

# Te Kura Tuarua o Ruawai College

Kimihia ngā maunga teitei | Seek the highest peak



Term 4 wrap-up  
Week 10, 2025

## Term 4 Reflection

As Term 4 has officially come to a close, it is a valuable time to reflect on a busy and positive end to the school year.

This term has been marked by strong engagement across teaching and learning. Students approached assessment, NCEA examinations, end of year programmes, and transition activities with focus and determination, right through to the final weeks.

We have continued to see the impact of our shared focus on high quality teaching practice, and strong relationships. Attendance, engagement, and achievement trends remain encouraging and reflect the collective efforts of staff, students, and whānau.

I would like to thank our staff for their commitment during a busy term, and our whānau and community for their ongoing support. I encourage everyone to enjoy a well earned break, and we look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for the year ahead.

Aidyn Rasmussen, Tumuaki



## Deans 2026

We are moving to House Deans from 2026. Meaning everyone will have a new point of contact. We would like to introduce you to our 2026 Deans:

- **KAURI HOUSE: Matua PJ**
- **RIMU HOUSE: Ms Cranch**
- **TOTARA HOUSE: Ms Batters**

## Start of 2026

**Mon 19 Jan**

Office opens - half days

**Mon 26 Jan**

Te Tai Tokerau Anniversary

**Fri 30 Jan**

Peer Support Day

**Mon 2 Feb**

**8.45 am Powhiri**

**All students**

**Fri 6 Feb**

Waitangi Day





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Term 4 Newsletter



## Senior Prizegiving 2025



On the 31st October Ruawai College held our Senior Prizegiving.

Congratulations to all winners. We are incredibly proud to see the success, effort, and commitment shown throughout the event. It was inspiring to watch participants give their best, support one another, and represent their teams with pride. Events like this highlight the talent, determination, and positive spirit within our community, and we celebrate everyone who contributed to making it such a memorable occasion.

*Special congratulations to our 2025 DUX, Alyssa Bishop!*



Year 11 - Top Academic: Amanda Ries

Year 12 - Top Academic: Konrad Philips

Year 13 - Proxime Accessit: Regan Mare

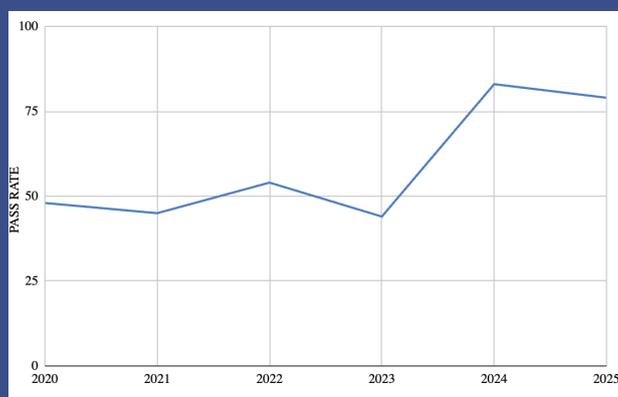
Year 13 - 2025 DUX: Alyssa Bishop



# WE ARE A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL



## NCEA SUCCESS



Over time our NCEA results have been statistically hovering around 50%. We are pleased to see that 2024 results were positively impacted by several school initiatives. **For 2025, we are on track to see a similar level of success as 2024! Well done all!**

The lift in 2024 and 2025 reflects the impact of recent school initiatives, strengthened teaching practice, and clearer systems supporting student success.

The sustained high performance into 2025 shows that improvement is not a one-off spike but a genuine shift in outcomes.

**For school leaver outcomes RC is the top performer in Kaipara by far and one of the top schools in Northland.**

## SCHOOL BADGES

This year we introduced 5 school badges. These badges come with clear expectations so students can see the values and actions that fit in each category. Students can redeem points in the "online store" and points are used towards BRONZE, SILVER or GOLD in each category.

