

RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS

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

PRINCIPAL'S KORERO

Raeleen Harré - M,Ed Hons

Term 2 Week 5
Wednesday 16 August

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 17 August Halloween School Social

Friday 18 August Senior Boys Basketball Cup

Monday 21 AugustPrincipal and Prefect Hui
Rodney College

Tuesday 22 August Junior

Girls Netball Year 7 Enviroschools Planting & Stream Study Paparoa

Thursday 24 AugustDaffodil Day Mufti
Senior Boys Kiwitag

Friday 25 AugustBeast Competition
Bay of Islands

Monday 28 August Northland Schools Science Fair

Wednesday 30 August General Knowledge Quiz

Tuesday 5 September Junior Girls Basketball

Wednesday 6 September Ruawai Primary Speech Contest

Rural Health Career

Thursday 7 September Mixed Badminton Open Day Carnival It has been a very busy start to the term - alongside their timetabled academic programmes our students have enjoyed participating in numerous sports events including the Quad tournament with Otamatea, Rodney and Dargaville, Inter House basketball between Kauri, Rimu and Totara houses, a trip to Rotorua by our Year 13's for 4 days, a week at the Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre in Tongariro by the Year 12's, a football in schools programme with the Year 7's & 8's, Maths week culminating in a Mathex quiz for the whole school, students out on courses such as Ag Hort Wai Fencing to name a few of the many activities that our students get involved in. It is great to see them finding that balance around their well being between their academic, physical and social priorities.

The Ruawai College Kaupapa -

Our school values and expectations of respect, resilience and responsibility are regularly reinforced. In doing this we look to create a strong culture for learning and their success in life beyond school. This means being ready for learning at Ruawai College which includes -

1. Building a habit of good attendance. The first step to success is showing up. Attending school regularly helps prepare children for the real world, where it is expected that they turn up to work every day and be on time....taking responsibility.

Does attendance really matter?

1 or 2 days a week may not seem like a lot but...

If your child misses	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years of schooling that's
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years!
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years!
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years!
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years!

- 2. Arriving at school on time Lateness is an issue, especially when it comes to learning because you may miss out on important /essential/relevant information where you find yourself in a position of constantly having to 'catch up'. Another aspect to this is the disruption it causes to others....being respectful.
- 3.Bringing your laptop/chromebook to school charged daily the advantage is its accessibility anywhere/anytime plus it is another strategy in promoting co-operative inquiry based learning and a partnership between home and school......showing resilience.

Thank you Support staff - Following on from the support staff week held recently I wish to acknowledge the importance of the support staff team at Ruawai College. We are so very fortunate to have this amazing team here at the College. Their hard work, invaluable skills and care of our rangatahi is appreciated. They do an incredible job and our students are very lucky to have their support and guidance.

Keep in Touch

Ruawai College Website: www.ruawaicollege.school.nz Phone: 09 439 2216 Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege

Mathematics Curriculum

We often hear the phrase, "Maths is everywhere," but have you ever wondered why maths is so important in your child's education? In this article, we will explore the significance of

mathematics and how it contributes to building strong foundations for academic success.

Mathematics is not just about numbers and calculations; it is a fundamental skill that equips students with problem-solving abilities, critical thinking skills, and logical reasoning. Here are some key reasons why maths is crucial for your child's development:

- 1. Developing Problem-Solving Skills: Mathematics teaches children to approach problems analytically, break them down into smaller steps, and find logical solutions. This skill is not only applicable to mathrelated problems but also to real-life situations where critical thinking is required.
- 2. Enhancing Logical Reasoning: Maths trains students to think logically and make connections between different concepts. This ability to recognize patterns and relationships helps children in various subjects, such as science, computer programming, and even in everyday life.
- 3. Building Analytical Thinking: Maths encourages students to analyze complex information, interpret data, and draw meaningful conclusions. These analytical thinking skills are essential for making informed decisions and understanding the world around us.
- 4. Fostering Perseverance and Resilience: Maths often requires perseverance and resilience to solve challenging problems. The process of tackling complex maths concepts instils a sense of determination and the ability to overcome obstacles, which are essential life skills.
- 5. Preparing for Future Careers: In today's technology-driven world, maths skills are in high demand across various industries. Professions such as engineering, finance, computer science, and even healthcare rely heavily on mathematical concepts. Strong maths skills open up a wide range of career opportunities for your child in the future.
- 6. Strengthening Financial Literacy: Maths plays a crucial role in understanding personal finance, budgeting, and making informed financial decisions. By learning maths, children develop the skills needed to manage money effectively, plan for the future, and avoid financial pitfalls.
- 7. Improving Overall Academic Performance: Proficiency in maths has been linked to improved performance in other subjects, such as science, technology, and even language arts. Maths provides a solid foundation for learning and helps students develop a systematic approach to problem-solving.

