

RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS



Principal's Korero

Raeleen Harré - M.Ed (Hons)

Tena Koutou te whanau o Te Kura o Ruawai Greetings to the families of Ruawai College



Upcoming Dates

13 April End of Term 1

1 May Start of Term 2

11 MayYear 10 Diploma Reports Issued

22 May – 23 May Project Possum

24 May Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

26 May Ruawai College X Country

29 May – 1 June Level 2 Geography Tongariro Fieldtrip

2 June Ruawai College School Ball



We recently held our first NCEA awards ceremony. As Aristotle said "We are what we repeatedly do, excellence then is not an act, but a habit." We acknowledged a number of students who have done exceptionally well attaining NCEA subject endorsements and NCEA certificate endorsements with either Merit or Excellence. One of the guiding

principles of our charter is around 'high expectations' – and it was important to recognise their academic excellence – their academic success. Educational success requires a partnership between the students, their whanau, the school and the work of the collective was evident at our celebration. Please find the names of those acknowledged in our Curriculum section of this newsletter.

Safe School

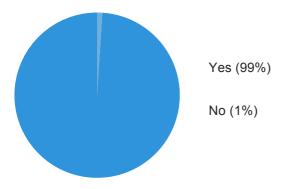
This term I presented a power point at a school assembly around Ruawai College being a Safe School. The most important messages from the presentation were to respect yourself, others and your school. Show resilience, stand up and speak up and responsibility always starts with "I".

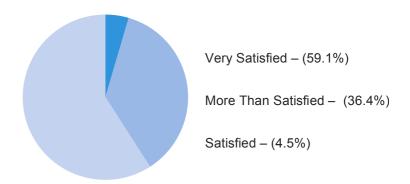
Their personal safety at school means being free from things such as bullying, racism, verbal abuse and name calling, homophobic bullying, intimidation and threats, sexual harassment, property loss or damage and texting and cyber bullying. I also spoke about safe places around the school for students such as the Guidance Centre, Deans' Office, Senior Leadership area, the Student Centre, Library, Staffroom or a teacher's classroom.

There are also numerous people within the school students can approach such as senior students they trust like a Peer Support Leader, a friend, their LA teacher, the Guidance Counsellor, Deans', Senior Leaders and the office staff.

We also have a number of agencies that support the school in working with our ranagtahi to keep them safe such as: the Public Health Nurse, Dargaville Medical Centre – Doctor, Resource Teacher of Learning & Behaviour (RTLB), Rubicon, Alcohol and Other Drugs Health Services, Dargaville Youth Charitable Trust, Truancy Officers, Ruawai Police and Social Workers in Schools (SWIS).

The safety of our students is paramount so I am pleased to relay to you below the results of our student and whanau survey questions in relation to student safety at our school.





Student survey response to the following question: "Do you feel safe at school?"

Whanau survey response to the following question: "Does the College provide a safe learning environment?"

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CURRICULUM

PB4L Restorative Practice

Last Friday staff were engaged in a Teacher Only Day around Restorative Practice. PB4L Restorative Practice is a relational approach, grounded in beliefs about fairness, dignity,

mana and the potential of all people. It is designed to complement our PB4L School-Wide programme.

t offers school staff best-practice tools and techniques to restore relationships when things do not go to plan. By building and maintaining positive, respectful relationships within a school, staff to staff, staff to student and student to student, issues are more easily managed.

We are very excited about using this model, approach in our school and will continue to receive ongoing professional development in this area as the year progresses.

NCEA Excellence Assembly

On Monday 27th March we held a special assembly for students who gained their 2016 National Certificate of Educational Achievement with either a subject or certificate endorsement. Thank you to whanau and riends who were able to attend this ceremony and nelp celebrate these students' achievements.



