Rotorua Lakes High School

"Mauria te pono - Keep steadfastly to the truth"

NEWSLETTER ISSUE # 5 – FRIDAY 6 JUNE 2025

"Mauria te pono - Keep steadfastly to the truth"

Kia ora tātou,

This term is rushing by as we reach the end of Week 6 of a 9 week term.

The first round of Common Assessment Activities for students to achieve their Literacy and Numeracy requirements for NCEA have now concluded. There will be a further opportunity for students to achieve these in Term 3 if needed.

There have been a range of activities happening around the school, from Showquest to significant building works. For Showquest I want to congratulate our students on making it through to the National competition - very well deserved.

You may well have noticed the building work going on in D-block near our Admin building. This is due to historic weather tightness issues and should be completed in July. It will be great to have that space once again available for teaching and learning. Following on from D-Block the Gym is the next major focus area which is likely to be out of commission from mid August. This is going to cause some logistical issues, but we will keep our community informed of what is happening and when. Also due to weathertightness, the Admin roof and parts of the reception area are going to be replaced/repaired which again may cause a degree of disruption. Our main aim throughout all of these upgrades is to ensure minimal impact on our students' ability to have a positive school and classroom environment.

I want to thank Neville Ratheal, who did a call out to our school to help tidy up Rotorua. I was pleased that our students have taken up the wero (challenge) and are leading the way in a series of events both inside and outside of our school. Special thanks go to Alana Bennett, our Environment Prefect Captain, and our Environmental Prefect Team.

The usual round of winter illnesses are creeping up on us. It's a fine balance between stressing the need for attendance - which I fully endorse - and making sure that if students are sick, they can stay home to recover. Covid, Strep throat and other lovelies are all registered in schools throughout Rotorua. A reminder that the usual precautions - hand washing, covering your mouth if you sneeze, wearing a mask if necessary - are all just as valid now as they ever were.

It's great to see our Kapa Haka roopu practicing at every opportunity. Whaea Merekara and the tutors are working hard with our rangatahi to present an exceptional bracket at the regionals on 19th June. I can't wait to watch the full performance.
I wish you all a pleasant weekend.

Ngā mihi,

Jon Ward,
Principal/Tumuaki

STUDENT INFORMATION

NCEA – LET'S MAKE IT SIMPLE - A REMINDER

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 www2.nzqa.govt.nz

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

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

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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.
At the end of each term, we recycle all lost property items not claimed.

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, and please remember to contact the school as early as possible if your child is away sick. Thank you.

FROM OUR OFFICE TEAM - SCHOOL BALL 2025

Please note, all those students who are going to the school ball **must** have paid their sports fees in full no later than 27 June 2025. Thank you

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KEY DATES AND ACTIVITIES COMING UP

TERM 2 + START OF TERM 3	
WEEK 7	***TERM 2***
9 -16 June	Cans for a Cause Collection
9 June	EOTC Freaky Friday
10 June	Rotorua Interschools Chess
10 June	RLHS Board Meeting
11 June	BOPSS Squash Champs
11 June	RYDA Y11 Workshop
13 June	JNR/SNR Reports Issued
13 June	BOPSS Rock Climbing Champs
13 June	Yr 11 AOE Mountain Biking - Redwoods
13 June	Yr 12 AOE Mountain Biking - Redwoods
WEEK 8	
16 June	CBOP Snr Badminton Qual
17 June	BOPSS Squash Girls
17 +18 June	Barista Course
17+18 June	Parent Interviews
18 June	Performance Assembly
19 June	Kapahaka Regionals
19 June	Yr 11 AOE Mountain Biking - Redwoods
20 June	***Matariki (school closed)***
WEEK 9	
23 June	EOTC 12SPP Tau Koura Trip
24 June	Yr 12 AOE Mountain Biking - Redwoods
24+25 June	EPIC
25 June	Excellence Assembly
25 June	EOTC Maungatautari Sanctuary Mountain 9KOW Project Day Trip
26 June	11SPS BMX Class Trip
26 June	Y8 Future Leaders Day
27 June	**Staff Only Day and Last Day of Term 2**
WEEK 1	***TERM 3***
17 July	Y12 Loves me Not
19 July	Senior School Ball
WEEK 2	
21-22 July	Y9 (opt in only) Hearing Screening
22 July	School Open Evening
23 July	Subject Selection Evening
24-25 July	Chainsaw Course
WEEK 3	
30-31 July	Health & Safety Drug Course
31 July	**School Open Day**

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Cans for a Cause - Week 7 - Starts 9 June..... at Lakes!

