



# RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS

**Ruawai**  
COLLEGE  
Respect  
Resilience  
Responsibility

Term 1 Week 8  
Monday 22 March 2021

## Upcoming Dates 1

### Tuesday 23 March

Science Fair Year 7 & 8, School Hall  
Year 9 & 10 Mixed Renegade Hockey,  
Whangarei

### Wednesday 24 March

Year 7 & 8 St John

### Thursday 25 March

Enviroschools Fencing Skills, Whangarei

### Friday 26 March

RYDA Course Year 12 & 13 Health (KS)  
Northern Wairoa Swimming - Dargaville  
Mufti Day Canteen

### Monday 29 March – Thursday 01 April

Year 9 Camp

### Tuesday 30 March

NSS Senior Boys Volleyball  
RC Board Meeting, 6:00pm

### Wednesday 31 March

NSS Senior Girls Volleyball

### Thursday 01 April

Northland Primary Schools Swimming

### Friday 02 – Tuesday 06 April

EASTER WEEKEND

### Thursday 08 April

L1 / L2 PE Leadership Through League  
Festival

### Friday 09 April

L1 PE Tree Climbing

### Saturday 10 April

NSS Clay Bird Shooting

### Monday 12 April

Naumai Marae Visit Yr 7, Break 1 – Break 2

### Thursday 15 April

Enviroschools Project Pest Control  
Assessment, Kaipara  
Polyfest

### Friday 16 April

END OF TERM 1

## PRINCIPAL'S KORERO

Raeleen Harré – M.Ed (Hons)

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

## Cell Phones at School

In an earlier newsletter November 2020, I raised the question of whether we actually need to have cell phones at school or what options we could introduce around their use at school - a ton of research online can be found around this very issue with growing evidence of many schools throughout NZ and overseas taking a stance around banning cell phones at school.

There are a growing multitude of reasons as to why cell phones at school are not a necessity - which is supported by what we are seeing happening here at our school - and why it is time for Ruawai College to take a stance -



- The inappropriate use of the cell phone in and out of the classroom by our students
- That cyber-bullying is a reality.
- That staff are having to spend a huge amount of time away from teaching and learning to deal with the many distractions that phones are having/causing in the classroom.
- That the mental well-being of our students is being affected
- That many of our students lack the social skills to engage in a conversation, socialise with their peers as they are 'glued to their phones.'
- That the ongoing harm caused through social media apps such as facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Whats App, Tik Tok and many others is leading to anxiety and students not wanting to come to school.
- This is an expensive item and if lost or stolen it can be distressing.
- Whanau ringing students during class time which disrupts learning and gives mixed messages around correct phone use kaupapa.

It is timely therefore that we have this conversation and I ask you to engage by clicking on the link to voice your opinion on [Cellphones in school.](#)

For your information, the following already exists -

- If you require a message to be given to your child during the day - ring the office and it will be passed on
- Now that most students have a device for school, the use of the cell phone as a learning aid is therefore not as great.
- A small minority may have the phone already in their bag for the day and use it after school only if they are going elsewhere eg practices, to a friend's house
- The majority of our students come by bus - so they come straight to school and go straight home where they can then be reunited with their phone.

## Tsunami Emergency/Evacuation

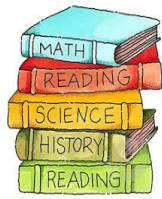
On Friday 5 March we were all ready on the field to start our Athletics day and THEN the siren went off. The quick response of staff, students and the bus company was superb. We were able to get to high ground very quickly and follow our procedures. The kindness of John and Phillipa Dill in offering their home as a place to gather which gave us shade/shelter, the use of toilet facilities and water is very much appreciated. Our wonderful canteen supervisor Jo bought all the goodies she had ready for Athletics including the BBQ and we were able to be fed as well. Thank you whanau for responding so quickly also in picking up your children. As a follow on to that day we are meeting with local civil defence to look at our emergency/evacuation procedures. Photos from that day are on the next page...

## Keep in Touch!

Ruawai College website: [www.ruawaicollege.school.nz](http://www.ruawaicollege.school.nz)  
Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege](http://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 global citizens*



## CURRICULUM

### 2021 English Teaching

**OUR VISION** – is to communicate our stories and understand others stories in order to access the doors to the world of lifelong opportunities and personal growth

**HOL English:** Nadine Moore  
[nmoore@ruawaicollege.school.nz](mailto:nmoore@ruawaicollege.school.nz)  
 currently on maternity leave but still contactable at any time throughout the year.

