

# RUAPEHU COLLEGE 2024



RAPUHIA KOTE MATAURANGA  
SEEK FURTHER KNOWLEDGE



# PRINCIPALS REPORT

E rere kau mai to Awa nui mai i Te Kahui Maunga ki Tangaroa, e uri tēnei e mihi ana ki a kautau katoa. Ko au te awa ko te awa ko au. The great river flows from the mountains to the sea, I am the river and the river is I.

As the end of the college year is quickly closing upon us, I look back at 2024 and see a year of significant change for us as a wider community, for teaching from primary through to secondary, and for our learners who have had to navigate a changing landscape. How wonderful then are all the students throughout our region who demonstrate resilience, growth mind-sets and a desire to challenge themselves academically, culturally and athletically.

The academic, cultural and athletic achievements of our students at the college continue to improve year upon year. Our students win scholarship awards at our most prestigious universities, they perform on stages, and they compete and win on international stages in their chosen sports. This does not happen by chance, but are the results of whānau who drive and support their children towards their successes. Engaged whānau are, and always will be, the key to every child's success in life. We as a college partner with whānau to support their successes as they determine it to be. Our dedicated team of teachers, support staff and volunteers who collaborate collectively in their respective spheres of influence to enhance not only student learning, but student well-being. I am so very blessed to lead such an amazing team of people.

I wish to acknowledge the staff that are finishing their service at the college. Mrs Beukes, who generously came out of retirement last year to work in our learning support center, will now be retiring permanently. We thank her for her valued and dedicated service to the college over many years, and recognise again the college banners she created that hang in the hall and on the lectern.

Mr Greene, who has also retired. We thank him for his valued and dedicated service to the English department as its leader, and wish to acknowledge the tremendous impact he had with many students who he supported to gain the necessary requirements for university and tertiary study, sacrificing many hours of his own time to do so.

Mrs Beard, who has only been with us for this year, had an immediate impact and a positive influence on our students and staff alike, as well as her volunteer service to our community. Her infectious enthusiasm towards life will be missed, as will the members of the college choir which she established with great success. We wish her all the best at her next school.

To our special canteen aunties, Christiane Te Riaki and Linda Larsen. We wish you and your whānau the very best, and thank you for the care and love you gave in making the best school lunches in the country. Our students will miss you both.

To Mr Mackrell, Deputy Principal, who is leaving us to pursue an exciting business opportunity. His seven years of service has been an incredible gift to the entire college, the senior leadership team, and especially to myself as his colleague. We wish him all the best in his new venture.

Finally, to our parents and whānau of our Year 13 students, and those younger students who will not be returning. We thank you for supporting our college and entrusting your child to our care over these past years. It has been a privilege seeing them grow into the fine young people they are today.

Tēnā kautau, tēnā tātau katoa.  
Marama Allen



# POWHIRI

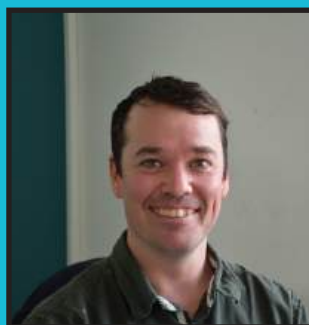
It was a beautiful day to welcome our new students and staff at the beginning of the year. Our students put on a strong welcome at the foot of our beautiful maunga.





## STAFF COMING AND GOING

Welcoming to our teaching team Mr Conor Whitehead who had previously worked at our school on a student placement. Conor joins the Social Science and Geography Department. Conor loves living in the area and especially being on the mountain.



Mr Douglas Webb joined the Science Department and specialises in Chemistry and Physics. He moved from Australia five years ago and has taught at various schools around our area. He is a very enthusiastic teacher for all the Sciences.



Mrs Jessica Walton joined the Science Department on a part-time basis for Term One. We were very lucky to have had her expertise to support our students during her time with us.



Mrs Leigh-ana Beard moved to the Ruapehu area from Whanganui. She has taught our junior students Physical Education and Social Studies. Its clear she is passionate about supporting our students throughout their learning.



Miss Tori Hansen joined our front office team this year. Her warm smile and welcoming personality has made a positive impact to the school, being aunty to many students.



Miss Mallory Brown firstly joined the Science Department to complete her teaching practicum. Later in the year she began helping out as a relieving teacher. Her energy and passion for teaching are already shining through!



After years of dedicated service as Head of the English Department, Mr. Johnny Green has retired. Known for his passion for grammar and spelling, Mr. Green leaves behind a lasting impact on both students and colleagues. He's now looking forward to enjoying more time fishing and playing golf. We wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement!



We are delighted to welcome Mr. Innocent Mahlatini, who recently joined us from South Africa with his family. Teaching in Science, Agriculture and Horticulture, Mr. Mahlatini has already made a positive impact, especially in rejuvenating our gardens. His hard work and enthusiasm are truly appreciated!



We welcome Mr. Tane Rapana, who joins us from Northland. He's been sharing his expertise in Te Reo Māori and Kapa Haka, and we're looking forward to the cultural richness he brings to our school community.



We're thrilled to have Miss Tati Tutauha take on the role of Sports Coordinator. With her deep knowledge of both the community and the area, having grown up here, Tati is working to continually improve the success of our sports programmes!



## STAFF PHOTO



**Back Row:** Chenille Bouskill, Angelique Helliwell, Ann Stuckey, Innocent Mahlatini, Jade Green  
**4th Row:** Channel Wall, Sharon Birch, Maria Hawira, Tamzyn Te Riaki, Fleur Loram, Nicole Jaquiere, Mallory Brown, Christiane Te Riaki  
**3rd Row:** Conor Whitehead, Kendall Richards, Matthew Laurenson, Rajinesh Prasad, Karl-John Allen, Tane Rapana, Hansen Ihle, Doug Webb  
**2nd Row:** Linda Larsen, Kerren Dixon, Tati Tutauha, Merrilyn George, Louise Beukes, Tori Hansen, Liz Poka, Johnny Greene  
**Front Row:** Helena Burns, Maxine Hakaraia, Michael Darmody, Marama Allen, Steven Mackrell, David Sims, Meredith Wilson  
**Absent:** Leigh-ana Beard, Chris Chamorro, Wendy Culpan, Wendy Darmody, Subhasani Devi, Jimmy Edmonds, Charity Garcia, Chaana Morgan, Leba Phillips, Rauna Te Huia, Jessica Walton, Amber Bergman, Talia Tukiwaho.

Teacher aides Chenille Bouskill, Sharon Birch, Jade Green (absent) and Talia Tukiwaho who work with those students requiring extra support with their learning.



Mrs Beukes, who generously came out of retirement last year to work in our learning support center, will now be retiring full-time.



Steven Mackrell has been working as Deputy Principal at Ruapehu College for the last 7 and 1/2 years. He is moving back to his home in Whanganui. He has been responsible for NCEA and established the Building Academy among other things.



Our special canteen aunties, Christiane Te Riaki and Linda Larsen. We wish you and your whānau the very best, and thank you for the care and love you gave in making the best school lunches in the country. Our students will miss you both.