Rotorua Lakes High School is proud to be part of a nationwide effort to tackle food poverty across Aotearoa. The Rotary Rotorua Passport D9930 Can Drive will run all of Week 7, with collection boxes in every House Group.

All non-perishable food items will go to our local The Salvation Army Rotorua to support whānau in need. This is manaakitanga and community action in motion - let's do our bit to help stock the shelves and uplift our community.

Our wider community is also warmly invited to drop off cans to the school reception throughout the week.

Bring what you can, give what you can. Every can counts!

He Mahi Whakamana - Representing with Pride ❤️

We're incredibly proud of our Puketawhero Kapa Haka Roopū, who attended the Poukai at Ōpatia Marae, Taheke recently, dressed proudly in their number 1s.

The historic event marked the first Poukai for Kīngi Tūheitia's daughter, Te Kuīni Ngā Wai Hono i te Pō, since the passing of her father, and it was a powerful moment for our kura to support Ngāti Pikiao as part of this significant kaupapa.

Honouring the kaupapa in Mourea ♻

In anticipation of the arrival of Kuīni Ngā Wai Hono i te Pō for the Poukai at Ōpatia Marae, Taheke, we're proud of the role our students played in the community clean-up in Mourea.

🏆 EPro8 Challenge Success! RLHS Juniors Take the Challenge 🔧

Last night, two of our junior EPro8 teams took on the regional heats - and made us proud!

Year 9 team: Lincoln Wainohu, Simon Lescheid, Alex Curran, and Neal Palmero

Year 10 team: Jamie Bennett, Michael de Lore, Daniel Parker, and Max Stratford

Both teams tackled complex engineering and problem-solving challenges, showing incredible teamwork, communication, and composure under pressure.

Huge congratulations to our Year 10 team, who placed 2nd overall, just 10 points off first place- and have now qualified for the semi-finals at The University of Waikato! 🔧🏆🏆

What's Baking in Food Tech

An awesome session in the kitchen recently with our Year 10 Food Tech class! Students cooked up two Kiwi favourites - Lolly Log and Mince Pies - and the results were delicious!

Another amazing day in the food room with our talented Year 11 Food & Nutrition students, who wrapped up their baking assessment by creating novelty cakes from scratch!

Hillary Challenge 2025 - North Island Adventure!

Recently, our incredible RLHS Hillary Challenge team took on the Hillary Outdoors North Island event with grit, teamwork, and determination!

From 9am, they were off - biking, hiking, running, and navigating through tough terrain for six hours, collecting as many controls as possible. Even with an injury setback, they pushed through and finished 13th overall! Way to go team!

Year 9 Project Day: Catapult Challenge!

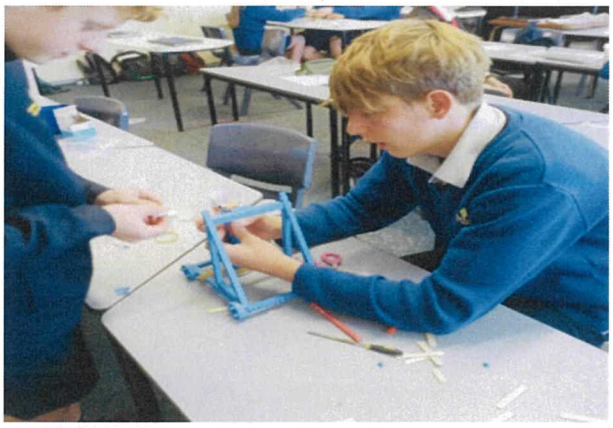
Our latest Project Day took hands-on learning to the next level with a full-on Catapult Design Challenge!

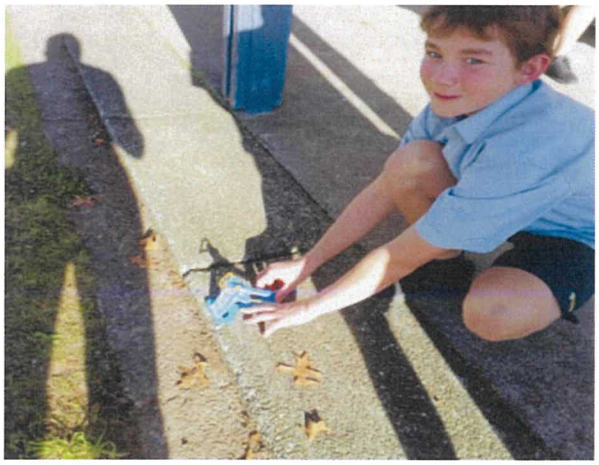
Over the past two weeks, 9 Kowhai students have been:

