



# Ruapotaka School Newsletter

Term 2, 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:

Room 1 had a fantastic time visiting Te Tuhi, where we learned about Pacific Migration. We even created some stunning line art, using ink and skewers. We enjoyed celebrating Samoa Language Week by making beautiful *ili* (fans), learning the Samoan national anthem, and exploring the rich history of the island nation. To finish off the week, we had a great time playing ki-o-rahi with Coach Boston, building our teamwork and game skills through play. Some of us were also lucky to build and launch our rockets on the school field.



### Room 2:

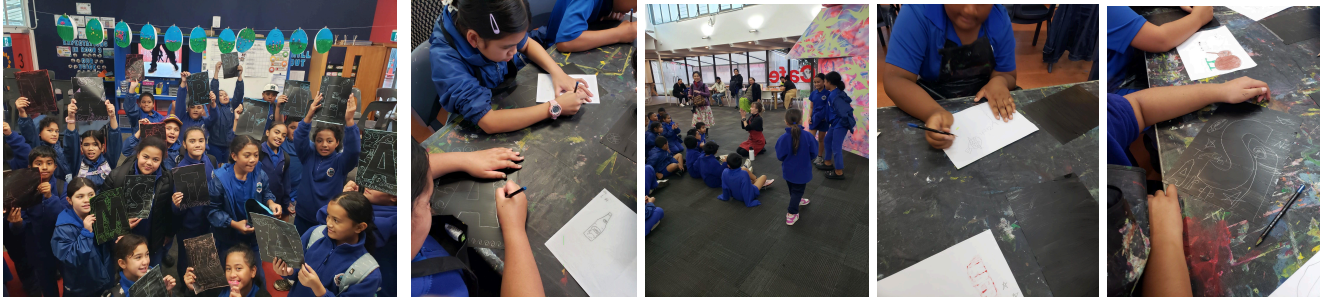
What a busy last week has been. Room 2 had a wonderful visit to the Te Tuhi art gallery. Taariki enjoyed the printing art work and loved creating their initials on the paper. A huge thank you to all the parent helpers who supported us with the trip. We also celebrated Samoan language week and created wonderful *ili*. Our Samoan students shared their wonderful work with the whole school.



**Room 3: Te Tuhi Art Gallery Trip** - Our class had an exciting trip to the Te Tuhi Art Gallery this week! The students enjoyed a hands-on etching workshop where they created their own unique artworks.



We also explored one of the large sculptures on display and learned about how artists use space and materials to tell stories. The bus ride added to the adventure, and overall it was a fun, creative day full of inspiration and imagination!



**Room 4:** We have rolled planets using playdough and coloured planets with pastel. Students have been learning that Mars is red because of the iron, Saturn has brown marks showing violent storms and Earth is blue because of our life-giving oceans. There is a wonderment of how Earth is still the ONLY planet that has all we need. And we need to look after our planet.



**Room 5:** The past couple of weeks have been busy. We had an awesome time at Te Tuhi gallery learning the history of journeys to Aotearoa from around the world and creating artwork inspired by this. We also enjoyed celebrating Samoan Language Week, showing our cultural attire and performing dance, song, and lauga Fa'asamoa (Samoan speech). Well done, everyone! We also had a fantastic time creating innovative rockets during the Rocketeer Programme. We are looking forward to finishing our science and art projects and celebrating international language week. Malo lava, vasega 5!



**Room 6:** This was a short but busy week for us. First we had the trip to Te Tuhi Art Gallery and then we ended the week on a special note with the closing ceremony of the Samoan Language Week. While at Te Tuhi, we learnt the techniques of painting and etching. The theme of our artwork was "I am NZ." We designed and made our own illi for the competition which was held as part of the Samoan Language week celebrations. Well done Jordan T for winning the competition!





**STEAM:** This week the students have been using the Engineering Process steps of testing and improving. They are testing and improving the wheels on the rovers they made. Along the way they have been learning about potential and kinetic energy. The students learnt about how to conduct a fair test to work out what wheels worked best. We had lots of fun creating and designing and testing.



