



RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS

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

Ruawai
COLLEGE
Respect
Resilience
Responsibility

PRINCIPAL'S KORERO

Raeleen Harré - M,Ed Hons

Thank you whānau for the support that many of you have shown this term in so many ways -

- in getting your students to school and on time (to support their learning)
- in ensuring students turn out in their correct uniform (in the world of work a uniform code can be part of the job)
- in ensuring students are up to date with their schoolwork (that students are on track and on task to succeed)
- in reinforcing our three school values (to be respectful, resilient and responsible global citizens)
- for reminding students about leaving phones at the school office if they bring them in (following school rules)
- for being available to transport students to events and being whanau helpers at various activities (to support opportunities for our rangatahi)
- for being vigilant around the use of social media (mental health is important)
- for reminding your students about behaving respectfully (The Ruawai Way)

This kaupapa contributes towards a more efficient and effective use of teacher and senior leadership time so that it can be better spent on teaching and learning. For too long now as a school we find ourselves being involved in those matters where the guidelines, the rules and the expectations which are very clear are being challenged, not followed and are ignored taking us away from our core business. A huge part of the kaupapa of a school is around having a safe and healthy learning environment for all our students - we aspire to keep them safe and we expect school rules to be followed especially around our values. When incidents occur at school we often rely on witnesses through their oral and written statements, on cameras and on feedback. We follow this process when we investigate an incident which can take considerable amounts of time, collaborate as a team on the outcome/s and then implement the consequences more often followed up through our restorative practices and support mechanisms.

It is taking some of our students a long time to learn and adjust to the 'Ruawai College Kaupapa' but we remain steadfast in our expectations and standards. We make no apologies for wanting the students here to learn, to behave, to be respectful and to take responsibility for their actions and the consequences that may follow. Your support in reminding your student/s of this kaupapa where all students should be able to feel safe at school, where they can learn uninterrupted/disturbed by others, where listening and following instructions is expected and so to behave respectfully and take responsibility for their actions.

Social Media

For a while now social media use by students outside of school has seen the effects of this come into school, often resulting in accusations and harassment in school. Whilst the school will treat matters that come into school and act within the limits of our powers, the out of school use of social media is beyond the schools jurisdiction. You are asked to monitor student use of social media. If you do have concerns about online activity be it sending or receiving messages or content you are encouraged to use the resources and advice available from Net Safe: <https://netsafe.org.nz/>

End of Term

Senior students in particular are encouraged to spend some of the break time putting in the mahi in preparation for NCEA which gets underway on Monday 6 November. I hope the next two weeks do provide a time for families to re-connect and have some time together after a very busy term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of our final term of the year.

Term 3 Week 10
Thursday 21 September 2023

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 9 October
Start of Term 4

Wednesday 11 October
PST Interviews Year 7-13

Thursday 12 October
Top Form

Tuesday 17 October
Year 9 & 10 Boys
Badminton Teams

Thursday 19 October
Shake Out Earthquake Drill
(9.30-9.45)
Year 9 & 10 Girls
Badminton Teams

Monday 23 October
Labour Day - School
Closed

Wednesday 25 October
Year 7 & 8 Mixed Rippa
Rugby

Thursday 26 October
Senior Prizegiving
(11:45am)

Friday 27 October
RPS Calf Club Day
Year 9 & 10 Mixed Touch

Tuesday 31 October
Year 9 & 10 Girls Volleyball

Thursday 2 November
Year 9 & 10 Boys Volleyball

Tuesday 7 November
Year 9 & 10 Rippa Rugby

Wednesday 8 November
Year 7 & 8 Mixed Volleyball

Keep in Touch

Ruawai College Website: www.ruawaicollege.school.nz

Phone: 09 439 2216

Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege



Open Day

Thursday 7 September 2023 saw us open our doors for our annual open day. Prospective students and their whānau, community members and local businesses were invited to be part of the big event. Advertising for the day began months ago, with local flyer drops to mailboxes and businesses, and regular messaging via newspapers, social media and MoreFM radio station.

The day began with guided tours of our facilities, followed by an exceptional student concert in the school hall that included instrumentals, kapa haka, singing, dancing, and other cultural performances. After lunch, albeit there was a slight drizzle of rain, staff, students and the community congregated on the tennis courts to flip tyres in the highly anticipated tractor tyre flipping competition - the third year in a row we have held this event. The community team comprised Sport Northland and Ringrose Construction who came away with the win for the fastest team to do 200 tyre flips.

There was an incredible amount of work and effort put into the day, yet another example of 'The Ruawai Way', and we have received great feedback about the event from the community.



General Knowledge

The Ruawai College General Knowledge quiz was a resounding success, showcasing the intellectual prowess and teamwork of our students. The quiz featured seven categories, each with five thought-provoking questions, providing a diverse range of challenges for participants and not only tested the contestants' knowledge, but also offered a chance to win coveted house points. The bonus questions added an extra layer of excitement to the event, and the winners of these questions received delicious chocolate prizes.

