



# RUAWAI COLLEGE NEWS

**Ruawai**  
COLLEGE  
Respect  
Resilience  
Responsibility

*Tena Koutou te Whanau o Te Kura o Ruawai  
Greetings to the families of Ruawai College*

**Term 2 Week 5  
Thursday 30 May  
2024**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday 3 June**  
King's Birthday -  
**SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Tuesday 4 June**  
NCEA TEACHER ONLY DAY -  
**SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Tuesday 4 - Friday 7 June**  
RC Arts & Cultural Week

**Friday 7 June**  
School Tyre Flipping  
NW Cross Country

**Monday 10 - Friday 14 June**  
Gateway Week

**Thursday 13 June**  
Northland Primary School  
Cross Country

**Friday 21 June**  
General Knowledge Quiz  
Senior Visual Arts Trip

**Monday 24 - Friday 28 June**  
Matariki Week

**Tuesday 25 June**  
NSS Cross Country

**Friday 28 June**  
Matariki Public Holiday -  
**SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Tuesday 2 July**  
QRC visit

**Thursday 4 July**  
Project Pest Control, Kai Iwi  
Lakes

**Friday 5 July**  
End of Term 2

## TUMUAKI | PRINCIPAL'S KORERO

Aidyn Rasmussen

Kia ora koutou katoa,



Term 2 has gotten off to a good start as students start settling into the rhythm of teaching and learning and it has been great to do some learning walks over the past few weeks to witness this in action. Seniors will have a number of internal assessments due at the moment, so I wish them well in gaining credits - students if you are unsure about managing multiple assessments or what your next learning step might be - remember to ask your Learning Advisory teacher for support. I would like to welcome Alexandra Smith who has joined the Ruawai College whānau one day a week as a guidance counsellor. Alexandra is an experienced guidance counsellor who works at several schools in Tai Tokerau so we are lucky to add her skills to our kete - Welcome!

### Parent Student Interviews

Recently we held Parent Student interviews and it was great to meet many of you and hear how well our students are doing. With our Strategic Plan guiding all we do, we have set some ambitious achievement targets. We would like to see all our young people achieving their personal best, and as a community coming together to celebrate their achievements. Thank you to all whānau for your ongoing support.

### NCEA Literacy and Numeracy

As part of the new NCEA programme, there are now a series of literacy and numeracy exams that students need to pass to achieve NCEA Level 1. Well done to all students who have sat the writing, reading, and numeracy corequisite exam. Remember to strive for your personal best with NCEA and your learning in general!

A reminder that next Tuesday 4 June is a Teacher Only Day (National Accord Day) which is being provided to high schools nation-wide to support the implementation of the New Zealand Curriculum and NCEA changes.

## Pink Shirt Day

Pink Shirt Day is an anti-bullying campaign that celebrates diversity and creates environments where all people can feel safe, valued, and respected. On Friday 17th May, students from Ruawai College supported this cause by wearing something pink for the day. We managed to raise \$150.00 towards the campaign.

- Karen Exley, Acting  
Deputy Principal



## Keep in Touch

Ruawai College Website: [www.ruawaicollege.school.nz](http://www.ruawaicollege.school.nz)  
Phone: 09 439 2216

Follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege](http://www.facebook.com/ruawaicollege)



## Treaty of Waitangi

Our Year 13 history class recently travelled North for a trip to the Waitangi Treaty Grounds, a journey that has deepened our understanding of New Zealand's foundational history. The trip offered a busy educational experience into the significant events and narratives that shaped the nation. Our class was lucky to have an exceptional educator from Waitangi treaty grounds named Karen. Karen's extensive knowledge and engaging storytelling, that she staggered to partner with the relevant sections within the museum, provided us with a thorough visual and verbal walkthrough of New Zealand's history, specifically focusing on the Treaty of Waitangi.

Her explanations were informative and will be very helpful for the upcoming history assessments. Her detailed korero about the Treaty's causes, the involved parties, and the far-reaching consequences of its signing showed the complexities of this historical event. Karen guided us through various exhibits that showcased artefacts and documents from the period. The museum's collection offered a tangible connection to the past, allowing us to see firsthand the items that played a role in the events we've studied. From the signing pens to original copies of the treaty, each artifact added depth to our understanding. Karen's korero was particularly helpful and informative as she explained the socio-political landscape of the time, giving us a clearer picture of the motivations and implications behind the treaty.