RC Mana

**7148**

*Our RC Mana badge was our first badge we introduced this year. It is great to see so many points awarded for students demonstrating RC values!!*

Academic

**3645**

*Our Academic badge demonstrates resilience, success, goal setting and tracking in the academic space. Over 3000 points awarded, showing this is an area of high importance!*

Cultural

**1312**

*Our Cultural badge reflects success in a range of cultural practices from language through to performance. Well done to the students who earned a share of the 1300 points this year!*

Leadership

**910**

*Our Leadership badge reflects success in a range of skills, values and kaha within school leadership. This was one of the last badges we released this year!*

Sports

**1215**

*Well done to all who participated and represented RC this year in Sport. Our sports badge was one of the last badges we released this year!*



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Term 4 Newsletter

Our Year 13 2025 Japan trip was a great success, providing our Year 13 students with a memorable and enriching experience.

Our students represented the school with pride, maturity, and respect throughout the journey. Their positive attitude and behaviour reflected their growth and made the trip a highlight of the year.

All students have now completed their inquiry, so gained 16 credits (1x UE domain!). Ka rawe!

## 2025 JAPAN TRIP



A cloudy day (thankfully!) at Disneyland!

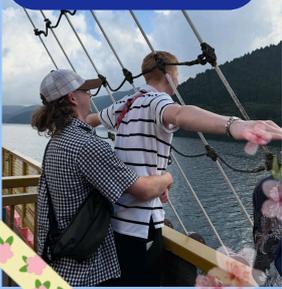
RC at Shinjuku



Cooling down in 35°C heat!



A Titanic moment on the Pirate Ship!



A view of Hong Kong



Right - visit to Mt. Fuji.

Below - Antics when shopping for food (daily supermarket run!) and a snap from the plane!





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Term 4 Newsletter

## Services Academy Graduation



The Services Academy Northern Area Graduation Parade was held at Waitākere College on 18 October 2025, marking a proud moment for all students who successfully completed the Service Academy programme this year. The event celebrated the dedication, growth, and achievements of academy students from across the Northern Area.

Ruawai College was proudly represented by six students, all of whom took part in the impressive and colourful parade that showcased the discipline and teamwork the programme inspires. Special congratulations go to Aedyn Deadman, who received the Best Student Award, and Nivsheel Nand, who earned the Most Improved Student Award.

Key guests included representatives from the Ministry of Education, Youth Development Unit, and several school principals, including the Principal of Ruawai College, who attended to support the students.

The ceremony not only recognised individual accomplishments but also uplifted the morale of the 2025 graduates, encouraging them to carry their Service Academy values of courage, commitment, comradeship, and integrity into their future endeavours.

Calf club was held on the 22nd of October at Ruawai Primary School. This year we had 5 students in the High School calf ring and 1 student in the Senior calf ring. These are the results:

High school calves:

- Leading
- 1st Charlotte Gatehouse
- 2nd Alyssa Bishop
- 3rd Ashlee Fraser
- 4th Rian Gatehouse

Beef type:

- 1st Rian Gatehouse
- 2nd Natalie Bradley

Dairy type:

- 1st Charlotte Gatehouse
- 2nd Alyssa Bishop
- 3rd Miley Simpson

Rearing:

- 1st Charlotte Gatehouse
- 2nd Alyssa Bishop
- 3rd Ashlee Fraser
- 4th Rian Gatehouse

Senior Calves:

- Leading 4th Paige Simpson
- Rearing 2nd Heavy Breed Paige Simpson

Congratulations to Charlotte Gatehouse for Champion High School calf and Overall Best Reared calf, Alyssa Bishop for Reserve Champion, Ashlee Fraser 10 year medal, Paige Simpson 7 year badge, Miley Simpson for the Arahi Tamaiti Trophy (best friends), and Alyssa Bishop with a 13 year trophy  
*By Charlotte Gatehouse.*

## Calf Club 2025





## Northland Secondary School Highlights

“On Wednesday, my team — Siu, Tamara, Tara, Ashlee, and Hayley — went to Kensington for volleyball. We played six teams and came away with 3rd place out of all the girls' teams! We learnt new formations that helped us win our final game. It was such a fun day — we worked so well together, and celebrated with Maccas afterward!”  
 By Charlotte Gatehouse



This term has been an incredible one for our Northland Secondary School athletes! Our students have shown amazing dedication, teamwork, and school spirit across a range of sporting events — and their results speak for themselves.