**HOL Social Sciences / Senior English:**  
 Amanda McMillan  
[amcmillan@ruawaicollege.school.nz](mailto:amcmillan@ruawaicollege.school.nz)

Getting engaged

**Junior English:**  
 Linda Sheehan Year 8, 9 and 10  
[lsheehan@ruawaicollege.school.nz](mailto:lsheehan@ruawaicollege.school.nz)

Spending time with family on Waiheke Island

**Junior English:**  
 Fiona Togia Year 7 and 8  
[ftogia@ruawaicollege.school.nz](mailto:ftogia@ruawaicollege.school.nz)

Taking my son to his first riding lesson

**Holiday Highlights:**  
 17 days camping trip in the Far North



**Special News:** Welcoming our new baby boy Lachlan McLeod Moore into our family  
 Born on the 12-2-21

READING SHOULD NOT BE PRESENTED TO CHILDREN AS A CHORE, OR A DUTY. IT SHOULD BE OFFERED AS A GIFT.  
 - KATE DICAMILLO

[BilingualKidsSpot.com](http://BilingualKidsSpot.com)

**A focus area for the year:** Reading Engagement  
 What that looks like at Ruawai College in Term 1:

**Junior students** will be read to each day in English for 10mins an engaging novel to appreciate the purpose of reading for enjoyment

**Senior students** will be immersed in short stories, poetry and novels around their theme which will lend towards their achievement standards

#### Course Outlines for Term 1

**Year 7:** My identity – Ko Wai Au? Who am I?

**Year 8:** Te Pakari – Being Resilient

**Year 9:** Mahia te wero - Taking on a challenge

**Year 10:** Eti'a ia tatou I te – We need a hero

**Year 11:** Loss and reclaim of NZ's cultural and social identity

**Year 12:** Global responses to war and conflict

**Year 13:** Black Lives Matter – advocating for change



# SPORTING NEWS



## Level 1 PE Surfing Trip

On Friday 26th February, our Level 1 PE class went to Sandy Bay, where we spent the day learning the skills around surfing and recognising the dangers in the water. It was an awesome experience where we were challenged to try and stand up on the boards and ride a wave in. The weather was nice which made the day even more fun and was great to be out of the classroom.

- Level 1 PE Class

## Ruawai College Swimming Sports

Ruawai College held its annual swimming sports on Friday 16th February. There were a number of records broken by students, 11 in total, some dating back to the early 1970's.

It was great to see our students out there participating and challenging themselves to compete in this event. Congratulations to the overall house winner, Totara, Kauri a close second and Rimu in 3rd place. A massive thanks to all supporters, timekeepers and senior students who provided us all with some much needed kai, it is always great to have our community come and support our school events. Congratulations to our champions and for setting such a high standard of swimming for Ruawai College. Once again thanks to all who participated and supported this event.

- Kay1 Smith, Head of Learnings PE & Health



**1st Place:**  
Totara House



**2nd Place:**  
Kauri House



**3rd Place:**  
Rimu House

## New Records

Tamiti Thompson (Sub Junior Boy)

- 75m medley - 1.13.59 set by Z Sterling in 2020 - new time 1.12.25
- 50m breaststroke - 56.43 set by M Watkins 2020 - new time 52.94

Zach Sterling (Junior Boy)

- 75m medley - 1.09.65 set by J Connett 2018 - new time 1.06.12
- 100m Freestyle - 1.19.22 set by B Watkins 2020 - new time 1.15.03

Ben Watkins (Intermediate Boy)

- 75m medley - 1.03.22 set by J Connett in 2020 - new time 1.02.15
- 100m breaststroke- 1.42.19 set by B Littler 1997 - new time 1.35.40
- 50m backstroke - 40.30 set by J Murphy 1976 - new time 39.91
- 25m butterfly - 17.39 set by J Jones 1994 - new time 16.19

Piper Sterling (Intermediate Girl)

- 100m breaststroke - 1.43.94 set by K Stodart 1992 - new time 1.38.18
- 50m backstroke - 39.2 set by S Murphy 1974 - new time 37.51
- 25m butterfly - 18.1 set by C Joseph 1981- new time 16.81

