



**Ruawai**  
COLLEGE  
Respect  
Resilience  
Responsibility

**Term 4 Week 8**  
Friday 9 December 2022

## 2023 Term Dates

### Term 1

Tuesday 31 January 2023 -  
Thursday April 6 2023

### Term 2

Monday 24 April 2023 -  
Friday 30 June 2023

### Term 3

Monday 17 July 2023 -  
Friday 22 September 2023

### Term 4

Monday 9 October 2023 -  
Friday 8 December 2023

# RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS

## PRINCIPAL'S KORERO

Mrs Raeleen Harré

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

We celebrated the conclusion of the academic year with our Junior prize giving. Congratulations not only to the recipients who crossed the stage, but to all the students who worked hard to reach their personal best. We acknowledge the following students who were the dux of their respective year level:

Year 7 - Siulolovao Pua  
Year 8 - Zoey Kirk  
Year 9 - Konrad Philips  
Year 10 - Rangi Raukawa



Thank you to all our whanau, your aroha and support has been wonderful. I also want to thank the Board for their governance, guidance and support, our business community, our teachers, support staff and Senior Leadership Team who all work so hard to serve our community. We are blessed to have so many dedicated and passionate people who spend so much time helping our rangatahi to realise their potential.

I wish you all a peaceful and rejuvenating summer with whanau and friends and a very happy Christmas. Summer vacation certainly gives us all an opportunity to reflect, to recharge and refocus. I do hope that you get the opportunity to do so as family and whanau, enjoying the company of one another, and making memorable experiences from the whanaungatanga that is a central part of the festive season.

We look forward to reuniting with our students in the new year and continuing their learning journey at Ruawai College.

## NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Our new Assistant Principal has been appointed - she is Karen Exely who comes to us from Dargaville High School. During her time there Karen was Head of Physical Education, Head of Maths and was a Dean. She is local and has lived in the area for many years. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her new position. We welcome her into the Ruawai College whanau. One of her main roles is oversight of the Junior school Years 7-10. Karen starts at the beginning of the new school year in 2023.



Deborah Steele



We are pleased to announce the return of Deborah Steele to the school after completing her studies at Bible College. She joins us here at Ruawai college as Head of Learning Arts. It is fantastic to have her back - her work in particular with Performing arts is an absolute asset to us. We are very excited with the work that Deb will be doing with our students and the 'magic' she brings to this aspect of the curriculum.



Karen Exely

## Keep in Touch!

Ruawai College website: [www.ruawaicollege.school.nz](http://www.ruawaicollege.school.nz) - Phone: 09 439 22 16

Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege](http://www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege) - Mobile: 027 268 5313 (for absences)

