



Ruapotaka School Newsletter

Term 2, Week 5 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...

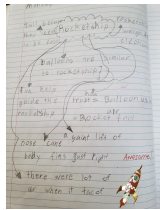
Room 1: Room 1 has had an exciting few weeks filled with learning and fun. We loved the BLAKE VR session, using virtual reality headsets to dive into the ocean and explore in 360 degrees. The NED Show inspired us to never give up, do our best, and encourage others. Our blogging skills are improving as we learn to share our learning online. We are also practising daily self-reflections and growing in confidence each day. In Kapa Haka, we have learned a new waiata and are proud of our progress. Some of us have joined the Pasifika group and enjoyed learning a new song with Mrs Folu. We finished the week by presenting our research about our chosen astronomical objects.



Room 2: The past two weeks have been exploring our science topics on shadows and the importance of the sun. We have been drawing shadows of different objects and making different things with our hands to make shadows. Our little class has been growing and all the newcomers have settled in well and are building their friendship and helping each other. In maths we are learning about shapes and students have been very creative with their creations like rockets, a teddy bear and house with the shapes. We also made some cool glasses with pipe cleaners.



Room 3: It's been a busy few weeks in our classroom! We've been exploring big ideas through our Mitey programme, creating colourful and thoughtful feathers that weave together and reflect our strengths and wellbeing journeys. We've also blasted off into our space discovery, into the wonders of the solar system and imagining what it would take to build our own rockets. As part of our writing focus, we've begun crafting informative pieces on how to build a space rocket — combining creativity with clear instructions. Watch this space... future astronauts in the making!



Room 5: We have been busy working hard on our reading, writing, and maths tasks. We focused on the school values of resilience and respect the past two weeks and have tried our best to never give up. In MITEY we have been enjoying learning about kakāhu which was centred around our values and strengths. Our discovery projects are under way and we are looking forward to adding our different textures, designs, and solar system representations. Well done on your hard mahi Room 5!



Room 6: Room 6 has been busy the last two weeks with lots of learning going on. We are right into our topic on Space. Our reading, writing and visual art have been based around the sun, moon and planets. We have also been observing the changes in our shadows throughout the day. In our Cybersmart sessions with Mrs Grant we have been learning to create blog posts. Our posts will be up for viewing very soon.



STEAM: The juniors have begun learning about thrust and how rockets use thrust, which is a force, to blast off. We used different balloon shapes to experiment with how the shape affects how the balloon travels when we let them go and the air rushes out. The seniors have begun exploring the engineering that went into the Mars rovers that are exploring Mars and how we can begin to think like engineers - testing and improving our



Special School Events

Blake VR Show

Last week our students had the amazing opportunity to dive into the ocean—virtually!!! The Blake VR experience took them beneath the waves to explore the difference between thriving marine environments and polluted ocean beds. The presenters shared inspiring ways we can care for our moana and become kaitiaki of our waterways.



NED Show

A couple of weeks ago, our students were treated to the NED Show. We saw some impressive yoyo tricks from Sean, our NED presenter. Sean reminded us of the message behind NED, which stands for **Never give up, Encourage others, and Do your best**. Thank you to everyone who purchased yoyos—your support helps make it possible for another school to experience the NED Show for free!



Netball: Our Year 6 netball team (Ruapotaka Rebels) have won their first 2 games so far! Well done girls! Thank you to all their families who have been great supporters from the sidelines. Thank you to Nicky and Skylar (coaches) as well as all the teachers who have been supporting with transport, notices, taking care of gear etc: Whaea Kai, Ms Erick, Mrs Lagitupu, Mrs Molamure, Ms Ibbertson and Ms Setefano.



Important Notices and Reminders

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.

Teacher ONLY Day: This Friday 30th May, we have our annual Manaiakalani Teachers Only and the school will be closed for instruction. Please ensure you make arrangements for your children.



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:

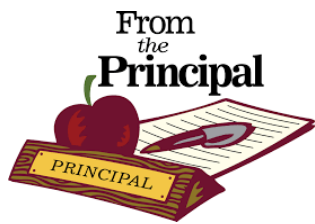
Newsletters: These come out to the eldest and only in hard copy each fortnight in Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9.

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.

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 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.

We are now half way through the term and teacher's are getting assessments done for their report writing. Thank you to all our parents for making your children come to school every day. Please know that there are some nasty germs going around causing sore tummies, runny noses and headaches. If any of your children let you know when they wake up that they are not feeling well,

please check them out thoroughly before bringing them to school. If students arrive at school with a cough and look unwell we will be sending them home immediately. I have reminded students of the need to cough or sneeze into their elbows to keep the spread of germs to a minimum. We also have a few face masks at school that are also available and can be worn at school at any time to protect themselves and others around them if they are not feeling well.

This Friday is a Manaiakalani Teacher's Only Day and the school will be closed. Please ensure you do not send your child to school as all the teachers will be at Panmure Bridge School and there will be no-one here to greet children. Our roll is slowly growing and we know there are a number of new buildings that are coming up to completion by the end of the year. If you know of anyone with school aged children, it is best for them to come and pre-enrol their child to ensure that we are ready for them. Due to the increase in our roll, we may be looking to move some students around and we will try our best to make as little disruption as possible.



Monuina e aho nei,
Allison Hamilton
(Principal)