## 2021 Swimming Champions

### Sub Junior Girls

- 1st Koaria Bristow
- 2nd Lauryn Hill Llewellyn
- 3rd Shiloh Hepburn Shaw

### Intermediate Girls

- 1st Piper Sterling
- 2nd Tahlia Johnson
- 3rd Taynah Hardy

### Sub Junior Boys

- 1st Tamiti Thompson
- 2nd Bronson Wrathall
- 3rd Donovan Reeves-Price

### Intermediate Boys

- 1st Ben Watkins
- 2nd Baylin Connett
- 3rd Luke Crichton

### Junior Girls

- 1st Mia Fraser
- 2nd Patricia Heihei
- 3rd Jorja Manners

### Senior Girls

- 1st Jahnae Llewellyn Huriwaka
- 2nd Monique Wrathall
- 3rd Tyla Llewellyn Huriwaka

### Junior Boys

- 1st Zach Sterling
- 2nd Matthew Watkins
- 3rd Brayden Johnson

### Senior Boys

- 1st Toby Marshall
- 2nd Jesse Wallace
- 3rd Cameron Mitchell



## Term 1 Top Form

On Tuesday 23 February we celebrated our first interhouse competition for the 2021 school year - Top Form.

Students compete in their LA classes, all vying to be the best! Congratulations to R1 for being the winning LA. Huge well done to Rimu House who were the winning House of the event, followed by Kauri House then Totara House.

- Kay Smith, Head of Learning PE & Health



**1<sup>st</sup> Place:**  
Rimu House



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:**  
Kauri House



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:**  
Totara House



2021 Term 1 Top Form Photos Continue....



**Kaipara Under 13 Basketball**

Congratulations to Tamati Thompson, Jz Llewellyn and Ezra Scott for making it into the Kaipara under 13 Basketball team.



**Just a friendly reminder...**

**Beehives**

We have beehives on the school property which are located in our agricultural area of the school.

Please ensure that we are aware of those students who are Anaphylactic - have an allergic reaction to bee stings and that they carry with them their medication. Apiculture is a growing industry, and it is already a part of our curriculum here at Ruawai College.

**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.

The SunSmart solution for people in the Kiwi sun:



## Northland Secondary Schools Swimming 2021

On Thursday, February 25 we took a group of swimmers to our annual Northland Secondary Schools Swimming competition. This in my eyes was our most successful results in my time here at Ruawai College. Nearly all of our students placed in every race, some even won their heats.

The atmosphere was amazing as always, the weather was perfect, and it was just the setting as one of our students looked to set himself a new personal best in the 100m Breaststroke - Zach Sterling with a previous time of 1:31.75 shaved nearly 2 seconds off his time at 1:30.21

All our students demonstrated the **Ruawai Way** when representing Ruawai College, and another amazing trip was had by all.

- Raymond Huriwaka, Sports coordinator



## Northland Secondary Schools Track and Field 2021

Thursday March 11 saw a group of selected students participate in our annual Track and Field event in Whangarei. Due to our school athletics being cancelled because of the tsunami evacuation, we sought students who were still keen to give it a go regardless of the outcome leading up to the event.

10 of our students were off. Arriving at Trigg Stadium we were greeted with some very unpleasant weather but Rawiri, Patricia, Carla, Jahnae, Kayla, Piper, Ben, Mokoia, John-Zion and Georgina still gave it their all.

Our best results for the day were.

Ben - 3rd 1500m      Rawiri - 2nd 100, 1st 200m      Jahnae - 4th Long Jump  
Patricia - 1st 200, 2nd 100m      Carla - 2nd Discus

A huge thank you to all these athletes for their resilience on what started off as a very wet day and they pushed through and represented our school.

- Raymond Huriwaka, Sports coordinator



## ART OF THE MONTH



## Bus safety



3:00pm - 3:15pm. In response to the rising volume of traffic, both vehicles and humans, the college has actioned procedures in how bus students and pedestrians manage themselves at this time of the 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 busses: Dargaville, Parahi, Okahu, Te Kowhai make their way directly to their bus. Students who are on the Matakoho, Dargaville 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 and pick up area must also wait in the designated area. Once the last 3 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 the other students are crossed safely by the Bus Duty Teacher.

If parents are picking their child up 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 currently 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.

## Students Bringing a Vehicles to School

Students may drive to school and park in the gym car park, provided they have either a Restricted or Full license.



Before bringing a car to school students must provide a copy of their license and complete a permission slip signed by their parent/caregiver.

It is at the discretion of the Senior Leadership Team whether students have permission to have a vehicle at school.

Students are required to hand their keys in to the office on arrival and must travel alone unless they are permitted to carry passengers.