2016 NCEA Level 1 students 3ack Row:

- Tamzen Eades Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Stacey Blythen Visual Art endorsed with Merit
- Sophie Blundell Geography and English endorsed with Merit, Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Harriet Spoelstra History endorsed with Merit, Geography, English, Mathematics and Science endorsed with Excellence, Excellence Certificate Endorsement

Front Row:

- Jack Brewster Geography, History and Science endorsed with Merit, English endorsed with Excellence, Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Brooke Henderson Geography and Physical Education endorsed with Merit, Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Aron Peters Visual Art endorsed with Merit, Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Tristan Flavell Physical Education endorsed with

- James Panoho Geography and Physical Education endorsed with Merit, Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Tegan Evans Visual Art endorsed with Merit
- Ashlee Dennis English, Mathematics and Science endorsed with Merit, Physical Education endorsed with Excellence, Merit Certificate Endorsement



2016 NCEA Level 2 students Back Row:

- Zara Marychurch Chemistry and English endorsed with Merit, Visual Art endorsed with Excellence, Excellence Certificate Endorsement
- Bailey O'Sullivan English endorsed with Merit, Physical Education endorsed with Excellence, Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Joel Bickers Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics endorsed with Merit, Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Georgia Beattie Physical Education endorsed with Merit

Front Row:

- Patricia Bristow English endorsed with Merit, Physical Education endorsed with Excellence
- Mabyn Waters Physical Education endorsed with Merit
- Shontelle Wilson Geography endorsed with Merit, Visual Art endorsed with Excellence, Merit Certificate Endorsement
- Emma-Lee Sheppard Geography and English endorsed with Merit, Merit Certificate Endorsement

Senior P-S-T Conferences

Senior Parent-Student-Teacher conferences were held last week, Thursday 6th April. Conferences took place from 1:40pm in the afternoon until 7pm.

Students is Years 11-13, their parents and their respective Learning Advisor's [LA] met to discuss student's progress towards NCEA so far this year.

A key focus of each conference is for the LA to provide feedback on how a student is tracking towards success in each of their NCEA subjects, and to set new academic goals for improvement.

It is expected that by the end of the term, all senior students will have completed a conference with their LA, in readiness to implement their goals in the new term (or sooner)!

- Amanda King, Deputy Principal

CURRICULUM continued...

Polyfest

'The Largest Pacific Dance Festival in the World"

On Thursday 16^{th} March the Year 13 Geography class ventured down to Auckland to attend Polyfest at the Vanukau Sports Bowl. The festival ran from the $15^{th}-18^{th}$ of March and this year marks the festival's 42^{nd} year running.



As part of our course we are looking at the planning behind a significant contemporary event. From a geographic perspective Polyfest fits the criteria well.

We prepared interview questions beforehand as we wanted to understand the perspectives of the different stakeholders. We interviewed a range of people involved in making the event the success that it is, such as store nolders, police, ASB staff, visitors and performers.

Throughout the festival many different cultures were on display – not just Polynesian, but from Asia, Europe and America.

We were able to watch a number of performances from different school groups like Epsom Girls Grammar School on the Maori Stage and Howick College on the Diversity Stage. We also got to experience a wide range of food, crafts and souvenirs.

By visiting the event ourselves we gained a better understanding and this will be of great assistance as we analyse the event and complete our internal assessment tasks.

- Bailey O'Sullivan, Year 13



Careers Roadshow

On Thursday 30th March a group of Year 12 and 13 students attended the Careers Roadshow held at Dargaville High School. Present at the event were numerous universities and other training providers such as School of Tourism, BCITO, Cut Above and the Forces.

This opportunity allowed students to get an insight on what each different training provider had to offer and the different job opportunities that are out there.

- Georgia Beattie, Year 13

Pop-Up Globe

On Monday 27th March I had the pleasure of taking 18 Year 10 students to attend the Pop-Up Globe in Auckland.

The Pop-Up Globe is the world's first temporary working replica of Shakespeare's theatre. This year, the show was set among the picturesque grounds of Ellserlie Racecourse.



We watched a dazzling performance of Othello, which has a combination of love, jealousy and betrayal that brought us face-to-face with the extremes of human behaviour. Scenes full of action, tension, cannons firing and sword fights meant that the students were aesthetically engaged in the show.

- Marsha Finlay, Drama Teacher



Moving On Day

On Tuesday 21st March, Year 13 students attended the Moving On Day held in Dargaville. The students attending are those considering university next year. Throughout the day we attended lectures held by representatives from numerous universities who were there to educate us on the important details of what university entails such as courses, accommodation, scholarship and fees.

