

Dear Ripponlea PS Community,

Donika From TheirCare here. I write this with an extremely heavy heart, this will be my last week at TheirCare and in the Ripponlea Primary School Community.

During my time at RPS, I have formed strong relational bonds with the students, families and staff. Each individual student I have cared for, has allowed me the privilege of getting to know them. I have been afforded the great honour of providing each student with a safe, inclusive, social and fun space to play, explore, create and run wild in. My time at RPS will forever remain with me, as a positive, enriching and joyful experience.

There is so much I will miss.

I will miss the supportive staff of RPS. Alfred's humour and theatrical nature, Natalie's efficient leadership, Jess's warmth, Fred's presence and passion, Mark's down-to-earth nature, Miss D's kind check-ins, Meagan's helping hand. The entire team at RPS are incredible. I want to personally thank the team at RPS for welcoming me into your community with incredible warmth and belonging. Thank you.

I will miss the incredibly resilient, supportive and kind parents and caretakers. The daily check ins, the long conversations, the support, laughs and trust. Each parent's resilience throughout the Covid-19 period amazed me, and still amazes me. I have a newfound respect for the parents of the world, juggling a million things, and becoming part-time teachers too! You all deserve medals.

And finally,

All the Cheeky Monkey students. I will miss every singly student I had the privilege to care for, play and create with. Each individual student will be sorely missed. It's hard to put into words how much of an impact these little humans have had on me. They are all so special, unique and gifted in their own individual ways. I often wondered, 'Who will you grow up to be?' and I know each student here has the potential for great, great things. I will miss their smiles, dance moves, artworks, jokes, ideas and expressions. I will miss every single thing about these children, expect cleaning up after them!

I want to sincerely thank every single person within the RPS community. RPS is a magical, wonderful, unique and dynamic hub of education and community. Thank you for welcoming me within this community. Thank you for trusting me with your students and children. Thank you for every interaction. Thank you for being you.

Donika