



RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS

Term 1 Week 6
Friday 2 March 2018

Upcoming Dates

6 March, Netball Trials,
Interim Report Parent – Student
– Teacher Interviews

7 March, Interim Report Parent
– Student – Teacher Interviews

8 March, Netball Trials

9 March, Senior Boys and Girls
Touch

13 March, Yr 7 Vision
Screening, Careers 'Moving on
Day'

15 March, NSS Athletics,
LVL 3 Geo trip to Polyfest

16 March, LVL 1 Surf Trip,
SZ Primary School Swimming

20 March, Board of Trustee
Meeting, Crazy Hair Day in
support of Leukaemia and
Blood Cancer

22 March, NCEA Awards
Assembly

23 March, School Photos,
NW Primary School Swimming

27 March, Te Manu Taiko
(careers)

29 March, NPS Swimming

COLLEGE
Ruawai
Respect
Resilience
Responsibility

PRINCIPAL'S KORERO

Raeleen Harré – M.Ed (Hons)

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

**Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi Engari, he toa takitini
Success is not the work of one, but the work of many.**

With that in mind I have set aside time to hear your thoughts about how you think the College is going. I look forward to the opportunity to catch up with you over a 'cuppa' to get your feedback around those things that are happening here at school that you like and want to see us continue with. We also want to know what improvements we can make.

Time will be set aside the week beginning Monday 5 March - Friday 9 March from 9:00 am - 10:40 am. I will also be available on the evening/afternoon of our subject report days Tuesday 6 March 3.30pm - 6pm, and Wednesday 7 March 3.30 pm - 5pm.

Helena will set aside 20-minute appointment times.



Please make appointments with my PA Helena Thompson
Phone 09 439 2216 Email helenathompson@ruawaicollege.school.nz

The Annual Plan for 2018 has a focus on the following areas to raise student achievement - Literacy, Digital Fluency and Teaching as Inquiry. The staff will receive professional development support throughout the year around these three key areas to work towards lifting student engagement and achievement. We look forward to your participation in the learning process with us to grow 21st century learners.

Visitors to School

If you need to contact your child throughout the day, send a message or drop something off, then we ask you to contact or visit the office. All schools are governed by Health & Safety regulations and the expectation that all students, employees and visitors are safe while on the school grounds.



We take our responsibility to keep your child safe seriously, and therefore all visitors need to report to and sign in at the office. In the event of an emergency we also need to ensure we know who is on the grounds and where. We thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Keep in Touch!

Ruawai College website: www.ruawaicollege.school.nz

Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege

Fax: 09 439 22 14

Phone: 09 439 22 16

To inspire students to be lifelong learners, to be respectful, to be resilient, to be responsible citizens

CURRICULUM



English Department: Why read?

A major focus in English is reading books. There is a lot of research into the value of not only reading but also reading books. Reading books is a complex cognitive process. It requires interaction between the reader and the text. This is shaped by our prior cultural and social experiences, our knowledge, our attitudes and our language. Reading needs constant practice and development. When we read a book, we take a journey, requiring us to use both our imagination and our critical analysis to create a world full of unfamiliar people and places.

We now know that the brain is able to be moulded and altered like plastic and the more we use it the more 'intelligent' we become.

The benefits of reading are:

- Mental stimulation
- Stress reduction
- Knowledge
- Vocabulary expansion
- Memory improvement
- Stronger analytical thinking skills
- Improved focus and concentration
- Better writing skills
- Tranquility
- Free entertainment



This year we have lots of new books for class study, as well as a few older favourites.

- Jenny Joynt, Head of English

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Interim Reports and Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews



Interim reports for all students will be issued on Friday, 2 March 2018. The purpose of this report is to give parents/caregivers a brief overview of how well their child has settled into their classes for the year.

Triadic interviews will follow in week 6. Interviews will take place over two days:

Tuesday, 6 March: 3.30pm - 7pm

Wednesday, 7 March: 3.30pm - 5pm

Appointments can be made online. Go to: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz. Appointments are 10 minutes in duration.

Enter the booking code: 75y7b

Follow the instructions.

If you have any problems or need help booking an appointment, please contact the school office.