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



## JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING



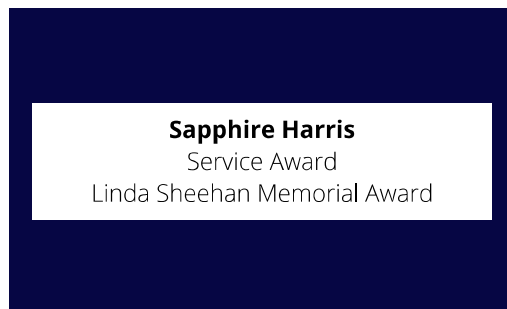
**Siulolovao Pua**  
Year 7 DUX



**Christian Tautari**  
Year 9 & 10 Kumara Award



**Zoey Kirk**  
Service Award  
Year 8 DUX



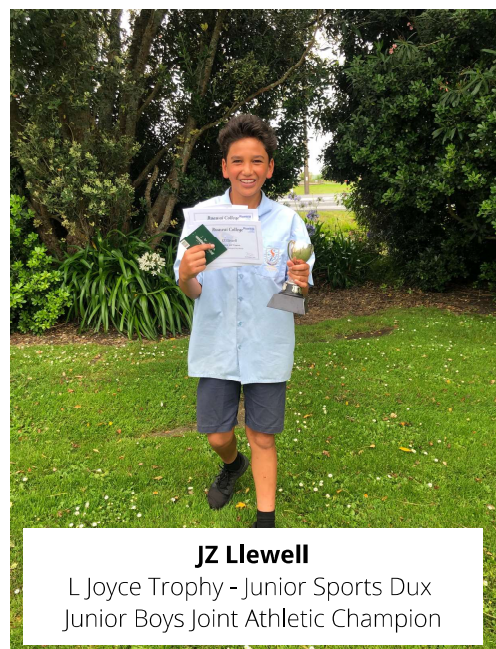
**Sapphire Harris**  
Service Award  
Linda Sheehan Memorial Award



**Natalie Bradley**  
Sub Junior Girls Swimming Champion



**Matthew Watkins**  
Junior Boys Joint Athletic Champion  
Junior Boys Cross Country Champion



**JZ Llewellyn**  
L Joyce Trophy - Junior Sports Dux  
Junior Boys Joint Athletic Champion



**Maxwell Oud**  
KDC Environmental Award  
Service Award



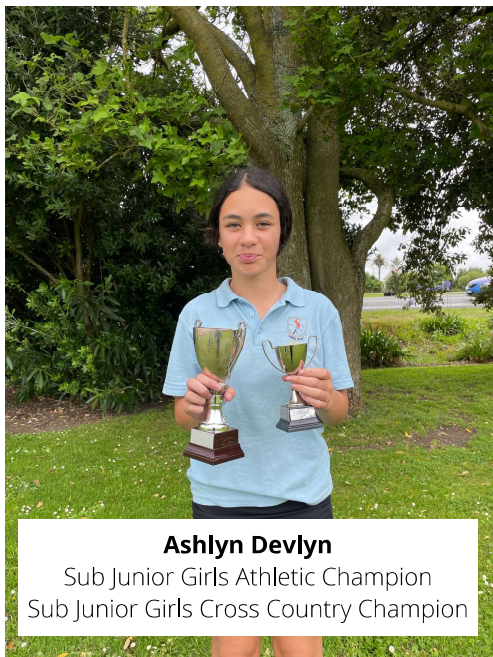
**Benjamin Leao**  
DVS Science Fair Award



**Shiloh Hepburn-Shaw**  
Junior Girls Athletic Champion  
Junior Girls Cross Country Champion



## JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING



**Ashlyn Devlyn**

Sub Junior Girls Athletic Champion  
Sub Junior Girls Cross Country Champion



**Mahuika Hick**

Sub Junior Boys Swimming Champion



**Rayden Gegera**

Year 7 & 8 Kumara Award



**Rangi Raukawa**

Year 10 DUX



**Konrad Philips**

Year 9 DUX



**Zach Sterling**

Junior Boys Swimming Champion



Performance by Seth Eve-Rumsey

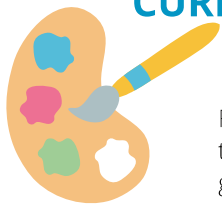


Performance by Avalon-Celeste Jackson



Performance by Pita & Siulolovao Pua





## CURRICULUM

### ART

The Arts Department, Nga Toi, has had quite a varied year in 2022. We have seen the arrival of three new teachers into the learning area who bring with them a range of skills for our Junior and Middle school students. Thanks, Whaea Eva, Mrs. Harrison, and Miss Kaur, for sharing your talents.

