



RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS

Ruawai
COLLEGE
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*

Term 3 Week 7
Wednesday 2 Sept

Upcoming Dates

TEACHER ONLY DAY

**FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER
2020**

**NO SCHOOL FOR ALL
STUDENTS!**

Monday 7 September 2020
Level 1 PE Kai Iwi Lakes Camp

Tuesday 8 September 2020
Level 1 PE Kai Iwi Lakes Camp
Farnet Derived Grade Examination
Community Volleyball Starts

Friday 11 September 2020
Teacher Only Day – no school!

**Monday 14 – Friday 18 September
2020**
NCEA Digital Practice Examinations

**Monday 21 – Tuesday 22 September
2020**
Senior PST Interviews

Thursday 24 September 2020
Spring Sports Day, Tinopai

Friday 25 September 2020
End of Term 3

With the re-emergence of COVID-19 it is important that we remain vigilant and support one another to feel safe as we go about our day to day lives. We remain optimistic and hope you share in this optimism that whatever we are required to do will be worth the effort, and sacrifice, for the long-term health and economic wellbeing of our country.

I also assure you that as a college we are well placed to manage each of the alert levels after our experience from a few months back as we moved from total lockdown of Alert Level 4 and the stages in between to Alert Level 1. We are ready to provide online lessons to ensure teaching and learning can continue for our students as was shown previously.

We have managed to carry out and participate in a number of activities over the first few weeks of Term 3. It has been wonderful to return to some kind of 'normality' and to see the enjoyment our students gain from socialising, competition and involvement with their friends.

We have just finished our Derived Grade Examinations for our NCEA students Years 11 - 13. Students have received feedback as to where 'they are at' and would have received 'academic feed-forward' - next steps.

Subject teachers and LA's will be working with all senior students ensuring they know what credits they have already attained and what they need to do to complete the outstanding work to succeed in the remainder of the year.

These Derived Grade Examinations are important for students preparing for the end of year external component. It is also important should a student be unable to sit their external examinations; these internal marks will generate their final result.

In addition, we will be asking students who need additional support to successfully complete their NCEA this year, to remain at school in the week prior to NCEA starting and following prizegiving.

Further details will be available closer to the date, and all students required to return at this time will receive a letter. I thank all parents and caregivers for their support with this initiative as it does have a significant impact on the successful outcomes for students.

It is my pleasure to welcome Marianne Budd, our new Assistant Principal. Many of you have already met Marianne and thank you for making her feel so welcome to our school community.

- Raeleen Harré, Principal



Daffodil Week 2020

Last week Ruawai College celebrated Daffodil Week.

Students held a bake sale, sausage sizzle, mufti day and decorated the front office to support the annual Cancer Society fundraiser.

As a school Ruawai College raised \$222.20 to donate.

Looking good in yellow!

SCHOOL VALUE FOCUS FOR TERM 3: RESPONSIBILITY

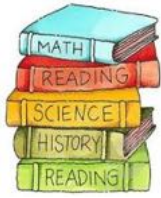
Duty – Accountability – Reliability – Dependable – Obligation

Keep in Touch!

Ruawai College website: www.ruawaicollege.school.nz
Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege

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



CURRICULUM

Maths Week 2020

LA classes were invaded by pirates, pythons and prizes during our Ruawai College Maths Week. The week finished with our annual interhouse Mathex competition. 150 students and teachers

in the Hall with their heads down, having fun solving mathematics problems.

The winning House on the day was Totara House, closely followed by Kauri House then Rimu House.



1st Place:
Totara House



2nd Place:
Kauri House



3rd Place:
Rimu House



I am pleased to report that none of our students are as smart as the one in this poem.

- Davena Latto, Head of Learning Mathematics

Smart – Shel Silverstein (Adapted)

My Dad gave me a two dollar coin

'Cause I'm his smartest child

And I swapped it for two shiny 1 dollars

'Cause two is more than one!

And then I took the two one dollars

And I traded them to Lou

For three fifty cents – I guess he didn't know

That three is more than two!

