



Ruapotaka School Newsletter

Term 1, Week 7 2025

Kia ora koutou, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Kia Orana, Bula Vinaka, Aweh, Kia orana, Fakaalofa lahi atu kia mutolu 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.

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: Wow, what an amazing last two weeks since our last newsletter. We have completed all our school wide assessments, camp whanau evenings and travelled to and back from camp. We had an incredible time, learning new skills and how working as a team you can accomplish anything. This coming week we'll be reflecting on our experiences and sharing in class, on our blogs and at our next school assembly.



Room 2: Room 2 has been learning about how to actively participate in learning and outdoor activities. They are settling in very well and love the big outdoors and challenge themselves to do all sorts of obstacles. In swimming we learnt kicking and going under water. We are also learning to use ipads for learning and enjoying "Moose Math" on it enhancing the counting skills.



Room 3: Exploring Onomatopoeia in Softball!

In class, we've been having a **blast** learning about onomatopoeic words and how they can bring our writing to life. We recently applied this to our softball stories, capturing the exciting sounds of the

game. From the crack of the bat hitting the ball to the whoosh of the ball zooming by, onomatopoeia helps us paint vivid pictures with words! The students have been getting creative, using these fun, descriptive words to make their writing more dynamic and engaging!

*I was going to softball then the car went **VROOM** we heard **whack!!!** and **clap!!!** And screaming then. Samson got a home run we won then we went for lunch Then we won 2 times in a row. The end.*



*Our class room 3 went to softball in the morning. Mr. Luke was talking so we knew how to play and my class was nervous and we were outside we **Bang** it down to the grass then it **Bang** on the grass and someone did a home run and hit it and it went **Boom Bang** down the gate.*



Room 4: The students have been learning how to recognise and articulate to explain what emotions others may be feeling. It is part of a Mitey - Mental Health programme that John Kirwan set up. The activities we've played use drama and visual art. Some drew a sun or lightning to represent moods.



Room 5 The past couple of weeks have been busy for our senior tamariki and we are enjoying every moment of it. Our year 7's had an awesome time at camp down in Mangawhai making memories and creating new experiences. In class, we presented our super cool adventure guides sharing different forms of tone and text types, well done everyone! Room 5 has also been busy with the MITEY curriculum and learning about identity and uniqueness. We are looking forward to the cricket tournament, more swimming and music projects.



Room 6: We have been having a lot of discussions around "what makes a good friend?" and showing kindness to each other. The students have also been sharing about themselves in their writing and in their artwork. In our music sessions, we have had lots of fun playing different instruments and working in groups to create rhythm patterns.



Special School Events

Year 7&8 Camp

Congratulations to all of our Year 7 and Year 8 students who attended the senior school camp! We enjoyed three days of activities, including team challenges, kayaking, raft building, archery, a confidence course, and more. The amazing team at Bigfoot Adventures ran most of the activities, and we enjoyed some delicious food from our camp caterer. On behalf of our staff, we'd like to thank our parents for their support!



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. We have volleyball tournaments coming up this term. And soccer next term which Ruapotaka School is leading the cluster with at Madden's Park.

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.



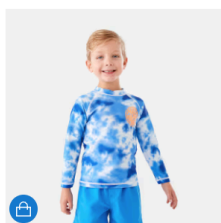
Our school office email is office@Ruapōtaka.school.nz to contact our school secretary Leanne Martin.

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.

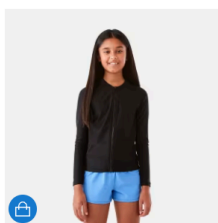


Girls need to wear proper swimwear which can be purchased from the Warehouse for \$12.00. Rash shirts can also be purchased for girls and boys who want to cover up from the Warehouse, KMart, The photos below are from KMart or Warehouse. There is an affordable option.



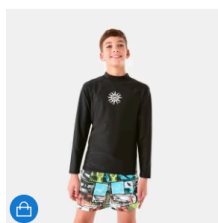
Printed Long Sleeve Rash Vest

\$14



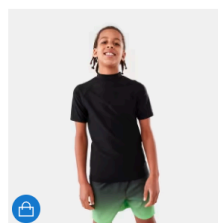
Long Sleeve Zip Through Rash Vest

\$17



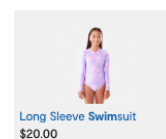
Long Sleeve Printed Rash Vest

\$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



Fringe 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.

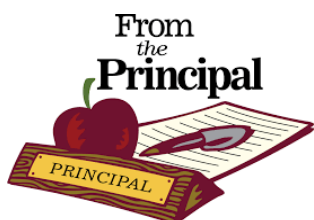
Whole School Assemblies: These also happen fortnightly during the same weeks as the newsletters come out. All whānau are

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
Tue 11 March	Curriculum Information Evening (Postponed)	Wed 12 March	Cricket Cluster Day Tech @ TC
Fri 14 March	Whole School Assembly		
Thurs 27 March	Consent Talks for HPV Y7&8 11.30am-12.30pm	Fri 28 March	Whole School Assembly
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 atu kia mutolu oti and Kia Ora Koutou e te whānau. We are well over 50% of the term and time has slipped by so quickly. The Year 7/8s have been preparing for their school camp up at Mangawhai Heads last week and they had such a great time, although exhausting, the children get lots and lots of life learning and team building. Thank you to the teachers and staff members who supported this event. We run camps every 2 years for the Year 7/8 students only. The cost of camps are so expensive so there is a lot of

fundraising that happens over the two years leading up to it. We could not let it happen without parent help and support. This year we have not had any parent helpers which makes it difficult for the school to supply enough adults to cover the activities. Each year we need 2-3 parents to attend camp. You don't have to pay and you don't run activities that you don't get training in. Please, please, please, to our **Year 5 and Year 6 parents this year, please consider being a camp parent helper in 2027.** We will need to police vet all parents who attend. Parent helpers do not pay for camp but your child will still need to pay and the price may be different to this year.

We are due to have a curriculum evening this term. Due to the busyness of the term we may leave it until the last week of the term. Please look out for this date in the coming weeks.

Thank you to all our whanau for the support that you give the school and continue to support the school. I'll see you next newsletter in Week 9.



Monuina e aho nei,
Allison Hamilton
(Principal)