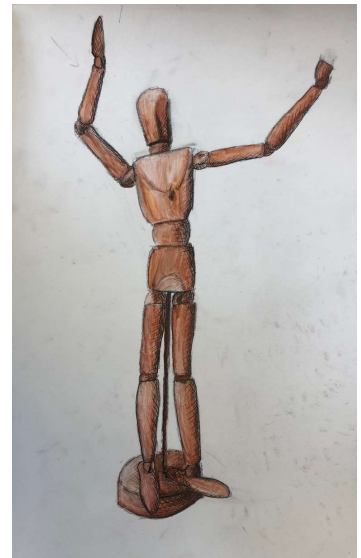
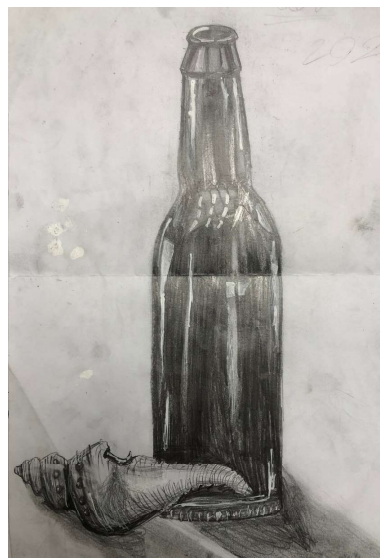
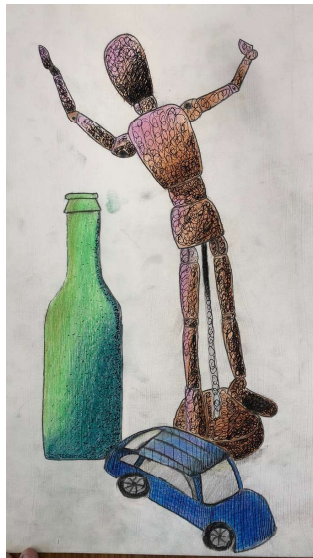
Focuses this year included composition, line work and tonal shading. The students examined famous pieces of art in these areas and then created their own using various techniques and mediums. I must say we certainly have some great talent here at Ruawai College.

Our senior art students utilised online learning for their work and received pleasing results from this.

There are also three amazing murals that are currently going through the completion stages. These murals are a combined effort from Mrs. Harrison, Sade, and some students on our recent Carnival Day held here. We can't wait to share these with the community sometime soon!

Along with the visual art side of things, we have seen growth in kapahaka, with many students getting involved in this kaupapa. The group has managed to send goosebumps up and down many spines with their emotionally charged haka and waiata at our Senior Prizegiving. Thank you very much to Whaea Eva, Gabe, Pikikotuku, Sade, MJ, and Wiremu for supporting our students with this.

- Kimberley Rope-Battcher, HoL Arts & Languages





## JUNIOR EXAMS

In Term 4, Year 7 to Year 10 students have completed Literacy and Numeracy assessments under exam conditions. The literacy tests included an e-asTTle digital reading assessment and a Writing e-asTTle test.

For Numeracy, the Head of Learning Mathematics & Statistics had designed an online assessment. These assessments provide accurate data on the achievement and progress of students in relation to reading, writing, and numeracy. The assessment data provides useful information to establish students' current independent capability, their strengths and areas to focus on.

It further helped specifically to see if a student is working on Advanced/Proficient/Basic curriculum levels for Literacy and Numeracy with respect to the New Zealand Curriculum. These assessments were well received by students as this also helped them to learn about the expectations during NCEA examinations.

- Meeta Sandhu, Deputy Principal



## RUAWAI COLLEGE STUDENT FOR THE DAY

On 23 November, Ruawai College held its College student for the Day. Students from neighbouring schools had the opportunity to come into the College and see how the College runs.

During the day the students were shown the range of different activities and subjects that are available to them at Ruawai College. We had slime making, Aquabots, frog jumping, purerehua and quesadilla making and other engaging activities. A huge thank you to all of the teachers and ambassadors that helped out on the day.

- Kirsty Batters, Junior School Dean





## YEAR 9 RAINBOWS END TRIP

On Friday the second of December, myself, Miss Kirsty Batters and Mr. Peni Leao, had the opportunity to take our year nine students to Rainbows End. This was an end-of-year experience for them as the historic year nine camp looks slightly different for 2022. They are giving back to the community and also are taking part in our Activities Week here at College.

