCOS schools have been identifying key challenges and understanding the best way for participating schools to work together. RI has identified student and teacher resilience as our area of focus along with a subset of ACCOS schools. This aligns strongly with our mission which is to:

The work that we do will be shared with the wider ACCOS group and we will enjoy the benefit of work done by other groups focussing on different areas of teaching and learning.

Over the last few months we have also extended this initiative to development of closer ties between the Boards of the ACCOS schools, providing an opportunity to develop Board networks to enhance our school governance roles. Wishing you happy and safe holidays.

Nga mihi
Liz Schellekens
Board Chair
BOTchair@remint.school.nz

RI KIDSVOTE 2017

At Remuera Intermediate we have been learning about 'KIDSVOTE', the leaders, parties, policies and parliament. KIDSVOTE is the election for children run by individual schools. Although our votes aren't counted during the general election due to our age, it gives us a chance to understand voting.

During RI KIDSVOTE student electoral officers from Room 7 planned and ran an authentic process for the whole school. Each child had their name crossed off the electoral roll, they were directed to a voting booth set up inside the class where they selected their electorate candidate and party. After voting they were given a sticker congratulating them on voting.

The following week student councillors got together and counted the votes, supervised by the Chief Electoral officer Harry Cullen-Hieatt and Keara Harrison as Deputy Electoral Officer. Once votes were counted and carefully checked, we announced the results of the RI KIDSVOTE election to a full school assembly.

We think it's important to educate children on voting and parliament, so when it is our time to vote we know what we are putting our vote towards. Being taught about real life decisions is a very important part of education that so many people miss out on. At RI we have been taught what the policies of parties are, how to vote and how parliament works. We have asked a couple of children including Harry Cullen-Hieatt what his experience was like, he said "It was interesting and was a good experience. I now know so much more about the election." Mia Telfar also said "Well I thought it was a great experience, it felt like the real thing! I also enjoyed handing out stickers."

Keara Harrison and Charlotte Winning-Browne - Room 7 students



ANCHOR AIMS GAMES

The AIMS Games were recently held in Tauranga from 10th – 15th September 2017. We sent a contingent of 14 football players and a contingent of 13 individual athletes in their chosen sporting codes.

The selection criteria were based on:

- placed in a podium finish at an Auckland Inter Zone Competition 2017 and/or
- ranked in their sport outside school and have a registered membership number for that code.

BADMINTON

RI Year 8 student Lucas Mitchell is one of New Zealand's young talented badminton players. Lucas has recently returned from Australia after making the National Under 15's team. The New Zealand team beat Australia 13-3. A phenomenal achievement by Lucas. Lucas and Owen Wu went down to the AIMS Games in Tauranga where Lucas had a chance to defend his boy's singles title, which he did. Owen Wu was placed third in the boys' doubles with Lucas. A great result and achievement from both boys.



BOYS FOOTBALL TEAM

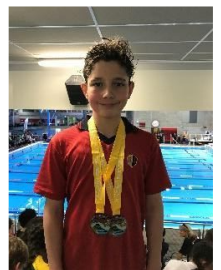
RI Boys Football Team at AIMS Games consisted of Josh Gaze, Jacob Drumm, Thomas Holmes, Hugh Ellicott, Fredrik Rostron, Dan Flanagan-Brown, Kieran Cooper, George Siddells, Rintaro Inoue, Taylor Ah Chee, Keith Sait, Edward Joh, Zach Chung and Henry Jeffrey.

Our boys played 10 games, scored 52 goals, conceded 7 goals, and had 8 wins and 2 losses. Finished in 2nd place after losing the final to NorthCross Intermediate 1-0. A great achievement and well done to the team.



SWIMMING

Connor Lock, Eric Zheng, Hannah Henson & Alice Williams completed in the swim meet at the AIMS Games. The children were a credit to the school with their competitive spirit, good behaviour and strong performances in the pool. Individually they raced to some terrific personal bests and between them made 12 finals (Top 10). Together they swam in the freestyle relay and the medley relay against some very strong opposition. Connor made the podium in the 200m breaststroke and 200m individual medleys. Well done to the swim team.



