



KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU | GREETINGS EVERYONE

Nau mai, haere mai ki wiki tekau | Welcome to week 10 of term 4.

We had a great week last week. For those who weren't able to be at our end of term assembly or whānau picnic I commented on the incredibly talented tamariki (children) we have. This was very evident at the various events we had last week. We got the chance to see how our tamariki shine academically, culturally and in sports. We are very fortunate to have a rich tapestry and culture at Rutherford which our tamariki embrace. The way our children embrace all the differences that make up our school community is a credit to them and an excellent model for all of us.

Rutherford is a very special community, a true village. In this final newsletter of the year, I need to thank everyone who has made this year the outstanding year it has been for our community.

Firstly, I thank our Board of Trustees whose unwavering support of me and our school make everything we do possible. They ensure we have the resources to do what we need to do.

There are so many members of our wider community to thank, it is not possible to name them all, however every single person, organisation and community group that has worked with us this year, has contributed to our successful year.

I thank our whānau for partnering with us, for all those who have helped out over the year and for your ongoing support. I thank all our tamariki who have worked so hard this year and made Rutherford what it is. We all come from different backgrounds and bring different perspectives, but our children are welcoming and inclusive.

Furthermore, I express sincere and substantial gratitude to our staff, from our admin team, property team, learning support staff and teachers. Each and every one of them have given so much of themselves.

Teaching is more than just a job you turn up to, there is a tremendous amount of thought and planning that goes into every day. Our teachers truly care for the tamariki of our school. I ask our whānau to think about the last two weeks and the number of events we have had beyond the school day or the significant events during the school day that take a large amount of planning. All of these events which are hugely valuable for our tamariki and our community are organised by our team on top of their normal working day.

I encourage you to take the time to thank a member of the team this week when you see them.

Finally I wish everyone a safe and fun-filled Summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back next year, including our new staff and students.

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 December	Meet your 2025 kaiako/teacher for tamariki
18 December	Takaro Wai/Water Play
18 December	Last day for school lunches
19 December	Year 6 graduation 10.30am
20 December	End of term 4 finish at 1.00pm
20 December	Cle@R Learning Stories go home

WHAT'S COMING UP AT RUTHERFORD IN 2025

28 January	Office Open
3 February	Start of Term 1
6 February	Waitangi Day (School closed)
7 February	Staff Only Day (School Closed)
11 February	New to Rutherford Pōwhiri
13 February	Whānau open afternoon
18 - 19 February	Cricket Awareness
20 February	School athletics day
25-26 February	Cricket Awareness
4-5 March	Cricket Awareness
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
2 June	King's Birthday
20 June	Matariki holiday
27 June	End of Term 2
14 July	Start of Term 3
19 September	End of Term 3
6 October	Start of Term 4
27 October	Labour Day holiday
17 December	Last Day of Term 4

Te Reo phrase of the week

Theme: Activity

Kei te aha koe ā te mutunga wiki?

What are you doing on the weekend?

Mutunga wiki - weekend

An example of a response

Kei te kore noa iho - nothing

Kei te whakatā - resting

Kei te tākaro - playing

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

OVERALL TO DATE:	88%	Of the 15% of children absent,
LAST WEEK:	85%	5.6% of those were absent due to illness.
LATE TO SCHOOL:	2.5%	



**Rutherford
Primary
School**

16 December 2024

16 Hakihea 2024



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT RUTHERFORD

I tērā wiki - Last week

Kapa Haka Poroporoaki

We had a wonderful celebration of a year of hard work with a swim in the pool, pizza and iceblocks. We also acknowledged the hard work of tutors with a rousing haka, which is how our tamariki say thanks. Thank you to our tutors and whānau who joined us.

Celebrate Learning at Rutherford end of term assembly

What a lovely end of term assembly. Thank you to all who came to support their children. After children have received their prize we take a picture of them with their prize and pop it on our digital photo frame in the office.



Whānau Picnic

Despite the rain we had a wonderful time. Performances from Kapa Haka, Bollywood and Pasifika were amazing. Our student band is extremely talented. You certainly rocked it! Well done our tamariki! Thank you to everyone who helped out on the day, especially our staff, our staff's children and our parent volunteers. From stall helpers to bakers (we certainly have some very good bakers here at Rutherford) to the set up and pack down, our whanau Donut Dudes and Hungarian Fry Bread truck, thank you, thank you thank you, we can not hold events like this without you!

We raised \$1000 towards shade systems for our school.




Young Ocean Explorers EXPLORERS PROGRAMME

Goat Island day!

Activities included:

- Snorkelling with EMR in NZ's first marine reserve!
- Experience the touch tanks at the Goat Island Marine Discovery Centre!
- Lab-based experiments/observations and a dissection with marine biologists!
 - Use microscopes
- Learn a lot about our moana!

And SO much more!

ONLY \$95
all activities and equipment included

Limited spots - Book Now

**Dates: 14th + 28th
January 2025**
For kids aged 8-12

Click the link above or go to www.youngoceanexplorers.com and click the Explorers Prog tab to learn more and sign up

riley@youngoceanexplorers.com



ATTENDANCE AT RUTHERFORD

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. This means that children will have no more than 5 days off school each 10 week term. You will be contacted if attendance slips beyond 90%.

Please remember to contact us if your child is going to be absent. We need to code your child's roll according to the Ministry of Education's guidelines.

SCHOOL ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason please choose one of the following options:

- [Notify an absence through the Etap Parent Portal](#)
- [Phone 834 5467 and leave a message](#)
- [Or text the school cellphone 022 324 3942](#)

If the school is not informed of your child's absence/s they will be marked as truant.

HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Please apply in writing to:

principal@rutherfordprimary.school.nz.

Please also let your child's teacher know.

Include the dates you will be absent. We will pre-code your child's attendance for those days.

These will be coded as an explained but unjustified absence.



LATE TO SCHOOL

Students who arrive after **8.50am MUST report to the school office to sign in.**



Please make your child aware that if they arrive after the bell has gone, they must report to the office to sign in avoiding the need to get in touch with parents.

LEAVING SCHOOL EARLY

Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds unless accompanied by a parent/caregiver.

The teacher and office staff must be informed and the child signed out before leaving the school grounds.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR DETAILS

It's really important to get in touch with you in an emergency. Please let us know any changes to your address, phone number or caregivers so we can keep our records up to date.




GF & vegetarian options

ORDER school lunches ONLINE...

delivered to school



ezlunch.co.nz

Sushi Ami
Subway
Pita Pit

Mondays and Thursdays
Wednesdays
Tuesdays and Fridays

Menu items vary in price.

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

IMPORTANT NOTICES



Helmets

Make sure your child wears a helmet when riding their bike or scooter to school. Bikes and scooters must be walked across pedestrian crossings and in the school grounds.

Road safety

We remind you not to stop on yellow lines or drop off in driveways as this becomes a safety hazard for our children.

Parking

Parents and caregivers are permitted to park at the church on Old Te Atatu Road and walk the short distance to school. Please arrange a meeting spot after school with your child/ren.

The school carpark is for staff, visitors and contractors only.

Late to pick up your child/ren

Please phone the school office if you are stuck in traffic or are going to be late. We can arrange for your child to come to the library to wait for you. Siblings of Rutherford College students get picked up from the library.

Dropping off lunches, hats, drink bottles

Drop belongings into the office for your child and we will call for them to collect at an appropriate time. Sometimes they may be in another class or in the swimming pool.