We headed off with some very excited kids in a convoy of our school vans. Luckily for me, in my van, my co-piolet tuned the radio into some old school sounds with the rest of the passengers. Not sure they felt as happy as me? I'm pretty sure I heard Miss Batters singing along though. We got there and were processed at the gates and then it was a flurry of which way do we go?

All of the students had access to every ride in the park so choosing where to begin was their first decision. Off we went in our groups and the kids had an absolute blast. I must say I felt rather sick watching them on the rides but the happiness on their faces and in their screams was well worth it! There were a number of other schools there in the day so the place was packed. The sun came out and our students had a great day. I was very humbled to have a haka performed for me by Danon, Antonio and Zion thanking me for the year of 2022.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the whanau who have entrusted me with the welfare of their students over the past six years. I am stepping down as the Middle School Dean at the end of this year. It wasn't a decision made lightly as I have loved being in the position but it is time for me to follow another pathway in the school. I would like to welcome Ms Kay Smith into the role and I wish her all the very best for her new position.

- Kimberley Rope-Battcher, Middle School Dean



## RUAWAI PRIMARY SCHOOL CALF CLUB

Many of our students took part in the Ruawai Primary School's annual calf club. They spent many hours working with their animals and their hard work paid off. The students then had the opportunity to take part in the Northern Wairoa Central Day where students competed against different schools.

Students not only had to put in the time and effort to raise and care for the animals but had to have a good knowledge of the care and maintenance that is required to raise the animal.

- Kirsty Batters, Junior School Dean



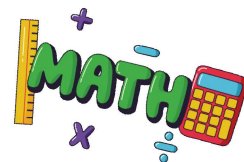




## YEAR 10 NCEA SCIENCE

This year, the Science department is offering a Level 1 NCEA internal assessment to our Year 10 students. The idea is to offer them the opportunity to gain Science credits which will be counted towards their total credits at Year 11. This will not only help ease up the stress associated with trying to achieve all the credits, but also to give them a taste of what is coming at NCEA Level 1. It has been going well so far and they are determined to get it done before the end of the term. Good on ya year 10!

- Peniamia Leao, HoL Science



## YEAR 10 NCEA NUMERACY

This term students in year 10 began their NCEA journey. They have spent time studying for credits in Numeracy and Gateway. Two productive NCEA days were held last Friday and this Monday. This gave those students in attendance time to complete assessments and get a head start on their 2023 work. Not only were credits gained, but also an introduction to the riggers of NCEA. All of the credits gained will be counted towards the students NCEA Level 1 qualification.

- Davena Latto, HoL Mathematics & Statistics



### BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

We are hopeful that more students will have their own devices to be prepared and ready for online learning and accessing their work not only at school but at home as well -

especially when they are absent. We would like to see a greater uptake in the senior school for devices in particular and at Year 10 as they look to embark into NCEA.

### SCHOOL UNIFORM LIST

You can find the school uniform lists on our school website - [www.ruawaicollege.school.nz](http://www.ruawaicollege.school.nz)

"If I cannot do great things,  
I can do small things in a great way"



## NCEA ACCORD DAY

On 25 November, NCEA Accord Day was hosted at Ruawai College to support teacher's planning for NCEA level 1 standards and to gain the latest updates on Literacy and Numeracy standards. The three neighbouring schools Dargaville High School, Otamatea High School, and Rodney College staff joined us at Ruawai College. The subject experts to facilitate the session joined us for this day either in person or through the zoom platform.

Ruawai College staff and student ambassadors demonstrated excellent manaakitanga by welcoming, caring, and supporting the visitors during the day. The feedback from the attendees has been overwhelmingly positive around every aspect of the day. A day like this may become an annual event amongst the four schools for networking the curriculum resources and to compliment and blend the strengths of each other to provide a quality platform of learning for our rangitahi.

