



RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS



Term 1 Week 2

Thursday 9 February

Upcoming Dates

10 February

RC Swimming Sports

14 February

Year 7 - 8 Vaccination
Information Session

16 February

SZ Swimming Sports

24 February

RC Athletics Day

27 February

Level 3 PE Rugby League

1 March

NSS Swimming Sports

7 March

SZ Athletics

9 March

Rugby 7's Open Boys

10 March

Level 1 PE Surfing Trip
Senior Touch Rugby

14 March

Level 2 History, Bol Trip

16 March

Level 3 Geography, Polyfest
NSS Athletics

17 March

RC School Photos, 9:30am

Principal's Korero

Raeleen Harré – M.Ed (Hons)

*Ka nui te mihi kia koutou. He hari tau hau kia koutou
Greetings and Happy New Year to you all*

Education can be likened to a great big canvas and this year we would like our students to throw as much paint as they can on the canvas of their education.

We have every confidence that our students will throw themselves into their education, that they will make the most of the canvas of opportunity that they are offered and they will paint the goals that they aspire to.

We have no doubt that if they remain motivated in the classroom, then they will achieve their goals. It will be up to all of us – Ruawai College together with you the parents and the students themselves, to make this a reality.

Start of Year Powhiri

He mihi tino nui nga whanau hou o te kura nei – a special greeting to our new families at the College.

It was wonderful to see a huge turn-out of parents and family members of new students at the powhiri on the first day of term, we look forward to working with you. Our new students all looked very smart in their new uniforms – thank you.

We acknowledge Whaea Lynette Chapman, Ngarono Ngata and Kaumataua Maurice Hagger for their awahi of this kaupapa.

Swimming Pool

During the holidays there was a reaction when chemicals were being mixed for the pool. As a result we closed the pool for a short time. I would like to thank you for your patience and understanding while the pool was closed.

Weather permitting, we can look forward to many more days in the school pool. At this stage the pool will remain open to the school community until the end of term.

With the commencement of the school year, the pool is available Monday – Friday from 3:15pm – 7:30pm and during the weekends from 9am – 7:30pm.

Reminders

ERO Visit

The Education Review Office will visit the school in the last week of February. We look forward to receiving feedback about our kura.

Contact Information

It is paramount that Ruawai College has up to date contact information for all students and their families. If you have recently moved house or changed your cellphone number, landline number or email address please contact the school office with your amended details.

Keep in Touch!

Website: <http://www.ruawaicollege.school.nz/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege/?fref=ts>

4375 State Highway 12, Ruawai 0549
Phone: 4392216 Fax: 4392214

Newly Appointed Staff

We welcome the following new staff to the Ruawai College community:



Brenda Polwart
Business Manager



Keanu Marychurch-
Townsend
Geography & English



Sean McDonnell
Head of Learning Art



Sherryn Dammers
Head of Learning
Science



Glenn Sheppard
Groundsperson



Renae Huriwaka
Cleaner



Jack Brewster
Cleaner

Internal Staff Changes

Internal staff changes have seen the following appointments – congratulations to:

- Tyla O'Sullivan – Personal Assistant (PA to the Principal)
- Lynda Von-Lyn – Specialist Classroom Teacher (SCT)
- Jenny Joynt – Head of Learning English

Introducing the Deans'



Introducing the Deans' for 2017, pictured left to right:

Jenny Dallison: Year 11, 12 & 13 (Senior School)

Kimberley Rope: Year 9 & 10 (Middle School)

Shane Watts: Year 7 & 8 (Junior School)

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office to speak with the relevant Dean, let us know how we can help.

Introducing our Senior Prefects



Introducing our Senior Student Leadership Group for 2017:

Back Row, left to right: Suave Llewel-Huriwaka (Deputy Head Boy), Joel Bickers (Head Boy), Bailey O'Sullivan (Head Girl), Zara Marychurch (Deputy Head Girl)

Front Row: Mabyn Waters, Shontelle Wilson and Georgia Beattie

Introducing our House Captains



Introducing our House Captains for 2017, pictured left to right:

Rimu House: Joel Bickers and Fairlane Selwyn

Kauri House: Mabyn Waters and Jack Brewster (*absent*)

Totara House: Ina Hornell and Suave Llewellyn-Huriwaka

Academic Calendar - Term 1

Students started in their timetabled classes on Thursday last week, with most eager to get into their school routines and learning after the summer break.

