Rotorua Lakes High School

"Mauria te pono - Keep steadfastly to the truth"

NEWSLETTER ISSUE # 8 – FRIDAY 8 AUGUST 2025

"Mauria te pono - Keep steadfastly to the truth"

Tēnā koutou e te whānau,

What a busy and exciting few weeks we've had here at school. Opening our doors to prospective students and their whānau has been a wonderful reminder of the incredible talent within our kura, and the many opportunities we offer. Our student helpers and presenters represented us with pride, confidence, and manaakitanga, and our departments were able to shine—showcasing their creativity, expertise, and passion. A huge thank you to everyone involved in making these events such a success.

This week we also took part in our annual interschool competition with Morrinsville College. While we didn't return with the trophy this year, our students showed determination, resilience, and excellent sportsmanship. The final game—closely contested and well supported—really captured the spirit of the day. Thank you to all the staff who supported this event, and a special acknowledgement to Whaea Lisa and Mrs Savage for their hard work in pulling it all together.

In this week's assembly, I reminded students that while Term 3 is filled with events and opportunities, learning remains at the centre of everything we do. For our seniors, this is a crucial time. Prelim exams are fast approaching and there is still time to work hard toward those remaining credits. For our junior students, it's important to come to class with a 'ready to learn' attitude—being on time, making the most of their learning time, asking questions, and embracing the support available.

Finally, we wish our Year 10 students heading off to the Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre all the best for their camp next week. We hope it's an unforgettable experience (and not too chilly!).

Nga mihi nui

Jo Sturme,
Acting Principal

BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

ROTORUA LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

Student Representative Election for The Board of Trustees

Nominations are invited for the election of one student representative to the Board of Trustees.

Nomination forms can be obtained from Reception.

Nominations close at noon on Monday 25 August.
Please take completed forms to Reception. Nominations should be accompanied by a candidate's statement.

A list of candidates' names will be displayed, as they come to hand, at Reception.

Election (if required) will be held on Wednesday 10 September.

Signed
L Gilbert
Returning Officer

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

REMEMBER - School starts at 8:45am (first period) Monday - Friday

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.

NCEA

An update on the NCEA announcement from the Minister of Education, which was made 4 August has been emailed out to all parents and caregivers this week. If you would like to review the full details go to:

Consultation on proposal to replace NCEA (education.govt.nz)

While we respond to the proposed changes to NCEA, whanau of students currently sitting our national qualification can be assured that NCEA is a good qualification, and we are committed to delivering quality teaching and learning programmes for all students at Rotorua Lakes HIgh School.

We know that NCEA can feel confusing for many students and their whānau, at times, 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

KEY DATES AND ACTIVITIES COMING UP 🔴👀🏁

TERM 3	
WEEK 5	
10-15 August	Hillary Outdoors Camp
12 August	Board Meeting
13 August	11PPE Class Trip - Redwoods
14 August	BOPMA Y9+10 Maths Competition
WEEK 6	
22 August	Rotorua Interschool Chess Competition
22 August	EOTC Rock Climbing 12 AOE

WEEK 7	
25-29 August	Winter Tournament Week
25-29 August	Te Kura Practice Exams
28 August	EOTC Rock Climbing 11 AOE
WEEK 8	
1 September	EOTC Dance NZ Made Reg/Nationals
1 -5 September	CAA Lit/Num Exams
4 September	Otago Uni Course Planning
5 September	EOTC Rock Climbing 12 AOE
WEEK 9	
8-12 September	NCEA Prelim Exams
9 September	Board Meeting
11 September	EOTC 12SPP Adrenalin Forest Activity

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

OPEN DAY 2025 – WHAT A DAY!

We welcomed over 190 amazing Year 8 students from 12 kura across our community.

The energy, curiosity, and mana they brought with them made this day something special.

To our visiting schools, kaiako, and the inspiring ākonga who joined us — ngā mihi nui. You reminded us why we do this.

To our student leaders who led with heart, and to our incredible Lakes High teachers — thank you for doing everything possible to create a day full of connection, inspiration, and pride. You brought the magic.

We can't wait to see many of you return in 2026 as Year 9s — bringing your stories, talents, and energy to Te Kura o Ngā Moana - Rotorua Lakes High School.

