Rotorua Lakes High School

"Mauria te pono - Keep steadfastly to the truth"

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #1 – FRIDAY 31 JANUARY 2025

CONTENTS

From the Principal – P. 1 - 4
Term 1 2025 info P. 5 - 8
Student Successes - P. 8
Careers / Gateway – P. 9
Public Notices – P. 10

Kia ora Koutou

WELCOME BACK TO ALL STUDENTS / WHĀNAU & STAFF

On behalf of the staff at Lakes High, I am happy to welcome you to the 2025 school year! We especially welcome all our new students and their families. I hope your summer has gone well and you are refreshed and looking forward to the beginning of school.

We had a very positive pōwhiri on Wednesday, welcoming our Yr 9's and new students. Thank you to everyone who attended, it was great to see our students so enthusiastic and engaged. A special thank you to our ākonga and kaiako for organizing this event and to the Puketāwhero students and prefects who were present to tautoko this important occasion. Thank you so much to Matua Clark Pirika who extended a warm welcome on behalf of Ngati Te Roro o te Rangi and Matua Tamati Coffey who responded on behalf of the manuhiri.

Our staff only day last week was a great success. Huge thanks to Hine Waitere and Nyree King for their invaluable insights. We were able to foster professional development, ensure our school values were reinforced; Whakapapa, Whanaungatanga, Wairuatanga, Manaakitanga which are a core focus to enhance our school-wide culture. This day was essential for promoting a culture of continuous improvement and support among our staff, ultimately benefiting our students and the entire school community. (further details on page 2).

One of the key components of successful outcomes for students is being in school. I would like to take this opportunity to remind our community that school attendance is an expectation. We will be tracking absences this year to ensure students and whānau have support when needed. In some circumstances absence from school is unavoidable. We ask that if you have any difficulties please contact us early so that we can help support you to resolve those issues.

As teachers our job is to empower the students with the tools and resources they need to do great things and progress with their education and life skills. As we continue to develop the school to provide for the needs of our students, we will work to ensure that everyone receives the support needed. In turn, we trust that our students will take responsibility and ownership of their own learning and remember that, if in doubt, always ask for help.

We are delighted to welcome our new staff members to Lakes High:

PAUL LENIHAN	-	MATHS/TECHNOLOGY
TIM SMITH	-	MUSIC/ARTS
TE AO PRANGNELL	-	DRAMA/DANCE
SOPHIE HOSKINS	-	PE/OUTDOOR EDUCATION

We look forward to working with you and to a very successful 2025 for our students.

Ngā mihi

Jon Ward, Principal / Tumuaki

PŌWHIRI

A heartfelt welcome marked the beginning of an exciting new chapter for our incoming students and their whānau this morning, as they were greeted with a powerful haka powhiri. Matua Clark Pirika extended a warm welcome on behalf of Ngati Te Roro o te Rangi, while our tumuaki Jon Ward shared inspiring words to kick-start their journey. Matua Tamati Coffey responded on behalf of the manuhiri, and after the hariru, our community came together as one. With the formalities complete, we're eager to embrace the endless possibilities that 2025 will bring!

WELCOME YEAR 9'S

What an incredible first day at Rotorua Lakes High School! From the powhiri to house challenges, our newest students embraced every moment with energy, respect, and school spirit. They truly lived our uara (values) – Whanaungatanga, Manaakitanga, Wairuatanga, and Whakapapa. A huge thank you to our peer leaders, house captains, and staff for making today so special. And of course, a big shout-out to our Tumuaki, Jon Ward, Tumuaki Taituarā, Glenda Curtis, and Marcy Stunell for providing the legendary sausage sizzle! 🌭🔥 Mauria te Pono – Keep steadfastly to the truth. 💙💛

STAFF ONLY DAY

We thank Hine Waitere and Nyree King for a great staff day on Thursday 23 January. Many topics were discussed including our professional development, collaborative planning, teamwork discussions and reinforcing our school values; Whakapapa, Whanaungatanga, Wairuatanga and Manaakitanga. We also had the opportunity to reflect on our school's progress, assess areas of improvement, and establish goals for the upcoming term. Ra nui mo tatou! (great day for us!).

