



Ruapotaka School Newsletter

Term 2, Week 3 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 have had a fantastic start to the term, kicking off with a couple of days of 100% attendance, what a great example of our commitment as learners! In writing, we have been exploring explanation texts, focusing on how and why things happen. During Kelly Sports, we have been developing our ki-o-rahi skills. This week we are excited to start our new TECH rotation at Tamaki College. Our Year 7 & 8s have also begun Kapa Haka with Whaea Gina and Whaea Cassandra. We had a fantastic celestial navigation session with Mrs Lagitupu, perfectly linking with our term topic on Astronomical Systems. We now look forward to a visit from BLAKE VR and the inspiring NED Show!



Room 2: Term 2 has started with lots of enthusiasm and fun. We have been learning about planets, stars and everything about our solar system. Tamarki have been working hard on their reading tasks as well. This week we made cards and bracelets for Mums for their special day. We also learnt about Rockets in our STEAM session. In Physical education we are practising our underarm and overarm throw skills.



Room 3: It's been a busy and exciting start to the term as we settle back into our school routines! We've been diving into *Mitey* and *PB4L*, focusing on building resilience and supporting each other to be our best selves. Kelly Sports has also been a hit, keeping us active and energised. Looking ahead, we're launching into our new discovery topic—**Astronomical Systems**. If your child starts rattling off fun facts about planets, stars, or how long it takes to get to the moon... that's why! Stay tuned—there's plenty more to come from the galaxy of Room 3.

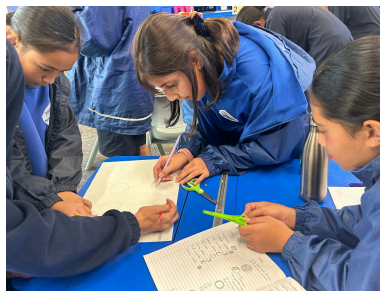


Room 4:

Room 4 expressed their wonderment of our solar system by drawing colourful supernovas and comparing the relative sizes of the planets using adjectives such as "big, bigger, large, gigantic, massive and enormous. The above photo is of a space shuttle with labels pointing out combustion chambers and other parts. The boys particularly enjoyed this schematic art!



Room 5: We have had a productive start to term 2 as we focus on the solar system planets, sun, and moon for Discovery. We are enjoying planning our art projects and setting goals for the remainder of the term. The senior school is learning kio-rahi in the Kelly Sports programme and have been working really hard in reading and writing. We are currently focusing on explanation and recount writing for term 2. In maths we have been working on our division, times tables, and Prime books. We are looking forward to the Blake VR session, Rotuman Language Week, and more Kapa Haka practice. Well done, Room 5!



Room 6: We have launched enthusiastically into our Discovery topic, The Sun and the Solar System. We all know the names of the planets and we have been reading and writing about the sun this week. Room 6 is curious to learn more about our galaxy, the Milky Way. We are working hard on our Prime books. Our focus at the moment is addition and subtraction. We have also been continuing with the Mitey Programme. In visual art, Room 6 learnt about hot and cold colours and created a piece of art depicting autumn leaves.



STEAM: We have had a great start to term 2 in the STEAM room! The junior school has begun to learn about rockets. They made a puff rocket and started talking about forces that act on a rocket. They had lots of fun blowing air into the straw to make the rocket launch. The senior school began their exploration of Mars. They learnt about the engineering needed to ensure a safe landing on the planet Mars for the Mars rovers. They then had a chance to follow the engineering process and create a parachute that would help a weight to gently and safely land when dropped from the playground. This proved challenging and meant that testing and improving their designs was essential.



Special School Events

Tamaki Cluster Football Day: We had four teams participating in the football field day. Our students had a lot of fun on the day. It was the first time participating in an inter school tournament for our Year 3 students, who showed great resilience. It was an enjoyable day for all the students who participated. We would like to thank the parents who volunteered to manage two of the teams and others who came to support our tamariki.



NED SHOW: The NED Show is coming to our school to perform on Wednesday 14th May in the multi-purpose room. **NED's Resiliency Ride**, is a character education program that centers around three important messages that have lifelong relevance: Never give up, Encourage others and Do your best. During the assembly, students will learn about the importance of these three life skills while also enjoying storytelling, magic, humor and yo-yo tricks. Students will have the opportunity to order or purchase merchandise (yo-yo's) after the show. Please contact Mrs Lagitupu or the office for more information.