- Meeta Sandhu, Deputy Principal







## SPORTS NEWS

### VOLLYFEST BOYS YEAR 9 & 10 WHANGAREI

On Wednesday 9 November a group of boys went over to Whangarei to play in an all boys Volleyball competition - the boys did well winning all of their games only losing to one team

by a point. It was great to see the boys having fun and working as a team - well done to Christian for winning chicken nuggets and an ice cream for the best head butt and spike.

- Helena Thompson, Sports Coordinator



### VOLLYFEST GIRLS YEAR 9 & 10 WHANGAREI

On Tuesday 8 November, Helena and Paddy took a group of girls over to Whangarei to compete in an all girls Volleyball tournament. The students did well and it was a fun trip, I enjoyed seeing the girls encouraging each other.

- Helena Thompson, Sports Coordinator



### FAST 5 NETBALL YEARS 7,8,9 & 10 WHANGAREI

On Tuesday 23 November Kay, Sade, Emma and Helena took 21 students over to Whangarei to play in a Fast Five Netball competition. Due to the weather we moved the games into the stadium. We went from 10 outdoor courts to 3 indoor courts, I bet you can imagine how that went.

The students played great and it was a fun day for all of us. I am so proud to take our students places as they are respectful and so well behaved.

- Helena Thompson, Sports Coordinator



## Ruawai College Value

Resilience, Manawaroa

Try, try and try again

Make wise choices

Embrace challenges and opportunities



## BADMINTON FEST YEAR 7 & 8 WHANGAREI

On Thursday 10 November, Ms Smith and Helena took a group of Year 7 & 8 Boys and Girls over to the Whangarei Badminton centre to play badminton. I was so proud of our students. They all played well - winning the majority of their matches and it was great to see them have lots of fun.

- Helena Thompson, Sports Coordinator



## MIXED TOUCH YEAR 7 & 8 KAIKOHE

On Friday 18th November Piki and I took a team of boys and girls up to Kaikohe to play touch. When we arrived the weather was terrible but it ended up clearing and being super sunny. The students had fun and played very well.

- Helena Thompson, Sports Coordinator



Please find us on Facebook and on our school website - [www.ruawaicollege.school.nz](http://www.ruawaicollege.school.nz). Also download Skool Loop to stay up to date with latest news and notices that is going on at the college.





## YEAR 7 & 8 BOYS KIWITAG MAUNGATUROTO

On Wednesday 16 November Piki and I took a Kiwi Tag team to Maungaturoto. We had heaps of fun with the boys and they played awesome.

- Helena Thompson, Sports Coordinator





# All our school news in one place!

*Download Skool Loop today*

**Simple free download:** In Google Play & App Store search '**Skool Loop**' and choose our school once installed.





## SPORTS TIMETABLE TERM 1 2023

<b>Fri 10th Feb</b>	Top Form
<b>Week 3</b>	Interhouse Badminton
<b>Fri 24th Feb</b>	School Swimming Sports
<b>Mon 27 Feb</b>	Level 1 Surf Trip
<b>Wed 1st March</b>	1500m Break 2
<b>Fri 3rd March</b>	School Athletics
<b>Tues 7th March</b>	Level 1 Kai Iwi Lakes
<b>Fri 10th March</b>	Senior Mixed Touch
<b>Tues 14th March</b>	Senior Girls Volleyball
<b>Wed 15th March</b>	Netball Trials
<b>Thurs 16th March</b>	Senior Boys Volleyball
<b>Fri 17th March</b>	NSS Athletics Yr 9-13
<b>Wed 22nd March</b>	NSS Swimming
<b>Fri 24th March</b>	Level 1 Tree Climbing
<b>Tues 28th March</b>	Yr 9 & 10 Renegade Hockey
<b>Thurs 30th March</b>	LTL Festival Senior PE
<b>Friday 31st March</b>	Northland Primary School Swimming
<b>Mon 3rd April</b>	Level 1 PE Archery

## PASSPORT TO THE PACIFIC UMU

On Thursday 8 December 2022 as part of Activities Week, an umu was cooked for the entire school. A Samoan umu is an above-ground oven of hot volcanic stones. The stones are heated in a fire before the food is placed on top, wrapped in banana leaves or coconut fronds, or put into half coconuts. More banana leaves cover the top to seal the 'oven'. Food cooked in an umu includes fish and other seafood, along with pork, chicken, lamb, taro, bananas, and other vegetables. Coconut cream is traditionally used instead of oil.

