



# Ruapotaka School Newsletter

Term 1, Week 5, 2025

Kia ora koutou, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Kia Orana, Bula Vinaka, Aweh, Kia orana, Fakaalofa lahi atu kia mutulu oti and warm greetings to all our friends and whanau. A special warm welcome to all our new families joining us this term. We look forward to working alongside you and your child.

**Year 7 & 8 Camp:** Our Year 7 and 8 students will be heading to Mangawhai next week, departing on Wednesday, 5th March, and returning on Friday, 7th March. All consent and medical forms must be completed and returned to school as soon as possible. The camp costs \$150 per student, and payments should be made to the school office by the end of this week. There will also be a camp meeting for parents on Tuesday, 25th February, at 5pm.

## Celebrating Our Learning

Each newsletter our teachers will be putting up information about their classroom. If you would like to see more of what your children are doing, go to our school website and look for our classroom learning sites and you will see more about your child's class there. In the meantime, check out what they have been doing...

**Room 1:** Since our last newsletter shout out, Room 1 has organised their school wide responsibilities, written letters to Prime Minister Luxton reviewing our school lunches, participated in cooking, designing and understanding mathematical concepts. Our focus this week is the build up to CAMP!



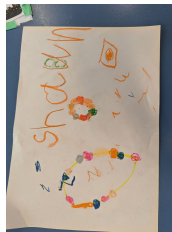
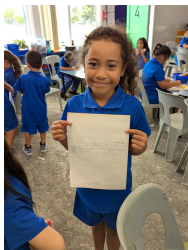
**Room 2:** Room 2 has been working in Room 4 with Mrs Folu and Mrs Vowles the last two weeks. They have been learning letter formation and alphabet recognition. They have also joined Room 4 for swimming and music sessions.



**Room 3:** Kelly Sports are in full swing in Room 3! The students of room 3 have been working hard on developing their softball skills, focusing on techniques like throwing, catching, and this week focusing on batting. It's been great to see everyone improving and having fun while learning new sports skills!



**Room 4:** Students are learning about being happy to be themselves. Group sharing about what they like. Writing about their family and seeing that everyone has differences, and how they are appreciated for their unique personality. They also took some time to think about what they were grateful for. Some wrote touching comments such as: " My mum makes medicine for me." Students are preparing for the use of devices through the Manaiaikalani Programme. They drew things that were precious to them so they understood that their device needs to be cared for too. At assembly Luna and Laila were awarded certificates for showing respect towards their school work by listening to instructions to produce quality work.



**Room 5:** We are almost half way through the term, wow! Our room 5 akonga are learning to stay well organised throughout the week in their learning. As busy seniors, we have had a full two weeks of enjoying our technology classes down at Tamaki college as well as rugby training sessions, music, Kelly Sports, swimming and STEAM. Our year 7's are looking forward to camp in week 6 down in Mangawhai, how exciting. Keep up the awesome mahi room 5!



**Room 6:** It has been a busy two weeks for Room 6, with lots of new learning taking place. In mathematics, we have been learning to identify odd and even numbers. We also practise basic addition and subtraction facts every day. In our music sessions, we have been creating rhythm patterns using body percussion.





**STEAM Classes:** STEAM classes have started up with the juniors planting their bean seedlings in different habitats - they made hypotheses about which habitat would grow the healthiest bean plant. The senior classes have had fun exploring a non Newtonian fluid (oobleck) and doing an experiment on the effect that sound and music has on oobleck when it is placed on a speaker.



## Special School Events

### Softball

On Wednesday our year 5 and 6 tamariki represented our school at the softball tournament. The lovely Mrs Tapena drove the Tamaki College van down to Dunkirk Reserve. Our superstars had an awesome time playing alongside their local schools, showing great sportsmanship and the school values. They all enjoyed making new friends and working as a team. Ka pail!



