

# RUAPEHU COLLEGE



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## Newsletter

Ruapehu College, at the heart of our community and the college of choice, making a mountain of difference in learning and for life.

Newsletter 15- 25 November 2019

Principal: Kim Basse  
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Tues 26 Nov– Thurs 28 Nov	Year 9 Camp in Rotorua
Thurs 28 Nov	Tough Teen Challenge
Fri 29 Nov	Kahui Games
Mon 2– Thurs 5 Dec	Year 12 Leadership Camp to Gisborne
Fri 6 Dec	Junior Prizegiving 11am school Finishes after Prize Giving

2020 Dates	
Wed 22-Fri 24 Jan	Uniform Shop Open from 9am-1pm
Mon 27 Jan	Teacher Only Day
Tues 28 Jan	Senior Students Only
Wed 29 Jan	All Students to Attend Powhiri for New Staff and Students 8.45

### Science and Culture in our Environment

Year 9 Science classes undertook a field trip to Rangataua Lakes to observe, investigate and collect data about the environment. They were joined by scientists from Ngati Rangi Trust and Horizons to assist students with their learning.

“This was all part of the new approach to science curriculum which better uses local contexts for learning” said teacher in charge, Miss Wilson. Students rotated through different activities in groups of three or four.



The activities included a stream health assessment, weeding and planting, bird survey, forest health, stories of cultural significance, measuring trees and putting out tracking tunnels to identify predators.

The field trips took place over two days under the guidance of Miss Wilson. All Students were briefed by Ngati Rangi's Keith Wood who educated them on the cultural significance of the lake.

Students were provided waders and equipment for the in-stream activities.

### Science teacher steps aside.

Mrs Shelagh Buck will be stepping down from the position of Head of Science at the end of the year. Mrs Buck first came to Ruapehu College in 1977 to teach science. She was appointed to Head of Department in Science in 1990 and apart from a few years out of school to start the business venture in Ohakune, she has continued in that position with a strong focus on teaching chemistry.

Mrs Buck says she has enjoyed the interaction with the students and says it has been great to see that some students actually “came to like science”. There are many generations of adults who remember and have been taught by Mrs Buck. She says she has enjoyed “working at Ruapehu College” and “the whānau feel and the family atmosphere are things she loves about our school”.

Mrs Buck was acknowledged for her 42 years of service to Ruapehu College at the recent senior prize giving. She hasn't quite left the school yet though and will continue relieving and working in an NZQA administrative role to monitor assessment procedures.

Mrs Buck was presented with flowers and thanked for all her contributions.





## Kapa Haka Cultural Festival

After training for most of the year five College students joined Ohakune Primary school to perform in this years cultural festival at Raetihi Primary. Kapa Haka Tutor, Mindy Pakinga had been working with the students at both schools so that they were prepped for the items. The level of performance was outstanding.



## Science and Culture in our Environment

Veronica Hayes, doing stream health assessments in Makaranui stream with Horizons Regional Council, looking at macroinvertebrates in stream.



## Mountain Biking

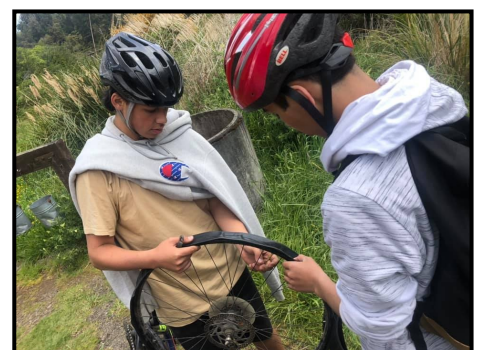
Year 9s will be heading out to camp this week, so outdoor teacher Mr Brian Connolly has been working with the students doing mountain biking and kayaking so students have experience before they head away.



Last week, they mountain biked The Old Coach Road and it was great to see most of the students enjoying our local area. It was a bit wet on one day, but "there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing" said Mr Connolly who made available warm thermals and raincoats that had been donated to the College.



Year 9 camp will visit Rotorua and Mt Tauranga next week.



## Year 9 Camp Information

The camp will run from Tuesday morning 26th November till Thursday afternoon, 28th of November. Students will leave from college about 9am on the Tuesday and return by 5pm on the Thursday and will be dropped off at home.

The cost of the camp is \$150 which includes meals, accommodation, transport, and activities. Students will need to bring their own lunch for Tuesday.

We will be staying in cabins at Lake Rotoiti Holiday Park.

Activities on the camp include rafting, mountain biking, mini golf, scavenger hunt, surfing, waka ama, walking, kayaking, and swimming.

The camp fee should be paid to the school office before the 22th June. If anyone has trouble paying please contact their Roopu teachers or Junior Dean.

Students need to follow school normal school rules while on camp. Any serious misconduct or failure to follow instructions which could impact on their safety or that of the group may result in students being sent home at the expense of caregivers.

A gear list suggestion is included on the next page. Please bring a duffle bag and day pack to carry your gear, do not bring suitcases or tramping packs. Also to assist us in achieving our goals the following items are banned from camp: cell phones, electrical devices, high sugar and/or caffeine drinks. If these items are found on students they will be confiscated with an all care no responsibility kaupapa.

Students may bring a small amount of money to buy lunch on the way but we would discourage bringing large amount of money as again we can't take responsibility if it gets lost.

Regards

Brian Connelly  
TIC Outdoor Education

## Suggested Gear List for year 9 camp

Can everyone please bring some baking for supper

Sleeping bag or blanket and pillow case  
Closed shoes (for biking and walking)

Socks 2-3

Jandals

Shorts 2-3

T-Shirts 3-4

Undies

Swimming Togs

Towel 1-2

Sun Hat

Sun glasses

Sun block

Warm top 1-2

Long pants

P.Js

Toothbrush and Toiletries

Any Medication

Skate board? (The accommodation is skate board friendly)

We have some but not enough so if you have them please bring:

Boogie boards/surf boards

Wetsuits

## Year 12 Leadership Camp to Gisborne

Transport - \$500 for Van - 16 students

Surfing - \$35 per day

Accommodation - \$142.50

Total of : \$300 plus bring food donations suitable for bbq and baking!

You will need your own money for other snacks

This will need to be paid Friday 29th November

### Gear List

Plate, bowl, cup, Knife/fork/spoon/Tea Towel

Toiletries including: Sunscreen/Aloe Gel/lip balm,

Insect Repellent and personal medication

Water Bottle

3 towels, Rain Jacket, Warm clothes, Togs

Beach clothes, Jandals, sneakers

2 Hats - one to wear in water if required

Bring your own pillow for drive if you want, but accommodation has sheets etc provided.  
Activities can change depending on weather and

tides. We do have backup plans so be prepared to be flexible.

### Itinerary

Monday - Leave school 7.30am

Drive in convoy towards Murapara through to Opotiki. Arrive Gisborne 3.00pm straight to surfing 7.30 pm - orientation around river walk and town if time allows. Dinner is Lasagne

Tuesday - 2.30 Stingray reef tour, Tolaga Bay visit, beach safety weather depending. BBQ Dinner Drive Back - 1 hour. Leadership Activities

Wednesday - Lunch and peer mentoring activities 11 - 2 Afternoon surf, BBQ Dinner, Leadership Training. Amazing Race.

Thursday - Pack up, cleaning of wetsuits, organise packed lunch. Check out. Drive to Morere Hot pools \$5 Lunch – 11.30. Depart to Ohakune 12.00 Arrive back 5.30 - 600pm.