Rotorua Lakes High School

"Mauria te pono - Keep steadfastly to the truth"

NEWSLETTER ISSUE #1 – WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL 2025

"Mauria te pono - Keep steadfastly to the truth"

Kia ora tātou,

As we move towards the end of Term 1, the school is in a constant state of busyness. Many of our senior students will be completing internal NCEA assessments - it's crucial they put in the effort now to get positive results.

Last week it was great to see and celebrate the achievements of our students in Summer Tournament Week, specifically our rowers at the Maadi Cup over at Lake Karapiro; our Waka Ama competitors at the Nationals at Lake Tikitapu and our students competing in Futsal. Our students were all great ambassadors for the school and made us proud.

We had the first of our Parent-Teacher evenings last week. Thank you to those who took this opportunity to discuss your student's progress. The continuing link between school, student and home is a crucial part of building a positive educational environment.

The school is currently undergoing some work around weathertightness. Whilst this will inevitably cause some disruption to our learning environments, our aim is to minimise this as much as possible. Access to our gym will be restricted for a period of time.

We had the pleasure of hosting Meidai Boys' High School from Japan for over a week. The students from Japan really enjoyed their stay. A big thank you to our buddy students who supported our visitors while here and also to those whānau who acted as homestays. The opportunity to share in these cultural experiences is hugely positive for our school community.

As we head towards the end of term break I know many of our students will be looking forward to having some time out of school. If they find themselves at a loose end, I'm sure some fun Mathematics problems will fill in the time admirably! As a Maths teacher I can't think of a better way to enjoy a relaxing afternoon. Whatever they and you get up to over the break, I wish you a safe, enjoyable and relaxing chance to recharge the batteries in preparation for Term 2.

Ngā mihi
Jon Ward, Principal/Tumuaki

STUDENT INFORMATION

NCEA – LET'S MAKE IT SIMPLE

We know that NCEA can feel confusing for many students and their whānau, but you're not alone! We want to help you understand how credits, assessments, and qualifications work so you can feel confident on your journey. This video breaks it down in a clear and simple way – check it out with your whānau!

👇 click & watch below

How NCEA works video, English - NZQA

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
2	Yr12 Physics	AS91168	WEEK11
2	PPE ABL Activities (3 Credits)	US9677	9 April
3	AOE Overnight Tramp (6 Credits)	US32841	10-11 April
		US32845	
3	AOE Upcoming Multi Day Tramp (3 credits)	US32850	TERM 2 WEEK 3

ATTENDANCE FOCUS

School leadership, boards, parents and the Ministry of Education all play key roles in supporting students to attend school – and addressing absence when it occurs. Lifting school attendance is our shared responsibility. The STAR (Stepped Attendance Response) has been developed in line with the good practice identified in Education Review Office (ERO) evaluations and school indicators.

We know that school leadership, board stewardship, quality teaching, and educationally powerful connections will influence positive school attendance.

The STAR:

- sets the direction so that no student will be left to accumulate absences without an appropriate response to return them to regular attendance
- will help us achieve the Government's target of 80% of students present for 90% of the term by 2030
- tells us what should happen when students do not attend school

It sets clear expectations that school attendance is a priority, and that:

- parents will work with the school, the Ministry and other agencies where required, to return children to regular attendance and participate in the supports
- schools and the Ministry of Education will take action when student absence is a concern.

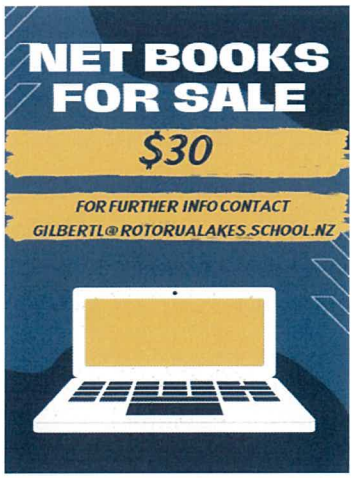
The STAR helps us all to understand what should happen when students do not attend school. Over the next few weeks, through the Newsletter, our Facebook page and emails, we will be sharing with you the Stepped Attendance Response that Rotorua Lakes High School is implementing. This process requires both Parents/Caregivers and the School to work together to support student attendance and will outline our shared responsibilities.