In addition to the museum tour, we had the privilege of witnessing a cultural performance including a welcome, oratory, waiata, haka, poi dance and te rakau. The performance was a vibrant display of music, dance, and storytelling, and a beautiful complement to the historical knowledge we gained. We also visited Hobson's House. Karen shared stories about Hobson's family and interests, the late night Treaty writing, and also about the purchase of the house whenua and its upkeep through a trust.

The trip also included a visit to an exhibition of modern Maori art. This section of our tour showcased the fusion of old and new in the artwork demonstrating how contemporary Maori artists are engaging with and reinterpreting traditional themes and motifs. We also spent time looking at pou, carved by different tribes and the Waka Ngātokimatawhaorua. Karen shared stories about the construction and purpose of building Ngātokimatawhaorua and also discussed the symbolism and narratives shown in a range of carvings.

- Amanda McMillan, Head of Learning Social Sciences



## Literacy Quiz

On the 10th of May, the halls of Ruawai College echoed with excitement as students gathered for the annual literacy quiz. Teams from each house competed fervently, showcasing their literary knowledge and language skills. After a fierce battle of wits, Rimu emerged victorious with an impressive 377 points, securing the top spot. Kauri followed closely behind, claiming second place with 340 points.

The highest-scoring team, composed of Emma Johnson, Serenity Dougherty, Mahailiaz Sesega, and Ezekiel Devlyn-Cullen, demonstrated exceptional knowledge of figurative language, comprehension skills, and spelling abilities. Their stellar performance not only contributed to Rimu's triumph but also underscored the importance of teamwork.

The event was great fun and a positive step in furthering Ruawai College's commitment to promoting literacy and fostering a love for reading among students.

- Malcolm Crisp, Head of Learning English





## Goat Island

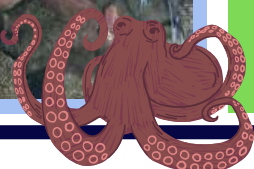
Our Year 12 class recently enjoyed an educational trip to Goat Island, where we had a unique opportunity to explore the rich marine environment and understand the critical efforts behind marine conservation.

The day's activities started with a visit to the Marine Discovery Center, where we engaged with interactive exhibits and were given a presentation on the philosophies, values, perspectives, and behaviors that marine conservationists adopt and lobby for to promote future-focussed sustainable fishing and protect marine ecosystems. The educators at the center explained how marine reserves like Goat Island serve as crucial sanctuaries for marine life, helping to preserve biodiversity and replenish fish stocks. We also learnt about how these reserves continue to benefit recreational and commercial fishing by providing a space for fish to reproduce safely.

The main message from the day was the emphasis on sustainability. We were introduced to the importance of eco-tourism in supporting conservation efforts. We also had an opportunity to go on the glass-bottom boat and see the marine life and help that we had learnt about at the speaker presentations. The idea that tourism can be both enjoyable and beneficial to the environment was another perspective that was useful for our assignment.

The trip to Goat Island was not only educational but also a lot of fun.

- Amanda McMillan, Head of Learning Social Sciences



## Equestrian

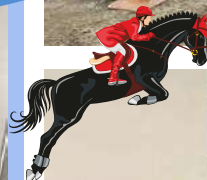
### Combined Training:

On Tuesday 9th of April, I represented Ruawai College in Kaikohe at the Northland Secondary Schools combined training, where I completed a dressage test and then a round of showjumping. At the end of the day I came away with a 3rd place for a dressage, then a clear show jumping round left me in 3rd overall out of 32 riders in my height. The team I was in, Ruawai/Dargaville/Otamatea, was sitting 6th out of 16 teams after dressage but ended up in 9th after show jumping.

### NISS Horse Trials:

On Friday 17th of May, I headed down to Taupō to compete in the North Island Secondary Schools Horse Trials. Over the weekend we competed in dressage, show jumping and cross country. After the dressage I was sitting in 7th out of 65 riders in the 80cm and then a clear show jumping moved me up into 5th. On Sunday we had our Cross country and ended in an unfortunate elimination. My team, which was made up of Ruawai, Orewa and Northcote, ended up 11th out of 26 teams. Although the weekend ended unfortunately, the experience itself made it worth it.