These first few weeks are a settling in time for all students, old and new, and over the coming weeks Learning Advisors will be making contact with the whanau of each of their students (via email/phone).

In Week 5 parents will receive an Interim Progress Report briefly indicating how their child has settled into their learning.

In the following week, Week 6, parent interview meetings will be held so that all parents can meet with their child's subject teachers to discuss their progress.

In Week 10 the school will hold P-T-S Conferences (Parent-Student-Teacher) for all senior students, with the purpose of goal setting for the year and their initial tracking towards their NCEA certificates.

NCEA 2016 - Preliminary Results

NCEA preliminary results were published on the NZQA website on Tuesday 17 January.

The school's results show outstanding student achievement across Levels 2 & 3, with Level 1 not quite reaching the high standards that we set for ourselves as a school.

The Year 13 students had a highly successful year with 84% gaining their Level 3 certificates and 73.7% gaining University Entrance. Of the 19 students who completed the year, 7 students gained their NCEA certificates endorsed at merit/excellence.

Special acknowledgement goes to Rebecca Brewster, Esme Spoelstra and Amanda Riddle who all gained excellence endorsement.

Our Year 12 also had a successful year, with 95.7% gaining their NCEA Level 2.

Of the 22 students participating, 5 students gained their certificates with merit/excellence endorsement.

Congratulations to Zara Marychurch, who achieved her NCEA certificate endorsed with excellence.

In contrast, the Year 11 preliminary results indicate that 50% of the cohort achieved their NCEA Level 1. Fortunately, that percentage will increase to around 70% before the final results are published. This is due to several students completing Gateway courses last week and gaining credits in Health and Safety and First Aid.

Of the Year 11 students who completed the year, 8 students gained their certificates with merit/excellence endorsement.

Harriet Spoelstra was a standout success, through not only achieving her NCEA certificate endorsed with excellence, but also through gaining endorsements across all 5 of her subjects: 4 at excellence and 1 at merit. Well done, Harriet!

All NCEA results are deemed provisional until they are finalised in early April. Students can access their 2016 results and Record of Achievement through their Learner Login on the NZQA website <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz>.

Term Dates 2017

Term One	Tuesday 31 st February	Tuesday 13 th April
Term Two	Monday 1 st May	Friday 7 th July
Term Three	Monday 24 th July	Friday 29 th September
Term Four	Monday 16 th October	Thursday 7 th December

Community

Kaiwaka Sports Association "Top of the Rock"

Sunday 12th February, Kaiwaka Sports Complex & Pakeho Road, 8:30am.

Choose from scenic walk/run (5 or 10kms) or "The Baldrock Adventure Race", a 10km cross country run and a 15km mountain bike ride. Closing date for entries is Friday 10th February. No entries are accepted on the day.

www.kaiwakasports.co.nz

Parent Teacher Association

One of the questions on the whanau survey was 'Should we re-establish the PTA at Ruawai College'.

75% said yes we should re-establish the PTA and 65% said that they were prepared to go on the PTA. That is very exciting for the school going forward. We acknowledge and know the huge commitment and hard work that goes into being part of the PTA.

Another response back from the survey was the need for two support groups - one focussed on fundraising and the other one as a support/catering/hosting group - these are all wonderful ideas.

We would therefore like to call a meeting for all those interested in forming the PTA at Ruawai College and that group can decide what the make-up of the group will look like at the school. PTA Meeting - Thursday 23rd February, 7pm in the staffroom.

Year 7 - 8 Vaccinations

Year 7 and 8 Vaccinations

The vaccinations offered this year to Northland children in Year 7 are Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (whooping cough). These vaccinations are offered in one injection with 3 vaccinations in it.

The vaccinations offered this year to both Year 8 girls and boys is the HPV (Human Papillomavirus) immunisations. This vaccination helps to protect them against infection from nine HPV types.