## Special School Events

**Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa - Samoa Language Week:** We proudly celebrated Samoa Language Week under the 2025 theme '*la malu lou sã. Folau i lagimã – A well-grounded self, is a successful self*'. This powerful message reminds us that when we are grounded in our identity, culture, and values, we are better prepared to face challenges and succeed. Throughout the week, our students embraced this theme by learning the Samoan anthem, creating beautiful *ili* (fans), and exploring the rich history and traditions of Samoa. These experiences helped strengthen our sense of belonging and cultural pride. We believe that celebrating language and culture builds resilience and confidence in our learners, helping them stand strong in who they are. Thank you whanau, students and staff for making this week such a success!

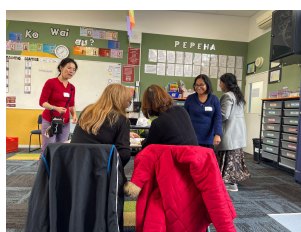




**Visit to Te Tuhi Art Gallery:** The visit to Te Tuhi Art Gallery was a very successful learning experience for our students. The hands-on experiences planned for them were engaging and enjoyable. The children got the opportunity to try out different art techniques such as painting, sketching and print making. We would like to thank Bri and the team at Te Tuhi for giving us this opportunity and also for funding the cost of the buses. A big thank you to all our whanau who took time off their busy schedules to support our students.



**Manaiakalani Teachers ONLY Day:** A couple of weeks ago we had our annual Manaiakalani Teachers ONLY Day and all our teaching staff ran a workshop for other teachers and leaders of Manaiakalani. It was a privilege to attend the workshops that they were leading in to support them and to enjoy the work they had planned. We are very proud of our teachers, Ms Erick, Miss Setefano, Miss Ibbertson, Mrs Lagitupu, Mrs Joshi, Mrs M and Mrs Vowles for their contribution to what was an inspirational day with Slr Ian Taylor as our guest speaker.



**Netball:** Congratulations to our Year 6 netball team who have won their 4th game in a row at the St John's netball courts. Netball training is held straight after school on Tuesdays with our coaches Nicky-Lee and Skylar. Thank you to our parents and staff for their ongoing support.

**Rocketeer Programme:** Thank you to Youthtown for organising the 'Rocketeer' programme for our students in Rooms 3 and 5 on Friday. The students enjoyed putting together their rockets and launching them on our school field.





## Important Notices and Reminders



Ruspotaka School Year 1-6 Jacket  
Product Code: #RSPJ208  
\$60.00 (GST inc.)



Ruspotaka School Year 1-6 Fleece Royal  
Product Code: #RSPF208  
\$55.00 (GST inc.)



Ruspotaka School Year 1-6 Beanie  
Product Code: #RSPB201  
\$18.00 (GST inc.)

**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.



**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

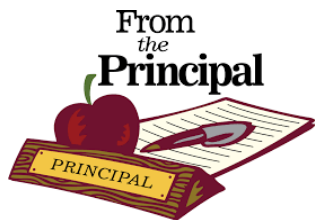
invited to attend any of these assemblies. Assemblies start at 9:15am this year.

**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 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	<b>Learning Conferences</b> 8.00am to 7.30 pm. School Open for conferences only. Art Exhibition Day in the multipurpose room.



Fri 20 June	<b>Matariki Holiday. School Closed</b>	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.

The long weekend has come and gone in a blink of the eye. I hope that you managed to get time to be a family and do what your family enjoys doing. The weather is pretty hit and miss at the moment so please remember to have students wear a school jumper during this term and next term. By the time you read this we will have 3 weeks left of the term, which means we are half way through the year!

What a scary thought. We will also have our learning conversations coming up next Thursday so please make sure you have booked your learning conversation with your child's teacher. You will not be getting the school report before these meetings. Whanau who do not come to the learning conversations/parent interviews will need to wait until the end of the year and they will be sent home with the students. .



Monuina e aho nei,  
Allison Hamilton  
(Principal)