ASSESSMENTS

The following assessments have been set down. There may be times where, due to unforeseen circumstances, changes will need to occur. This will be done in consultation with the class(es) concerned.

Level	Subject	Standard	Date
1	Literacy & Numeracy (SPP)	US3483	7 February
1	Literacy & Numeracy (SPP)	US3490	14 February

ATTENDANCE FOCUS

We are very focused on ensuring that all our tamariki are at school regularly. We know from studies and our own experiences that attendance and success at Kura are linked.

We remind our school whanau that the school day starts at 8.45am and finishes at 3.15pm. When absences occur, we ask you to support us by notifying us of the reason before 8.30am on the day using the SchoolBridge app.

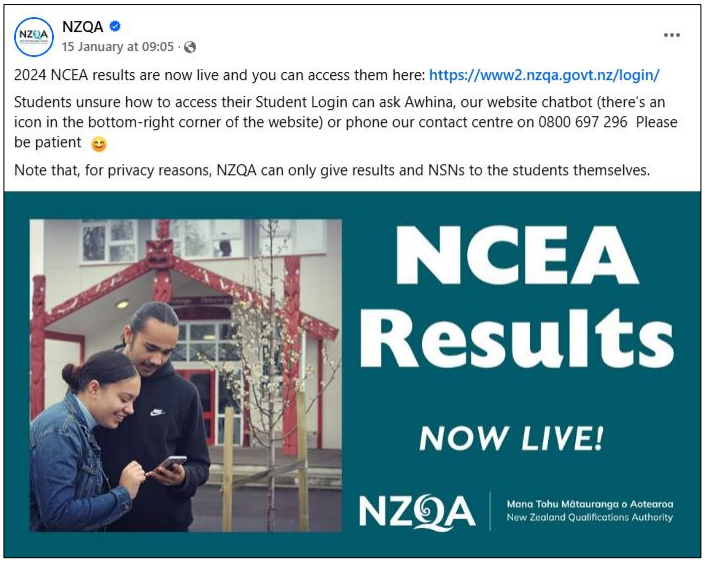
Please also be aware that there are specific rules around absences and NCEA assessments. If the absence occurs on the day of the assessment please contact the subject teacher or HOD that morning.

We thank you for your support.

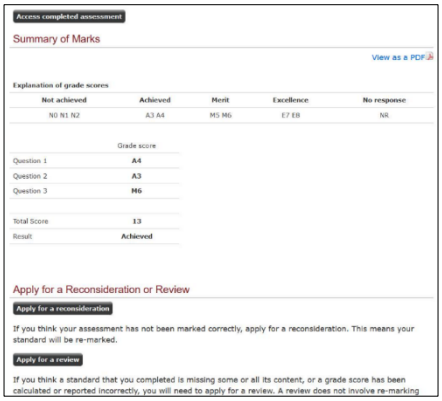
BRIEF LOOK – TERM 1 2025	
6 February	**PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Waitangi Day**
11 February	Meet the Parents 4 – 6 pm
19 February	School Athletics
25 - 28 Feb	Year 13 Camp
4 March	Lakes Swimming Sports
5 – 9 March	Crankworx
7 March	Tracking Reports Issued
7 – 9 March	NISS Rowing Regatta
12 March	BOP Athletics
12 March	School Photos
14 March	BOP Swimming

24 – 27	RLHS Summer Tournament
24 – 28 March	Secondary Schools Waka Ama
28 March	**STAFF ONLY DAY (school is closed)**
24 – 29 March	Maddi Cup
11 April	Tracking Reports Issued
11 APRIL 2024	**END OF TERM 1**
14 – 27 APRIL	**EASTER HOLIDAYS**