## Introducing Our 2021 Council Members



### Junior Council:

(Left to Right)

Patience Day, Year 7, Sapphire Harris, Year 8, Markus Williams, Year 8, Brayden Johnson, Year 8

(Absent)

Bekks Coll, Year 9



### Senior Council:

(Left to Right)

Tyla Llewel-Huriwaka Year 12, Rickardo Bradley Year 11, Emma Ashford Year 10, Deijharn Heihei Year 10, Luke Crichton Year 11, Shania Gilmour Year 13



## Prefect Visit to Rodney

On Friday the 12th of March Jesse, Joshua and myself went to Rodney College to have a meeting with all the head and deputy prefects from Dargaville, Otamatea and Rodney colleges.

It was good to see how all the other schools have their leadership teams set up, the portfolios they hold and how they go about them.

- Sacha Tunnicliffe, Head Girl



## STUDENT VOICE

### A reminder of Camp Kaupapa

Year 9 Camp - Monday 29 April to Thursday 1st April will be a mobile phone free camp.

Staff will have phones for emergency purposes and the school office can provide these contacts for any messages that urgently need to go to students. Staff will also be taking photos which can be shared with students after the camp if required.

**Ruawai College Invites you to our first PTA meeting on Wednesday 31st March 2021 at 5.30pm in the staffroom**



Just a friendly reminder...

**Naming Gear:** A lot of uniform and non-uniform items are handed in to the office, some of which is very expensive. Please ensure all items brought or worn to school are named so lost items can be returned to the rightful owner. Please find the link to the [Uniform list](#).

**Contact Information:** Please remember to keep all information up to date. Eg emails, address, contact numbers, emergency contact.

**Permission/Consent forms:** Please get these in promptly the DAY AFTER the notice goes home.

**Attendance:** If students are going to be away for any reason, please contact the school office, either by phone (09 439 2216, 027 268 5313) or via email ([admin@ruawaicollege.school.nz](mailto:admin@ruawaicollege.school.nz)). You can also report an absence via our website under the "Contact" tab.

**School Newsletter:** Please let the school office know if you wish to receive a hard copy. The newsletter is also available to view on our school website and can be picked up at the school office.

**Being on Time to School:** School starts at 8.45 am and WE WALK INTO LEARNING!

## Board Chairperson Comment



Tena Koutou Katoa

The Ruawai College Board had its first meeting of 2021 on Tuesday 23rd February.



As with the protocols of School Boards in Aotearoa, at the first meeting of each year, a Board Chairperson and Deputy Board Chairperson are elected. I was fortunate to be elected as Board Chair for 2021, and Jo Forsyth as Deputy Board Chair. This follows up from 2020, when Jo and I held the same positions.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the entire Ruawai College Board; parent members, along with myself, Jo Forsyth, Aleida Spoelstra and Paul Rawaho; staff member Kimberley Rope-Batcher; student member

Jahnae Lewell-Huriwaka and our Principal Raeleen Harre. The Board is a very dedicated and focused team – that always puts our young people first in its governance and support role at Ruawai College.

Nga mihi  
Anthony Blundell – Board Chair

## Ruawai Primary Visit

Three students from Ruawai Primary were inspired to open their own cake shop through their Learning Through Play programme. It started with them creating 'cakes' in the mud kitchen at the primary and developed into cooking brownies in the 'big kitchen' at Ruawai College. Year 11 Hospitality Class were the tuakana for the day and did a fantastic job. The original Zucchini Brownie recipe was adapted to create three different flavours, zucchini, pumpkin and the primary schools very own school grown apples. It was a fantastic experience for all students and we thoroughly enjoyed having the primary students here to visit.



### Board of Trustee 2021 Meeting Dates

<b>Term 1</b> Tuesday 30 March
<b>Term 2</b> Tuesday 25 May Tuesday 29 June
<b>Term 3</b> Tuesday 24 August Tuesday 28 September
<b>Term 4</b> Tuesday 09 November Tuesday 07 December

## WHERE CAN YOU FIND US?

Updates about our school are posted regularly on the following forums – make sure you check out the following apps / websites to ensure you are in the loop on all things Ruawai College!



Download the Skool Loop App on the Google Play or Apple Store. Select "Ruawai College" as your school of choice to receive update notifications!



[www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege](https://www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege)  
[www.ruawaicollege.school.nz](http://www.ruawaicollege.school.nz)

**Appointments** - If you wish to catch up with a staff member then please get hold of the office to make an appointment. The office will confirm with the staff member or offer an alternative and they or the staff member will get back to you. Thank you for your support.