

# Raumati Beach School

Tuesday 6 June 2017

Dear Parents, Guardians & Whanau,

## **Re: Keeping Ourselves Safe – Education Programme with NZ Police**

Tena koutou katoa. Your child is shortly to participate in 'Keeping Ourselves Safe'. This is a series of lessons that explores how children can stay safe and seek help in a range of situations. The programme is run in conjunction with the NZ Police every two years and is an important part of our Health Learning.

### Importance

We believe that learning about personal safety is vital to ALL children. While the subject matter taught is, at times, uncomfortable, it is essential that our children are equipped to recognize and deal with challenging and abusive situations. The Vulnerable Children's Act 2015 supports the use of whole-school programmes to help make our society a safer place for children.

### Programme Content

'Keeping Ourselves Safe' will help children to learn:

- a range of safe practices that they can use when interacting with others
- what they can do if they have been or are being abused
- what happens when abuse is reported. (Years 5-8)

The topics include knowing where you live, understanding my body, dealing with unwanted behaviour and touch, identifying adults who can help and digital safety. These topics are delivered in a manner sensitive to the needs of the children, and inclusive of ethnic, sexual and cultural diversity. The police participate in 2-3 lessons while the rest are delivered by the classroom teacher.

### **Parent & Whanau Info Sessions:**

We warmly encourage you to attend our sessions for parents where you will be able to hear more about the programme and have questions answered. Both the Police Education Officer and staff will be present.

**Where:** Learning Street (up towards the back of the school, through the staff car park)

**When:** Thursday 8 June, Years 1-4: 5.30pm, Years 5-8: 7pm

### For further information, please:

- a) attend our parents' information sessions
- b) see your class teacher
- c) visit the police website where you will be able to access a range of resources used:  
<http://www.police.govt.nz/advice/personal-and-community-advice/school-portal/resources/successful-relationships/keeping-1>

If you have any queries, or need to talk through any of the above, please feel free to contact your child's classroom teacher or myself.

Nga manaakitanga, nga mihi,

Prisca MacDonald

*Deputy Principal: Student Well-being & Engagement*

*pmacdonald@raumatibeach.school.nz*