Just then, along came old Mr Bates without his glasses

And just 'cause he finds it hard to see

He gave me four twenty cents for my three fifties

And four is more than three!

And I took the 20 cents to Hiram Coombs

Down at the Four Square store

And the fool gave me five ten cents for them

And five is more than four!

And I went and showed my Dad

And he got red in the cheeks

And closed his eyes and shook his head –

Too proud of me to speak!

Year 12 Ag Hort Wetland Tree Planting Project

On Thursday 13 August the Year 12 Ag Hort class went to Paparoa to plant native species in the wetlands. On this day alone we planted just over 400 native trees – putaputaweta, carex virgata, flax, kahikatea, manuka, cabbage tree, poroporo, oioi, colensoa physaloides and hibiscus richardsonii.

The purpose of planting these trees was to restore the area to its natural environment and improve the habitat for native birds.

- Sacha Tunnicliffe, Year 12



Year 11 Geography "Fast Foods" Trip

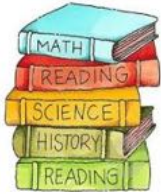
On Thursday 23 July the Year 11 Geography class travelled to North Shore, Auckland to conduct research on the patterns of fast food restaurants.

We visited 10 different sites focusing on McDonald's, Burger King, KFC and Wendy's. We recorded nearby businesses, features, the accessibility of the restaurants and the areas they were in.

We also had a ferry ride across the Waitemata Harbour from Devonport to Auckland City. When in the city we went up the Sky Tower and had a look at the scenery from above.

- Keanu Townsend, Year 11 Geography Teacher





CURRICULUM

Continued...

OPC

In Week 3 of Term 3, 10 Year 12 students ventured down to the Hillary Outdoors Education Centre in Turangi, National Park.

The students experienced many challenging activities which were based around the mountain, river and bush environment – the perfect place for the students to learn the dynamics and benefits of team work, communication, problem solving and developing trust.



Students were given opportunities to explore the environment and learn new skills such as abseiling and caving.

A massive thank you to Scott Wallace who volunteered to come along and support our students during this week long adventure.

- Kay Smith, Head of Learning Physical Education & Health



"My highlight was being involved in activities that you can't do around our local area like the big abseil.

Also to be out of the classroom and doing outside activities"

- Phoebe Wood

"The 50m abseil and the snow slide down the mountain were my highlights"

- Cameron Mitchell

"My highlight was getting to sleep in the snow overnight and the big abseil"

- Klaire Estore



"My highlight was being able to complete the caving and the corkscrew squeeze"

- Joshua King

"My highlight was waking up to the sun rising when we did our overnight on the mountain, as well as doing the big 50m abseil"

- Mikaere Barron

"Caving and abseiling were my highlights of the OPC trip."

- Jesse Wallace



"My OPC highlights was doing the high rope activities, including doing push ups while on the high ropes"

- Jaydon Connett

"My highlight was having the confidence to complete the big abseil. I also enjoyed the caving"

- Callum Ashford

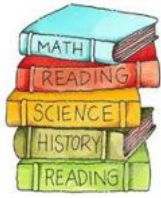
"My highlight was the 50m abseil as this was something I had never attempted before"

- Caleb Chapman

"My OPC highlight was being pushed out of my comfort zone to complete a 50m abseil on the mountain"

- Sacha Tunnicliffe

**TEACHER ONLY DAY
FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2020
NO SCHOOL FOR ALL STUDENTS!**



CURRICULUM

Continued...

Year 7 & 8 Science Fair

In Week 3 of this term, Year 7 & 8 students participated in the Science Fair.

The students put great effort into their projects and demonstrated excellent scientific skills in a range of areas.



Year 7 Highly Commended: Moala Gilmour-Tali & Caleb Rota



Year 7 2nd Place: Marcus Williams & Zach Sterling



Year 7 1st Place: Olivia Partridge & Sapphire Harris

Year 8 Highly Commended: Rikki-Lee Glass (*absent*)



Year 8 2nd Place: Nina Partridge



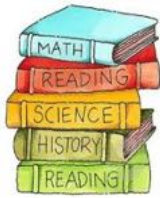
Year 8 1st Place: Tyla Griggs



Overall 1st Place for Effort:
Bronson Wrathall & Braydon Johnson



Overall 1st Place for Science: Imogen Williams



CURRICULUM

Continued...