As caregivers, there are many ways you can support your child's maths learning journey:

1. Encourage a Positive Attitude: Promote a positive attitude towards maths by emphasising its relevance in everyday life. Avoid negative maths stereotypes and share examples of how maths is used in various professions.

- 2. Make Maths Fun: Engage your child in mathrecognised-related games, puzzles, and real-life problem-solving activities. This approach helps them see maths as an enjoyable and practical skill rather than a daunting subject. Encourage time spent on times tables practice (https://www.timestables.co.nz) and IXL Maths.
- 3. Provide Real-World Applications: Help your child understand how maths is used in everyday situations, such as cooking, shopping, or measuring. This connection between maths and real-life scenarios enhances their understanding and motivation to learn.
- 4. Stay Involved: Regularly communicate with your child's math teacher to understand their progress and areas for improvement. Offer support and resources to reinforce learning at home.

Remember, maths is not just about getting the right answer; it is about developing critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities that will benefit your child throughout their academic journey and beyond. By emphasising the importance of maths and providing support, you are setting your child up for success in school and in life.

- Davena Latto, Head of Learning Mathematics

Celebration Assembly

On the 2nd of August our Celebration assembly was held to celebrate the success of students who have done exceptionally well on the sports field and academically during Term 2 of this year.

The following students received certificates and cups for all round best for basketball in their age group: Ashlee Fraser, Reuben Mclaren, Christian Tautari, Emma Asford, and Mokoia Llewell. Totara house received the overall championship for interhouse Rasketball

Paige Pattison, Rocky White, Harlow Kapa, Emma Ashford were recognised for service to school fo umpiring JMB netball and Zach Sterling was acknowledged for coaching Ruawai Rugby team's under-7 squad.

Students who achieved Merit or Excellence in a Term 2 assessment for Years 7 to year 13 were recognised. It was great to see a good number of students being acknowledged in this category.

- Manmeet Sandhu, Deputy Principal





Social studies Curriculum

Goat Island to Enhance Curriculum Experience

In an effort to enhance their learning experience and gain a deeper understanding of the role marine reserves play within Aotearoa, the Year 12 Social Science class embarked on an exciting field trip to Goat Island.

One of the highlights of the excursion was the opportunity for students to board a glass bottom boat, providing them with an up-close look at the underwater world teeming with marine life. This trip was a powerful learning experience for the students understanding of marine conservation and the interconnectedness of ecosystems.

Bamboo-zle Your Taste Buds at the Bamboo Canteen: A Cultural Delight!

The Bamboo Canteen is a hidden gem in the middle of Warkworth that is definitely worth a visit. As you step into this cozy restaurant, you are immediately transported into a world of cultural decorations, exotic spices, and friendly service.

The Asian-themed decor of the Bamboo Canteen is breathtaking. From the lanterns hanging from the ceiling to the sakura plants, the attention to detail is impressive.

Geography

In the Level 3 Geography course of 2023, students explore various geographical inquiries including event management and the tourism industry. The two main trips the students have been on are Polyfest and Rotorua. Both of the trips are filled with diversity of cultures and traditions. On the trips the students engaged in fieldwork to gather firsthand data on tourist behavior, preferences, and spending patterns. They also observe and analyze how large-scale events are organized and executed.

History

Our Year 13 History students have demonstrated their passion for the subject by choosing to specialize in two captivating areas of study: socio-political historical events and art history topics. The socio-political envision a better future and contribute positively to society. Historians have delved into the intricacies of past societal contexts locally and internationally and the way international issues have consequences for Aotearoa and our national identity; protests; and the shaping of political landscapes.