SPORTS

Get2Go Regional Challenge – Rotorua

What an awesome day in Rotorua on Monday! Even with a chilly breeze by the lake, the energy and smiles from all the teams made it totally worth it!

With 21 teams competing, the challenges were tight and the skills on display were next level. A massive congratulations to Rotorua Lakes High School's top team, who took out 1st place and secured a spot at the Get2Go National Final at Hillary Outdoors this December! We know you'll give it everything and make us proud

Our second team placed 6th (absolute legends on the mountain bikes!), and our Year 9 crew came in 14th, gaining awesome experience for next year.

BMX Thanks from Year 11 Sports Science!🚴

A massive thank you to the Rotorua Bmx Club, especially Sam and Aaron, for sharing your time, expertise, and encouragement with our Year 11 Sports Science class this year!

Artistic Rollerskating Nationals Success & NZ Oceania Team Selection!

Recently, four of our incredible Lakes High students represented their club Te Moana-a-Toi at the Artistic Rollerskating Nationals in Blenheim — and returned with some amazing results!

Jess Christensen – 1st Open Ladies Freeskating 🥇

Kate Taylor – 3rd Youth Ladies Freeskating 🥉

Georgia Davies – 3rd Cadet Ladies Freeskating 🥉

Team Placings

Jess & Kate – 1st Junior Quartet 🥇

Georgia – 2nd Junior Quartet 🥈

Jess & Georgia – 1st Small Show 🥇

We're also proud to announce that the following students have been selected to represent New Zealand at the Oceania competition in August:

Kate Taylor / Georgia Davies /Harriet Davies

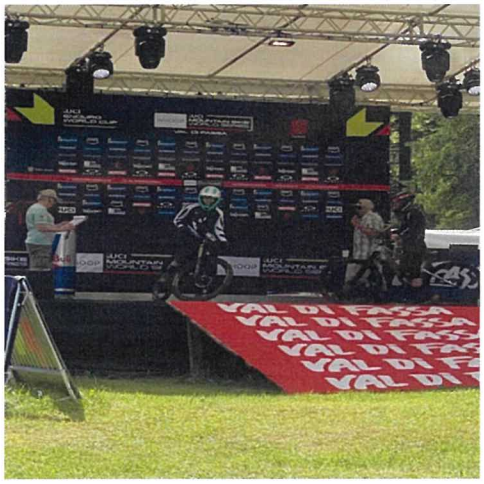
What an outstanding achievement — ngā mihi nunui to these dedicated athletes! 💚💛

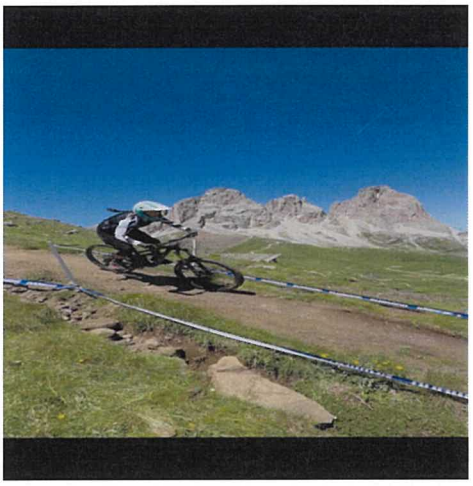
Poppy Takes on Europe! 🚵‍♀️🇮🇹

Earlier this month, Rotorua Lakes High School's Deputy Head Girl and Year 13 student, Poppy Croucher, competed in two massive international Enduro events across the Dolomites and the Italian Alps – representing not only herself, but also her kura, her country, and her whānau with incredible grit, skill, and heart.

In the Dolomites, Poppy held strong in 4th place over two grueling days, racing the same time cutoffs as elite men – until a flat tyre in the final stage took her out of the running.

At her second event in the Alps, after a 2.5-hour climb and a crash on the third stage, Poppy bounced back for a final night run under lights, finishing 7th and walking away with new lessons, lifelong friendships, and a heart full of pride. Way to go Poppy!!





COMMUNITY NOTICES

RLHS SPONSORS

GHA
Chartered Accountants &
Management Consultants

BFA
BUSINESS ADVISORS
AND ACCOUNTANTS

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