Catherine Davis, Acting Deputy Principal

Otago Science Teacher Summer Camp

Over the summer break I joined the Science Summer Camp for teachers hosted by Otago University. This was an opportunity for networking and group discussions about planning for internals and classroom practice. The academic staff gave generously of their time to offer a full and interesting program covering a broad range of topics from teaching physics with karate, genetic modification and ocean acidification. A personal highlight was a visit to the Portobello Marine Laboratory of the Marine Science Department. A valuable outcome for Year 11 Science students is that they are participating in an Otago University Citizen Science project about the chemistry of Ruawai Manuka trees that will add to a national data base.

- Sherryn Dammers, Head of Science

Attendance

If students are going to be away for any reason please ring or email the school office. Contact email address admin@ruawaicollege.school.nz

Appointments

If a student has an appointment during the day, please send a written note or contact the school office. Students need to sign out and sign in on their return to school from an appointment. We encourage wherever possible that appointments be made outside of school hours.



NCEA Awards Ceremony



This year's ceremony will take place on Thursday, 22 March in the College Hall 1.45pm - 3pm

The ceremony provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge those students who have worked hard to obtain NCEA Subject Endorsement and NCEA Certificate Endorsements in the 2017 academic year.

Whanau and friends are warmly invited to attend and join with us in celebrating our students' achievements.

Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA)

On Wednesday the 21st of February, the year 12 and 13 students of Ruawai College travelled by bus to the Dargaville Race Course to take part in the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) course. The course was based on "My Life, My Choice". We had six different activities throughout the day; the "I" in drive, Genevieve's Story, Road Choices, Crash Investigators, Hazards and Distraction and Speed and Stopping. We were split into four different groups as Dargaville High School year 12's also attended this course. We were each given a booklet that had each activity inside and a coloured band to identify which groups we were in. At lunch time, we were provided with a sausage sizzle and a bottle of water by the Rapid Relief Team (RRT). I'd like to thank Mr Adrian Humm and Mr Malcolm Joynt for being our supervisors for the day, thank you Millica Llewellyn for being our bus driver and thank you to Ms Dallison for making sure we handed in our permission slips and for doing all the work behind the scenes. We were very privileged to be able to take part in this amazing course.

- Lanea Huriwaka, Year 12



SPORTS NEWS

Northland Basketball



This year six students from Ruawai College have the privilege of representing themselves and our school by competing in a basketball team for Northland. We congratulate the boys and girl who have made the Northland Teams.

Northland U17's

Jahnae Llewellyn-Huriwaka

Northland U19's

Left to right: Jimmy Panoho, Riley Battcher
Alex Rope, Timothy Bickers, Michael Hammon

Northland U23's

Jimmy Panoho



Swimming Sports 2018

Our annual Ruawai College Swimming Sports was held Friday 9th February. It was once again a great success. This was well attended by our students and supported by the community. Even though the weather was not the greatest, our students showed perseverance and resilience throughout the day. School spirit was evident as students proudly showed off their House colours, and chanting for their peers could be heard from the other side of the school. Rimu house took out the competition with a win of 530 points. It is always inspiring to witness the high skill level of our local Dargaville Swimming Club swimmers. A huge thanks to the PTA and all the volunteers who helped out, as this is what helps to make the day successful. Below are the champions:

OUR CHAMPIONS

Sub Junior Boy	Ben Watkins	Intermediate Girl	Abby Blaxland
Sub Junior Girl	Emma Ashford + Kayla Llewellyn-Huriwaka	Intermediate Boy	Hunter Connett
Junior Boy	Jaydon Connett	Senior Girl	Harriet Spoelstra
Junior Girl	Piper Sterling	Senior Boy	Klay Connett

Champions 2018



Back Row left to right: Klay Connett, Harriet Spoelstra, Hunter Connett, Abby Blaxland, Jaydon Connett.
Front row left to right: Piper Sterling, Ben Watkins, Kayla Llewellyn-Huriwaka, Emma Ashford.