This activity was related to a module of work that some of our Year 9 & 10 students had chosen to do, called "Passport to the Pacific". Our students helped plan this kaupapa, sorted the food, prepared it, and cooked it. The result was a beautiful, scrumptious meal that was thoroughly enjoyed by all staff and students.

We wish to sincerely thank the following families who donated so generously towards providing food and cooking items towards the umu, and for their assistance on the day: Thompson's, Te Kawa-Tawhai's, Jackson's, Gegera's, Wrathall's, Tong's, Leao's, Pua's, Chapman/Langdon's, and a special thank you to Jenny Dallison, Fiona Togia, and Keanu Townsend for their help also.

- Peni Leao, Passport to the Pacific Teacher





## ACTIVITIES WEEK

Our annual activities week took place during the last week of Term 4, Tuesday 6 December 2022 to Thursday 8 December 2022. A number of projects occurred during these few days, including service among the community, mosaics, sports, and crafts.

The Ruawai Lions Club joined us over the three days working alongside our students to assist with the mosaics, which will eventually adorn the planters along the main street in Ruawai.

- Raeleen Harré, Principal





## CULTURAL POU UNVEILING

You will notice that a pou now stands at the front of the College entrance - the unveiling took place on Wednesday 30 November. The top of the pou depicts Hineteiwaiwa, the Māori goddess of motherhood, symbolising the nurturing of tamariki/students and encouraging them to follow their dreams. Hineteiwaiwa is wearing a heru (ornamental comb) in her hair which is the symbol of Ngāti Whātua, the local tribe of our area. She also represents mana wahine, symbolising the strong female Ruawai College staff members who are loyal to the growth of secondary education in the Ruawai township.

The middle of the pou shows a rauru (spiral) which represents the Wairoa River in brown and the Kaipara Harbour in blue. Where these bodies of water meet is where the town of Ruawai is located.

Below the rauru is a male face which portrays Tāne-nui-a-Rangi, the god who travelled to the heavens to retrieve three baskets of knowledge and bring them back to the people on earth: te kete-tuatea (basket of light), te kete-tuauri (basket of darkness) and te kete-arounui (basket of pursuit). He represents striving for success and knowledge.

This pou is dedicated to Mrs Linda Sheehan, an educator who taught at Ruawai College for around 39 years, who sadly passed away in December 2021. We thank staff member Keanu Townsend and our students who worked on this taonga for the College

- Tyla O'Sullivan, Principals P.A.



### BYOD Device

#### Options:

Laptop/Notebook/Tablet (with keyboard and full operating system, 10-15" screen)

Chromebook – (Running Chrome OS)

Tablet – Apple, Android, Microsoft Surface

### Minimum Specifications:

- Wi-Fi capability
- A processing capacity that enables creation and manipulation of text and data
- A 10-inch (diagonal) screen (minimum)
- A keyboard
- Battery 6+ hours
- Lightweight and portable
- Durable





## STUDENT VOICE

### RURAL HEALTH CAREERS VISIT

On 17 November the Rural Health Career team from AUT University came to visit the Year 9 and 10's. They began by introducing themselves and what field of health they are interested in. Once they had finished this we split into groups to do activities which included checking your pulse, checking your reflexes (which I didn't have), doing CPR, completing a speech therapy session, and asthma and heart check where we got to use a stethoscope.

I enjoyed the practical activities as well as learning new things.