- Alyssa Bishop, Prefect



The Ruawai Way  
Resilience, Manawaroa

Try, try and try again  
Make wise choices  
Embrace challenges and opportunities

## ANZCA

ANZAC day is a national day of remembrance observed in Australia and New Zealand to honour Australians and New Zealanders who served and died in all wars. On the 25th of April 2024, the Prefect team of myself (Head Girl) and Malachi (Prefect) attended the Ruawai ANZAC service at the Ruawai Memorial Hall, where we laid a wreath on behalf of our school.

- Taynah Hardy, Head Girl

Alyssa (Prefect) and I attended the Matakohe ANZAC parade. This was an incredible experience where we got to meet a local veteran who fought in the Korean War. He had copious amounts of incredible stories to tell. After the parade, I was asked to attend the ceremony which was held in the Kauri Museum. During this ceremony, I had the opportunity to read a poem from a famous 1940s poet, Rupert Brooke. This was both a scary and exciting experience, considering the hundreds of people who attended.

- Lucas Hassall, Head Boy



## The Ruawai Way Responsibility, Takohanga

Follow instructions  
Be on time and ready to learn  
Make it right  
Follow school tikanga

### REMHINDER

**Mobile Phones:** Mobile phones should be left at the office on arrival at school and picked up at the end of the day. We have seen a significant drop in social media harm to our students since we implemented this policy. Thank you for your continued support.

**Student Appointments:** It is vital that if students leave the school grounds they must sign out at the office and sign in again upon arrival. For appointments during the school day, we ask that parents/caregivers please phone in advance and let the office know. Messages can be left on our phone's after hours answering service.

**Permission and Consent Form:** Please return promptly the **DAY AFTER** the notice goes home.

## Project Pest Control

Project Pest Control is a three day course run by the Northland Region Council and Enviroschools where students learn about the control of various pests including possums. Over the first two days the students went to Lake Waikere and Kai Iwi Lakes and learnt how to skin, hand pluck and machine pluck possums along with setting a trap line which was checked the next day. Our school trapped two possums that they then had to deal with. Six Year 11 students attended this course to support their Social Studies learning about Taking Action and Digital Technology learning where they will use their design skills to create pest control logos and information packs. The students are now setting their own traps at school and keeping a log book of their results before returning to Kai Iwi Lakes for their final assessment at the end of the term.

Thanks to Roger Dallison for transporting the students and keeping them on track for the first two days. The students thoroughly enjoyed it.

- Jenny Dallison, Head of Learning Technology



## Dargaville Rotary

On the 28th of March, I attended the monthly Dargaville Rotary meeting to share my experiences of the National Rotary Science and Technology Forum with them as they were the ones that made it all possible. I also took the time to let them know of my acceptance into the London International Youth Science Forum. Through their kindness and generosity, they and the other Rotary groups were able to donate \$2,500 to my fundraising which is truly unforgettable.

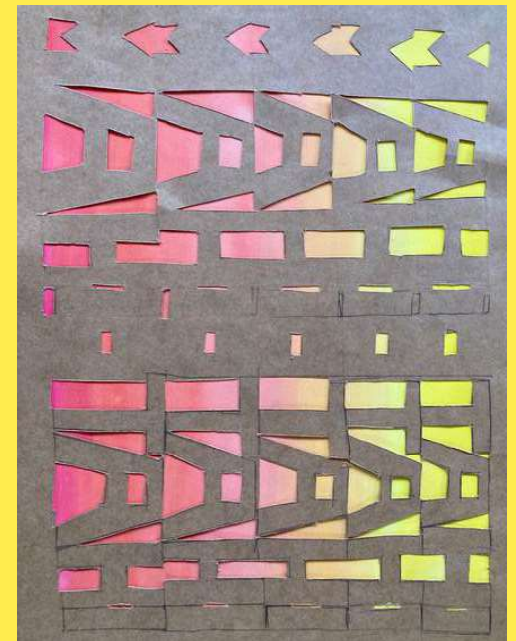
- Lucas Hassall, Head Boy



## Science RoadShow

This year, the Year 8 class had the privilege of experiencing science outside the classroom at the Science Roadshow on the 13th May at Dargaville Intermediate School. The purpose of the trip was for students to experience science presented to them from a different perspective that they may find interesting and exciting. This will have sparked special interests in various fields in science amongst students. The students enjoyed the trip overall.