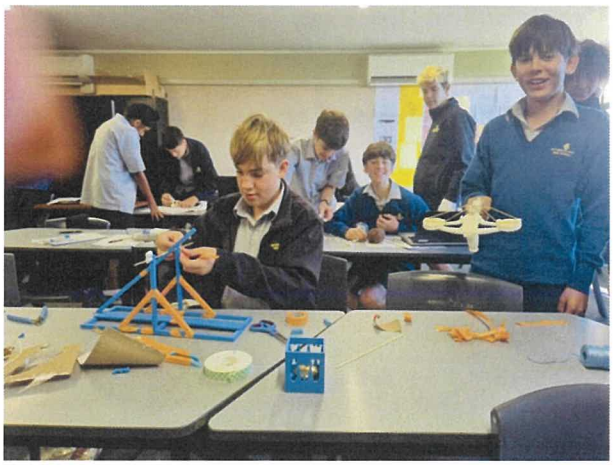
- Designing and 3D modelling
- 3D printing their creations
- Building and testing their epic contraptions

The grand finale? A three-part competition where students battled it out for:

- ☑ Most Accurate Catapult
- ☑ Longest Launch Distance
- ☑ Best Original Design & Branding



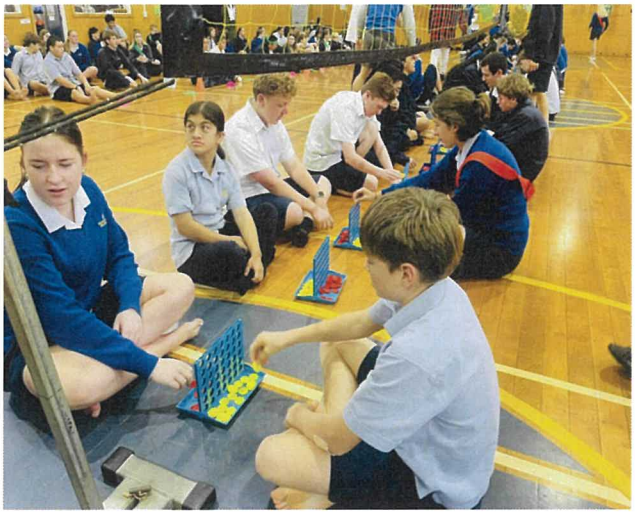




House Connect 4 Madness!

House Assembly last week was next level - we brought the whole kura together in the gym to live out our values of Whanaungatanga and Wairuatanga with a MASSIVE round of Connect Four! 💚

Huge thanks to everyone who dropped off sets to help us make it happen - your support made this epic spirit-building session possible!



PERFORMING ARTS

🎸🥁 Smokefreerockquest Vibes 👀🎸

What an incredible night at the Sir Howard Morrison Centre recently - our talented ākonga absolutely lit up the stage at Smokefree Rockquest 2025!

Senior Band - kable-tY and Junior Band - The Puppets

We're incredibly proud of all of you - your hard work, creativity, and courage to perform live is inspiring.

SPORTS

Boys 1st XI Back to Winning Ways!

Our Boys 1st XI Hockey team got back to winning ways after some tough games recently.

A 2–0 victory over JPC had the boys smiling.

While Lakes dominated the first five minutes of play, the game remained tight until near the end of the third quarter, when Riley Moulin scored a brilliant field goal with an accurate shot into the corner. He then extended the lead with a well-executed penalty corner in the final quarter.
Theo Hunt was strong in defence all night, and Player of the Day went to Noah Croucher, who created many opportunities in the midfield, finding space and carrying the ball with confidence throughout the game.

RLHS Girls Football Off to a Winning Start!

Last week, our Girls' Football team kicked off their season at home with an impressive 6-4 victory over Taupo-nui-a-Tia College! Well Done Team!

House Futsal Wrap-Up! ⚽

Recently all four houses hit the turf for our epic Round Robin House Futsal Challenge! Fast feet, fierce goals, and unstoppable school spirit were on full display!

Congratulations to Tarawera ❤️ and Tikitapu 💙 for securing the most wins and topping the house leaderboard!

RLHS COMMUNITY NOTICES

RLHS SPONSORS

GHA Chartered Accountants & Management Consultants

BFA BUSINESS ADVISORS AND ACCOUNTANTS

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