Year 9 & 10

Currently, this term, students are experiencing an innovative approach to financial and economic education through a partnership with Banqer High. This interactive gaming platform has students learn about money management, economics, and personal finance.

Year 7

Year 7 students embarked on an exciting and enlightening journey of self-discovery and exploration of their place in the world through the Social Science curriculum this year.

This term, our "Kaitiakitanga" unit, will explore the concept of guardianship and their role as caretakers of the environment. Students will learn about the principle of kaitiakitanga, which emphasizes the responsibility to protect and preserve the natural world for future

generations. By partnering up with science to offer a cross-curricular experience, students will engage in various environmental projects and community initiatives, such as tree planting, waste reduction campaigns, and habitat restoration.

Year 8

Throughout the year, our Year 8 Social Science students have embarked on an enriching journey of discovery, focusing on diverse topics that have deepened their understanding of local identity, historical events, and the impact of innovation on our communities and lifestyles.

This term, our Year 8 students will explore the theme of innovation and its profound impact on our communities and lifestyles. Through engaging cross-curricular projects, they may have the opportunity to design innovations and create business plans for their inventive ideas. This hands-on experience empowering our young learners to envision a better future and contribute positively to society.

- Amanda McMillan, Head of Social Scinece









Science Fair

This Year's Science Fair has been good, there was quite a variety of topics chosen by the students for their science fair projects,

ranging from topics related to the environmental sustainability with regards to taking care of our kai moana, to animal welfare, to young people's wellbeing with regards to the effects of smoking and vaping, to Stone Age, and much more - it has been fun to see all who participated in this year's Science Fair put in so much effort and time to prepare their projects.

The 2023 Best Overall Science Fair Project Trophy will be presented at the Junior Prize Giving at the end of the year.

Congratulations to all the participants and especially the winners this year. The Science Fair winners will be given the opportunity to represent Ruawai College in the Central Northland Science and Technology Fair in August this year in Whangarei.

- Peni Leao, Head of Science

Winners			
1st Year 7	Does coke dissolve candy? Tara Wrathall		
2nd Year 7	Which drinks decay teeth the most? Harmony Best		
1st Year 8	Does the time of tide affect how active fish are? Koban Johnson		
2nd Year 8	How can we stop overfishing? Rian Gatehouse		
	Special Awards		
Best Environment and Sustainability Project	A Stinking Problem? Hayley Mannes		
Best Overall Science Project 2023	Does the time of tide affect how active fish are? Korban Johnson		
Judges' Choice	Smoking and Vaping - why are these bad for us? Mahailiaz Sesega		

The Ruawai Way Respect, Whakaute

Mahi tahi
Use school appropriate language
Accept differences
Treat people and property well









Appointments - If you wish to catch up with a staff member then by all means please get hold of the office to make an appointment or email the teacher. 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.

Mobile Phone - A reminder that phones should be left at the office on arrival at school and picked up at the end of the day - we have seen a significant drop in 'social media' harm to our students since we implemented this policy. Thank you for your continued support - especially around mental health.

Uniform - It is a condition of enrolment that wearing the correct school uniform is compulsory. Track pants, hoodies, and coloured shoes are not acceptable. If your child is wearing the incorrect uniform, they must have a signed note from home or an e-mail to their Dean. We acknowledge that there may be times when this occurs, however if there is going to be a delay please work out a timeframe with the school.

Years 7 and 8 - Ms Kirsty Batters kbatters@ruawaicollege.school.nz

Years 9 & 10 - Ms Kay Smith ksmith@ruawaicollege.school.nz

Years 11 to 13 - Ms Jenny Dallison jdallison@ruawaicollege.school.nz

Maths Week

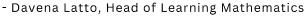
A week of exhilarating exploration and limitless learning has unfolded as we celebrate the muchanticipated "Maths Week". From thrilling challenges to engaging activities, this week has been a celebration of the marvels of mathematics.