The universities represented were Auckland, AUT, Victoria, Waikato, Otago and Massey, along with Northtec and Wintec. As a Year 13 student Moving On was beneficial as it allowed me to gain information from a variety of different universities and I was able to broaden my horizons.

CURRICULUM continued...

Norld of Maths

World of Maths is a unique traveling maths show that provides mathematical, problem solving activities for students.

On Thursday 23rd March, our Year 7 – 10 students participated in a hands-on session. Each session included activities named with intriguing titles such as 'There is a



Mouse in the House', 'King of the Road', 'Which Way Home' and 'Escape'. Students were engaged and worked collaboratively on the activities.

One of the main barriers to finding a solution was not reading the instructions carefully. Students and teachers alike were positively challenged and enjoyed mathematics presented in a different fornat.

- Davena Latto, HoL Mathematics





SPORTS NEWS

Northern Wairoa Sports

Netball and rugby is now underway within our community. Our netball girls have completed all grading games and nave been organised into their grades for the season ahead. There will be no netball until Saturday 6th May. All netball fees are due on this date.

Northern Wairoa Netball Preliminary Round Seedings for Ruawai College teams

Premier Reserve Grade:

5) Ruawai Senior A

B Grade:

- 1) Ruawai Senior B
- 5) Ruawai Senior C

The rugby boys started their games last week and will be playing this Thursday due to Easter. Please find the draw pelow:

Northern Wairoa Rugby Draw, Thursday 13th April

5:30pm - Under 11's vs. Selwyn Park, Field 3

3:30pm – Under 13's vs. Kaihu, Field 1

Senior Basketball and Football

This year we have both a senior boys and girls basketball team that will be competing in the weekly Te Tai Tokerau Secondary Schools Basketball Competition held in Whangarei.

The season commences in Week 2, Term 2.

Senior boys and girls football commences Week 5, Term 2 and will take place weekly also.

Thank you to parents/caregivers who have offered their time and vehicles to help transport teams to their extracurricular activities, we appreciate your assistance and commitment to our students

Sailing Regionals

On Sunday 26th March I traveled to Algies Bay with six girls from Whangarei Girls High School and another from Bream Bay College as a combined team, the North of the Auckland Harbour Bridge Secondary School Team, to compete at regionals.

We were there for three days, the first day we trained and had a team weigh in, to make sure we did not exceed the weight limit. Over the following two days we had four round robin races. We only won one, but were very close to winning the others.

Since regionals we have been training harder than ever, three days a week to ensure we're ready for Nationals, which will also be held in Algies Bay.

At nationals there are three different fleets, gold, silver and bronze, we will be competing in the bronze fleet. However, both my coach and I believe we can make it into the silver fleet. Nationals will be held over the last week of the school holidays, wish me luck for our round robin races!



- Ina Hornell, Year 13

Ruawai College Netball Dinner

Sunday 23rd April at the Ruawai Community Sports Club. Doors open 5pm, meal served between 6:30pm – 7:30pm. Main meal, \$10.00 booked, \$12.00 on the night. Kids meal, \$5.00. Pudding extra.

To make a booking, please contact Helene Blundell on 027

SPORTS NEWS continued...

National Secondary Schools Waka Ama Competition

The 2017 Te Wananga O Aotearoa National Secondary School Waka Ama competition was held Monday 27^{th} – Friday 31^{st} March at Lake Tikitapu, Rotorua hosting 100 plus schools attending from all over New Zealand.



_anea and I were fortunate enough to be able to compete with the Dargaville High School team (Muddy Waters) this year and I can honestly say it was one of the best experiences. We both trained hard since October last year. As the weeks got closer we trained every Monday, Wednesday and Friday until the competition. It was hard work but it was definitely worth it.

Despite the heavy rain, we came 3rd in our W6 500m with a time of 2:48.88 and 3rd in our W6 250m with a time of 1:12.06. For first timers in the competition, we did really well.



Our semi-finals the next day for our W6 500m was an exciting race, we were coming second to last but we worked hard to gain ground on our turn and came away 3rd. _ater that afternoon we had our W6 250m semi-final where we placed 2nd.

believe we exceeded our coaches expectations and put Muddy Waters on the map!

As we were a composition team with Dargaville High School however, we were unable to progress to the finals and race for a medal.