The atmosphere during the quiz was fantastic, with students displaying exemplary behavior and sportsmanship. The event ran seamlessly without any hitches, thanks to the meticulous planning and coordination of our prefect team. It was an enjoyable and enriching experience for both students and staff, reinforcing the importance of knowledge, camaraderie, and fun within our school community. We look forward to more engaging events like these in the future.

- Amanda McMillan, Head of Social Studies



Music Mentoring Workshop

On the 17th and 18th of August, our senior music students attended a two day Music Mentoring workshop, a programme run by the New Zealand Music Commission. Jimmy Colbert (from the band 1814), spent two days working with the students developing their musician-ship and composition skills, as well as sharing industry knowledge and his journey to becoming a professional musician. Students were given opportunities to share their music and get together in small groups to develop a piece of music. At the end of the session, those involved were able to perform to each other what they had been working on. Over the course of the two days students were encouraged to continue their music journey and perhaps pursue music as a future career.

- Deborah Steele, Performing Arts Teacher



Daffodil Day

On 24th August Ruawai College celebrated Daffodil day. Daffodil Day symbolises hope for all New Zealanders impacted by cancer. Since 1990, this iconic event has inspired people to come together and support the Cancer Society's work. As well as providing an opportunity to raise awareness of cancer in New Zealand. Daffodil Day is a major funding source for the Cancer Society, as well as an opportunity to raise awareness of cancer in New Zealand. Ruawai college student came dressed up in yellow and raised money for the Cancer Foundation by donating a gold coin and were able to raise \$150.

During both breaks prefects organised a bake sale and Sausage sizzle with iceblocks and this money raised will go towards the defibrillator for the college.

- Manmeet Sandhu, Deputy Principal



Science Curriculum

Junior Science

This year, the junior science curriculum continues with its focus around local curriculum development and design alongside the must learn science skills such as researching and investigation. This is based on a thematic approach around the chosen themes for the year like environmental sustainability, local scientists and their turangawaewae. The year 7's have been involved in tree planting around waterways and fresh water testing at Paparoa. This is a part of their sustainability mahi through the EnviroSchools kaupapa. The year 8's have been engaged in the Wonder Project and Innovation - being changemakers of today.

Years 7 and 8 have also been involved in our yearly Science Fair projects school competition producing some creative and inspiring projects this year. The top 6 projects took their projects to the regional fair in Whangarei. It was great for the students to have the experience and gain the confidence to prepare for another opportunity in the future.

We also place significant emphasis on literacy as part of the junior school wide approach to promote literacy support through science.

Years 9 and 10 have had the opportunity to experience Science through the different modules as part of the localised curriculum design at Ruawai College. While there were challenges, we have seen some benefits for students such as modules designed around local contexts such as Kumara vs Peanut, Current affairs and Maori Food science. The students also favoured the short term nature of the modules and its student focused approach. There is a sense of freedom which is a good aspect of this localised module design. The biggest challenge is ensuring the modules are balanced in preparing students for senior science subjects.

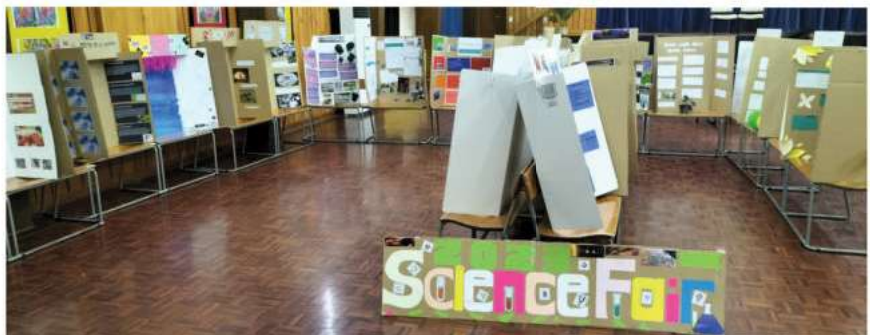
Senior sciences

While changes for NCEA levels 2 & 3 subjects are still the same next year, we are in the final stage of finalising the course that will best reflect the needs and interests as well as turangawaewae of our students for level 1, 2024.

Agriculture and Horticulture

Our level 2 students have been participating in the Waifencing skills course this year. They have enjoyed the learning of new skills and for some, it was an extension of the knowledge already acquired through farm work at home. Our boys have shown positive attitudes and commitment throughout the course which have made the learnt skills far more effective.

- Peni Leao, Head of Learning Science



Football in Schools

Northland Football Federation has been providing some basic Football skills and fun games for the year 7 & 8 P.E students to take part in during this term.