## HEAD GIRL SPEECH



**Back Row:** Matthew Smith (Prefect), William Barlow (Board of Trustees Representative), Mrs Marama Allen (Principal)

**Front Row:** Hye-le Wihare-Hansen (Head Girl), Ambrose Demchy (Head Boy), Kodo Drayton (Prefect)

I never applied, and then never went, that I would be missing out on such amazing experiences. I'm sure I would have felt a huge amount of regret, so, here comes a wise quote from head girl of 2024, "Get out there, give it a go, because you never want to be in a situation where you are feeling regretful". I want every person here to apply for something new next year. May that be a gym membership? May

that be the future leadership academy or even trialing for a team in another town. Do something fun, make your life interesting, push yourself and get out of your comfort zone. Because you never truly grow, unless you push your boundaries.

Next year, I will again be pushing my boundaries. I will be going to university. This is something I decided I wanted at an early age, and it is scary, because that little thought is getting closer and closer. But in true Hye-le style, I am going to give it a go, because I don't want to be 30 or 50 sitting on a beach thinking of all the things I could have done, when I could sit there and reminisce about all the things I have done.

To everyone at school. Goodbye. I won't miss you at all, unless your last name is Wilson or Phillips or maybe Harding-Gray. Before I end this speech I just want to keep our community and school safe by thanking Beyonce, she had one of the best music videos out there.

Nga mihi nui.

Signing out.  
Hye-le Wihare-Hansen



Congratulations to those in my class. Dear Ruapehu College, you can kiss my..... big, juicy lips goodbye.

But on a serious note, thank you to all the students, staff members, teachers, that have made our five years at Ruapehu College a time to remember.

To the year 13s, my graduate class. good riddance! I wish you all good luck for all your future ambitions and goals. I know you will all succeed because you're from the hearty Central Plateau. The scary news is, you're on your own now.. but the cool news is, you're on your own now!

Here stands an aspiring doctor and New Zealand's tallest lawyer, so if you want us back here, get us on your good list. From engineers to being in the army, we are quite a diverse group that always aimed high, and who followed the school value Rapuhia Kote Matauranga. We are the future, and here we come.

I want everyone here to listen to this part of my speech.... Apply for things. If anything ever comes up in your life, such as applying to be a prefect, going on a walk with someone or even sports opportunities, always throw yourself out there because you never know what's waiting for you until you're out there doing it. Throughout my college years I have never been shy when it comes to getting out there and giving it a go. I went to kapa haka in year 10 and did a speech in front of all these randoms and from that got an award. I went to a Great Barrier Island in year 11. At the end of Year 12 I applied and gained the role of Head Girl for 2024. And this year was such a step up. I was applying for scholarships to go places and I was getting them! I took a plane and went down south for a week, fully paid. I went to Otago University where I experienced student life and got rid of all my fears. I took another plane and went to Auckland for a week, fully paid. Here I learnt about conservation and DOC's involvement in conserving our marine and wildlife. I even went on a solo trip to Fiji! Unfortunately, that time my mother had to pay! I often reflect on these opportunities and imagine if

## HEAD BOY SPEECH

Hey guys, as you all just heard in Hye-le's magnificent speech, I aim to be the world's tallest lawyer, and seated in front of you, are part of the world's next generation of electricians, engineers, soldiers, and- erm- whatever job you get when you study communications. Aye Will?

We've been through some time together. In fact, not accounting for sick days and my shady math, around six thousand hours together. We've made so many memories, good and bad. The time I won \$20 off Matthew with a full-court shot, the time I got sent out of Miss Bam's math class for answering too quickly (no hard feelings), the time we managed to grab 38 muffins while the lunch ladies weren't looking, and we can't forget the boat to Great Barrier. Black sky, angry waves, warning alarms telling us the boat was trying to be a submarine, and people spewing left and right. I will never look at a boat the same. So many experiences that I have had in my life and that I will carry with me have been based under the name of this Kura, and I want to thank everyone of you, my fellow peers, for turning this place of numbers, punctuation and annoying ties, into a smiling, laughing home I have grown up in.

But, I can't pretend that school is just made up of students. Teachers - you have watched us grow, probably both vertically and horizontally, from year nine up to now. You have had a hard job, having to juggle both explaining academic concepts to our pre-adolescent brains, whilst teaching us basic things like using our manners, or why we shouldn't snort the citric acid or play chicken with the bunsen-burners. You all are role models, and overall great human beings, and I truly thank you for shaping us into the people we are.

There are a few teachers and members of staff I would like to acknowledge in particular. Firstly, unfortunately he's not here today, is Mr Prasad. The 'actual' best teacher I've ever had. You will never meet anyone so passionate about their subject. The after school or saturday classes you have with him, sitting at the table, six hours into differential equations, your hurting brain numbed by cheesy-wheelzys and tiny water bottles, are only experiences understandable to us lucky students. He's also the funniest man you've ever met. Ask anyone in my class about Mr Prasad's Cinderella joke. It's so funny that I still don't get it. So a massive thank you to you Mr Prasad, for all those times telling me that I don't need to do math, but I should so I can be a smart lawyer. Thank you for all the times you've stopped Mum in the supermarket to tell her what I need to work on, so that she can forget five seconds later, and of course, thank you for the amazing memes you put in the math group chat.

Secondly, is Mr Sims. My Friend Matthew came into the PFA room the other day, looked around and said this. "It's so weird. There's a place in the school that is so foreign to me, yet so normal to you". Which is true, because I truly believe, if you added up all my school hours in other classes, that would be

about the same as the amount of time I've spent working towards something performing-arts related. And that's all thanks to you Mr Sims. Production, Rockquest, and most recently our recording for Spotify have all been possible because of you. I wouldn't have believed you if you'd told me in year nine that I'd be a drummer. Yet here I am, because of your encouragement and guidance. You've been more than a teacher throughout my college years, but a friend. You've given up hundreds of hours for us, and I am truly grateful. Thankfully, your work with us will be immortalized on the internet. Maybe one day we can get that album finished.

Lastly, is Mr Darmody, our football coach. Sun, rain, hail, snow, thunder and lightning, we have been out there, practicing passing, being on our toes, and getting our fitness up. 'Control, pass, move.' I will never get that out of my head. Football has always been my sport of choice, just beating Waka-Ama, and I've enjoyed every second of it with thanks to you Sir. But Mr Darmody doesn't leave it all out there on the pitch. No no, he's your teacher out there in the muck, in the woodwork room, and even at break time, and I really got to see that during tournament week this year. Mr Darmody is the best public speaker I have ever heard. A few of my peers and I actually took a course on giving speeches, and the thing I had to work on was not using filler words like 'umm' and 'like'. Mr Darmody never uses them. His talks are always well thought and articulated, his points inspiring and thought provoking, and whether he's speaking to the school on a monday, or a football team that just got smoked 12-nil, you leave somehow a better person. Thank you Mr Darmody for the work you've put into me and the rest of the team. I know I am a better athlete and human because of it.

A couple other mentions I'd like to add are for Whare, Shayna, and Chaana, for helping me grow in confidence, and making a real effort with that skinny, white, year nine who wanted to paddle down the Whanganui river with the other bros'. Mr and Mrs Allen, I also want to thank you for all the work you do, whether obvious or behind the scenes, and for being great examples of people we can aspire to be.