Junior Girls 25m Freestyle Finalists



Back Row: Monique Wrathall, Phoebe Wood, Tyla Llewellyn-Huriwaka,
Front Row: Keila Arnott, Piper Sterling, Kaitie Griggs

RECORDS BROKEN

<u>75 Medley</u>		<u>New</u>	<u>Old</u>
SB	Klay Connett	59.21	1.05
IB	Hunter Connett	1.03.78	1.04.00
JB	Jaydon Connett	1.09.65	1.12.45

100m Freestyle

SB	Klay Connett	1.11.31	1.11.97
JB	Jaydon Connett	1.23.53	1.23.97

HOUSE POINTS

TOTARA
423

RIMU
530

KAURI
475

SWIMMING SPORTS PHOTOS 2018





South Zone Swimming 2018

On Monday 19th February, a group of students represented the school at the South Zone Swimming Sports at Rodney College. We had some great results with many of the students placing in the top 3. Ruawai College students swam hard in the relays and once again managed to place. The Nash Shield relay, consisting of 6 swimmers from Junior to Senior swimmers, was an exciting race to watch with Ruawai coming 3rd place. This is one of the best results we have had in this event. A big thanks to the students who were involved and the supporters who travelled to come and watch and encourage.



Freestyle Relay

Junior Girls - 3rd place
Intermediate Girls - 2nd place

Medley Relay

Junior Girls - 2nd place
Junior Boys - 3rd place
Intermediate Girls - 3rd place
Intermediate Boys - 3rd place

100m Freestyle

3rd - Hunter Connett (IB)
3rd - Jahnae Llewellyn-Huriwaka (IG)
2nd - Jaydon Connett (JB)
2nd - Piper Sterling (JG)
2nd - Emma Ashford (SJG)

100m Backstroke (Open)

2nd - Klay Connett (SB)

100m Breaststroke (Open)

3rd - Abby Blaxland (IG)

100m Medley (Open)

2nd - Klay Connett (SB)

50m Breaststroke

2nd - Phoebe Wood (JG)
2nd - Jaydon Connett (JB)
3rd - Tegan Marychurch (IG)

50m Freestyle

2nd - Piper Sterling (JG)
2nd - Toby Marshall (JB)
2nd - Jahnae Llewellyn Huriwaka (IG)

50m Backstroke

2nd - Piper Sterling (JG)
2nd - Jaydon Connett (JB)
3rd - Abby Blaxland (IG)
2nd - Hunter Connett (IB)
2nd - Klay Connett (SB)

25m Fly (Open)

2nd - Hunter Connett (IB)

25m Breaststroke

3rd - Carla Fraser (SJG)
2nd - Phoebe Wood (JG)
1st - Baylin Connett (JB)

25m Freestyle

1st - Justice Creeks-McNiff (SJB)
2nd - Tahlia Johnson (JG)
2nd - Toby Marshall (JB)
3rd - Jahnae Llewellyn-Huriwaka (IG)
1st - Hunter Connett (IB)

25m Backstroke

1st - Justice Creeks-McNiff (SJB)
2nd - Tahlia Johnson (JG)
3rd - Toby Marshall (JB)
3rd - Abby Blaxland (IG)
3rd - Caleb Chapman (IB)

COMMUNITY



Meet and Greet

On Monday, 12 February Ruawai College held our start of the year LA's/Parent Meet and Greet. As the sun was shining and the sausages were sizzling on the BBQ parents, students and teachers mingled. We value any opportunity to meet with parents around their rangatahi. We look forward to hosting this event again next year. Please do let us know if there are any improvements we can make to this event.

Ruawai Fire Brigade Volunteers

A few weeks ago, Jimmy Panoho, former student Ashlee Dennis and I travelled to Auckland to spend a week at a Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) Recruits course. This was the first step towards joining the Fire Brigade as a volunteer. I found that it was a great challenge and I believe that this course taught us multiple skills that will be useful throughout life. Some great skills we learnt include aspects like determination, perseverance and problem solving. I would definitely recommend to anyone that is interested to go to your local fire station and ask if you could be a part of their team to help and support your community.

- Ross Wallace, Year 13



School Donation

At Ruawai College we strive to provide a highly effective, future focused learning environment for all learners. This is made possible with the support of our parents/whanau and wider community through their time and financial support. The school donation allows us to further enhance the quality of learning opportunities provided. It helps support additional educational, cultural, social and sporting opportunities. We would like to say a big thank you to those parents/whanau who have settled the 2017 school donation already. This is much appreciated. The School Donation can be paid at our school office or online.

The 2018 donation is \$50.00 per pupil. If paid before the end of Term 1 this is reduced to \$40.00. For a family of 2 or more students the donation is \$100.00. Please request a receipt if required for tax purposes. Thank you once again for working in partnership with Ruawai College to provide the best opportunities for your children.



Message from the PTA

On behalf of the PTA we would like to send a massive thanks to the College Community for supporting both the Swimming Sports and Athletics Day BBQ's.