- Lexis Martin, Year 9



## START OF 2023 PROGRAMME



### Monday 23 January 2023

School office open all week e.g. enrolments, uniform

### Monday 30 January 2023

Northland Anniversary Day - observed public holiday, school office closed

### Tuesday 31 January 2023

School starts - all school buses running

Peer Support Training - Year 12 prefects & all Year 13s in attendance ONLY

### Wednesday 1 February 2023

Leadership Day - Year 12 & 13 Prefects and Senior (Years 11-13) House Leaders in attendance ONLY

### Thursday 2 February 2023

8.45am: First Day of School for Year 7 students and any new Year 8 & Year 9 students. Year 13s, Prefects and Senior House Leaders to also attend

8.45am: Manuhiri assemble in car park for Powhiri

9:00am: Powhiri

9:30am - 10:15 am: Whanau/new students meet with their LA

10.15am: Morning Tea

10.35am - 3pm: Peer Support

### Friday 3 February 2023

ALL Year Levels In

8.45am: LA Time



## COMMUNITY

### Board Comment

Earlier this year the triennial Board elections were held. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the retiring members for their commitment, effort and loyalty to Ruawai College. Aleida Spoelstra, Kimberley Rope-Battcher and Baylin Connett – thank you!

The new Board – Jo Forsythe, Angela Robinson, Luke Oud, Manmeet Sandhu and Lucas Sadler – have already demonstrated their dedication and passion to continue the very good work that has already been carried out and look to new heights for Ruawai College being the school of choice. The Board is a very dedicated and focused team who always put our young people first.

Mrs Raeleen Harré has held the Principal role at Ruawai College since October 2016. As the leader of the school, Raeleen is continually looking at ways in which we can improve as a school and never steps away from a challenge. Raeleen's commitment and loyalty to our school is very, very much appreciated!

The school has completed a massive amount of property work and asset replacement over the last few years resulting in our classrooms, and the school in general, looking fantastic! Recently of note, the rest of the storage bays went into the classrooms, more television monitors were installed, a new seating/shade area was established and we will see the rest of the painting of our main block finished over the summer holidays.

COVID-19 impacted schooling in many challenging ways, but from all that, the teaching staff responded very effectively - developing new ways to teach and engage with students. Likewise, pupils have learnt to work remotely and to use technology to connect with each other.

We thank the school staff immensely for their daily work and dedication in striving to do their very best for our students and to our community for the way that you have supported our young people on their educational journey. The achievements of our students at all levels, year in and year out, is testament to the quality of the Ruawai College staff and the community.

To all the students of Ruawai College – on behalf of whānau and our entire community – we would like to acknowledge your huge effort and the level of achievement and success attained in what has been a very disruptive and difficult few years.

2023 is shaping up to be another exciting and very busy year ahead for the college. We look forward to having you join us in ensuring Ruawai College remains at the forefront of being a place of educational excellence, of creating opportunities and growing future global leaders.

On behalf of the Board, we trust everyone has a fantastic Christmas and that you all get to spend valuable time with whanau and friends.

Ngā mihi nui,  
Anthony Blundell, Chairperson Ruawai College Board

### Ruawai College Value

**Responsibility, Takohanga**

**Follow instructions**

**Be on time and ready to learn**

**Make it right**

**Follow school tikanga**



### 2023 Board Meeting Dates

6pm | Venue: Board Meeting Room

**Tuesday 21 February 2023**

**Tuesday 28 March 2023**

**Tuesday 30 May 2023**

**Tuesday 27 June 2023**

**Tuesday 22 August 2023**

**Tuesday 19 September 2023**

**Tuesday 7 November 2023**

**Tuesday 5 December 2023**

### Ruawai College Value

**Respect, Whakaute**

**Mahi tahi**

**Use school appropriate language**

**Accept differences**

**Treat people and property well**

**Happy  
Holidays**

**MONDAY 23 JANUARY 2023**

**SCHOOL OFFICE OPEN**

**UNIFORMS, ENROLMENTS  
AND ALL INQUIRIES**