# HEAD BOY SPEECH CONTINUED

The last two members of staff I want to make a special mention of are Jimmy and Chris. Sure you might not see them up on stage giving a speech, or teaching a class of rowdy year nines, but believe me, they put in the work. These two humans are the epitome of that saying 'a little and often'. This is shown by the amount of times I've gone into the PFA room and Jimmy is on the floor pulling apart some heater, building a new wall or something. And Chris will be outside mowing or marking the field outlines, the same fields on which he had me stumbling in a teacher vs student football match. So on behalf of us year 13's, and the whole school, I want to thank you both for the amazing contribution you have made to this Kura.

Lastly, my parents. Mum, Dad, you two are the reason I'm here at all. You have fed me, clothed me, and put a roof over my head. You have celebrated my successes and put me on the right path when I've gone astray. School hasn't been an easy road, but you've pushed me, and here I am. I know you're not perfect, but you're pretty close to it, and everything I have today, in one way or another, I can

thank you for.

So, now you've seen it. The people that have gotten me to where I am today. The building blocks of which hold us up. These teachers, these parents in the audience all want what's best for you. So dream big. Don't make excuses for why you can't. Surround yourself with people who want the best for you. Set goals, and work for them. I wanna hear by the time I'm up to my eyes in law papers, about that up-and-coming skater kid from Ruapehu, or about the next astrophysicist, or chef who learnt to cook with Mrs Hakaria.

Like Peter Drucker said: 'the best way to predict your future, is to create it'

So. get out there and make it.

Thank you.  
Ambrose Demchy  
Head Boy

## VISITORS

Head Boy of Ruapehu College in 1982, Howard Iraia, came to our assembly and spoke about his pathway back to our area after working and travelling extensively overseas. He talked about finding his purpose and passion while at school.



Jeff King ex Deputy Principal and Co-Founder of My Mahi (a digital platform for students and educators) visited on two occasions to showcase how virtual reality can be used to navigate career pathways. Students and staff alike were able to experience first-hand building sites, safety requirements in the workplace. Also, customer service scenarios.



The Ugly Shakespeare Company performed their rendition of Macbeth for us this year.. They work on delivering relatable and entertaining shows that not only take the fear out of Shakespeare, but also give students the opportunity to engage in New Zealand theatre written by contemporary NZ playwrights.

Well done to the students who attended the Toastmaster Course. They were mentored by the experienced Toastermasters from Taumarunui. The course is designed to develop leadership and communication. Students had to do both a planned and impromptu speech.



## KAPA HAKA

**Back Row:**  
Kobe Learmonth,  
Siobhan  
McDonough,  
Kiana-Jaye  
Gembitsky-  
Edmonds  
**2nd Row:**  
Maddy Hika  
Wright, Alecade  
Herewini,  
Komaihana  
Hawira, R-Jaye Bromwich, Harmony Hansen,  
Mr Tane Rapana (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Olivia Gray, Cyprus Martin, Alesha  
Neho, Elizabeth Hodge, Kanihi Te Riaki



## WALL OF FAME

### Taekwondo

#### Sophie Watt

Over the year, Sophie has competed in a few gradings and has gained herself the blue belt. Overall this year she has received 4 medals. On the 2nd of March she competed in the Bay Open Tournament in Tauranga winning herself a silver medal. On the 1st of June she competed in the NZUTA Open Tournament in Tauranga winning herself a gold medal. On the 17th of August she competed in the NZ Kukkiwan cup also in Tauranga winning herself a silver medal. And on the 28th of September she competed in the TUNZ Open Tournament in Lower Hutt, Wellington where she had secured herself a gold medal.

#### Gabby Callahan

Over the year, Gabby has also competed in the gradings and has gained herself a black belt. This year she has received 6 metals in both New Zealand and Austrailian competitions.

02 March 24: Bay Open (regional level) - GOLD  
13 Apr 24: Budo South (regional level) - SILVER  
1 Jun 24: NZUTA Open (regional level) - SILVER  
15 Jun 24: Caboolture Open (Australia regional) - SILVER



17 Aug: Kukkiwon Cup (NZ National Championship) SILVER  
28 Sep 24: TUNZ Open (regional level) – SILVER



## WALL OF FAME

### Whanganui Girls Rugby Representatives

We had two girls that were selected to play representative rugby for Whanganui. Well done to Olivia Gray and Te Atawhaitia Richards who made it into the U16 team.



### Boys Under 16 Whanganui Rugby Representatives

Sheldon Ohagan  
Chrissy Winter  
Robbie Lilburn  
Hunter Cross  
Stuart-Rose Sinclair



### Whanganui Netball Under 18 Representatives Team

Haeley Perkins-Tamatea  
Te Moana Hagley  
Paetyn Brown

### Whanganui Netball Under 16 Representatives Team

Sarah Herewini

### Aotea U17 Representatives Team

Te Moana Hagley

Haeley Perkins-Tamatea, Te Moana Hagley and Sarah Herewini were also a part of the Waimarino Club Netball team that took out their Prem 3 grade division in the Whanganui Netball Competition this season.

Haeley Perkins-Tamatea also received the most improved player award at the end Whanganui Netball of year prizegiving.



### Equestrian:

Bella Drayton, Maddie Whitehead and Milla Smith-Horne represented Ruapehu College at the North Island Secondary Schools Equestrian Champs held in Taupo in September.

The week-long event gave the girls a significant opportunity to develop their confidence, engage a growth-mindset, and display our ROCK values. A special mention must go to Bella, who achieved 4th place in the dressage with her horse 'Willow'. Congratulations to you individually, and as a team.



### Boys Under 14 Whanganui Rugby Representatives

David Hagley  
Izhik Pui



### Go-karting

Emerson Lark has been karting for 2 years, competing in regional club events all around the North island on purpose-built kart circuits. At the beginning of this year, he competed in a new category, Superkarts, running on car racing circuits like Taupo International Race Circuit and Hampton Downs in fields of up to 30 to 40 other karts and travelling at speeds of 160kph.



## WALL OF FAME

### Fire fighters

Well done to our students Tarn Hoyle, Breeanah Tweeddale and Noah Swift who attended the Volunteer Recruit Fire Fighter Course in Rotorua. They will be part of the Ohakune and National Park Fire Brigades. An incredibly valuable community service.



### Squash Central Junior Prince Series

Congratulations to Ben Lee and Paige Drinkwater for placing 1st place for men's and women's in the Squash Central Junior category. Congratulations to Ben Lee finishing first place in the overall competition.



### Squash Central Elite Junior Coaching Programme.

Liam Burnard, Grace Rowe and Kirsty Osborne were all selected to be a part of the Squash Central Elite Junior Coaching Programme.



### Squash Central Representative

Liam Burnard was selected to represent Squash Central at the NZ Interdistrict Teams Event. He also placed 16th in NZ in the individual section.



### Free ride skiing

This year was Mica Hoyle's first time competing in a free ride competition. He came 7th in the U16 Treble Cone stop of the Junior Freeride World Tour. Mica and his brothers were also made Whakapapa ambassadors this season.



### Football U15 Representatives

Congratulations to Wren Drayton and Ezekiel Paynter, who have been selected for the Whanganui U15 Football Representative Team



### Football U13 Representative

Congratulations to Isaac Swift, who has been chosen for the Whanganui U13 Football Representative Team.



### New Zealand Secondary Schools Representative

Grace has been selected as a reserve for the New Zealand Secondary School Trans Tasman Tournament Team to face off against Australia.