The end results are as follows:

J19 Girls W6 250m placed 38th out of 125 schools J19 Girls W6 500m placed 61st out of 146 schools

Many thanks to our parents and Lynette Chapman for running us to trainings, to the staff and students of Ruawai College and the community for supporting us with our BBQ fundraiser.

We would also like to give special thanks to our coaches Horoe and Moana Te Tuhi, Assistant Coach Jimmy Lawrence, Regatta Volunteer Carmen Lawrence and Teacher in Charge Jess McPherson for taking time away from their families to support us.

- Kaia Chapman, Year 11

South Zone Swimming Junior Results

Jayda Marychurch

3rd Place 11 Year Old Girls Backstroke

Taimania Bristow

1st Place 11 Year Old Girls Breaststroke

3rd Place 11 Year Old Girls Open Butterfly

Waimaria Thompson

1st Place 11 Year Old Girls Freestyle

3rd Place 11 Year Old Girls Breaststroke

Tahlia Johnson

1st Place 11 Year Old Girls Open Butterfly

2nd Place 11 Year Old Girls Medley

2nd Place 11 Year Old Girls Backstroke

3rd Place 11 Year Old Girls Freestyle

Piper Sterling

1st Place 11 Year Old Girls Backstroke

1st Place 11 Year Old Girls Medley

2nd Place 11 Year Old Girls Freestyle

2nd Place 11 Year Old Girls Open Butterfly

2nd Place 11 Year Old Girls Breaststroke

Laine Hickey

2nd Place 12 Year Old Boys Breaststroke

Hayden Sanford

1st Place 12 Year Old Boys Backstroke

3rd Place 12 Year Old Boys Freestyle

2017 Interhouse Tennis Champions



Years 7 – 8: Brent Hick and Taimania Bristow
Year 9 – 10: Matthew Blundell and Tori Hick
Year 11 – 13: Jack Brewster and Mabyn Waters

SPORTS NEWS continued...

Leadership Through League

On Tuesday 4th April the Year 13 Physical Education class an a league festival as part of our assessment for our Easily Led' unit.

We organised this festival over the entire duration of Term 1 with the guidance of Philip Tana from Rugby League Northland and Ms Smith.

Team managers for the festival were Georgia Beattie, Ina Hornell and Patricia Bristow and our team coaches were Bailey O'Sullivan, Suave Llewell-Huriwaka, Magreta Tapega and myself.



The participating schools were Ruawai Primary School, Maungaturoto Primary School and Selwyn Park Primary School. Thank you to these schools for their participation and enabling us hold this festival.

The day went extremely well despite having to play in the midst of Cyclone Debbie.



Throughout the day we received a lot of positive feedback from the teachers, parents and the children participating. Congratulations to the overall winner of the festival Selwyn Park Primary School, followed closely by Tamariki Titans from Ruawai Primary School.

- Mabyn Waters, Year 13



Head Girl Comment

Hello, my name is Bailey and I am the Head Girl for 2017. I have been given the opportunity to review all of our wonderful events from Term 1.

We've managed to fit a lot

of exciting activities into 11 weeks, which tells me we're going to be in for a lot of fun this year. We started the school year with the highly anticipated Top Form competition, nothing like a bit of friendly competition straight out of the gate! This competition is a great way to welcome new students in a friendly, active manner and this year was no different.

This year we have reintroduced peer support, where senior students are "buddied" up with new students, particularly Year 7's, to ensure they are settling in to College life. This has been working well and it's great to get to know our unior students on a personal level.

We've completed two of our most major sporting events, Swimming Sports and Athletics Day. These days are my avourite as I love to see students supporting their house in crazy, colourful costumes. Congratulations to Rimu House or winning both Swimming Sports and Athletics Day!

Ferm 1 saw the completion of interhouse tennis also, well done to Kauri House for winning this leg of interhouse sporting events.

But it hasn't been all about the sport! The prefect team have been working hard to ensure students have a range of different activities to keep occupied such as the spelling bee and the drawing competition. The introduction of these activities showed the range of talent we have here at Ruawai College.

"Legends of Music", where we raised \$200.00 each for both the LifePod charity and the Returned Services' Association! This means we are only \$217.40 away from our \$2,000.00 goal for the LifePod charity. Way to go Ruawai College! Coming into Term 2, students should expect more games, quizzes and puzzles to participate in and possibly win some cool prizes.