### Meet the Kaiako/whānau Evening:

Thank you to everyone that came to meet their child's teacher and all the teachers who will be working with your child or children. It was great to see families interacting with each other and introducing themselves to new families in the school. We were lucky to have our BSLA facilitator with us to share what was happening with Structured Literacy in the junior school and I know some families got to go into Room 7 and see what STEM looks like. Our friends from Youth Town also came and shared some information about what they do too so we had a very informative and productive evening. Please remember that your child's teacher is the first person that you speak to for anything to do with your child. You can email them and their email address is on our school website.



## Important Notices and Reminders

**PB4L: Positive behaviour for learning:** At Ruapōtaka Primary School, we are committed to creating a safe and positive learning environment for our students. Our PB4L approach promotes respect, resilience, responsibility, and integrity, aligning with our shared vision of empowering learners and shaping a better future. Let's work together to foster these values in our children both at school and at home. Help us promote the values of respect, resilience, responsibility, and integrity in our students by having conversations with your child about these values and how they can apply them in their daily lives.

**Uniform Expectations for Term 1:** From this week, school hats **MUST** be worn everyday at school. If students do not have a school hat, they will not be able to play outside during break times. Please ensure that your child has a **SCHOOL HAT** while they are at school and on school trips. They can leave their hat at school and have a mufti hat to wear to and from school.



**New Enrolments:** If you know of anyone living near you that has a 5 year old birthday soon please ask them to contact our school office to pick up an enrolment pack. This term all new enrolments will get the opportunity to meet the Principal and have a look around the school.

classroom.

**Coaching sports teams-** If you are available to help coach a sport or support our students at these tournaments, please reach out to our Sports Coordinator, Mrs M on [damitham@ruapotaka.school.nz](mailto:damitham@ruapotaka.school.nz). We have cricket and volleyball tournaments coming up this term.

**Talanoa with the Principal:** My office is always open for any parents or community members to come in and see me. On Friday mornings, I have made a point to keep some time free to meet with parents. Feel free to come and see me on Friday mornings to come and chat about anything, your concerns, how well we are doing or even how you can support the school and how we can support you.

**Ways to keep in Touch:** There are many ways to keep in touch with what is happening at school. Please remember if your email, phone number or address changes please contact the school office.



Download our school app to get up to date information straight to your phone.



Follow us on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/Ruapōtaka.school.nz>





Our school office phone number is 09 527 6244. To contact the principal directly her number is 09 5276248.



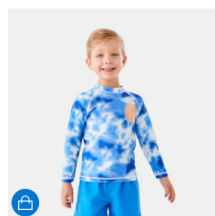
Our school office email is [office@Ruapōtaka.school.nz](mailto:office@Ruapōtaka.school.nz) to contact our school secretary Leanne Martin.

## Swimming:

Classes are now in the middle of swimming lessons. It is important that students, no matter what age they are, wear the correct clothing in the pool. **The purpose of taking classes to use our swimming pool is to teach them how to swim and be safe in water.** It is important that what they are wearing does not stretch from the water and that nothing can be seen underneath their clothing. **Muffi clothes and school uniforms are unacceptable** to wear when you are trying to learn to swim. We expect the same clothing as you would wear in a public pool. Please also remember, **NO TOWEL NO SWIM**. Students will be expected to show their towel to their teacher before they go to the pool. There will be no sharing of towels as it may take a while for towels to dry if the sun is not shining.

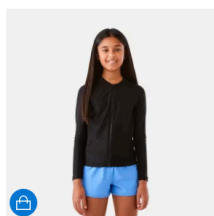


Girls need to wear proper swimwear which can be purchased from the Warehouse for \$12.00. Rash shirts can also be purchased for girls and boys who want to cover up from the Warehouse, KMart, The photos below are from KMart or Warehouse. There is an affordable option.