- Peni Leao, Head of Learning Science



## REMINDER

### How to Access the Ruawai College School Docs:

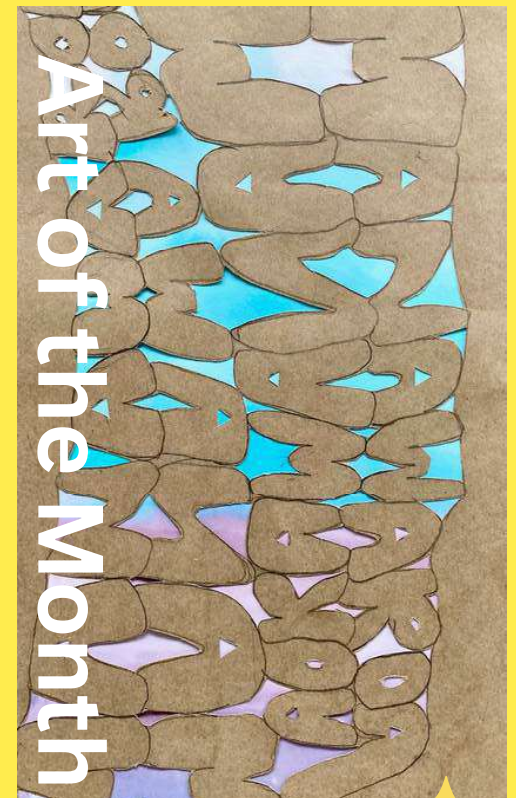
- Go to [www.schooldocs.co.nz](http://www.schooldocs.co.nz)
- Click on the "Search for your school" green button on the top right hand side
- Search "Ruawai College"

Both the username and password is ruawai

**Naming Gear** - A lot of uniform and non-uniform items are handed in to the office, some of which are very expensive. Please ensure all items brought or worn to school are named so lost items can be returned to their rightful owners.

**Contact Information** - Please remember to keep all information up to date. E.g. emails, addresses, contact numbers and emergency contacts.

TERM 2 SPORTS CALENDAR	
Friday 31 May	Cross Country
Monday 3 June	King's Birthday
Friday 7 June	Northern Wairoa Cross Country
Thursday 13 June	Northland Primary Cross Country
Tuesday 25 June	NSS Cross Country
Friday 28 June	Matariki Public Holiday
Friday 5 July	Last day of Term 2



## Senior Boys Basketball

On Thursday 23rd of May, we took a team of Senior Boys to compete in the Northland Secondary Schools Basketball qualifier held at ASB Stadium, Whangarei. The team played against many schools such as Rodney College and Otamatea High School.

The students who competed did the school extremely proud with their attitudes, despite the results. Well done to those students who had participated! A lot of teamwork was shown and overall it was an awesome day.

A huge thank you to Milly Llewellyn and the parents who turned up and supported.

- Hazel Hornell, Sports Coordinator



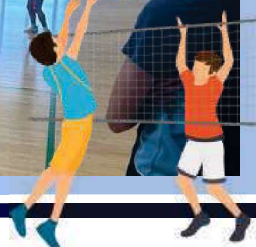
## Mixed Senior Volleyball

On Tuesday 28th of May, a group of senior students got the chance to participate in the NSS Mixed Volleyball tournament held at ASB Stadium, Whangarei.

This was a day full of excitement and laughter. There were many triumphs and exciting moments. We managed to win two sets and had a great time.

Thank you to Hazel and Paddy for being great supporters and giving us pointers from the sidelines.

- Lucas Hassall, Head Boy





**The Ruawai Way  
Respect, Whakaute**

Mahi tahi  
Use school appropriate language  
Accept differences  
Treat people and property well

### Special Assessment Condition (SAC) Volunteers Wanted!

Ruawai College is calling for volunteers to assist approved students who need readers or writers to help them complete assessments.

There is no set date for these assessments, volunteers will be called upon on an as-needed basis.

If you can assist, please contact our Learning Support Coordinator Mrs Fiona Togia at [ftogia@ruawaicollege.school.nz](mailto:ftogia@ruawaicollege.school.nz)

## 2024 Board Meeting Dates

6.00pm

Tuesday 22 August

Tuesday 19 September

Tuesday 7 November

Tuesday 5 December

RUAWAI COLLEGE

## S.A.C Volunteers Wanted

### Local sponsors of the Skool Loop app

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RUAWAI COLLEGE

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Last Chance to Order, Friday 27 September

