



**Rutherford  
Primary  
School**



**17 February 2025  
17 Hui-tanguru 2025**

**KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU | GREETINGS EVERYONE**

Kia ora e te whānau/Greetings families

Nau mai, haere mai ki wiki toru. Welcome to week 3 of term 1, 2025. We have had a great start to the year. Thank you to everyone who has come to the school events recently, we love connecting with our school community. This year we started the year with 293 students which has quickly grown to 301. We are experiencing rapid growth at the moment and so if you have a child or you know someone with a child who is turning 5 and planning to come to Rutherford at any time this year, please let us know. It will be very helpful to our planning.

**WHAT'S ON TOP? He aha kei runga?**

**Reporting**

This year we are reviewing our school reporting. It is our intention to report in writing twice a year and to provide the opportunity to meet with whānau in person twice a year. We know that the Ministry of Education is planning to release some guidelines with regard to reporting to parents, so we will use these guidelines to shape our mid-year reports.

**Curriculum Refresh**

We are aware that the Minister of Education has indicated that schools have the Maths equipment required to deliver the new Maths programs, however we are yet to receive our Maths equipment. The Ministry of Education has advised that we should receive it by the end of this term. That said, our teachers are well prepared to teach in line with the progressions of the refreshed curriculum and we will start using the equipment once it arrives.

**Board of Trustees election**

This is advance notice that later this year we have our Board of Trustees election. If you have ever thought about being on the board and would like to know more about it, feel free to have a chat with me some time.

**Whakatau Hā**

This year we are introducing a twice weekly gathering which will be a time for us to come together and learn karakia (chants), waiata (song) and haka. In classes tamariki (children) will continue this learning including learning the meaning of the chants and songs they learn.

The purpose of Whakatau Hā is to create a calm setting for the tamariki (children) and kaimahi (staff) of Rutherford Primary. We will be learning through the lens of the whare tapawhā of Te Taha Hinengaro (Mind), Taha Wairua (Spirit), Taha Tinana (Body) and taha whānau (Family) to help build a sense of belonging from a Māori perspective which encompasses children's whole well-being.

We will gather every Monday morning at 9am till 9.15am and Every Friday afternoon from 2.30pm to 2.45pm. Whānau are welcome to join us.

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui  
Be Strong, be brave, be determined

Noho ora mai  
Amanda Bennett  
Tumuaki/Principal

**WHAT'S COMING UP AT RUTHERFORD THIS WEEK**

*I tēnei wiki - This Week*

**18 - 19 February** Cricket Awareness  
**20 February** School athletics day

**WHAT'S COMING UP AT RUTHERFORD LATER THIS TERM**

**25-26 February** Cricket Awareness  
**4-5 March** Cricket Awareness  
**7 March** NFL Flag Football  
**11 March** Kuaka Trip to Auckland ZOO  
**9 April** Cluster Ki-o-Rahi  
**10 April** End of term assembly  
**11 April** Last day of Term 1  
**28 April** Start of Term 2

**IMPORTANT DATES THIS YEAR**

**2 June** King's Birthday  
**20 June** Matariki holiday  
**23 June** Ministry of Education Staff Only Day (School closed)  
**27 June** End of Term 2  
**14 July** Start of Term 3  
**18 September** End of Term 3  
**19 September** Ministry of Education Staff Only Day  
**6 October** Start of Term 4  
**27 October** Labour Day holiday  
**17 December** Last Day of Term 4

Other events may be added as the term progresses. Hubs will send notices for upcoming events through the parent portal.



**TO RUTHERFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Ruby Teitmani and Moelagi Penitoto**

**ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

Attending school every day unless sick makes a big difference to children's progress and social connection with their friends.

Our aim is to have all children at school at least 90% of the time.

**LAST WEEK ATTENDANCE:** **91%** Of the **9%** of children absent, **4.3%** of those were absent due to illness.  
**LATE TO SCHOOL:** **2%**



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**WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT RUTHERFORD**

**I tērā wiki - Last week**

**Whānau open afternoon**

We had a wonderful whānau open afternoon. We raised \$300 at the sausage sizzle, thanks to those who purchased a sausage. This will help support resources for our school. Our teachers enjoyed meeting all the families and showing you your children's learning spaces.



**RUTHERFORD PRIMARY  
ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES**

- If your child is absent you should;
- Notify us on the school app
  - Text or phone the school office
  - Email the office

Our aim is to have all children at school at least 90% of the time.

**EVERY DAY COUNTS.....**

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just....	that equals....	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is....	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1½ years of school	Equal to finishing year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2½ years of school	Equal to finishing year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing year 4

**How we will help you ...**

- If your child's attendance drops below 90%;
  - we will send you a letter to let you know
- If your child's attendance drops below 85%;
  - we will reach out to see how we can help
- If your child's attendance drops below 80%;
  - we will meet with you to make a plan
- If your child's attendance drops below 70%;
  - we will seek support from other agencies.

**OUR VALUES, THE RUTHERFORD WAY**



When children complete their Rutherford Way bucket or Tally chart with 25 stickers or ticks, they get a certificate and a reward for showing the Rutherford values of manaakitanga, whanaungatanga,



**Congratulations to our school value superstars!**  
Asher, Kalia-Rae, Denzel, Marco and Siddh.  
Moa B was the classroom winner. (Rangatane, Stevie-Ray and Brooklyn)

**THIS WEEKS SCHOOL VALUE - MANAAKITANGA**

We look after our school grounds.

We look after each other to make sure everyone has a friend to play with.

We look after our own property and take it home safely.



GF & vegetarian options

**ORDER school lunches ONLINE...**

delivered to school

[ezlunch.co.nz](http://ezlunch.co.nz)

**We are still looking for blue ice cream containers for our maths resources. Please drop them to the office. Thank you to those that already have, much appreciated!**

Sushi Ami      Mondays and Thursdays  
Subway          Wednesdays  
Pita Pit          Tuesdays and Fridays

Menu items vary in price.

Orders made online only. No cash sales.  
Orders close at 9am





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# HENDERSON HEROES

**HENDERSON HEROES 2025 - FREE Family Fun Event**

DATE: **SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY**  
RAIN DATE: **SATURDAY 1ST MARCH**  
TIME: **11AM-3PM**

**Meet your local Community Heroes and First Responders**

LOCATION: **WestCity Waitākere**  
**Opanuku Carpark — (Edsel St Entrance)**

**Please take public transport, walk or ride your bike**  
**There will be no parking in this area during event times**

*Proudly brought to you by the  
Henderson Town Centre Community-Led Plan*

**This is a Smoke, Vape, Alcohol FREE Event**