Have a safe, enjoyable holiday break and we'll see you all back Monday 1st May.

- Bailey O'Sullivan, Head Girl

Student Council 2017

Congratulations to the following students who were named members of the Student Council for 2017:

Back Row:

Zac Cooley (Year 11), Bailey O'Sullivan (Year 13), Joel Bickers (Year 13) and Pairama Toka (Year 13) Front Row:

Indiana Panoho (Year 10), Rawinia Le Gros-Waru (Year 12), Monique Wrathall (Year 8), Jahnae Llewell-Huriwaka (Year 9) and Taimania Bristow (Year 7).



STUDENT VOICE continued...

World of Music, Arts and Dance

From the 17th – 19th March this year, I attended the World of Music. Arts and Dance festival in New Plymouth.

had a great opportunity to meet and interview a few of the world performers, including the director of the NZ Dance Company, founder of the Warsaw Village Bank and Future Crunch, a group of three men who spoke about how far numanity has come and how we should approach the ssues the world faces. I was also fortunate enough to write for the Northern Advocate newspaper and managed to get the cover story of the 48 Hours magazine.

· Harriet Spoelstra, Year 12



Harriet interviewing Maciej Szajkowski at the WOMAD media centre. Photo by Aleida Spoelstra.

Year 7 Transition

As the term draws to a close, we have taken this apportunity to check in with a handful of the Year 7 cohort and ask how they are settling in to Ruawai College.

What is your highlight about the first term at Ruawai College? And what have you enjoyed about the move to College?

Aroha: My highlight for the first term of college was making my wooden necklace in woodwork. The thing I enjoyed the nost while I've been at the college was meeting people and making new friends.

Emma: My highlight for the first term was learning to play the djembe rum and making a necklace in woodwork. I also earned some new chords on the ukulele. I have enjoyed my move to Ruawai College because there are a lot of different subjects like drama class.

Jayda: My highlight for the first term of college was making new friends. I enjoyed my move to the college because there are so many different subjects they don't teach at the primary.

Caitlin: It was absolutely terrifying, but when I got here it didn't seem so bad, the only bad thing about it is I'm now a unior again! I was scared of getting lost, which has only nappened once! But it is amazing here learning new things. Felix: My highlight for the first term of college was peer support and the subjects. The first term was cool.

and the teachers. I enjoyed moving from a small school to a bigger school.

Carla: My highlight at Ruawai College has been getting to know the other students. The move to college was pretty scary at first but I'm used to it now and believe the move was good.

Phoenix: My highlight is woodwork and cooking. I thought I wouldn't make any friends at first but I have!

Ayla: At first I was a little bit scared of getting lost with the rotations but once I got used to it, it worked out really well and it's easy to find my way around. I have made lots of friends and I like the subjects on offer, like making necklaces, drumming and ukulele. I have had a super cool term.

Aina: My first term at school was really fun and I enjoyed doing the peer support. I was so nervous, but excited at the same time. I was mostly nervous about getting lost and being late to class. But it's a lot of fun going into classes each period, not staying in the one class like primary school. I got used to moving quickly and I'm excited to see what we are going to do next.



SERVICE

Year 9 Rubbish Collection A main focus of my Year 9 & 10 group is respect and responsibility for our school. We had chosen the gym car

park and garden area to start a 'clean up'. On Wednesday 22^{nd} March the Year 9 ropu and myself picked up rubbish. We managed to collect a bike helmet, a towel, numerous bottles and countless chip packets. With gloves on some even picked up the cigarette butts!

They are a fantastic group of students, I'm not sure how many others would get that excited to pick up rubbish!

- Kimberley Rope, Middle School Dean



CULTURE

Drawing Competition Winners The Arts Prefects held a "Kiwiana" drawing competition Congratulations to Aina, Madison and Aron for winning their age group.



Aina Garcia (Year 7 & 8), Madison Johnson (Year 9 & 10)



COMMUNITY

Board Comment

The Board of Trustees would like to acknowledge the wonderful contribution of Shane Watts to our school over the past 2 years. His early morning fitness programmes and effort put towards our sports teams has been greatly appreciated. We

congratulate him on his appointment at Tikipunga High School.