Parents have a choice of having their children vaccinated against either at their General Practitioners or with their Public Health Nurse at school. **These vaccinations are free wherever you choose to go.**

Education sessions will be held at school on Tuesday 14th February, Year 8 discussions will take place at 9am followed by Year 7 discussions at 9:45am. We will discuss why we recommend immunisations and how immunity works. We invite parents and caregivers to come along and we welcome your questions. At the education sessions consent forms will be given out to each child. These need to be returned as soon as possible. Please use a pen and sign either the 'consent agree' section or the 'do not consent/do not agree' section. It is necessary for our programme to have all forms returned.

You can contact me by telephone should you have any other questions or concerns on 021 432 091.

Fran Glamuzina, Public Health Nurse, NDHB

Gateway

The Gateway programme is designed to strengthen pathways for students from school to further education and training or employment by providing them with opportunities to access structured workplace learning. This year, our Gateway programme began on the 26th and 27th of January with a two day Outdoor and Workplace First Aid Course and continued last

week with a Hazard ID and Risk Management Course. Gateway students are expected to complete work booklets before commencing their placements in Term 2 from the 19th – 23rd June. Please contact the school office if you are able to provide a work placement.

Jenny Dallison, Gateway Coordinator



Swimming Sports 2017

Ruawai College Swimming Sports will be held on the school grounds, Friday 10th February, 9am start.

As Swimming Sports is a major highlight in our sporting calendar, we invite all whanau of Ruawai College students to attend this event.

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- All races are timed finals, except 25m freestyle due to nature of close finishes.
- Where a swimmer fails to appear for the finals, the other swimmers will share the House points available. (If there is only one swimmer that person will take the full points).
- Students are expected to enter a minimum of 2 events and a maximum of 5 events.
- Only the swimmers and spectators are allowed at the pool for the duration of the programme. Students who are not participating are expected to attend normal classes and will be allowed out to view the 25m freestyle final and relays.
- Students can only swim in one relay team. They can swim up but not down.

AGE GROUPINGS – 1st JANUARY 2017

Sub Juniors:	Born in 2005, 2006
Juniors:	Born in 2003, 2004
Intermediates:	Born in 2001, 2002
Seniors:	Born in 1998, 1999, 2000

PROGRAMME

75m Medley:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G
25m Freestyle:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G
25m Backstroke:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G
25m Breaststroke:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G
100m Freestyle:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G

Morning Tea – 10:45am – 11:15am

50m Freestyle:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G
50m Backstroke:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G
50m Breaststroke:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G

Lunch – 1:05pm – 1:35pm

25m Freestyle, Finals:	SB/G, IB/G, JB/G, SJB/G
25m Open Butterfly:	Fun event, no points
Interhouse Relay:	Each age group
All Star Relay:	Each age group

Peer Support

We are very pleased to see the return of Peer Support to Ruawai College in 2017. This year we have a wonderful group of Year 13 students who will be Peer Support Leaders to our new Year 7 and 9 students.

Peer Support is a personal development programme for secondary students and led by senior students who are trained to take on leadership roles within the school.

The aim of Peer Support is to:

- raise the self-esteem and confidence of young people as the transition into secondary school;
- help young students develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to interact in positive ways;
- build a network of personal support for young people in our school.

The Year 13s participated in a training camp before the start of school as a result, have developed a sound understanding of the programme.

On Tuesday 31st January the Year 13's welcomed the Year 7s and a number of new Year 9 and 10 students to Ruawai College and they all enjoyed the day working in their Peer Support groups doing a range of activities relating to the topics of 'Getting to know you' and 'Orientation to School'. The day culminated in a BBQ, games in the gym and a swim.

Over the course of Term 1 the Year 13 students will lead Peer Support lessons. Students will meet regularly and focus on a range of topics, all with the purpose of supporting our new junior students so that they may have a happy and successful year.

A big thank you to Mrs Carly Marychurch, Miss Kimberley Rope and Ms Jenny Dallison for all their assistance over the last two weeks.

Catherine Davis, Peer Support Coordinator



Top Form

Hello, and welcome to another year of sport and activities at Ruawai College. This year we were very fortunate to be able to run our 'Top Form' event on the first day of school, enabling our house teams to start becoming a more cohesive group. The challenges students compete in comprised of wet activities, problem solving and fast moving team activities.

All students had an excellent afternoon and it was great to witness House relationships forming. Once everybody was dry and all the points were counted, Rimu House were named victorious. All photos of the event can be found on our school website and Facebook page.

Shane Watts, Director of Sport