Kicking off the week, we welcomed back some beloved favourites that never fail to ignite curiosity and excitement. Students engaged in the age-old contest of creating the longest snakes, flexing their estimation skills by calculating the number of mini Mento's packets required to span the distance from the bus line to the technology department. And who could forget the delightful quest of crafting the longest lolly wrapper?

Student traded their mathematical knowledge for delicious rewards. Prefects eagerly awaited to exchange mathematical facts for mouthwatering moosies and refreshing juices. The range of facts showcased the diversity of mathematical insights, from basic arithmetic truths to the intricacies of geometry. Who knew a circle could have two sides - inside and outside!

Quiet reading sessions took an exciting twist as students embarked on a journey to uncover hidden mathematical treasures within the pages of the story. Even our dedicated staff took a well-deserved break to indulge in camaraderie and relaxation during Friday's Break 1. With delectable chocolate cake as the backdrop, they recharged and bonded over their shared passion for mathematics.

And finally, the grand crescendo of Maths Week arrived with "Interhouse Mathex." Period 5 on Friday witnessed a fierce yet friendly clash between students from different houses, who put their problem-solving skills and mathematical acumen to the ultimate test. The atmosphere buzzed with intellectual fever as teams collaborated, strategized, and tackled complex mathematical puzzles to vie for the prestigious Mathex title.







Rotorua Trip

The much anticipated Year 13 Trip to Rotorua was finally here. Five students and Mrs Steele and made the drive down to Rotorua. Four days were spent visiting tourism sites and activities, taking in all that Rotorua has to offer.

Special highlights were experiencing the thrill of adventure activities; Skyswing, the Luge and Velocity Valley, as well as the cultural tour and experience at Te Puia. Here we were provided with an all you can eat a 3 course buffet, a fantastic traditional kapa haka performance, and the Pohutu Geyser was spectacular! Fun was also had at the Agrodome Farm tour, hand feeding sheep and llamas, who particularly liked Reuben and Piper (though Piper was not a fan). We also enjoyed the experience hosted by Rotorua Education Network, who gave an interesting lecture on the history of the Tourism Development process, which was held in a beautiful 19th Century Tea House. An evening was spent soaking at the famous Polynesian Spa and we enjoyed the lights of the Redwoods Treewalk at night.

Overall, it was a fabulous experience and every student was able to show resilience by pushing themselves to do something that was out of their comfort zone, and at the same time, enjoying it.

- Deborah Steele, Head of Learning Arts





Positive Quote
"A little progress each day adds up to
big results"
Satya Nani

Hillary Outdoors

The year 12 P.E students had the opportunity to visit Hillary Outdoors in Tongariro. We were increasingly challenged as the days progressed, and ventured out of our comfort zones on numerous occasions and participated in group bonding activities which allowed us to get to know each other more.

We faced many challenging activities including caving, high ropes, zip line, kayaking and many more. We followed the Mangatepopo river and explored our native bush, waterfalls, and saw our native blue duck along the journey. A definite highlight was the raro on the snow. Our most challenging day was an overnighter where we hiked for 3 hours through bush covered in snow. We finally arrived at camp to settle in for the cold uncomfortable night ahead. This challenged us mentally and physically. Our quote that got us through the week was to stay motivated and push past our limits. We each grew as leaders ,and had endless opportunities for self growth. If given the opportunity to take part in this trip, snatch it up.

- Taynah Hardy, Perfect

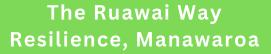












Try,try and try again

Make wise choices

Embrace challenges and opportunities









Tough Guy Tough Gal

This was held on Friday 4 August for the Year 12 & 13 students working towards achieving their practical assessment in PE. It proved to be a challenging course including a 6km mud run with various muddy obstacles and water ponds to contend with. Our students showed complete resilience and an awesome attitude in their participation. A massive congratulations to Ben Watkins who came 1st overall with a time of 27:02.01mins and an invitation to the New Zealand Tough Guy Tough Gal.

- Kay Smith, Head of Learning Health and Physical Education























Quad Tournament

Ruawai College took part in the annual quad tournament competing against Dargaville High School, Otamatea High School and Rodney College. Over 40 students travelled from Ruawai College to Dargaville and competed in 6 different sports - Basketball, Volleyball, Turbo Touch, Netball, Football and Chess. At the end of the day each school completed a WOD (work out of the day) which consisted of a swim, run, deadlifts and burpees. Ruawai College played amazingly, had great sportsmanship and it was an excellent way to connect with the surrounding schools.