NCEA EXAM INFORMATION



Concerned about your results after viewing your #nceaexams24 Answers and marks? You can apply for a review or reconsideration. The deadline for applications is 19 Feb 2025. More info is available here: https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/student-assessment-hub/ncea-results/reviews-and-reconsiderations/



You can now access your assessed digital and scanned paper exams online via your student login. Take a look at your answers and consider them against what was required to meet the standard. The marks for each question can be found below the button called 'access completed assessment. The review and reconsideration process is immediately below that if you believe there are some issues with the marking. You might like to have a chat with your teacher if you want a second opinion. If you need help understanding your online results, check out this page explaining the layout of the results screen: https://www2.nzqa.govt.nz/.../guide-to-online-results/ These will be available to view until 1 July. Please note that paper-based exam booklets are no longer returned by post.

BEGINNING OF TERM 1 2025 INFO:

SCHOOL BELL TIMES

Please note as of week 3, 10 February 2025 the school timetable will change as below. The Deans have met with the students to go over the changes and this will be regularly communicated over the next few weeks.

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY	
Warning Bell	8.40 am
Pd. 1	8.45 am – 9.45 am
House Group	9.45 am – 10.05 am
Pd. 2	10.05 am – 11.05 am
INTERVAL	11.05 am – 11.30 am
Pd. 3	11.30 am – 12.30 pm
Pd. 4	12.30 pm – 1.30 pm
LUNCH	1.30 pm – 2.15 pm
Warning Bell	2.10 pm
Pd. 5	2.15 – 3.15 pm

UPDATES

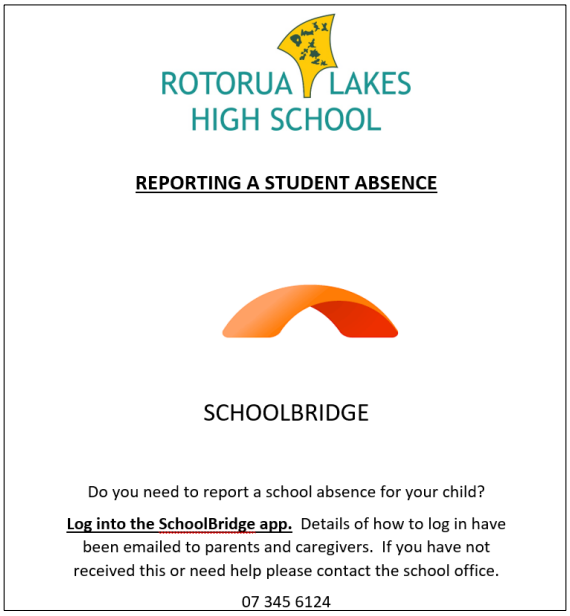
So that we can keep all parents informed on school matters, please make sure the school has your correct email address. For any updates/changes please contact Mrs McLeod mcleodd@rotorualakes.school.nz or Mrs Walker walkerb2@rotorualakes.school.nz

PUNCTUALITY

It is very important that students arrive at school on time for House Group at 8.45 am to be marked present at school on the attendance register and to hear the daily notices so they are aware of what is happening around the school.

STUDENT ABSENCES

- To report your student absences e.g. medical, appointments, late for school etc. please log on to our schoolbridge app: https://rotorualakes.bridge.school.nz



SIGNING OUT OF SCHOOL DURING THE DAY

The system is:

- Report using the Schoolbridge app https://rotorualakes.bridge.school.nz or the student brings a note written and signed by parent / caregiver
- The House Group Tutor signs the note at House Group time in the morning
- The student presents the note to leave class
- The student presents the note to the Duty Dean in the Duty Dean's office next to the Canteen to sign out of school
- The student signs back into school at the Duty Dean's office when they return.
- Please only ring the office if it is necessary/emergency.

LUNCHTIME

All students are expected to remain at school for lunch, they are not permitted to leave the school grounds at lunchtime. If for any reason there is an occasion that a student must leave school at lunchtime, they will need a written note from home to excuse them and sign out as above.