Arts & Cultural Week 2020

The week of Monday 10 August saw the start of our Arts and Cultural Week here at Ruawai College. Despite unfortunately having to postpone our "Ruawai's Got Talent" show due to COVID-19, we still had a talented group of students sending in their amazing artwork for judging.



There were also a number of wonderful clay creations made at the Visual Art workshop. Many students were also lucky enough to work with the incredibly talented Laughton Kora in the music suite. On Laughton's departure from his visit he sang a wonderful rendition of Kora's popular song "Politician" at the whole school assembly.

Please keep an eye out for the next announcement regarding "Ruawai's Got Talent" as we are still hoping to perform this show in 2020. Until then, keep creating!

- Sean McDonnell, Head of Learning The Arts



Music Mentor in Schools Programme

On Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 August we were fortunate to have musician and actor Laughton Kora conduct workshops here at Ruawai College as part of the Music Mentor in Schools Programme, funded by the New Zealand Music Commission.

Laughton has many years of experience in the music industry as part of the band "Kora", as well as being a graduate of the Drama school Toi Whakaari as a music composer and producer. During the two days he spent with us he worked with music students giving advice on how to pursue their music dreams, working on building confidence in performance and even helping with compositions and recording their songs. Laughton also worked with drama students on their acting skills, giving them confidence with performing their scenes for the upcoming "Ruawai's Got Talent" production.

We are absolutely privileged to have had Laughton at our school and would like to thank the New Zealand Music Commission for enabling this to happen.

- Deborah Steele, Performing Arts Teacher

Here are some of the students thoughts from the workshops with Laughton:

"Laughton came in to talk to us about the Performing Arts industry, how he made his career and how we can do the same if we put our mind to it and set ourselves goals to get there."

- Makana Rawaho, Year 12

"The Performing Arts students were honoured enough to be working with Laughton Kora. Throughout the workshops he provided us with learning around drama, music and many other aspects within the Performing Arts industry."

Having Laughton here was heaps of fun – thank you Laughton!"

- Angel-Lee Rogers, Year 13

"I felt encouraged and inspired by Laughton and I genuinely enjoyed this experience. He answered questions that I had and gave each one of us a chance to speak on our dreams and aspirations."

He also produced an original song that I had written and brought it to life for me."

- Danae Kitiona, Year 10

"During the workshop we were able to watch him produce one of the student's songs which was an interesting process. He told us about the famous people he had met and how a lot of really good artists suck at writing songs."

He also performed at our school assembly which was pretty cool. He gave us tips on our acting and exercises that helped us with projection and controlling our breath."

- Harmony Day, Year 13

"Laughton did an awesome job. He taught us about recording, structuring a song and the business itself, all the while being helpful, kind and comedic."

Overall, we were thoroughly impressed and feel confident in saying that we will be able to make it in the music business."

- The Rubberband

(Aaron Philips – Year 12, Caitlin King – Year 10 and Seth Everumsey – Year 9)

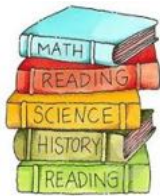
Senior Subject Selection Evening



On Monday 27 July Ruawai College held the Senior Subject Selection evening for Year 10 to Year 12 students and their whanau. Staff had organised various stations for all senior subjects to showcase the types of programmes offered and opportunities available in each

subject area. Approximately 22 families attended this event. We are hopeful that this evening has assisted our students to make a good choice for their classes in the 2021 academic year. The Ruawai College staff thank those who were able to attend.

- Meeta Sandhu, Deputy Principal



CURRICULUM

Continued...

COVID-19 Talk

On Tuesday 18 August Affi Sandhu (Mrs Sandhu's daughter) came into school to discuss with the Year 10 students about her time in London as a doctor and what the quarantine experience was like in New Zealand.

We are currently doing a research assignment in English and we took away so many learnings from Affi.