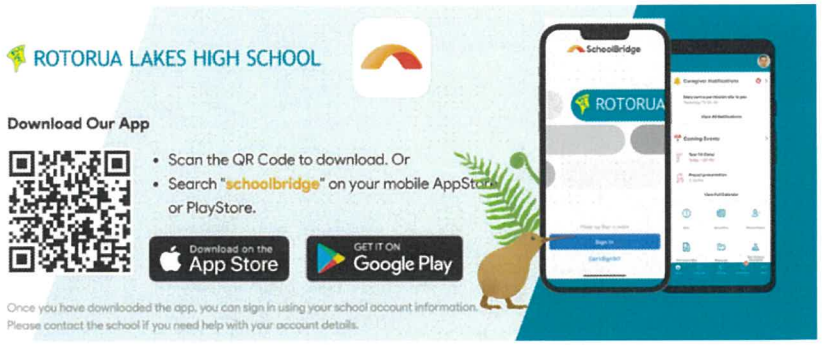
If you have any pātai around attendance, please contact Glenda Curtis – Assistant Principal curtisg@rotorualakes.school.nz

FROM OUR HAUORA/WELLNESS TEAM 🤧 🧐

Just a little reminder to students that if they feel unwell please stay at home; and to caregivers if your child feels unwell please do not send them to school. Thank you

BRIEF LOOK – TERM 2 2025	
28 Apr-2 May	Absolute Dental
29 April	Y13 American Summers Presentation
2 May	Massey Uni Liaison Visit
6-9 May	Wellington Year 12 History and Economics Trip
6 May	Nga Manu Korero Regionals
8 May	TRENZ Visit
9 - 11 May	Rypen Camp
12-14 May	Y12 AOE Multi Day Tramp
15 May	11SPS BMX Class Trip
16 May	NECA Summary Report
19-30 May	CAA Lit/Num Testing
23 May	Rockquest Heats
29 May	Showquest Rotorua
30 May	NCEA Summary Report
2 June	King's Birthday (school closed)
3 June	JNR EDROB Heats
4 June	Showquest Tauranga
4 June	SNR EDROB Heats
10 June	Rotorua Interschools Chess
11 June	Road Safety Expo Y11 Workshop
12 June	Rockquest Final
13 June	JNR/SNR Reports Issued
17 +18 June	Barista Course
17+18 June	Parent Interviews
19 June	Kapahaka Regionals
20 June	Matariki (school closed)
27 June	**Last Day of Term**





FROM THE OFFICE TEAM - LOST PROPERTY

Parents and Caregivers - please come and check lost property regularly for any uniform or non-uniform items your child may have lost during the term.

PERFORMING ARTS

SGCNZ Victoria University of Wellington Shakespeare Festival 2025

What a fantastic day of Shakespeare at the Mary McKillop Campus, John Paul College on Saturday 29th March! Our Drama students embraced the opportunity to perform, experience something new and watch other schools bring Shakespeare to life. **A huge congratulations to Declan Lescheid, who played Hamlet and was recognised as the Most Promising Actor!**

Our senior Students delivered a compelling 15-minute performance of Hamlet, featuring:
Hamlet - Declan Lescheid
Ghost - Chloe Van Schalkwyk
Marcellus - Taiga Leigh
Horatio - Lyla Alton
Lord Polonius - Lily Tamati
Queen Gertrude - Jenny O'Malley
Ophelia - Cora Aitchison

Our Year 9 Performing Arts Group showcased their talent with a 5-minute performance of the Mechanicals Scene from a Midsummer Night's Dream, featuring:
Quince - Amber Schalwyk
Bottom - Charlie Kemp
Flute - Hana Palfrey
Snug - Amaia - Lee Grant
Snout - Jayden- Derek Hawkins
Starveling - Tearoa Tetonga-Kauri
Puck - Manawa-Brooke Te Moni-Walmsley
Queen Titania - Ella Grondsma
Peaseblossom - Isabella Walmsley

The students had an amazing time and we are already looking forward to returning to the completion in 2026! #ShakespeareFestival #DramaExcellence #RLHSDrama

Exciting News! ✨

We are incredibly proud to announce that **three talented students** from **Rotorua Lakes High School** will be performing in the **sold-out opening night** of Rotorua Musical Theatre's *The Sound of Music*! 🎭🎶

👏 **Congratulations to:**
🎤 **Declan Lescheid** ✨ **(Year 13)**
🎤 **Jessica Martin (Year 12)**
🎤 **Elena Burns (Year 10)**

This incredible production is directed by **Evelyn Falconer**, with **Ben Kidd** as Vocal Director and **Ellie Smith** as Choreographer.

