

## Manawatia a Matariki!

Ruawai College celebrated Matariki with a special week of learning, culture, and fun. Throughout the week, students enjoyed making kakahu and peke with Whaea Jess and Whaea Eva, painting a Matariki mural for the Matakahe Museum with Whaea Sade, participating in a turbo touch tournament hosted by our teina, and enjoying a delicious hakari prepared by our tuakana.

Wednesday's powerful performances from Kapa Haka and Mau Rakau, followed by a shared hakari with special guests from the Dargaville Rotary, were a highlight of the week. Thursday finished with a treasure hunt, ice blocks for everyone, and the exciting haka wero – boys vs. girls!

Thank you to all our students, staff, and whānau who made this week such a success. A special mihi to our "tamariki kakano" who travelled to Dargaville Intermediate to support the festivities and kapa haka there with our Primary School.

Ka Mānawatia a Matariki!



## Services Academy Takes on Bushcraft Challenge

In June, seven Services Academy students stepped out of their comfort zones and into the wild as we took part in the annual Bushcraft course at Woodhill Forest.



Bushcraft builds on the foundation laid during Induction Camp by immersing students in a challenging outdoor environment.

We were tested physically and mentally as we developed navigation skills, set up camps, managed safety in the bush, and learned how to live responsibly in a team setting. This year's course also provided a platform for our basic leadership students to put their skills into action by leading our peers through various tasks.

*Nivsheel Nand, Services Academy student*



**Ruawai**  
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## RC Entrance Scholarships 2026

Enrolments for 2026 are **open**. Students enrolling in Years 7 or 9 may be eligible to apply for our Entrance Scholarship for 2026, if joining us from a feeder school. A limited number of scholarships are also available for new enrolments at other Year levels.

Check out our school website for more details.

## Upcoming Events

**Monday, 21 - Friday, 25 July**  
Gateway Week

**Friday, 1 August**  
Senior School Ball

**Wednesday, 6 August**  
Nominations for parent board representatives close

**Monday, 11 - Friday, 15 August**  
Services Academy Advanced Leaders Course

**Tuesday, 12 August**  
RC Board Meeting

**Wednesday, 10 September**  
Voting for parent board representatives close

## A word from the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

Term 3 is a busy term, with preparation for externals, a heavier internal assessment programme, and, of course, the rain and weather challenges that winter brings.

In exciting news, our Year 13 trip to Japan is at the end of Term 3. Students have been working tirelessly to fundraise and are excited to venture into the urban geographies of Tokyo.

We started the term positively with an assembly this week, awarding over 40 honours badges. Congratulations to all students who received these.

I am happy to report another term of amazing attendance results. Our regular attendance for Term 2 was the best it's been since 2020! Well done to all for turning up to school, ready to learn and be engaged with school life.

Finally, as you would've seen, our NCEA results are substantially higher than similar schools and, for the most part, higher than the national averages. This is a testament to our staff and students for our results. Congratulations to everyone.

Have a great start to the term.

Ngā mihi,

  
Aidyn Rasmussen, Tumuaki



## Quint Tournament Snapshots

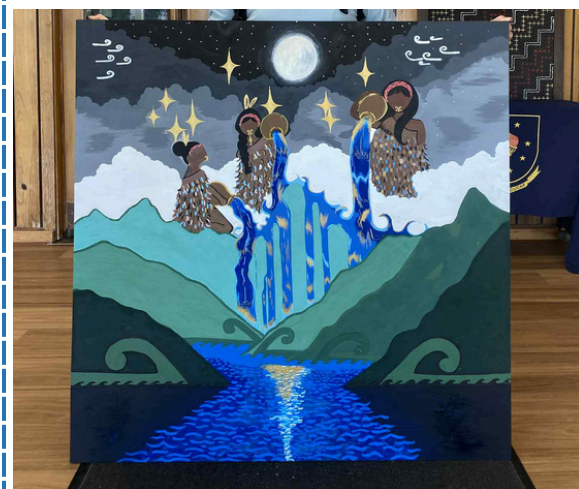


## Matariki Artwork Exhibition

A group of students and I visited the Kauri Museum for the Matariki ki te Wai School Artwork Exhibition. The display featured artwork from schools across the Kaipara district, all centred around the theme, *The Importance of Water*.

Our artwork focused on incorporating Waiti, Waitā, and Waipunarangi, and explored how water connects us all and plays an essential role in our lives.

*Hayley Mannes, Year 10*



## Gateway - Term 2

At the end of Term 2, I did a Gateway placement at ITM. I helped with stocktaking, sorting merchandise, and planning a kitchen design. This gave me insight into working at ITM and boosted my confidence with new tasks.

*Jorja Mannes, Year 12*

I took part in the NorthTec Sport and Recreation Day at Kensington ASB Stadium. I learned about study options in sports and fitness, and had heaps of fun.

*Jorjah Thompson, Year 12*

Our uniform store has been restocked with trousers for the winter months. Plenty of KidsCan navy blue jackets and black shoes available through the Deans!