SCHOOL STATIONERY / WORKBOOKS

It is very important that students get their stationery as soon as possible for the start of the school year so that they do not fall behind in their learning and their books are up-to-date right from the start of the year. Stationery lists are available from the school or on our website. https://www.rotorualakes.school.nz

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Some reminders about uniform:

- Shoes and laces must be completely black.
- Sandals must be completely black with back straps so they do not look like jandals.
- NO jandals/boots/gumboots/slippers.
- Only white singlet/top under shirts.

- Shorts/trousers/skirts must not be rolled up.
- To order skirts, shirts and shorts: go to www.argyleonline.co.nz and select Rotorua Lakes High School under Shop ArgyleOnLine. Orders can be placed at any time online. Customer service is available 24/7 via phone 0800 110059 or the online Answer Bot (click the help button on the bottom right of the page) Argyle's live chat team is also available to assist Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm.
- To find the correct size, follow the size guide online www.argyleonline.co.nz/ measuring-tips. Rotorua Lakes High School holds stock for sizing purposes only. Please contact 07 345 6124 to arrange a time for sizing.
- Jerseys, jackets and hats can only be purchased at school. (Plain black or navy caps – no emblems except for the school logo).
- For more information about ordering online, WINZ quotes, sizing, delivery and returns, check out the FAQ page www.argyleonline.co.nz/faqs 0800 110059 (available 24/7) aolhelp@argyleonline.co.nz

PARKING AT ROTORUA LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

We appreciate your cooperation with the following parking regulations at the school:

- Please note that there will be bollards across the main gate between 3.15 pm and 3.45 pm. The addition of the bollards have considerably reduced traffic congestion at the school.
- Please do not park at the bus stop near the school main gate between 3.15 pm and 3.45 pm. It is illegal to park or briefly stop as this is a designated bus area only which is regularly enforced by the Police and tickets have been issued before.
- Always single park (double parking causes accidents and traffic jams).

We thank you for your help and cooperation.

CHARTER BUS

- A term pass for the charter bus costs $300
- A 10 ride pass costs $80
- Please pay either online or at student reception by Wednesday 5 February

YEAR 13 CAMP 2025 FROM THE 25 - 28 FEBRUARY

Cost $250 (approx.*)

Camp is an amazing opportunity for students to develop leadership skills, build and foster school and house spirit, team building, personal challenges, and adventures. * prices may be subject to change

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2025

Term	Date Start	Date Finish
One	Tue, 28 Jan 2025	Fri, 11 Apr 2025
Two	Mon, 28 Apr 2025	Fri, 27 Jun 2025
Three	Mon, 14 Jul 2025	Fri, 19 Sep 2025
Four	Mon, 6 Oct 2025	Tue, 9 Dec 2025

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2025	
Auckland Anniversary Day	**Monday 27 January 2025**
Waitangi Day	**Thursday 6 February 2025**
Good Friday	**Friday 18 April 2025**
Easter Monday	**Monday 21 April 2025**

Anzac Day	**Friday 25 April 2025**
King's Birthday	**Monday 2 June 2025**
Matariki	**Friday 20 June 2025**
Labour Day	**Monday 27 October 2025**

STUDENT SUCCESSES

OUTSTANDING ROWING

Our rowers competed in the Dewar Shield Regatta at Lake Tikitapu. We were lucky enough to row alongside some of the world's greatest rowers. History-making double World Champion Karolien Florijn, NZ World Champ Finn Hamill, Matthew Dunham and Mike Brake. Emma Twiggs surprised our rowers by facetime to have a chat and to wish them all the best for the upcoming season. The results from this regatta shows the great hard work these students have put in over the holidays, with training camps and early mornings.

Huge congratulations to: Jasmine Sieber, Grace Gainsford, Ruby Parton, Holly Thompson, Lauren Thompson, Aurora Roger-Scott, Ella May McIlroy, Ayden Atkinson, Grace Annabell, Tyler Graham, Nathan Graham.