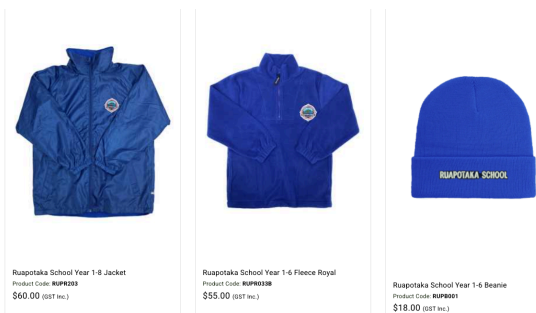


Important Notices and Reminders

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 2: We currently do not have a winter uniform as such but you can wear item of clothing as long as they are all the same colour. All years 1-6 students will wear only royal blue uniform and all the Year 7-8 wear navy blue uniform. This year we are wanting to add some more items to our uniform and look at **changing some parts of the uniform** as well. We would like to hear your thoughts on our current uniform and what you would like to see added or changed in our current uniform. **At our learning conversations this term we will be asking you to fill in a survey and we will also put it on our school website and facebook**

page for you to fill in.



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.

Netball: We are happy to announce that our Year 6 netball team (Ruapotaka Rebels) will be playing their first game at the St John's netball courts on Thursday 15th May. Our team is made up of Year 5 and Year 6 students from Rooms 3 and 5. Games will take place on Thursdays after school throughout term 2 and part of term 3. Good luck girls!

ERO Attendance Survey: Researchers at the Education Review Office (ERO) are doing some research about school attendance. They want to hear your thoughts about what makes a difference. **Please help** by clicking on this survey link: [Parent and Whanau survey](#). You will find this link on our school Facebook page.

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



Important Dates for Term 2 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.

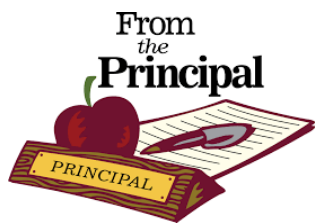
Whole School Assemblies: These also happen fortnightly during the same weeks as the newsletters come out. All whānau are

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
Mon 12 May	Blake vR show for Senior School	Tue 13 May	Kelly Sports for Senior School
Wed 14 May	Save day cluster football	Wed 14 May	Yr 7/8 Tech @ TC / NED Show
Fri 16 May	Whole School Assembly	Tue 20 May	Kelly Sports for Senior School
Tue 21 May	Yr 7/8 Tech @ TC	Fri 23 May	9.15am Junior Whanau Assembly
Tue 27 May	Kelly Sports for Senior School	Wed 28 May	Yr 7/8 Tech @ TC
Fri 30 May	Manaiakalani Cluster Teacher Only Day - School Closed		
Mon June 2nd	Samoan Language Week begins	Mon 2nd June	King's Birthday Holiday. School Closed.
Tue 3rd June	Trip to Te Tuhi Art Gallery	Wed 4th June	Trip to Te Tuhi Art Gallery
Wed 4th June	Yr 7/8 Tech @ TC	Fri 6th June	9.15am Junior Whanau Assembly
Tue 10 June	Kelly Sports for Senior School	Wed 11 June	Yr 7/8 Tech @ TC
Fri 13 June	Whole School Assembly	Tue 17 June	Kelly Sports for Senior School
Wed 18 June	Yr 7/8 Tech @ TC	Thurs 19 June	Learning Conferences 8.00am to 7.30 pm. School Open for conferences only. Art Exhibition Day in the multipurpose room.
Fri 20 June	Matariki Holiday. School Closed	Mon 23 June	Trip to Stardome Rooms 1&5
Tue 24 June	Kelly Sports for Senior School	Tue 24 June	Ki-o-rahi cluster day
Tue 24 June	Trip to Stardome Rooms 3&6	Wed 25 June	Yr 7/8 Tech @ TC
Fri 27 June	Whole School Assembly	Fri 27 June	Last Day Term 2 finishing at 2pm



Fakaalofa atu kia mutolu oti and Kia Ora Koutou e te whānau. A warm welcome to all our new families this term.

Please remember to keep an eye on the important dates above as we start getting into the learning this term. Teachers are beginning to start their assessments ready to write their mid-year report for each student in their classroom. Please make sure that your child is at school so you can have accurate information about your child when we come to have our learning

conversations with you.

Thank you to the parents who helped with the 4 soccer teams that went out last week and represented the school. It is always great to see you, our parents and whanau on the sidelines of our sports events. If you can help out with transport or coaching please let Mrs M know. We can only offer as much as staff can do. With the weather changing please make sure that your child has the right uniform that they can keep warm on colder days and also remove should the day get warmer.



Monuina e aho nei,
Allison Hamilton
(Principal)