YACHTING

These four excellent sailors Nick Shi, Megan Hume, Charlie Morton and Amelia Angus represented RI at the AIMS Games in Yachting.

Our sailors all sailed very well in difficult blustery and wet conditions. They sailed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday (Finals Day). Their great results on Day 3 ensured RI was awarded the Silver Medal for schools overall behind Takapuna Intermediate. Amelia finished 5th and Nick 7th.

Amelia Angus - 1st Girl Overall, 1st Year 8 Girl, 5th Overall, 1st RI Sailor and Special Award for Good Sportsmanship.

Nick Shi - 7th Overall and 2nd RI Sailor

Megan Hume - 25th Overall and 4th Year 8 Girl

Charlie Morton - 8th Overall and Special Award for Good Sportsmanship.

Well done to all the RI Sailors and an incredible achievement!



TABLE TENNIS

David Guo represented RI in Table Tennis at AIMS. David practises 8 hours a week to perfect his game and this showed as he was placed 1st.

He played three sets in the finals and won and had no losses during the tournament.

A great result from David and his dedication paid off!



GOLF

Daniel Freeman was placed 2nd at AIMS. On the day he had a 1 over par from the men's tees.

He also leapfrogged two other players in front of him to go from 4th to 2nd. A very credible result.

CROSS COUNTRY

Thomas Holmes placed 2nd at the Central Zones Cross Country championships in August.

He was placed in the top 20 AIMS runners placing 18th out of 188 runners.

Well done Thomas!



WATER WARRIORS

A special group of enviro squad members took advantage of a dry, sunny day in Week 9 to head to RI's local park, Waiata, off Victoria Avenue. Our keen Water Warriors set to work testing the health of the stream, assessing nitrites, oxygen and pH levels as well as checking water clarity and aquatic life. Equipment and materials were supplied by the Auckland City Council's WaiCare unit and the results will be added to the council's data base of Auckland's streams and rivers.

Water Warriors: Amelia Wood, Elise Komatas, Charlotte Wood and Cadence Orr,
Teachers - Deb Bartlett and Natasha Jeffrey



CYCLING UPDATE – REACHING THE PEAK

Our RI riders are currently building up their skills to compete in the NZ Schools National Road Cycling competition being held in Palmerston North. This event comprises 3 races held over the first weekend of the school holidays - a team time trial, a road race and a criterium. Seven of our riders will compete at this event and we wish them all well.

During September our riders have competed in several events. Five of our riders entered The Northern Schools Road Cycling tour, comprising 3 individual events. Congratulations to Maia Barclay for her podium finishes - 2nd in the Hill Climb, 2nd in the Criterium and a 3rd overall placing in the U13 girls' category.



In the Auckland Mountain Bike Cross Country series, a four race event, two of our riders achieved silver medals for their overall performances. Congratulations to Maia Barclay and Thomas Clark for these fantastic results.



WRITING AND ILLUSTRATION OF A BOOK



In Room 15 these term students were set the task of writing and illustrating a story book for children around the age of 2. Three boys, James, Luka and Sai took it upon themselves to write a book for children that are blind. They got in touch with The Blind Foundation and a lady named Maria came to RI. She loaned them her Braille machine and while it took a bit of practise, they learnt how to write Braille. Over the course of 6-7 week, they finished a book named 'Logan, The King of the Jungle' complete with Braille, English and illustrations they drew themselves.