To the bakers who donated their delicious food to both events (pancake lady was a hit!) and the volunteers that gave their time, your efforts enabled us to raise \$802.60! Thank you so much, that's awesome!

It's really cool we have so many parents willing to support the PTA and the College in this way.

If you have any fundraising ideas or would like to be more involved, please contact me.

Sam Panoho - 0275774159

PTA Co-Ordinator

Cheers Sam Panoho

Board of Trustee Meeting Dates

Tuesday 20 February	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday 20 March	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday 22 May	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday 19 June	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday 21 August	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday 18 September	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday 6 November	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday 4 December	6:00pm - 8:00pm

Sun Smart

We promote the protection of staff and students from the harmful effects of the sun.



Sunscreen is on hand from the student centre and there is considerable shade for our students to shelter under on those extremely hot days. We have available for sale a plain blue bucket hat as part of the school uniform priced at \$8.00 from the school office.



From the Board of Trustees:

We had our first board meeting for 2018 last week and I really enjoyed it.

Each year, every school is required to submit to the Ministry of Education by the 1st of March a copy of their Annual Report. This report outlines the school's specific targets and strategies for the year. One of our key goals for Ruawai College in 2018 is that our students will improve their literacy levels, specifically in writing. There are a number of school wide initiatives that will be implemented, but I can't miss this

opportunity to make a plug for encouraging our students to read at home. I know that this is becoming increasingly difficult as their devices continue to compete for their (and our) constant attention. At-home reading really does pay dividends, so don't give up. Ruawai College has an excellent library; encourage your whanau to make the most of it.

We confirmed our financial budget for 2018, and as I mentioned in my prize-giving speech last year, there isn't much wriggle room. The great news is that because of the roll growth this year, we are very confident that our income will be higher than the current allocation. This will give us a bit more room to move, but we need to be patient for a little longer until this is confirmed.

2018 is shaping up to be a great year in the life of Ruawai College. Please feel free to attend our board meetings, the dates of which are also available on our website/facebook.

- Alex Bickers

Board Members 2018

Alex Bickers:	abickers@ruawaicollege.school.nz
Anthony Blundell	ablundell@ruawaicollege.school.nz
Raeleen Harre:	rharre@ruawaicollege.school.nz
Aleida Spoelstra:	aspoelstra@ruawaicollege.school.nz
Debbie Blythen:	dblythen@ruawaicollege.school.nz
Rob Battcher:	rbattcher2@ruawaicollege.school.nz
Jenny Dallison:	jennyd@ruawaicollege.school.nz
Tristian Flavell:	tflavell@ruawaicollege.school.nz

Notice

Youth Alpha Night

Explore Life's Biggest Questions

Youth Alpha is running every Friday night at 7:30pm at the Ruawai Community Church and it's all about exploring life, faith and meaning.

We will have food, games and lots of good times.

Come along for some fun, friends and facts!

From year 7-13, all welcome, bring a friend!

For more info please feel free to contact us
Jenna Fraser 0210730719
Kassidy Kinvig 0211675768

STUDENT VOICE



OUR HEAD BOY AND GIRL

Hello, my name is Jack Brewster. I have been a student at Ruawai College since Year 7 and have the privilege of being a 2018 head prefect along with Sophie Blundell. It has been a great start to the year with fun events and activities like Top Form, Swimming Sports and the Peer Support programme which highlight our school's spirit and leadership. Now that school is into a routine, I look forward to overcoming the challenges ahead and am excited to be taking on the role of Head Boy in 2018 with the support of the staff, prefect team and Head Girl Sophie Blundell.

Hello, my name is Sophie Blundell, and after attending Ruawai College for the past 6 years I am honoured to be given the role of Head Girl for 2018. Even though the year has only just started, I have really enjoyed the role of Head Girl so far and I am very excited and looking forward to the busy and fun year ahead. This role is known for being quite challenging, but with the support of Jack and guidance from the staff, I am sure we will overcome any challenges we come across and will work very well together throughout the year.

As head prefects one of our short-term goals is to support new students to the college throughout the first term and we do this through the Peer Support programme.

Through this programme the year 13's participating will gain vital leadership skills and it establishes familiarity between the younger and older students. We have spent a total of 4 sessions so far with the new students and have enjoyed getting to know them as well as showing them around the school and participating in fun activities. Another of our short-term goals is to plan for the year ahead to ensure that events and activities that include the students of Ruawai College and the wider community run smoothly. We hope to fulfill our roles as leaders and help students in everyday school life.