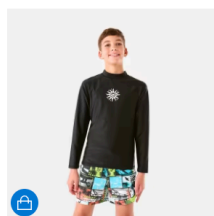
Printed Long Sleeve Rash Vest

\$14



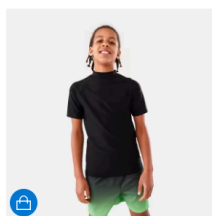
Long Sleeve Zip Through Rash Vest

\$17



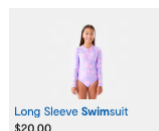
Long Sleeve Printed Rash Vest

\$14



Short Sleeve Basic Rash Vest

\$12



Long Sleeve Swimsuit

\$20.00



Long Sleeve One Piece Swimsuit

\$18.00



Cross Over Bather Swimsuit

\$17.00



Short Sleeve 3 Piece Swim Set

\$22.00



One Piece Swimsuit

\$12.00



Frill One Piece Swimsuit

\$17.00



**Important Dates for Term 1:** There are many extra activities that happen over the term and some activities are regular throughout the year. Here are a few to remember:

**Newsletters:** These come out to the eldest and only in hard copy each fortnight in Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9.

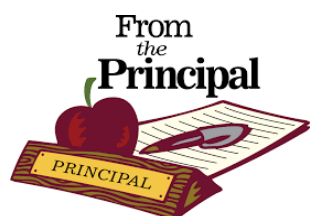
**Whole School Assemblies:** These also happen fortnightly during the same weeks as the newsletters come out. All whānau are

invited to attend any of these assemblies. Assemblies start at 9:15am this year.

**Frozen Fridays:** We are having these again this year every Friday ice blocks will be on sale at \$2.00 each. Students pick these up on the way home on Friday from the school staffroom.

**Wellbeing Wednesdays:** All staff and students are expected to be off site by 3pm each Wednesday. This is an opportunity for our staff to work on their wellbeing. There will be a staff member who will remain onsite until the last child is picked up. Please do not be late picking up your children.

Date	Activity	Date	Activity
Wed 26	Tech @ TC	Thurs 27 Feb	Camp information evening for Y7&8 parents 5-6pm
Fri 28 Feb	Whole School Assembly Rugby training for Y6-8	Wed 5 March	Year 7&8 camp
Thurs 6 March	Year 7&8 camp	Fri 7 March	Year 7&8 camp
Tue 11 March	Curriculum Information Evening	Wed 12 March	Cricket Cluster Day Tech @ TC
Fri 14 March	Whole School Assembly	Wed 26 March	Volleyball Cluster Day Tech @ TC
Thurs 27 March	Consent Talks for HPV Y7&8 11.30am-12.30pm	Fri 28 March	Whole School Assembly
Mon 31 March	Positive Puberty Talks for Y5/6 students	Wed 2 April	Tech @ TC
Wed 9 April	Tech @ TC	Thurs 10 April	HPV1 for Year 8s 11.30am
Fri 11 April	Last Day Term 1		



Fakaalofa lahi atu kia mutlu oti and Kia Ora Koutou e te whānau. We are now into Week 5, how quickly the weeks have gone by. It won't be long and we will be heading into Easter. Thank you again to all the parents and caregivers who came to the Meet the Whanau/Kaiako evening. It was a great turn out. We have our parents' evening for the Camp coming up this week to get the final pieces of information before heading out to camp in the next couple of weeks.

You would have heard about Structured Literacy and Structured Maths over the last few months. Ruapotaka School is starting our journey into the new curriculum and structured literacy with our junior classrooms doing structured literacy this term and we hope the senior school will be doing the same from Term 2. If you would like more information about it please see your child's teacher. Lunch is still happening and there have been some slight improvements to what they are doing but please encourage your child to have a taste of what is on offer even though it might not look tasty, it could be tasty. The menu is due to change every three weeks. We are still waiting for the new menu which will include sandwiches from Pita Pit. Fingers crossed there will be better improvements by the end of the term. If you are able to help train a volleyball team please contact Mrs M by email [damitham@ruapotaka.school.nz](mailto:damitham@ruapotaka.school.nz) as she is our school's sports coordinator. Thank you once again for your support. Enjoy the rest of the term.



Monuina e aho nei,  
Allison Hamilton  
(Principal)