Rodney Quad Prefect Hui

As the year draws to a close, the Principal, and the head and deputy prefects attended the penultimate quad prefect Hui at Rodney conference. Like previous meetings this gave us an opportunity to compare our leadership roles and progress at school.

As always, this was an invaluable learning opportunity and a great way to renew connections between our three schools, Rodney, Otamatea and Dargaville. Alongside our usual conversations on various in school activities and the success of this year's quad tournament, we also discussed our plans for next year. With one meeting to go, I hope next years prefect team learns as much as we did from these gatherings and takes every opportunity to forge bonds with other local schools.

- Emma Philips, Head Girl



Social Night

On the 17th of August, we held a school social with a Halloween theme. Prefects did an amazing job decorating the hall for the theme. The turnout was great-people all in amazing costumes. We raised a total of \$658 and this money would go towards our school defibrillator.

The winners were Bonnie Robinson and Konrad Philips for best dressed and best dancer was Ezra Kapa.

- Lucas Hassall, Prefect



Paparoa Tree Planting

The Year 7 science class has been involved in tree planting as part of their sustainability theme for this term. We planted 500 plants around the waterways at Paparoa stream.

- Peni Leao, Head of Learning Science



Northland Region Science Fair (CNST)

This is the 2nd year in a row that we have sent our Ruawai College science fair winners to the Northern Regional Fair which was held on the 28th August, at Forum North, Whangarei.

Hayley Mannes, Rian Gatehouse and Mahailiaz Sesega represented Ruawai College in this event. Although our students did not receive any awards, the event was a massive opportunity for them to have the experience of the calibre of the fair projects and also gaining the inspiration for future projects.

Well done to these students and a huge thank you to them for representing our School.

- Peni Leao, Head of Learning Science



The Beast

The Beast was a 5km long mud run in the beautiful Bay of Island (Pahia). We had to embark on hill climbs, navigate through both deep and shallow mud pools, bushes and tall grass. Most of us students were hoping to come out of this run somewhat clean, however we were drenched with mud because of this monstrous run and most of us were so out of breath.

We all got hosed down by the fire fighter at the end of the race. It was a great day filled with memorable experiences. Thank you to Mrs Smith and Miss Thompson for making the day possible.

- Kodi Hardisty, Year 9 Student



2023 Inter House Volleyball

Best all round Yr 7/8 Boy - Korban Johnson
 Best all round Yr 7/8 Girl - Jayde Kapa
 Most improved Yr 7/8 - Kingi Te Kawa-Tawhai

Best all round Yr 9/10 Boy - Brayden Johnson
 Best all round Yr 9/10 Girl - Sapphire Harris
 Most improved Y 9/10 - Rocky Kapa-White

Best all round Senior Boy - Lucas Hassall (Trophy)
 Best all round Senior Girl - Mele Mamahi (Trophy)
 Most improved Senior - Emma Phillips

Yr 7/8 Top House - Totara
 Yr 9/10 Top House - Totara
 Senior Top House - Kauri



The Ruawai Way Resilience, Manawaroa

Try, try and try again
Make wise choices
Embrace challenges and opportunities



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

Stationery requirement for Ruawai College - ALL students should have a 1B5 exercise book per subject (Maths: 1E5 Junior school or 1J5 Senior school) plus their chrome book/laptop. All students should have writing materials ie pens, pencils.

How to Access the Ruawai College School Docs:

- Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz
- Click on the "Search for your school" green button on the top right hand side
- Search "Ruawai College"

Both the username and password is ruawai

Ka Ora, Ka Ako - The Healthy School Lunches programme is underway again in providing healthy lunches every day to all our students. Students have this meal at the start of Break 1- 10.45am and any leftover lunches is available to them at the start of Break 2.

Visitors to School - If you need to contact your child throughout the day, send a message or drop something off, then we ask you to contact or visit the office. All schools are governed by Health & Safety regulations and the expectation is that all visitors need to report to and sign in at the office. In the event of an emergency we also need to ensure we know who is on the grounds and where. We thank you for your understanding in this matter.

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.

TERM 4 SPORTS CALENDAR

9 October - 13 October	Pirates
Thursday 12 October	Top Form
Tuesday 17 October	Badminton Teams Boys
Thursday 19 October	Badminton Teams Girls
Friday 27 October	Year 9 & 10 Touch Mixed Boys & Girls
Tuesday 31 October	Year 9 & 10 Girls Volleyball
Thursday 2 November	Year 7 & 8 Volleyball Mixed
Tuesday 7 November	Year 9 & 10 Rippa Rugby
Thursday 9 November	Year 7 & 8 Badminton Mixed Boys & Girls
Friday 10 November	Year 9 & 10 Volleyball Boys
Friday 17 November	Year 7 & 8 Touch Mixed Boys & Girls
Tuesday 21 November	Fast 5 Netball Girls/Mixed Year 7&8 and Year 9&10
Friday 1 December	Northern Wairoa Athletics

Whakatauki

*"Whāia te mātauranga hei oranga mō
koutou
Seek after learning for the sake of
your wellbeing"*

TREM 3 SPORTING TRIPS



**The Ruawai Way
Responsibility,
Takohanga**

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

Tautoko Project

This year at Ruawai College, we have been looking at ways to keep students engaged in their education and encourage and support them in achieving their potential.