### Squash D Grade Superchamps

Grace Rowe and Paige Drinkwater were part of the Ohakune Squash Clubs D grade team that won the Squash Central D Grade Superchamps competition and then went on to become runner ups in the New Zealand National D Grade Superchamps competition.







9 MW

**Back Row:** Izrayel Ruki, Bonnie Seymour, Aiana Ilano.  
**2nd Row:** Maddy Hika Wright, Blake Rhodes, Jaeziah Waerea-Brown, Paige Drinkwater, Mrs Meredith Wilson (Teacher).  
**Front Row:** Maddie Whitehead, Jahlyius Rikihana, Lya Nieuwoudt, Jack Maclean, Aria Charmley.  
**Absent:** Carter Herbert-Herewini, GT Treanor-Hall, Marshall Tweeddale, Briley Whale, Angus Learmonth-Warren.



9 LB

**Back Row:** Ngaire Callaghan, Tiana Kumeroa, Alesha Noho.  
**2nd Row:** Harmony Hansen, Cairo Fraser, Narissa Irwin, Mr David Sims (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Maioha Wallace, Jairus Hiroti, Connor Riddell, Fergus Dempsey, Nette Fredericksen.  
**Absent:** Cali-Haze Bishop-Kiriona, Horomana Henare, Teagan McNie-Haitana, Izhik Pui, Manaia Scarrow, Te Mihi-Ratapu Taylor.



9 DW

**Back Row:** Lee Wikohika, Makoia Arahanga, Isaac Swift.  
**2nd Row:** Kanihi Te Riaki, Matthew Markenstein, Aston Wilson, Mr Doug Webb (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Maddie Demchy, Milla Smith-Horne, Tamara Gebbie, Mali Freeman, Vanessa Ashford-Wallis.  
**Absent:** Izayah-Rae Hartman, Jordan Patrick, Molly Aitken, Casey Pearson.



9 CW

**Back Row:** Elizabeth Hodge, Rhythm Treanor Metekingi, Ezekiel Paynter, Kal-El Bishop, Atlas Elers, Mr Conor Whitehead (Teacher).  
**2nd Row:** Mikayla Taitoko, Kobe Learmonth, Ben Lee, Alecade Herewini, Katie Ritchfield.  
**Absent:** Chiquita-Leigh Albert, Titari Atkins-Wihongi, Xavier Jay Brown, Keelan Kelly, Lincoln Mareikura, Izzy Stephens.





**Back Row:** Olivia Gray, Florida Jean Harding-Gray, Riley Maw, Lily Wilton, Sasha Gray.  
**2nd Row:** David Macrae, R-Jaye Bromwich, Mackenzie Fitness, Sam Williams, Ms Fleur Loram (Teacher).  
**Front Row:** Gabby Callaghan, Harmony Gembitsky-Edmonds, Ngateria Lole Uaea, Lucy Wairau, Siobhan McDonough.  
**Absent:** Monei Menzies Parore.

10 FL



**Back Row:** Komaihana Hawira, Mr Tane Rapana (Teacher), Torin Thompson  
**Front Row:** Zoe Smith, Fletcher Mason, Paora Kumeroa, Patrick Carmichael, Talei Phillips  
**Absent:** Tuhiriki Hawira, Riley Kelly, Elijah Neho, Aroha Simons-Patrick, Destiney Warbrick, Mihi Ataarau Winiata, Mikaere Ross, Te Whaiora Hiroti, Hollie Martinsen

10 TR



**Back Row:** Hone Buckingham, Mr Matthew Laurenson (Teacher), Ford Kumeroa Ponga  
**Front Row:** Wren Drayton, Ivy Baker, Grace Rowe, Cyprus Martin, Jamie Senekal  
**Absent:** Bella Drayton, David Hagley, Laykin Horne, Daysharn Lawson, Jack McGonigle-Black, Armani Perkins-Tamatea, Te Atawhaitia Richards, Lily Taylor, Brian Mahlatini.

10 ML



**Back Row:** Chase Tutemahurangi, Xavier Beukes, Jackson Windle, Matty MacLean, Orion Black, Mrs Tamzyn Te Riaki (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Georgia Smith, Rebekah Swift, Elishka Aitken, Teaana Mihi Hansen Patea, Charley MacLean  
**Absent:** Te Aumihi Christensen-Hagley, Tiaan Perkins, Harlow Rokstad, Ataahua Waaka, Rawiri Beazley.

10 TT





11 AB

**Back Row:** Manaia Kingi Mareikura, Stuart Rose-Sinclair, Treyton Gray, Emerson Lark, Honore Horomia, Mrs Angelique Helliwell (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Kiana-Jaye Gembitsky-Edmonds, Connor Anderson, Rhythm Clair, Bishop Hodge, Maia Allen  
**Absent:** Tahleena Atkins-Wihongi, Tiana Atkins-Wihongi, Jack Deadman, Maia-Jay Lima.



11 NJ

**Back Row:** Te Atarangi Katene, Miss Nicole Jaquiere (Teacher), Kreize Houppapa  
**Front Row:** Jordi Demchy, Jay Learmonth, Sydney Charlton, Caleb Larsen, Sarah Herewini  
**Absent:** Nikora Henare-Richards, Elijah Hermansen, Karaitiana Horne, Mica Hoyle, Jaydah-Lee Ioannidis, Ash Learmonth-Warren, Chrissy Winter.



11 KJ

**Back Row:** Campbell van der Lubbe, Ariki McLeod, Judah Sinai  
**2nd Row:** Simeon Taura-Hawira, Shaquarn Perkins-Teki, Samuel Rowe, William Cooper, Mr Karl-John Allen (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Paretuarangi Mareikura Wilson, Blake Adam, Rangipunehu Wilson-Leahy, Drew Moore, Hannah Swift  
**Absent:** Kimihia Taylor, Naomi Van Overmeeren



11 RP

**Back Row:** Austin Herewini, Rico Pakai, Gerrard Osborne, Apollo Wilson, Mr Rajinesh Prasad (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Wil Shaw, Nythanule Takitimu-Bourne, Aaliyah Wilks, Korin Walker, Benson Carmichael  
**Absent:** Levarn Mate, Ethan Towers, Dwight Bannister, Tuharakia Wallace-McLeod, Marlon Whyte.