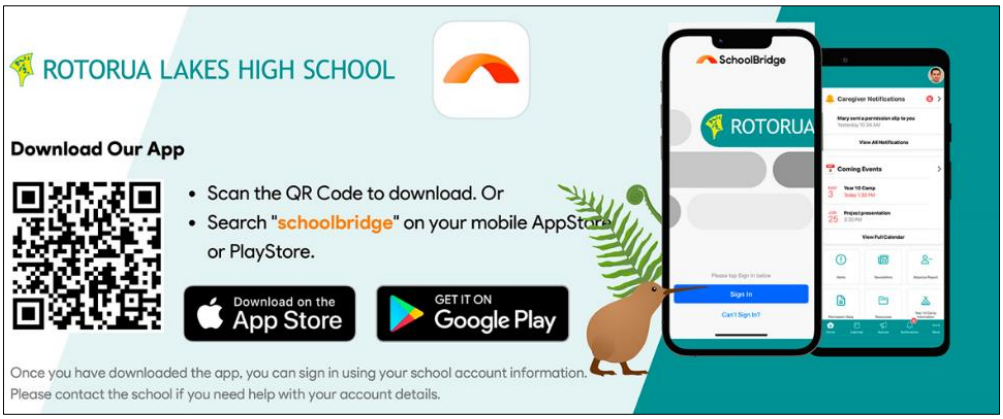
All teams moved up into the A finals for their heats with results of 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings. Our novices made it to their A & B finals with results of 2nd & 5th places. Absolutely awesome results from everyone. It was an amazing weekend and Mrs Gainsford is so very proud of each and every one of you. A huge thank you to our community, sponsor (Carters Tyres) and supporters. We couldn't do it without you.

RLHS SENIOR VOLLEYBALL A TEAMS

All the best to our RLHS Senior Volleyball A Teams competing this Term in the BOP Championships in Tauranga.
Competition dates:

- 22nd & 23rd Feb
- 28th Feb & 1st March
- 7th & 8th March

Kia kaha. Ki a Koutu. Te Tima Senior Volley Teams!



CAREERS/GATEWAY

LAKES HIGH SCHOOL GATEWAY PROGRAMME
YEAR 12 & 13

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce our Gateway Programme to our new Yr 12 & 13 students and whānau. Gateway is designed to support school students' transition into the workforce by offering them workplace learning while at secondary school. Each Gateway placement is a formal arrangement between a school, a student and an employer; for a student to spend time learning in an employer's workplace. The opportunities on offer are enormous; coming onto the Gateway Programme allows each student to be mentored by an employer in their chosen work placement, whilst gaining both valuable experience and credits along the way. There are no costs involved for our Gateway employers – always a bonus!

Our placements are usually one day a week for a period of between 6-10 weeks – however, we are able to arrange any schedule that suits you. Below there are a few little bullet points into Gateway and how it helps our students.

Benefits for Students

- Reality check – invaluable!!
- Apply and gain skills
- Gain insights into working life
- Help to set clear career and life goals
- Try out potential careers
- Provides structured workplace learning that can lead to nationally recognised qualifications
- Helps prepare for future employment and being more independent
- Makes school meaningful
- Builds links with workplaces and gives you the opportunity to prove yourself, and gain experience
- Develop soft skills, which are related to personal attributes, behaviours and attitudes.

We value all our Gateway employers and would be delighted for you to join our team. If you think this is something you would like to be involved in and could offer our students a placement, don't hesitate to contact us.

Looking forward to a great year and to meeting all our senior students.

EVA HINGSTON
Gateway Coordinator
hingstonev@rotorualakes.school.nz
Mob: 0274 863 688

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

GHA Chartered Accountants & Management Consultants

BFA BUSINESS ADVISORS AND ACCOUNTANTS

Phone: 07- 345 6124
Email: office@rotorualakes.school.nz
www.rotorualakes.school.nz