We wish them all the best for an amazing season—**Break a leg!** 🎉🎭💙

#RLHSPerformingArts #TheSoundOfMusic #ProudMoment #BreakALeg

SPORTS

Waka ama Aotearoa New Zealand Secondary School Nationals 🔔
Summer Tournament Week

This year we had 4 teams who paddled at the secondary schools national;

- 2 x J16 Girls teams
- 1 x J19 Girls team
- 1 x J19 Boys team

3 out of the 4 teams were brand new paddlers at their first ever waka ama event. All paddlers had a fantastic week and represented Lakes High brilliantly with 2 teams making the podium. Thank you coach Maurice Pomare and Jo Doherty and Mrs Curtis for helping with transport.

J16 Girls w12 250m winners Te Takere Final

J19 Boys/Girls W12n250m semi final

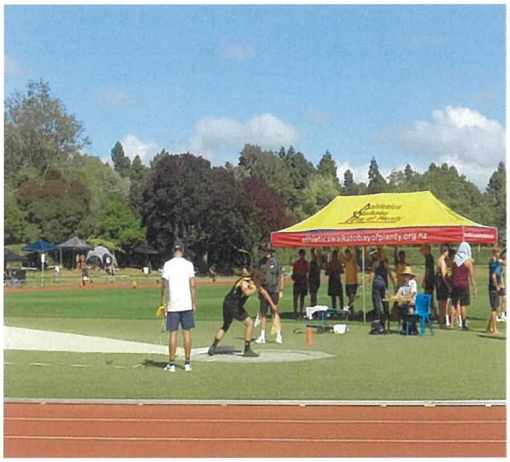
J19 Girls 500m Te Kei Final 2nd Place (absent Teuila Schuster)

J16 Girls w12 250m first place Te Takere final

J19 Boys/Girls with Coaches Maurice Ponmare and Jo Doherty

WAIKATO BAY ATHLETICS 🌞 🏆

Great day in Hamilton for Owen McGrath and Julien Collet



Owen McGrath
5th in Discuss 35.05m Personal Best by 2m 39cm
5th in Shot 11.60m and Personal Best by 1.07m

Julien Collet
8th in 100m
4th in Long jump 5.97cm
2nd in Triple jump 12.33m his personal best

Some more photos from the boys' great sporting day out..

BMX CHAMPION 🚴

Yr9 student, Maddy, who is our superstar BMX rider. Maddy went to the BMXNZ Nationals recently and came away with outstanding results!

Maddy won 7/7 of her races and retained her NZ Champ title!!!

We are beyond proud of Maddy here at RLHS. We congratulate her, her coach and her family for this amazing success.
BMXNZ Nationals 2025 done! " Really happy with my riding this weekend. Won 7/7 races and retained my NZ champ title.
Great to catch up with my mates from around NZ"
Thanks to super coach Craig Graham and Rotorua Bmx Club for awesome support.

RLHS Rowers Represent at the Maadi Cup Parade! 🎉

Rotorua Lakes High School rowers took part in the Maadi Cup Parade through the streets of Cambridge, celebrating the start of the biggest secondary school rowing event in New Zealand! 🇳🇿✨

With over 160 schools and 3000 rowers from across the country competing, the Maadi Cup is the pinnacle of school rowing, and we are so proud of our seven RLHS athletes who qualified to be there.. To even attend, crews had to qualify at the North Island or South Island Secondary School Champs, making this an extra special achievement for our team.

The parade was an awesome way to kick off the week of intense racing, bringing together rowers, supporters, and the local community in a display of school spirit and camaraderie. 🔵

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Meidai High School Japan

Our tauira have enjoyed hosting students from Meidai High School in Japan. Visiting the Agrodome and joining a PE class are some of the activities students have experienced.

CAREERS DEPARTMENT

GATEWAY

Why Choose it for your child?

Gateway provides an option for schools to broaden educational options for students and strengthen pathways to employment, vocational training and further education. Students can receive credits towards qualifications on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework, including NCEA, and gain experience in further career pathways through work placements, which will assist them in their vocational choices. **(YR 12-13 students only).**

You can 'try before you buy'. If your child fits in, great, if not, they can try another course. Perfect for any student!

We offer many programmes. Please tell your child to pop into the Gateway Office anytime.

For full details please contact:
Mrs Eva Hingston Tel: 07 345
Email: hingstonev@rotorualakes.schoolnz

We are always looking for more businesses to come forward with Gateway opportunities for Students - if you would like to discuss this further, please contact Eva Hingston.

RLHS COMMUNITY NOTICES

RLHS SPONSORS

GHA
Chartered Accountants &
Management Consultants

BFA
BUSINESS ADVISORS
AND ACCOUNTANTS

EMAIL Website

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