12 AS

**Back Row:** Jahnaia Brown, Robert Gray, Liam Burnard  
**2nd Row:** Blake Takitimu, Kenneth Anderson, Danny Dowman, Mrs Ann Stuckey (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Raukura Gray, Elaina Beukes, Paetyn Brown, Mishalle Perkins, Malena Hawira  
**Absent:** Te Moana Hagley, Cheyenne Muru-Albert, Diantae Rewi, Zoe Southall, Isla Thompson, Alastair Whale, Diego Cullen, Robbie Lilburn



12 JG

**Back Row:** Tamahuia Sinai, Azlian Wall, KC Callaghan, James Tweeddale, Mr Johnny Greene (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Jasmine Adam, Moses Hodge, Jorja Ritchfield, Drevahn Wood, Alysha Rhodes  
**Absent:** Brian Bailie, Aliyah Bannister, Richard Carmichael, Hunter Cross, Liam Kelly, Sheldon O'Hagan



12 MD

**Back Row:** Evie Hansen, Jason Young, Chyamali Dennison, Stirling Elers, Jareth Hays, Mr Michael Darmody (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Lucia Seymour, Macy Anderson, Hanna Vodanovich, Keira Varley, Hayley Moore  
**Absent:** Tannar Goff, Izybel Graham, Halford Herewini, Anahera Marumaru, Brent Siemonek, Skylah Te Kura, Sophie Watt



YEAR 13

**Back Row:** Angus Williams, Noah McGonigle-Cate, Maraea Buckingham, Hunter Anderson, Claire Moore  
**2nd Row:** Mr Steven Mackrell (Teacher), Linkin Harding-Gray, Noah Swift, William Barlow, Jamie Taitoko, Mrs Marama Allen (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Bianca Lomio, Kirsty Osborne, Ambrose Demchy, Hye-le Wihare-Hansen, Matthew Smith, Kodo Drayton, Laiven Lomio  
**Absent:** Hiria Hancy, Tarn Hoyle, Haeley Perkins-Tamatea, Breeanah Tweeddale, Poutama Kingi-Mareikura, Te Pere Akapita, Jizaiah-Ley Edmonds, Jorejina-Lee Paoratoho, Kohatu Bauer



# PIWAKAWAKA

**Back Row:** Mrs Louise Beukes (Teacher), Ms Sharon Birch (Teacher)  
**Front Row:** Miss Jade Green (Teacher Aide), Miyah Pakai, Conan Porter  
**Absent:** Shaniqua Bellamy

## LEARNING SUPPORT

Throughout 2024, Ruapehu College has implemented and continued a range of tailored learning support options to meet the diverse needs of our students.

To enhance one-on-one assistance, teacher aides have been integrated into core classes. This strategy not only provides students with more direct support, but also enables teachers to offer more individualized instruction, with the added benefit of an extra set of hands to manage alternative learning activities.

The Year 9 and Year 10 cohort have a targeted literacy and numeracy program, designed for students based on their specific needs. Students in this program engage in personalized learning plans that focus on addressing key areas for improvement. To facilitate accelerated learning and ensure close monitoring of progress, class sizes are kept small, allowing for more focused and effective instruction.

Our teacher aides play a vital role in this process, bringing adaptability and a strong commitment to supporting both students and teachers throughout the year.

This year, we proudly established the Piwakawaka Unit for our ORS-funded students. We are thrilled



to announce that a brand new classroom will be arriving at the end of November to further enhance the learning environment for these students. Throughout the year, our ORS students have embarked on a variety of exciting adventures, including visits to the Army Museum, the climbing wall, Carrot Park, farm visits, and more activities still to come. With the Piwakawaka Unit now in place, we are excited to offer tailored learning opportunities that cater specifically to the needs of our ORS students.

Miss Helena Burns



# ANZAC SERVICE

We held an ANZAC service at school before the holidays as ANZAC Day fell in the school holidays. We also had some wonderful student representatives attend the town ANZAC services.



## DISTANCE LEARNING

It is such a great feeling to be able to use the platforms available to us and provide subject choices to students unable to access them onsite. And WOW, what a year of great achievements for those students navigating this world of online learning, (aka distance learning). This year the subjects studied were History, Media Studies, Geography, Statistics, Psychology, Digital Technologies, Te Reo Maori, Spanish, Agriculture/Horticulture and Japanese, with Media Studies being the most popular, and quite possibly, the most enjoyable. Well done to those students that have achieved well in this group. Overall, your results this year have been phenomenal. And, Tarn, I thought that short horror movie you made was very clever!

Ms Kendall Richards

## MUFTI DAY

We had various mufi days through-out the year. The money collected was donated to various people and organisations chosen by the students.





## DESIGN IN FOOD

Wow, where did the year go? It's hard to believe we're already moving into the festive season! As we look back, it's clear that our first term was filled with laughter, learning, and a dash of adventure.

Food technology is a very popular subject, and not even our adverse environment and conditions at the beginning of the year could deter students, with two Year 10 classes going ahead. Mrs. George's welcome return, along with her knowledge and expertise in the classroom, continues to inspire students while maintaining high standards. The enjoyment of both teacher and students remains a foremost priority, fostering a positive learning environment.

We spent our first term in the Aghort room, which became our charming makeshift classroom. It was a delightful mix of fun and challenges, turning everyday lessons into memorable experiences. Imagine whipping up culinary creations while navigating the quirks of our temporary setup-two BBQs held outside and only one sink! If the weather had been any less forgiving (and it sometimes was), our BBQ adventures could have turned into a comedy of errors. But thankfully, our sunny disposition kept us going!

One thing we quickly learned-thanks to a few mishaps-was that running water and boiling the jug had a mischievous way of tripping a fuse, leaving us in the dark. A big shoutout to Jimmy and Chris for their quick response and our students' adaptability in these situations! High trust became our guiding principle, as we (Mrs. Hakaraia, mostly) often spread ourselves between the Aghort room, the storage room, the cleaners' closet, and even the Aghort shed. Let me tell you, I certainly racked up my steps during those busy days!

The students truly rose to the occasion, showcasing their remarkable adaptability. They dove into the kitchen tasks with enthusiasm, creating some "to die for" dishes that would make any chef proud. I must commend them not just for their culinary skills, but also for their willingness to pitch in and tackle the dishwashing duties. And to those clever students who managed to dodge the clean-up from



time to time-you know who you are, and we applaud your resourcefulness (with sarcasm)! Thanks also to Wendy for picking up any slack (cleaning) and went beyond always keeping our kitchen space clean.

As we transitioned into our stunning new classroom in Term 2, we did so with a sense of excitement and gratitude after a lovely blessing. With a fresh start and a new curriculum at Level One, our lessons were reimagined to truly engage and inspire our learners. It has been a joy to witness their growth, both in the kitchen and beyond.

Looking back on our year, I can't help but feel proud of all the students have achieved. Their creativity, teamwork, and zest for learning have made this year unforgettable. Here's to many more delicious dishes, laughter-filled lessons, and the joy of learning together. Onward to a fantastic 2025.

Mrs Maxine Hakaraia. TIC Food Technology



## SOCIAL SCIENCES

This year saw significant changes within the Social Sciences Department. Mrs. Leigh-ana Beard joined the College in 2024 for her first year of teaching. She taught Junior Physical Education & Health as well as Social Studies and had proven to be an invaluable asset to both the College and the department. Mr. KJ Allen continued teaching Year 9 Social Studies while also sharing his expertise in other areas of the school. Mr. Conor Whitehead also joined the College at the start of 2024 as Head of the Social Sciences Department. Prior to this, he spent three years teaching at Taumarunui High School and completed his teaching placement at Ruapehu College in 2020. He teaches Year 9 and Year 10 Social Studies, as well as Level 1 and Level 2 Geography.

Students studying Social Studies are encouraged to explore the why, where, and how, questioning what they don't understand. The subject is full of theories and hypotheses that invite further exploration. In Years 9 & 10, Social Studies continues to reinforce the strong values of the College, emphasising that poor behaviour has consequences and helping Junior Students understand what is expected of them.

In Year 9 Social Studies, students covered a range of topics, including financial literacy and economic activity, human rights, and disasters or challenges. At the end of Term 2, students had the opportunity to go on a field trip to the National Army Museum and The Majestic Theatre in Taihape for a screening of the movie Cabirini. This field trip tied into the learning on human rights, which was explored through major historical events and their impact on human rights.

