



Ruapotaka School Newsletter

Term 1, Week 11 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: We are all in disbelief that this is our last week of the term. We accomplished so many things in Room 1 and shared lots of amazing memories. The last two weeks have been full of outdoor activities, learning new mathematical methods of problem solving and writing interesting stories to engage the reader.

Remember to check out our class blog as well as your child's blog to read and see their learning.

Room 2: Can't believe almost the end of term 1. This term room 2 students have settled in really well and are getting to know more about the school and following the routines. These last two weeks have been working on our physical fitness and activities. The students love dancing and doing yoga. They also enjoyed lots of art work and are getting more creative. Well done Room 2 so proud of all that you have done in class and at home. Have a safe and fun filled break.



Room 3: softball, swimming, whanau and curriculum evenings - oh my!!! - what a jam-packed 11 weeks it has been! From exploring onomatopoeia and other language features to expressing our emotions through music-inspired art, we've had creativity flowing in all directions. We've dived into Mitey (mental health), celebrating what makes us special, and built strong classroom routines while showing manaakitanga every step of the way! But it wasn't just about the classroom - our energy was in full swing with softball, volleyball, and swimming keeping us on our toes! This term has been a whirlwind of learning, teamwork, and fun.



Room 4: Students have thought about positive ways they can maintain a friendship through following the Mitey Foundation programme. They wrote actions they could take on feather templates such as "you're clever." They drew pictures of happy things they could do together."



Room 5: We are counting down the days of Term 1 and want to thank our whanau for your continued support for our tamariki. For our seniors in Room 5, it has been a busy term with sports, learning, hosting assemblies, and leading in their monitoring roles. We have had a fun-filled end of term learning volleyball skills in Kelly Sports, getting into our MITEY lessons, and finishing our music projects and art. Ka pai to mahi room 5! Have a wonderful holiday!

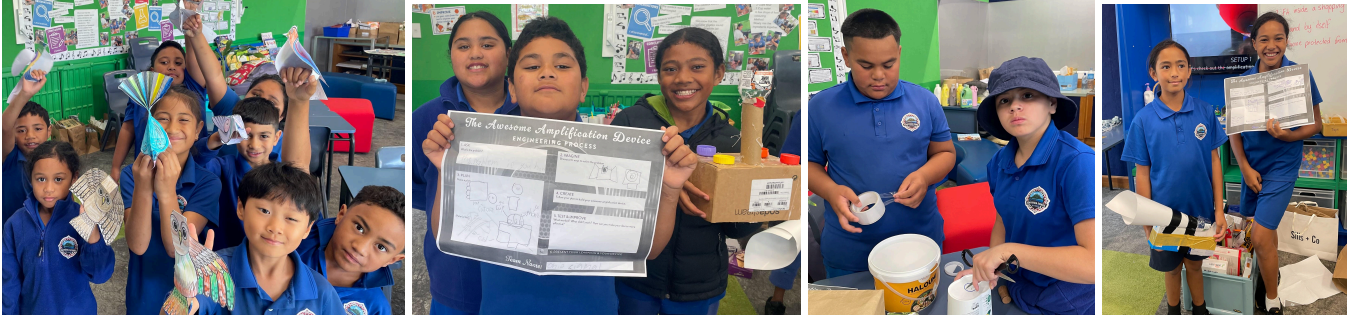


Room 6: We are almost at the end of Term 1. What a busy term it has been! Everyone in Room 6 has worked hard and should be proud of the progress they have made in the last eleven weeks. We have been creating calligram poems for writing, and continue to work on word chains and spelling patterns as part of the BSLA programme. The students are now more familiar with accessing our class site and working on the tasks that have been set. Well done Room 6 you deserve a well earned holiday. Stay safe and look forward to seeing you all back in Term 2.



STEAM: In STEAM the students have been finishing up their learning for the term. The senior students have completed the Sound Amplification Engineering Challenge - they have used the engineering process to create an amplification device for a phone. The Junior students voted on the action their class will do, prompted by their learning around native birds that share our school habitat. Room 2 decided to plant a tree, Room 4 chose to make a sugar water feeder for Tuis and Room 6 voted to reduce predator numbers by setting a trap (we will complete these this week), we hope to increase

the number of native birds and their beautiful song around our school.



Celebrating Creative Writing

The flower was distraught, as its petals wilted away, stained with the colour of soon to be death. The stem was once in youth and stood straight, was now hunched and miserable. My love was shattered as I stared at the lily that once signified an everlasting relationship with my mother. Just to slowly pass away on a window sill. My heart aching as memories flooded my thoughts. Tears flowing from my eyes as well.

Written by Calla Rm 1

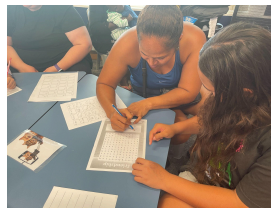
The dust particle felt terrified when he saw the vacuum approach. He moved swiftly under the chair. With the shelter of the chair, the dust had successfully escaped. But a few minutes later he had been exposed. As he heard the vacuum getting louder and louder, he found himself where he never would have thought..."hello there mate" he heard from afar....

Written by Mele Rm 1

Special School Events

Whanau Ako Evening

A couple of weeks ago, we had our annual whanau ako evening where families got to work with their children to learn about our school curriculum and what our learning looks like on a daily basis and how you can help at home. It was a great night and we had many families attend. Please remember if you have any questions, let your child's teacher know.



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. 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 to contact our school secretary Leanne Martin.



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.

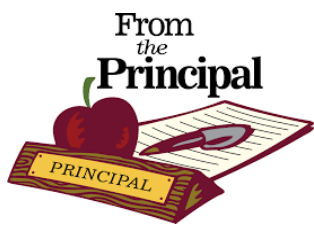
Whole School Assemblies: These also happen fortnightly during the same weeks as the newsletters come out. All whānau are

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 9 April	Cluster Volleyball Day	Wed 9 April	Year 7/8 Tech @ TC
Thurs 10 April	HPV1 for Year 8s 11.30am	Fri 11 April	Last Day Term 1 School finishes at 2.00pm
Thurs 24 April	School Office open 9am -1pm	Fri 25 April	ANZAC Day
Mon 28 April	Term 2 starts	Tues 29 April	Kelly Sports for Y5-8
Wed 30 April	Year 7/8 Tech @ TC	Fri 2 May	Whole School Assembly



Fakaalofa atu kia mutolu oti and Kia Ora Koutou e te whānau. We have finally come to the end of Term 1. I hope you have all remembered to turn your clock back one hour. It feels rather nice to have an extra hour each day and be able to drive to work in the daylight.

Thank you for all your support throughout the term. It has been a long term with 11 weeks and we know some of our tamariki are feeling tired but also excited to have the holidays now only 5 days away. Next term we have a science and

visual arts focus and we have our annual art exhibition in our multipurpose room. As the weather is getting colder, please ensure your child has the correct uniform. We will be adding a long sleeve shirt option and a long pants option to our uniform but unfortunately they will not be ready in time for term 2. If you want to have your child wear a long sleeve please ensure it is the same colour as their normal uniform either royal blue if they are in Year 1-6 or navy blue if they are in Year 7 or Year 8.

We hope you all enjoy your holidays and find some time to relax. If you haven't seen the movie TINA, I highly recommend you go and see it during the holidays. The school office will be open for one day only in the holidays - Thursday 24 April from 9am -1pm for new enrolments and stationery purchases. Have a great holiday everyone and we will see you all back on Monday 28 April when Term 2 starts.



Monuina e aho nei,

Allison Hamilton
(Principal)