Annual Reporting

One of the highlights of the year is to sit down with the Heads of Learning/Department Heads and receive feedback on how the year has gone. It is a privilege to hear the passion, vision and commitment of our staff to the learning of the students. Our teachers know their students, they work collaboratively, cross-curricular and very much have a focus on getting students to achieve to their highest potential.

Thank you to the staff for their very informative, useful and constructive reporting on the progress of students at Ruawai College.

Board of Trustees Contact Information

Alex Bickers : abickers@ruawaicollege.school.nz Raeleen Harré : rharre@ruawaicollege.school.nz Anthony Blundell : ablundell@ruawaicollege.school.nz Debbie Blythen : dblythen@ruawaicollege.school.nz Robert Battcher : rbattcher2@ruawaicollege.school.nz Reuben Thompson: rthompson@ruawaicollege.school.nz : aspoelstra@ruawaicollege.school.nz Aleida Spoelstra Jenny Dallison : jdallison@ruawaicollege.school.nz Shontelle Wilson : swilson@ruawaicollege.school.nz

Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule

Tuesday 23 rd May	-	6pm – 8pm
Tuesday 20 th June	-	6pm – 8pm
Tuesday 15 th August	-	6pm – 8pm
Tuesday 19 th September	-	6pm – 8pm
Tuesday 24 th October	-	6pm – 8pm
Tuesday 21 st November	-	6pm – 8pm

Ruawai College PTA

Hi everyone, I just wanted to let you all know that due to popular demand the Ruawai College PTA is making a comeback!

We had an informal meeting a few weeks ago and we've given some direction on what the college needs funds for, these included: Gazebos to provide shelter at summer and winter sports events, a new sign for the front of the school, new number one uniforms for the seniors, replacement of the tennis court fencing and many more things!

We are looking for fundraising opportunities to get involved n, if you have any ideas please get in touch.

Thank you to kind folks who have contacted me already and offered their support, that's awesome!

'll keep you posted on what we're up to via the college acebook page.

Sam Panoho, PTA Coordinator



REMINDERS

Bus and Road Safety Changes 3:00pm - 3:15pm each day is the busiest time for traffic and pedestrians outside our schools. In response to a rising volume of traffic, both vehicle and human, the college has actioned a

change in how bus students and pedestrians manage themselves at this time of day. At 3:00pm, our first 3 buses line up outside the school in the same order each day and students who travel on these buses: Parahi, Okahu, and Te Kowhai make their way directly to their bus.

Students who are travelling on Matakohe and Toka Toka buses wait in a designated area, outside H-Block, with the Bus Duty Teacher.

Any student who needs to cross over the state highway to the parking/pickup area must also wait in the designated area. Once the last buses have parked safely the Bus Duty Teacher brings the remaining students to the bus bay.

Bus students make their way to their respective bus, and all other students are crossed safely by the Bus Duty Teacher. If parents are picking up their child after school, please be aware that there is a wait time of about 5-7 minutes before students are crossed over the road to the parking area.

We respectfully request that any adults at the college at this time also wait and cross with the students, as this reduces the amount of foot traffic crossing the road and allows a better flow of vehicle traffic.

- Amanda King, Deputy Principal

School Pool Keys

It is time to return your pool key as the school pool will be closed at the end of Term 1. Upon return of your key the bond will be returned to you. Thank you all for your care and safe use around the pool and the facilities over the past few months.

It gives me tremendous confidence going forward knowing that our community supported the use of the pool and looked after the resources.

School Donation

While this is not a fee and therefore not compulsory, all families are encouraged to make a donation as it is a critical source of funding.

These funds allow the school to provide additional resources so that we can deliver and maintain our rich, varied and vibrant learning programmes.

The donation for 2017 is \$50.00 for the first child and \$100 for a family of two or more students.

A tax rebate can be claimed for school donations. School donations can be paid either in full or by automatic payment. We understand that every family has different financial circumstances. If you are unable to pay the suggested amount we would appreciate any amount you can afford.

Equally, your donation is not limited to the amount suggested and any additional donation you make is fantastic. We can't emphasise enough the difference that your school donations make to what our school is able to offer.