In Year 10 Social Studies, students started the year by exploring different systems of government, including how our own system functions. They also studied Aotearoa/New Zealand history, focusing on pre-European life and key events leading to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. For their assessment task, students created impressive visual displays on significant figures from our country's early history. In Term 3, they shifted focus to Antarctica, studying its "Frozen Paradise" while developing important skills in mapping and graphing.

This year, Level 1 Geography students completed three assessment tasks from the new NCEA Level 1 Geography standards. In Term 2, the Geography department collaborated with the Science department to support students with an assessment task requiring them to explore an environment using data. This work aligned perfectly with the Year 11 Science stream's health perspectives field trip, which was supported by Liz Brooker from Project Tongariro, Horizons Regional Council, and the Ngāti Rangi Taiao team. Scientists from these organisations helped students learn about the health of the Mangawhero River. Students collected a variety of data on the river and used it in their assessment task to draw conclusions about its overall health. Through this hands-on research,



students gained valuable experience and had the opportunity to meet professionals working in the field.

Level 2 Geography students had a busy year, completing a variety of assessment tasks, including investigating different perspectives on forestry slash and its impact on the environment and people. In Term 2, students planned and conducted their own research on Mt Ruapehu, which involved collecting data on vegetation and soil, and exploring how these change with increasing altitude. Once students completed all internal assessments, they began preparing for their skills-based external assessment.

Mr Conor Whitehead

HOD Social Sciences





# ART

The Art Room has been very busy this year, with students enjoying experimenting with various media and learning a variety of skills, including how to tell stories through Art.

Year 9 & 10 students learned skills required for studying Art in Senior School, including drawing, printmaking and painting. Our local surroundings inspired many of our students' work, including Mount Ruapehu, native birds, plants, and landscapes.

Our Year 11 students participated in a noho (overnight stay) at Tiorangi marae in March to conduct the necessary research and information gathering required for their first two Achievement Standards. While on noho, students visited, experienced, and learned about Lake Rotokura, a local site of significance. Students had a unique opportunity to learn from a local kaumatua, and spent time gathering information using site-based Visual Art conventions. Students learned a significant amount regarding the site, tikanga marae, and how to express their learning through Art.

Year 12 students were a busy group of students, who somehow managed to fit Art into their lives alongside building, courses at UCOL, work placements, coffee making and learning first aid. There was a big sigh of relief when Portfolios were completed and sent off to NZQA for marking. Painters explored their culture, the things they love or just painted for joy. Photographers looked at place, people, the past and the abandonment of objects and buildings. Some great art and lots of good learning for next year. We also managed to fit in a trip to Palmerston North, to look at the Top Folio Exhibition. It turned out to be the mental health day we all needed to bond and take time out of our busy lives to think about Art.

Year 13 students worked hard this year to complete their Portfolio's. Linkin pushed the boundaries of his painting style and experimented with incorporating texture and colour into his landscapes, achieving some beautiful results. Hunter produced some amazing photography of the Mountain and Museum in Waiouru, and also completed a painting portfolio where he looked at Ming Ying as his artist model, and the Senior Ball as his subject. Kirsty painted a series of beautiful paintings that illustrated how being content with loneliness changes throughout our lives, and Claire produced a photography portfolio that studied dinosaurs, illustrating their journey from life to death. Noah spent some time looking at Design and Photography. I wish all our Y13's the best for their future endeavors, and encourage them to continue developing their creative skills throughout their lives. Ngā mihi tino nui ki a koutou!

The Art Department has just invested in a new Etching Press which we look forward to using with future students who choose to study Art. Exciting times ahead!

Whaea Tamzyn & Mrs Ann Stuckey

Art Department



Kirsty Osborne



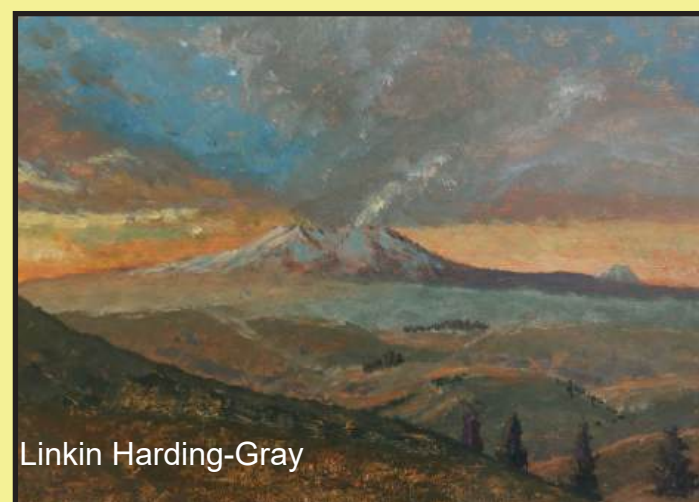
Linkin Harding-Gray



Linkin Harding-Gray



Hunter Anderson

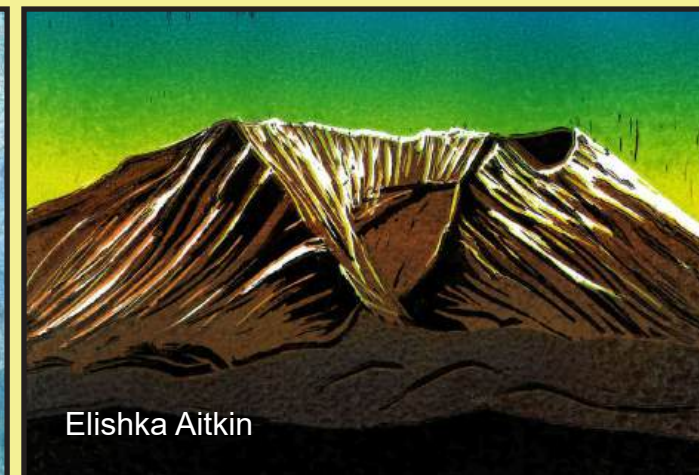


Linkin Harding-Gray

# ART WORK



Aria Charmley



Elishka Aitkin



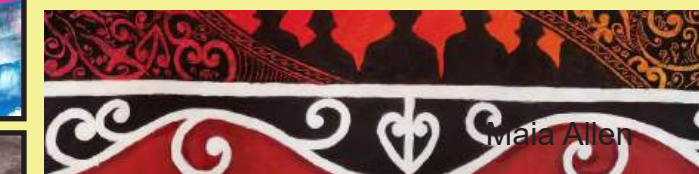
Paretuarangi  
Mareikura-Wilson



Karaitiana Horne



Y11 Noho - Tiorangi Marae



Maia Allen



Maia Allen



Lily Wilton



Teaana Hansen-Patea



Claire Moore



Ngaire Callaghan



Orion Black



# SCIENCE

## Teaching Staff

Another year, and hopefully we have made some more permanent changes to the teaching staff in the Science Department. Mr Doug Webb, who joined us late last year, brought his enthusiasm to teach Chemistry, Physics and General Science. Mr Mackrell had his year 13 Physics class, Mr Laurenson taught a year 9 class, Miss Wilson continued with General Science classes and Biology and, after two terms of relievers, Mr Mahlatini finally joined us from South Africa to teach Agriculture and Horticulture and some General Science. We were also blessed to have had Miss Mallory Brown join us in term 3 for her teacher training placement.



