



# Ruapotaka School Newsletter

Term 1, Week 9 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:** The last two weeks have been focussed on getting back into our class routines. We have shared memories from camp at our school assembly, discovered strategies in Maths to solve fractions and division problems, back to TC for Tech, kelly sports, discussed the importance of Manaakitanga and writing to entertain. Through our Mitey programme we have discussed good friendships, emotions and feelings.



**Room 2:** We are almost reaching the end of the term and the last two weeks have been exploring around school. We went to the sandpit and the kids had fun building castles. Swimming has come to end and students in room 2 have built their confidence in water and have mastered their submerging skills. In maths we have been integrating our number knowledge with building towers.



**Room 3:** Celebrating Ourselves with Mitey! This week, our students have been exploring positive mental health and well-being through our Mitey lessons. They took time to reflect on what they love most about themselves and wrote some really awesome responses. From their kindness and creativity to their sense of humor, determination and style, it was really nice to see them recognise their own strengths.





**Room 4:** Students have been writing about how they help at home and school. They've enjoyed their peaceful-patterns art. In music we have listened to the various tones that different instruments produce. They've listened to the ukulele, orchestra and recorder. For literacy room 4 has been learning how to write words by changing 1 letter eg. POT becomes PAT.



**Room 5:** We are almost at the end of the term and have been working hard in our classroom finishing our instrument focused art, all about me shoe posters, and using assonance and alliteration in our writing. Room 5 had the opportunity to taste test the special lunches made by our brothers from St Kents College and they were delicious! Thank you. Our swimming lessons have come to an end and we hope to continue practising our backstroke techniques at home. We are excited for the volleyball tournament in week 11.



**Room 6:** Our writing focus this week was choosing "wow" words which will make our writing more interesting for the reader. We have been trying to include adjectives and adverbs in our sentences. The maths focus this week for most of the groups has been identifying a number pattern and continuing a sequence. We are becoming more confident at using Google Docs and working on tasks set on our class site.





**STEAM:** In STEAM the seniors classes have been experimenting with amplifying sound. We tried different ways to increase sound, and got some surprising results! Last week we started our engineering project of creating an awesome amplification device for a phone out of recycled materials - we will use the science we have learnt through our experiments to do this.



## Special School Events

### Tamaki Cluster Cricket Field Day

We had a Year 5 & 6 boys team and Year 7 & 8 girls team participating in the cluster field day which was held at Michael's Park in Ellerslie. The games were non competitive and our students enjoyed displaying their cricket skills. A big thank you to Mrs Nicholas for accompanying us and also to Mr Mike for driving the students to and from the venue. We would also like to thank the parents who came to support our students.



### GRIP Leadership Conference

Another eventful GRIP leadership conference this year. Our school prefects engaged with many students from a wide range of schools, sharing ideas of service through leadership in group and one to one conversations. As usual they took away many new ideas, thoughts and wonderings on how to fully support and lead at our school.

Whilst the day was very informative and full on, there were opportunities for us to participate in a variety of activities. Three of our students took part at various times on stage participating in activities that made us proud.



## Important Notices and Reminders

**Deodorant/Antiperspirant for Year 5-8 Students:** As your child gets older and plays more and more sport, they will need deodorant or an antiperspirant to help them with their sweating. If you are looking for an antiperspirant, please use a "roll-on" rather than a "spray", as sprays can affect students and adults who also have hayfever or are susceptible to hayfever. Also choose one that is not small so much as again this can affect students and adults with hay fever or asthma. They do not need to bring this item to school ever or any sprays or smelly items.



**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.

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

## Fundraiser - Easter Goodies Basket



Please support our **Year 8 graduation** by purchasing a raffle ticket which will go into the draw for a basket full of Easter goodies. **Tickets cost \$2.00 each from the school office.** The draw will be on Friday 11th April which is the last day of term.





**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:** Due to the weather getting colder, we will no longer be having swimming lessons this term. Swimming will resume in Term 4.



**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

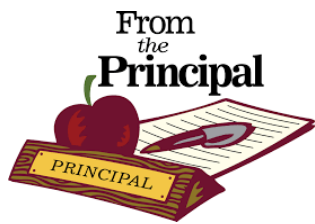
invited to attend any of these assemblies. Assemblies start at 9:15am this year.

**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
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	Cluster Volleyball Day
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)