One thing that really stuck out for us was how the New Zealand Government handled the pandemic and lockdown compared to



England. We really enjoyed her visit and the knowledge she was able to share with us.

Thank you Affi for coming in, we really appreciated it.

- Carla Fraser, Tahlia Johnson and Caitlin King, Year 10



SPORTING NEWS

NSS Senior Girls Basketball

On Wednesday 5 August our Senior Girls Basketball team attended the annual Northland Secondary Schools basketball competition, held in Kaiwaka.

Our competition this year were two Otamatea High School teams and one Rodney College team – all proving to be very strong competitors.

Our team won all but 1 game in the round robin stage which earned us a place in the finals against Otamatea A, the very team we had lost against earlier in the day. The team dug deep to stay in touch during this game. With 2 minutes left on the clock, down 2 points, our girls went on a 3 point shooting spree landing a half-court shot quickly followed by 3 quick 3 pointers, winning the game! The team did great to come away from the event as the NSS Senior Girls Basketball Champions.

It was an awesome day put on by Sport Northland and hopefully the team get a chance to play off against the Far North schools later in the year.

Thank you Bekks, Kayla, Emma, Tyla and Jahnae for their effort and commitment on the day.

- Raymonde Huriwaka, Sports Coordinator



Get to Go Challenge

Tuesday 28 July I had the opportunity to take a great group of students to participate in the Get To Go Hillary Outdoors Challenge in Hikurangi, Whangarei.

This challenge is a form of orienteering including activities such as navigation using coordinators and a compass, stand up paddle boarding and mountain biking.



Our students finished 10th place out of 16 teams, a great effort considering it was the first time our students have participated in this challenge.

The event organisers made special mention about the way our students conducted themselves which is a testament to their great behaviour on the trip.

A huge thank you to Seth, Erhulle, Baylin, Lucas, Carla, Piper, Emma and Tahlia for their efforts and a great day out in Whangarei – I thoroughly enjoyed it!

- Raymonde Huriwaka, Sports Coordinator



NSS Senior Boys Basketball

On Friday 7 August we attended the Northland Secondary Schools Senior Boys Basketball competition in Whangarei.

The team of 7 got off to a great start. Although we had a few newbies in the team that didn't stop the kids from giving it their all and going all out against the teams from surrounding schools.

We didn't manage to come away with any wins over the course of the day but the boys' effort was paramount.

Thank you to Baylin, Hunter, Ehrylle, Rickardo, Luke and Raniera for an amazing day of learning.

- Raymonde Huriwaka, Sports Coordinator



SPORTING NEWS

Continued...

Ruawai Netball Superstars

Congratulations to the Ruawai Senior A netball team who are the Northern Wairoa Netball Centre A Grade Champions for the 2020 season.

The team won their A Grade final on Wednesday 26 August against Southern Mana Tangata, 33 – 22.



Ruawai Junior A also came away with an impressive win against Southern Wahine, 46 – 9 to place 3rd in A Grade. The teams did extremely well throughout the ups and downs of the season due to COVID-19 and it was great for our school to finish the season seeding top of A Grade. Thank you to Ruawai Junior A coach Robyn Aloua, Sports Coordinator Raymonde Huriwaka and all of our parent supporters this season who made netball possible.

- Tyla O'Sullivan, Ruawai Senior A Coach



Quadrangular Tournament

On Monday 27 July Ruawai College competed in a quadrangular tournament with surrounding schools Otamatea High School, Rodney College and Dargaville High School. 36 students along with helpers Tyla O'Sullivan, Renae Huriwaka and myself boarded the bus and headed over to the host school Dargaville High School.

Touch, netball and basketball were the codes we participated in. I want to thank Tyla and Renae for volunteering to help coach and supervise our students. Thank you to our hosts Dargaville High School for the warm welcome, the overall running of the event and the kai provided afterwards and thank you to Otamatea High School and Rodney College for the close competition. Lastly, a big thank you to our students whose effort and behaviour on the day was awesome.