## Highlights

Some of the highlights this year included Liz Brooker from Project Tongariro being involved in many of our teaching and learning activities. She came into school and went through plant identification and trapping with our year 9 classes. Liz made a big impact with the year 11 Stream Health perspectives unit. She engaged students and helped them build their knowledge in and around the taiao and worked well with the Horizons Regional Council and the Ngati Rangi Taiao team. Scientists from both organisations assisted students in their learning about the health of the Mangawhero River. We were also excited that a pair of Whio (blue duck) were at both sites that we visited.



Liz Brooker has also started Predator Free Ruapehu College. Year 11 student, Connor Anderson, is our Lead Project manager and is working with Liz, and peer Emerson Lark, to maintain, check the traps and add data to Trap NZ. Next year we will look at expanding the trap line and try different traps to reduce predators around the school. We can then look at re-establishing plants and vegetation that will

attract native birds to our school.

Another highlight was the visit from Otago Museum, who brought their Solar Tsunami showcase to Raetihi, with support from ex-student Antonia Hoeta. This was a fantastic hands-on exhibition explaining our electricity system and how sun plasma or solar flares can impact it. It's always great to catch up with ex-students and see their accomplishments.

Junior Students undertook their Science Badge learning inquiry projects in both Term 2 and Term 4. Topics studied included astronomy, sport science, water science, agriculture, marine biology, zoology, food technology, entomology, and the list goes on. Students could choose their own topic and then do activities that work towards gaining 20 stars. Students received badges from completed projects.



# SCIENCE

## Significant Funding

This year, the Science Department successfully secured two grants to enhance student learning. The first grant, from Genesis Energy, provided funding to purchase a class set of iPads with waterproof cases, ideal for field trips and activities that involve specialized observations. The grant also allowed the purchase of trail cameras for freshwater monitoring, benefiting senior Biology students. We look forward to 2025, when students will be able to use them and the department expresses gratitude to Genesis Energy for helping make learning more relevant for students.



The second application was for the Freshwater Community Grant from Horizons Regional Council, securing \$2500 to update our freshwater sampling equipment, waders, clarity tubes, eDNA testing kits, and other measurement tools. These resources will be used by all year groups, helping students engage in hands-on science activities and fostering awareness of freshwater as an important resource. Having this equipment upgraded will allow for more active participation in field science and again, we are truly appreciative of the funding.

Miss Meredith HOD Science

## KIWI FOREVER

The Kiwi Forever programme took place from March 19th to March 24th, 2024, with mostly good weather except for one day of heavy rain. Sponsored by Genesis Energy, Project Tongariro, Ngati Rangi, Predator Free 2050 expert Cam Speedy, and the Department of Conservation, the programme was hosted by Ngati Rangi at Tirorangi Marae near Ohakune. Seventeen students from Central North Island schools participated, including our very own students Hayley Moore, Lucia Seymour, Connor Anderson, and Hunter Anderson.

The program provided an immersive field experience empowering students to explore specific issues related to sustainability, particularly the recovery of Kiwi and Whio populations from a Ngāti Rangi perspective. Activities included setting and inspecting traps, learning about conservation challenges, and exploring hydroelectric power's impact on waterways with support from Genesis. Students also studied the local Mangawhero River's ecosystem, observing Whio, an endangered species. The Department of Conservation demonstrated tools for monitoring Whio populations, enhancing students' understanding of conservation efforts.

A highlight of the program was participating in a Kiwi release at Tongariro Forest Park. Kiwi rangers from Save the Kiwi and Maungatautari Mountain Reserve shared insights into the translocation of kiwi to the area and how their population has changed over time. Overall, the week-long experience offered a chance to explore a variety of concepts including conservation, social, environmental, economic, educational, and te ao Māori perspectives. Students were then tasked with presenting their learning to representatives from supporting organizations, enhancing their science education and leadership skills.

Ms Meredith Wilson  
HOD Science





# DESIGN AND INNOVATION RESISTANT MATERIALS

For many students, stepping into the Design Technology – Resistant Materials room is a brand-new experience, while for others, it feels like a second home. This course is designed to build confidence, particularly in creative and critical thinking, while also laying the foundation for lifelong learning by integrating skills from all areas of the curriculum.

There's something truly special about Resistant Materials that sets it apart from other subjects. The tactile experience of working with wood—its smell and texture, using real tools, and the natural material itself—creates a unique environment. The sounds of hammering, sawing, and shaping materials with hands and minds working in tandem to solve problems and express creativity all captivate students. The combination of physical strength, coordination, and imaginative design engages students in a way few other subjects do.

But what about safety? Woodwork is actually a

low-risk activity when basic safety measures are followed and the appropriate tools are used. Student behavior at the workbench is exemplary, as they are fully engaged in tasks they enjoy. It's also important that students have the opportunity to experience controlled risk and challenge, as this helps them learn to make responsible decisions and judgments to protect themselves.

2024 has been an exciting year, with a wide range of projects across all year levels. Our Year 9 students kicked off the year by learning the design process and successfully completing their chopping boards. Year 10 students built on their skills by mastering new woodworking techniques, resulting in impressive final products like a Bluetooth Lamp Speaker. Year 11 students continued to refine their expertise, crafting coffee tables and working on personalized projects. For our Year 12 students, the focus shifted to mastering complex woodworking techniques, with standout projects like Cape Cod Chairs, planter boxes, and a range of creative pieces, from TV cabinets to coffee tables. Despite facing some challenges along the way, the final results were a true testament to the students' creativity, perseverance, and pride in their work.

If you have a creative imagination, enjoy problem-solving, and love working with your hands, Design Technology – Resistant Materials could be the perfect subject for you.

Miss Helena Burns

TIC Hard Materials



## PUHORO

Puhoro is a STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Mātauranga) program that is run nationwide. It is a kaupapa Māori approach and seeks to improve equitable access for Māori students in education and aims to increase Māori into STEM careers. Puhoro recognises the unique position we have in Aotearoa where we have access to two knowledge systems: Mātauranga Māori and Western Science. At Puhoro we celebrate mātauranga Māori as a rich Māori knowledge ecosystem underpinned by kaupapa and tikanga Māori.

The Puhoro STEMM Academy has been running at Ruapehu College for 3 years. The Puhoro program is sponsored by Genesis Energy and our Kaihautū is Chaana Morgan. This has proven to be really good for our students as she already has established positive relationships with many of our students. She is able to work alongside the students to develop their attitudes to learning in Science and Mathematics. This year the Puhoro program was run during Friday Science classes for the year 11's and during study sessions on Friday afternoon for the year 12's.

Year 11 students are part of the wider Ruapehu-Whanganui cluster of schools within the region that started this year. They join other Y11 students from 4 secondary schools and 2 kura māori and attend termly wānanga at the Racecourse in Whanganui. The wānanga are critical to ensuring that rangatahi get exposure to an array of STEM-based sessions and exposure to leaders within their respective fields, and get to be with like-minded rangatahi from other kura. With this in mind, rangatahi are enticed into STEMM, increasing their abilities to continue with STEMM subjects for their remaining years ahead.

The year 12 Students are part of the Manawātū Region and attended their wānanga at the Awapuni Racecourse. Year 12 also went on a trip to the



former Winstone Pulp International where they looked at jobs associated with engineering and a site visit through the plant.