- Helena Thompson

























lance - 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). You can also report an absence via our website under the "Contact" tab.

The Ruawai Way Responsibility, Takohanga

Follow instructions Be on time and ready to learn Make it right Follow school tikanga

TERM 3 SPORTS CALENDAR

Term 3	Inter House Volleyball	
Friday 18 August	Senior Boys Basketball Cup	
Tuesday 22 August	Junior Netball	
Thursday 24 August	Senior Boys Kiwi Tag	
Friday 25 August	Bay of Island SS Beast	
Tuesday 5 September	Junior Girls Basketball	
Thursday 7 September	Boys and Girls Badminton 9 - 13	
Tuesday 12 September	Year 9 & 10 Basketball	
Friday 15 September	Ki o Rahi Year 7 - 13	
Thursday 21 September	Winter Sports	



17 August 2023, 7:00pm to 9:00pm

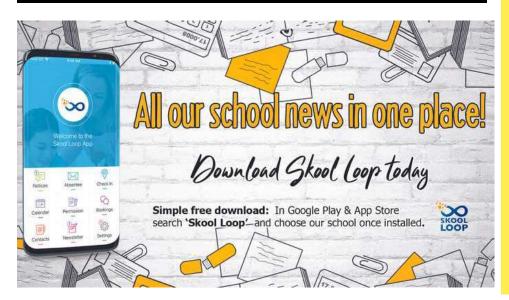
\$2.00 entry in costume \$4.00 entry out of costume

Drinks and lollies for sale - cash only.

Students must remain inside the school hall at all times for the duration of the social.

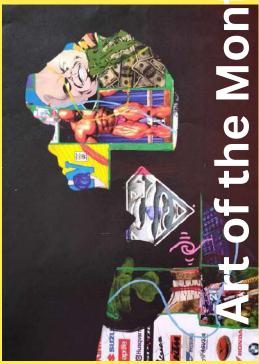
Doors will close by 7:15 pm and will open again at 9:00 pm.

Please be prompt in collecting students at 9:00 pm.









Meet our Student Council Members



Siulolovao Pua - Year 8

I am Siu and I am on the school council. We've recently been meeting with Northland. Sport The meetings have been intriguing and interesting. We have many exciting plans, but I don't want to spoil them for you. Everyone has been very enthusiastic and fantastic

to work with. Overall, it has been an amazing experience.

Kondrad Philips - Year 10

I have found it really interesting being in the student council. One of the new things we are doing is running activities during break 2 on a Tuesday and I am really enjoying doing this so far. Some of the things I am wanting to do next year is to encourage more students to come up with a



wide range of activities that include sport and non-sporty kids. I am really excited about the changes we have done so far and what is to come in the student council next year.



Sapphire Harris - Year 10

Being a part of the Student Council has been a pretty cool experience so far. It is nice that we have quite a relaxed meeting style as that helps all of us feel more comfortable to share and come up with ideas to help improve the school. It is nice that this year the Senior and Junior council

have collaborated together.

Malachi Meho-Poutai - Year 12

The Student Council this year is made up of the Junior, Middle and Senior school this year. It has been really cool getting to know the Junior school ideas as they are so different from the Seniors as we have different priorities than them. We have worked really well together so far with



coming up with activities to do during breaks. We meet quite regularly to talk about upcoming events. The meetings are relaxed which helps the younger students feel a bit more at ease when it comes to sharing with us. I quite like it like that as they feel safe and know they can come up to us whenever they feel like it.



Student appointments during the school day - It is vital that if students leave the school grounds, they must sign out at the Office. If students have medical or other appointments during the day, please can parents or caregivers phone in advance and let us know; you can always leave a message on the after hours answering service. On their return to school, they should go to the Office and sign back in.

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

School Newsletter - The newsletter is available to view on our school website, Skool Loop App and can be picked up at the school office.

If you have a concern about your child's language development, learning progress, social and emotional wellbeing, or behaviour, Te Manawa Tahi have specialists available so you can discuss your concerns directly with them.