- Raymonde Huriwaka, Sports Coordinator

Interhouse Volleyball Champions

Best All Round Year 7 & 8 Boy Ezra Scott
Best All Round Year 7 & 8 Girl Tyla Griggs
Most Improved Year 7 & 8 Koaria Bristow

Best All Round Year 9 & 10 Boy Baylin Connett
Best All Round Year 9 & 10 Girl Tahlia Johnson
Most Improved Year 9 & 10 Emma Philips & Raniera Parker

Best All Round Senior Boy Jesse Wallace (*pictured*)
Best All Round Senior Girl Klaire Estore (*pictured*)
Most Improved Senior Jordan Lukis



1st Place:
Rimu House



2nd Place:
Totara House



3rd Place:
Kauri House

YEAR 9 CAMP IS GOING AHEAD

AT THIS STAGE YEAR 9 CAMP IS PROCEEDING AS PLANNED

PLEASE CONTINUE TO MAKE PAYMENTS FOR THIS EVENT.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE
STUDENTS PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR DEVICE & CHARGER TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY!



STUDENT VOICE

ASB Matariki Competition – Winner!

Earlier this year ASB Bank ran a competition inviting students to submit either a digital poem, piece of writing or art depicting what Matariki means to them.

Matariki is the Maori name for the cluster of stars known as the Pleiades. Rising in midwinter, within the Maori culture it signifies the start of a new year.

Year 13 student Nakisha Blackburn not only won the Age 16 – 18 Division, but also the overall prize out of over 100 entries nationwide! Congratulations Nakisha!



“In the painting the woman to the right with the moon is the representation of Matariki herself and on the 6 stars to her right are her children. The babies represent the Maori New Year / rebirth / new beginnings as well as the sisters.

The boat down below is shown because before we had compasses and better ways to navigate, the stars were used as guides for travelling the ocean.

Overall Matariki is a time when people typically remember those who have passed on and celebrate new beginnings, so Matariki to me is a reminder of family no longer on earth.”

Junior Chess Winners

Congratulations to the following students who placed in the Junior Chess Competition run in the school library.

- 1st Place:** Caitlin King
- 2nd Place:** Phoenix Gilligan
- 3rd Place:** Seth Eve-Rumsey

Student Trustee – Board of Trustees

Nominations are invited for the election of one Student Trustee on the school’s Board of Trustees.

Year 9 – Year 12 students who were enrolled at Ruawai College prior to Wednesday 19 August 2020 are eligible to nominate and stand as a candidate. Students within this group are able to nominate themselves for this position.

Year 9 – Year 13 students who were enrolled at Ruawai College prior to Wednesday 19 August 2020 are eligible to vote.

Nomination forms are available from the school office. Students are to return their nomination forms to the Returning Officer, Tyla O’Sullivan by **noon, Friday 4 September**.

Election Day is Friday 18 September. Students eligible to vote will be provided with a voting form and will vote in the school Hall.

**RUAWAI COLLEGE SCHOOL BALL
FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER – POSTPONED
due to COVID-19 Alert Level 2**



COMMUNITY

Open Day 2020

Thank you to those prospective students and their whanau who attended our school’s Open Day on Tuesday 4 August.

The day was filled with science experiments, an amazing race, a sausage sizzle and plenty of information for our new students joining us in 2021.

Thank you to the staff involved for your efforts on the day to make our Open Day enjoyable for all!



BoT Chairperson Comment



Tena koutou,
The 3 value drivers at Ruawai College are; **RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT** and **RESILIENCE**.

Well our resilience is certainly being tested in 2020 – with all members of the Aotearoa community having to endure huge disruption in their lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is set to

continue as it becomes more apparent that we will be learning to live with the virus for some time yet.

Martin Luther King should need no introduction. One of my favourite quotes from him is below. This can be applied to countries, communities and individuals.

“The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but where they stand in times of challenge and controversy.”

In my privileged role as Chairperson, it is great to view first-hand the resilience and continuing commitment shown by the wonderful staff at Ruawai College, keeping our students at the forefront of what’s been a very difficult and disrupted year.

Their resilience is a great lead for our students to get through this year and achieve to the best of their ability, ably supported by whanau at home.

Nga mihi.

- Anthony Blundell, BoT Chairperson