Written by Zoe Bews-Hair, Room 15

AWARD WINNING WRITERS



Every year Remuera Library runs a writing competition called Win with Words. This competition is open to all Year 7 and 8 students in schools across the Remuera and Orakei area. This year there were close to 200 entries. RI students did exceptionally well with Georgia Mullins (Rm 18) being awarded the Orakei Local Board 'Only in NZ' prize. Iris Song (Rm 23) was awarded third place in the Year 7 competition and Gabriel Lau (Rm 27) was awarded third place in the Year 8 competition. We were also lucky enough to receive six highly commended awards and these went to Theo Lavrent (Rm 18), Linxi Lin (Rm 17), Zoe Bews-Hair (Rm 15), Molly O'Leary (Rm 2), Amy Prebble (Rm 6) and Stella Zlatarevic (Rm 8). We are very proud of our award winning writers.

DUNEDIN EXCHANGE

On 20th August 30 students and 3 teachers travelled to Dunedin to begin our week long stay hosted by Tahuna Intermediate School. We spent the first 3 days exploring Dunedin and the surrounding area.

Some memorable moments were:

Baldwin Street - the steepest street in the world. Walking/running up (and down)

Touring the Cadbury Factory

The Monarch Harbour Cruise - where we explored the Harbour and Otago Heads

Olveston House - a place of many treasures

Lanarch Castle - where we were given a tour by an actual English butler

On Thursday Morning we left Dunedin and travelled through Central Otago to Queenstown. On the way we stopped at Clyde to view the dam and had lunch in Alexandra. We also stopped and panned for gold at Goldfields mining centre in the Kawarau gorge. 6 students found gold flakes which they got to take with them. Friday and Saturday we spent skiing and snowboarding at Coronet Peak. We had a range of abilities from first time skiers to experts but by the second day everyone was using the chairlift and having a great time. Saturday night we dressed up and went on the gondola up to The Skyline restaurant for dinner where we attempted to eat them out of food!

Sunday we made our way back to Dunedin after a round of mini golf and lunch in Arrowtown. One last night with our host families and we were back at the airport to fly home. The weather was settled and warm, Tahuna and Dunedin showed us amazing Southern Hospitality and we all left with some sadness but many great memories.

A great trip with a wonderful group of RI's finest students.



RI JAPAN EXCHANGE 2017

The exchange was established in 1996 and our visit to Befu Elementary School is a very important event, both for the school and Befu community. Our students' homestay for five nights and we also stay, as a group, in a variety of hotels. It is truly an amazing and life changing experience for our students as they are embraced by their Japanese families. There is so much to learn during the ten days and it is so much fun!!! Thank you to the 30 students and teachers for taking part in the exchange and thank you for being great ambassadors. The photos are just a taste of our 10 days in Japan.



TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE EVENING

The Technology Showcase Evening gave students and their families the opportunity to come and see some of the work they have been involved in so far this year. It's a great opportunity for our Year 7 students to see what the Year 8's gets up to and hopefully it gives them more information on which to base their option choices for next year. It is the perfect chance for our students to showcase all the hard work they have put into their technology classes!

At RI we pride ourselves on challenging students and our technology classes provide a medium to do this in ways unlike any other subject. Technology is a very 'hands on' subject and provides opportunities for all students to achieve success. It also allows some 'life skills' to be incorporated into our programmes.

Our Tech team encourage the students to be critical thinkers and innovative in what they are designing. Many of our students incorporate their culture in their designs and amazing products are often the result. We want our students to not only come up with original ideas, we want them to consider the question "Even though I can make this, should I? What impact will this product have on people and the environment? Should I actually make it?"

They follow the tech process, testing and trialling possible outcomes through technological modelling. Students in each of the four tech areas were able to show and tell parents and students about the work they have been doing and products created.

Our guest speaker was an ex RI student, Robyn Findlay. She works for Fulton Hogan as a Stormwater Engineer. She talked about her world of work and her career pathway.