This is a free service and each site will be identified by a Te Manawa Tahi sign or flag. Drop into a hub o make an appointment by phoning 0800 524 842 or emailing TT Support@education.govt.nz



Board Comment

As you are aware, Mrs Raeleen Harré is resigning from her position as Principal of Ruawai College at the end of the 2023 school year. Raeleen has made the decision to return home to the Counties Manukau area to be closer to her whānau after a tremendous 7 years in the Principal role.

Since Raeleen joined Ruawai College she has continuously pursued excellence for our students. Her passion for the school ensures our college is a place where students receive the best education and are awarded opportunities parallel to those of larger institutions. A strong leadership style paired with empathy and a tenacious work ethic has seen Raeleen continue to look for ways in which we can improve as a school. Never shying away from hard work or 'tough' questions, she has championed effective change within Ruawai College's culture - an important component of continued learning.

The board appreciates the commitment, effort, love, and care Raeleen has put into this school during her time here. We acknowledge her drive for student success and recognise the positive impact she has made within our school community. While we are sad to see Raeleen go, she goes with the school's blessing and heartfelt gratitude.

Student Board Elections

The time has come for the annual student board member elections. Nominations for students in Years 9 to 12 opens on Wednesday 23 August 2023. Please see Miss O'Sullivan in the office for nomination forms. The new board with an elected student board member will take office on Thursday 21 September 2023.

School Policies

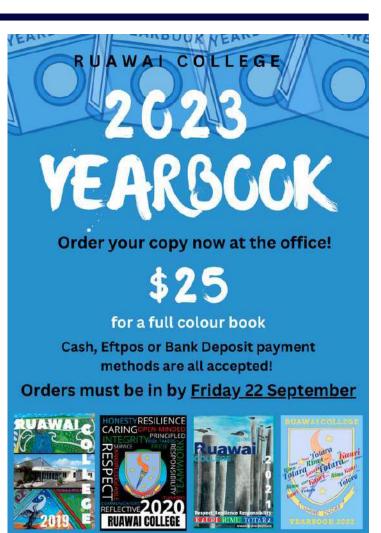
A reminder to parents/guardians that the board welcomes suggestions on our school's policies and procedures. All policies are available to view via School Docs. Login information is available on our school website, Facebook, via the front office, and within this newsletter. Term 3's review closes Friday 22 September 2023.

Whanau Survey

A survey will be sent out shortly to gather your ideas/thoughts on what should be included in the next strategic plan for Ruawai College. Please ensure that you have a say and that the survey is completed by Friday 15 September 2023.

- Anthony Blundell, Board Chairperson





School Docs

The school community is invited to review and comment on specific policies and procedures each term. The following policies are up for review: Inclusive Education, Māori Educational Success, Learning Support, Learning Support Coordination, Identify Learning Support and Gifted Learners. Should you wish to make any suggestions for these policies, please submit them on the School Docs website (instructions are below) by Friday 22 September 2023.

How To Review:

1 - Visit the website

https://ruawaicollege.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm

- 2 Enter the username (ruawai) and password (ruawai).
- 3 Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed
- 4 Read the policy
- 5 Click the "Start your Review" button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
- 6 Select the reviewer type
- 7 Enter vour name (optional).
- 8 Follow the prompts to show that you've read the topic and enter your feedback if you'd like to comment.
- 9 Agree to the privacy statement and click 'Submit Review".

If you would like a hard copy, please see Tyla in the office.



THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2023

OFFICE OPEN FOR 2024 ENROLMENTS

9:30 AM TO 10:45 AM

Guided school tours every 15 minutes

11:20 AM TO 12:45 PM

"Ruawai's Got Talent" school concert

1:15 PM TO 2:30 PM

- * School vs. community tractor tyre flipping competition
- Weather permitting

FREE RAFFLE ENTRY AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE Ruawai College invites you to attend our annual Open Day.

Join us for guided tours of learning areas, and help us celebrate student talent at our school concert.

For the third year in a row, we will be flipping tractor tyres to signify coming together as a community to walk alongside those who "carry a heavy load".

See you there!



