

RAUMATI BEACH SCHOOL

6 September 2019

Dear Parents, Guardians & Whanau,

DIGITAL SAFETY

Yesterday the Team Kapiti teachers spoke with all Yr 7 & 8 students about digital safety. This was in response to several on-line interactions that have recently taken place between students, and which are compromising the well-being of others.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind ALL students and their families that:

- most social media has an age requirement of 13+ years
- negative and demeaning interactions on social media can fuel poor self-image and are detrimental to the emotional and social well-being of young people
- all digital safety guidelines strongly encourage parents to be aware of and closely monitor their child's use of digital media
- although this has an impact on our community, school is unable to manage or monitor the extra-curricula on-line activity of our students
- concerns about on-line interactions can be forwarded to New Zealand digital safety watch-dog, Net safe: <https://www.netsafe.org.nz/contactnetsafe/> OR 0508 NETSAFE (0508 638 723)

Many digital interactions which take place outside of school have a profound impact on learning and achievement within school, and can have long-term repercussions. As a community, we would like your support to protect all children from harm.

Please take the time to talk with your child about these issues. We 'encourage the development of appropriate guidelines for the protection of the child from information and material injurious to his or her well-being' (*Convention on the Rights of the Child*). We thank you in anticipation for your support.

Nga mihi,

Prisca MacDonald
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Kristy Macquillham
TEAM LEADER

Dave Clare
TEAM LEADER