Our Girls Badminton Teams smashed it this term, earning an impressive 3rd place out of 22 teams! Their focus, determination, and support for one another made every rally a thrill to watch.

Not to be outdone, our Girls Volleyball Team also brought home a 3rd place finish after a fantastic day of competition. The team’s communication and strategy grew stronger with every match, showing how teamwork truly makes the dream work!

Meanwhile, our students also gave it their all at Fast 5 Netball, playing with passion and skill right up to the final whistle.

What an amazing effort from all our athletes! We’re so proud of the way they represented Ruawai College with teamwork, enthusiasm, and pride.



## Beach Volleyball



The final sports event of the year was Beach Volleyball, held at Okaihau College. Ruawai College entered eight teams. Korban and Rayden won the boys’ competition, with Kymani and Teequan placing third. All other teams performed well throughout the day and showed great sportsmanship. A big thank you to Ruby and Tyla for helping with training and for taking us all the way to Okaihau.



## Community: Scouts

It has been great to see our students involved in the 1st Dargaville Scout Section, stepping outside their comfort zone and taking part in a range of challenging activities to promote focus and teamwork through archery, abseiling, bushcraft, problem-solving tasks, and target shooting. Experiences like these help build confidence, resilience, and leadership beyond the classroom. Ngā mihi nui to the dedicated Scout leaders, volunteers, and whānau who provide safe, supportive environments for our rangatahi to grow and thrive.



## Te Wheke Carving Course



Run at the Tika Pono Toi Gallery taurira were given the opportunity to learn traditional carving skills through hands-on, guided practice. They worked with natural materials to design and create their own carved pieces, developing focus, perseverance, and pride in their work. Each taurira was able to take their finished piece home as a taonga, representing their learning and effort. Experiences such as this help build confidence and a sense of achievement that students can carry back into their learning at school.



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## Year 6 Transition Day



### A message from Matua PJ

*Kia ora! I am the Year 7 Homeroom Teacher at Ruawai College. Kindness, honesty, and respect are values I hold closely and they underpin both who I am and how I approach my teaching.*

*I entered the teaching profession because I wanted to make a meaningful difference in our community and support young people to see the possibilities available to them beyond school. I am passionate about guiding students, building their confidence, and helping them recognise that the world is full of opportunities waiting to be explored.*

*Teaching for me is more than a job. It is a passion, and I give my full commitment, care, and energy to the students I work with. I believe education and learning can be a guiding light in everyday life, often in ways we do not immediately recognise.*

***I look forward to the year ahead and warmly welcome our new Year 7 cohort of 2026.***

During Week 7 we had our Year 6s from Ruawai Primary come over as part of our Transition as we look to 2026. They got to participate and hear a lot of what our school has to offer them when they come across and join us for Year 7. One core part of this was for them to come across and get to see our Year 7 Homeroom that our current Year 7s are in.

They got to hear a lot about how our Year 7 Homeroom works, what we do and what we could potentially be learning in our 7CORE Subjects in 2026. We also used it as a good time for them to get to know the Year 7 Homeroom Teacher- Matua PJ and whakawhanaungatanga with each other through a simple 'Get to know you Sneaker'

It was a joy and blast to have our Year 6s from RPS join us and we look forward to the next open day on Wednesday 26 November where they will get to participate in a wide range of other activities within the school

## Junior Prize Giving

The final day of school for 2025 was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the academic, sporting, and community achievements of our junior students. With many of our students recognised, it was a fitting way to close out a successful year.

Awards were presented to students who consistently demonstrated our school values, alongside community and extra curricular awards for Breakfast Club, EPro8, the Junior Speech Competition, and Junior Sports. First in class awards were also presented, highlighting strong effort and achievement across learning areas. Congratulations to all of our award recipients.

A special acknowledgement goes to the following students below:

**Year 7 - Top Academic Student: Stevie White**

**Year 8 - Top Academic Student: Josiah Flintoff**

**Year 9 - Top Academic Student: Tara Wrathall**

**Year 10 - Top Academic Student: Siulolovao Pua**