CHEERFACTOR

We had an amazing day at Cheerfactor on Saturday 23 September. Results are:

Scholastic Cheer

1st place Champions for the RI Cheer Team

Level 2 Stunt Team Division

1st place to Pixie's stunt team, 2nd place to Olivia's stunt team and 3rd place to Julia's stunt team

Level 2 Duo

3rd place for Olivia and Jenna

Open Dance Division

1st place to the Lyrical Troupe, 2nd place to the Pom Troupe and 3rd to the Lyrical-contemporary troupe

Jazz Dance Division

3rd place to the Jazz Funk Troupe

Solo Dance Division

1st place to Sama and 3rd to Juliana

Duo Dance Division

3rd place to Elisana and Peru

Trio Dance Division

1st place to Amelia, Keara and Samara and 2nd place to Sophia, Sophie and Brooke

We are very proud of our amazing kids!



ART MURAL

At the beginning of the year Mr Zemke, Mrs Jeffrey, Ms Bartlett and all of the students from The Social Chagency and Enviro Squad were thinking of a way to reduce littering and how to send a clear a message to the school about looking after the environment. The artists from the Enviro Squad and The Social Chagency, along with some Year 7 and 8 art students, all got together with Mrs Sturgiss and started work on a big mural based around a Banksy style message and design.

Banksy is a famous British artist who makes social and political statements through amazing art that he paints on buildings, walls and bridges in the Uk and around the world.

They wanted the school to know the bad effects of littering, which is all the nasty stuff you see at the bottom of the mural and how our school should look if waste is reduced, which is inside the hole in the wall, our lovely clean, green school.

Along with the mural comes a hand painted rubbish bin so that kids, instead of littering have a bin to put their rubbish in.

The mural has been placed on the end of room 24 and we will be writing on it saying:

Tiaki i te whenua ka tiaki ia ia koe

Take care of the earth and she will take care of you



Written by Rebekah Hall, Linxi Lin and George Lavelua

CENTRAL ZONES GYMNASTICS RESULTS

Year 7 girls team - 1st place

Year 8 girls team - 3rd place

Jenna Ashworth - 2nd place individual

Olivia Pomfrett - 3rd place individual

Mathias Lawson-Smith - 1st place individual

Well done everyone!

DATES TO NOTE / IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 4

16 October	Term 4 commences
17 October	PTA Meeting
18 October	School Competitive Athletics Day
23 October	Labour Day – School Closed
24 October	Board of Trustees Meeting
14 November	PTA Meeting
16 November	Orientation Evening
17 November	Awards Assembly
21 November	Board of Trustees Meeting
23 November	Arts Awards Evening
5 December	Final Board of Trustees Meeting for 2017
12 December	Final PTA Meeting for 2017
13 December	Annual Prize giving
15 December	School closes for 2017 at 2pm

REMUERA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL APP

We have launched our mobile App for important school messages. This new App will form a big part of our school communications. If you had 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 the apple and android phones.



Features of the new App:

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

We know how busy parents are these days, so we hope this new App will make things easier for parents to communicate with the school and vice-versa.

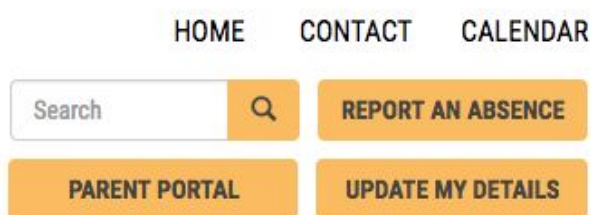
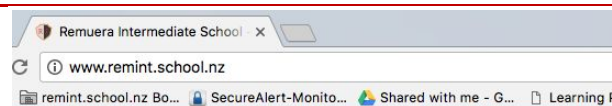
EARLY TEXT NOTIFICATION

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. Please do not park and wait at Ascot Mercy Hospital Carpark to pick up your children.

VODAFONE NZ EMAIL SERVICE

You may have recently heard about the end of email services by Vodafone NZ. The service will close down on 30 November 2017. For a full list of email addresses which are affected please visit <https://www.vodafone.co.nz/email/>
To continue to receive communications from us please send new email addresses to janner@remint.school.nz before 30 November.