In the long term as head prefects, one of our goals is to be model students through our core school values, the three R's; Respect, Responsibility, and Resilience. We hope to talk more about PB4L and use it in and out of class to create more of a positive environment, as well as helping students make the right behavioural choices. Another long-term goal of ours is with the help of the other prefects organize events that will positively impact the school as well as raising awareness and funds for charitable organizations. Lastly we wish to leave a positive impact on the school that will assist present and future students in many aspects. This is important to us as we strive to have and make an effective and positive impact on Ruawai College during our time as head prefects.

Thank you and if you have questions about anything please don't hesitate to approach us and ask.

- Sophie Blundell and Jack Brewster (Head Prefects 2018)



The Green Poem

Towns of moss crumble and crunch,
Under the weight of cruel gravity.

Glossy green leaves float delicately,
Onto the twitching grass pushed by the breeze.

Decaying wood spreads across the dry dirt,
Adding to the collection of grass.

Vibrant blue lady bugs,
Flutter above the low flying birds.

Sun sprays over the now quiet school,
While cicadas sing their song of life.

Enormous flax sways,
While wind floats through its broken pieces.

Long, thick branches scatter the ground,
As sun breaks through the holes.

- Caitlin King

Caitie is Famous!

One of our very own students has been recognized in the well-known Upstart Magazine. Caitlin King's "The Green Poem" was published in the February/March 2018 issue. We congratulate Caitlin on this awesome achievement and hope to see more work from students in national magazines like Upstart.





Harriet Spoelstra at OUASSA

A few weeks ago, I went down to Dunedin for a week to attend a science camp called OUASSA at Otago University. I will go back again in the middle of the year for another week. There were just under 70 Year 13 students from all over New Zealand attending. It was a great opportunity to meet new people and to experience what it may be like studying science at a tertiary level. We had to choose two major subjects to learn about throughout the week.

My first subject was marine science in which we conducted experiments on different marine species that we had collected ourselves from the beach or from dredging the seafloor when we went out into the harbour on the small uni research vessel. These experiments included investigating the internal biological clock of different shellfish and looking at the number of parasites that had infected cockle shellfish. I especially liked looking at species under the microscope and dissecting a large cancer crab.

My other major subject was genetics. In this subject, we genetically modified E. Coli bacteria so that they became resistant to two different types of antibiotics. We also had a pretend murder mystery and we had to test people's DNA to find the identity of the murderer.

I also chose a short elective, quantum physics, in which we learnt a little about lasers and how they are used to detect gravitational waves and also experimented with liquid nitrogen.

Throughout the week we did many other activities including visiting the Otago museum and going on a wildlife cruise. Every morning we had a seminar on a wide range of topics including: peeking and poking at atoms with laser light; photography for documentaries; physics in karate and philosophy in science. A main topic throughout the week was science communication and every night we had a session about our chosen form of science communication, mine being blogging.

I am thoroughly enjoying OUASSA and I encourage any student who may be thinking even just a little about studying science at university to apply for OUASSA or another camp as it is a great opportunity and can help you make that big decision about your future.

- Harriet Spoelstra, Year 13



ANNUAL GOALS 2018

Literacy

Digital Fluency

Teaching as Inquiry

Ruawai College Athletics 2018

Ruawai College Athletics was held on Friday 23rd February. All students involved participated with great enthusiasm and a competitive nature. A huge thank you to the community who help make this event a huge success.

Congratulations to our champions who are listed below:

Sub Junior Girl
Carla Fraser

Sub Junior Boy
Mokoia Llewell

Junior Girl
Ayla da Silva

Junior Boy
Logan Brindle

Intermediate Girl
Nikki Reeves-Price

Intermediate Boy
Daniel Holt

Senior Girl
Toni-Jean Burrell

Senior Boy
Ross Wallace





RUAWAI COLLEGE

OUR FOCUS 2018

Teaching as Inquiry

Literacy - Boys Writing

Digital Fluency

OUR VALUES

Respect

Resilience

Responsibility

OUR VISION

Our vision at Ruawai College is a focus on learning where we value excellence, we value community and we value service to others.

Seek after learning for the sake of your well-being - Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou

To inspire students to be lifelong learners, to be respectful, to be resilient and to be responsible citizens.