We are developing a programme here at school called the Tautoko Project. Tautoko means to help, guide, support, and work alongside. With the addition of Mr Kina Fuimoana to the programme, we have been able to run this programme five days a week.

The programme involves mindfulness, physical activity, community service, creativity, and encouraging self-esteem:

- Te Ao Māori - involvement in kapahaka and mau rakau
- Physical activity - e.g., walking into the Ruawai township doing service such as picking up litter to keep our community clean and tidy and using the gymnasium here at school, like the weights room.
- Creativity - painting a mural to be displayed locally.
- Community service - working in the community alongside local kaumatua in various activities, such as gardening, cleaning up, and helping with local incentives.
- Self-esteem - group programmes involving communication and teamwork.

The students still attend their timetabled literacy and numeracy classes to meet their learning and academic needs. The students involved have grown, seem to know they have a place, and regularly communicate this to Kina and myself.

- Kimberley Rope-Battcher, Lead - Tautoko Project



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.

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.

Mr Four Eyes Foundation - On Thursday 19 - Friday 20 October the optometrist from Mr Four Eyes Foundation will be at the Dargaville Medical Centre to deliver free advanced vision testing for students. Appointments take 30 to 40 minutes, and if needed, glasses will be provided free of charge. No referrals are required. Appointments can be made by calling Dargaville Medical Centre and asking for an appointment with the optometrist on one of these dates.

The Ruawai Way Respect, Whakaute

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

Ruawai College
School Board Elections



**Student Election Results Declaration
(no voting election required)**

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, I hereby declare Lucas Hassall duly elected.

Signed
Tyla O'Sullivan
Returning Officer



PST Interviews

Wednesday 11 October 2023

Bookings for Parent-Student-Teacher (PST) interviews are now open for Years 7 - 13. We ask parents/caregivers to please make a booking with your child(ren)'s subject teachers, Dean, and LA teacher. Current Year 10 students must also book in with either Ms Jenny Dallison or Ms Kirsty Batters to select NCEA subjects for 2024.

Interviews will be held on Wednesday 11 October 2023, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm in the school hall. School is closed for instruction on this day. Please make alternative care arrangements for your child(ren). Children are to attend PST interviews with their parents/caregivers. Instructions on how to book interviews via the Skool Loop app are attached to this letter:

<https://www.ruawaicollege.school.nz/.../Term-4-PST...>

Please contact the school office if you require assistance.



Congratulations Emma!

Three-for-three this week following National Poetry Day.

Head Prefect Emma Philips' poem **Fieldnote** was published in the sixteenth issue of **Starling** - an online literary journal showcasing the best new poetry and prose from young New Zealand writers.

You can read her poem on the **Starling** website.

<https://www.starlingmag.com/issue-16/emma-philips>

Exceptional work Emma!



Creativity of the Month

Board Comment

The most important task a board will likely ever undertake, is the process to select and appoint a new principal who meets the needs of the school. And our school - Ruawai College - is a special place, a place where learning is paramount and where excellence, a sense of community and service to others are highly valued.

As a board, we take on this process with passion and a commitment to do the very best we can. We will be proactive and well-informed to run an effective appointment process - ensuring the most suitable person is appointed to the role. To this effect, we have out-sourced the assistance of an NZ School Trustees Association endorsed consultant who will provide educational and process expertise and advice.

We will be seeking a vibrant, motivated, energetic principal who will guide and support, and be proud and passionate about the growth and development of our students. We will be looking for a leader who will value and draw on the skills and talents of staff and take a team building and collaborative approach to leadership. Having a commitment to cultural competency, the ability to create an inclusive school culture and the expertise to advance the schools aspirations and journey with te reo Māori, tikanga and matauranga.

- Anthony Blundell, Board Chairperson

2023 Board Meeting Date

6.00pm

Tuesday 7 November

Tuesday 5 December

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 your 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.

Spring into Spring & stay in the loop with our school app



- ✓ Events ✓ Notices ✓ Push Notifications
- ✓ Newsletters ✓ Permissions Slips ✓ Contacts
- ✓ Absentees ✓ Parent Teacher Interviews



Simple free download:

In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.



Reminder

First day of Term 4 is
Monday 09 October

Hope to see everyone then

Ruawai College Term 3 Recap

Welcome to our new staff member

Mark White
Caretaker