As our program is sponsored by Genesis, students in Puhoro are able to achieve the Nga ara Scholarships. In 2024 the recipients for these scholarships were Connor Anderson year 11, and Stirling Elers Year 12 who both received a technology or trades package. Year 13 student, Jamie Taitoko, received his graduation certificate from Puhoro and will now have connections to help him in his university journey at Waikato. We are greatly appreciative of Puhoro and Genesis to continue to provide opportunities for our students and encourage more students to continue their education in STEM subjects.

Year 11 Participants: Connor Anderson, Judah Sinai, Paretuarangi Mareikura Wilson, Nikora Henare-Richards, Bishop Hodge, Karaitiana Horne, Kiana-Jaye Gembitsky-Edmonds, Honore Horomia, Te Atarangi Katene, Rico Pakai, Nythanule Takitimu-Borne, Kimihia Taylor, Korin Walker, Rangipunehu Wilson-Leahy, Chrissy Winter

Senior Puhoro: Jamie Taitoko, Stirling Elers, Drevahn Wood, Moses Hodge, Zoe Southall, Malena Hawera, Anahera Marumaru, Tamahua Sinai.

Miss Meredith Wilson HOD Science





# SCHOOL BALL



# SCHOOL BALL





# GATEWAY STAR

The Gateway programme was a hive of activity this year, with students gaining experience and credits in farming, hairdressing, retail, early childhood education, hospitality, commercial kitchens and skiing to name a few areas.

Earlier this year, a group of students were sent off to the Maori Cultural Tourism camp, where they enjoyed themselves and learned a lot.

We were fortunate to offer the Level 1 Ski Instructor program with Pure Turoa, providing a valuable opportunity for our skiers to earn a globally recognized qualification. Students need substantial snow experience and maturity to manage customers of all ages and all walks of life, and successful candidates often receive job offers as ski instructors.

Gateway students in dairy and dry stock farm placements have all completed their theory credits, thanks to the strong support from local farmers. These farmers have played a key role in fostering successful relationships, which have been essential to the students' achievements.

This vocational education program helps students develop practical skills, knowledge and attributes for specific careers in their chosen industry, and we are very appreciative of being able to get the placements needed for these students.

In the STAR space the school was able to provide a variety of courses this year.

The Coffee Essentials course is great for students to be able to find part-time Barista employment whilst at school.

Year 12 and 13 PE students successfully completed an Outdoor Safety and First Aid qualification. This is a useful qualification when looking for jobs in the area.

This year, over 20 students obtained their learner's licenses through the school's program. Additionally, a Defensive Driving course was offered for the first time, subsidized by STAR funding to make it more affordable.

The course included four theory sessions on-site after school, along with a one-hour practical session. It was successful and will be offered again next year. The course helps reduce the time students must hold their restricted license before applying for a full license. It can be taken while holding a learner's or restricted license, provided students can drive for at least an hour.

This year we also had students attend UCOL as part of their USkills programme. Students travel to UCOL for a one or two day course every week for a period of the year. These students enjoyed their courses and have been successful in completing their qualifications at Level 2 and 3.

Mrs Leba Phillips

Gateway/STAR Co Ordinator/Careers



## CAREERS

This space is always busy with activities related to CV preparation, tertiary study applications, accommodation, scholarships, and interviews. Throughout the year, there have been visits from tertiary institutions, and students have had ongoing communication with student advisers about course planning and subject choices.

These advisers, speakers, and organizations offering scholarships have a high regard for the college and our students, often praising our appearance, manners, and overall caliber, and the college is grateful for their advice, support and encouragement they offer.

The school also welcomed back the Rural Health Network students, who encouraged our Year 9 students to pursue careers in health, highlighting the benefits of rural pathways. Research indicates that rural students are likely to return to their rural communities after completing their studies. This trend has become increasingly significant in recent years as it holds potential for addressing challenges faced by rural areas, such as ours. Here's hoping some of these students are inspired!

Again, the school held a Business Industry week for juniors, aimed at exposing them to potential career options. This initiative, along with others, is part of the school's effort to prepare students for the future, acknowledging that the next generation may change careers up to 5 times in their lifetime, and place increasing expectations for flexibility, sustainability, and innovative practices on the companies they intend to work for.

Mrs Leba Phillips

Gateway/STAR Co Ordinator/Careers





# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This year in the Physical Education and Health Department, students focused on personal development, confidence-building, and social interaction through movement based contexts. In PE, Year 9 and 10 students started the year by getting to know each other and learning about self-management.

In Term 1, they worked on kotahitanga (unity) by planning and leading a 15-minute coaching session of a game they created for their peers. Term 2 focused on understanding the role of hauora (well-being) in their everyday lives, with students implementing a training program to learn about their bodies and how to care for themselves. In Term 3, students demonstrated whanaungatanga (relationships) by learning and playing traditional New Zealand sports like basketball, hockey, soccer, and rippa rugby. We finished the year by doing a combined unit of practical Ki-o-rahi and socio-critical thought, where students applied the rules from Hellison's Model of Social Responsibility, and were assessed on their ability to demonstrate teamwork and learn new skills, tactics and strategies in an unfamiliar sport.

In Health, Year 9 and 10 students studied topics like identity, wellbeing, interpersonal skills, and health promotion. They also covered subjects including assertiveness, puberty, contraceptive methods, and sex education.

The Year 13 students began the year by planning, and being assessed, on an outdoor adventure. Students worked together as a class to plan and implement a two day outdoor education journey. This involved completing risk management and putting in place strategies to minimise risk. The group hiked the Tree Trunk Gorge and rafted the Tongariro River, with an overnight stay at Urchin Campground.

In term two, they studied biomechanics and participated in a training program to improve fitness for their upcoming sports season. Students had to learn and apply knowledge of biophysical principles and were then assessed on their sport performance. In term three, students were assessed on their analysis of a physical badminton skill performed by themselves or another, applying their knowledge of biomechanics.

The Year 12 students started the year by planning and completing an overnight tramp, hiking from Mountain Road to Blyth Hut and returning the following day via The Old Blyth track. In term two, they designed

and followed a 4-week training program aimed at improving their performance in a chosen sport. In term three, the students focussed on understanding the biophysical principles involved in learning a new skill, specifically in badminton.

The Year 11 students have transitioned into NCEA, engaging in various activities and sports throughout the year.

In Term 1, they took part in adventure-based learning (ABL), where they were required to demonstrate kotahitanga (unity) to solve problems in team-building challenges.

They have also studied bones, muscles, and biomechanics, applying this knowledge to enhance their chosen skill and write about this in their external assessment. The year concluded with a practical Ki-o-rahi unit, where students showcased their ability to use different strategies during tournament games.

Mrs Angelique Helliwell  
HOD PE



# BUILDING ACADEMY

We said goodbye to the house built last year by the students in our Building Academy. A new group of students have started work on the next house. Thank you to Josh from AGC Training for Industry for working and supporting our students.



# JUNIOR SPORTS DAY

Ruapehu College played host for a mass Junior Sports Exchange.

Junior Students from PioPio College joined our local schools, National park, Orautoha, Raetihi Primary School, Ohakune Primary and Ruapehu College to play in a collection of sports.

The sun shone down and the kids all had a great time mingling and interacting with different schools and kids. Topped off with a yummy sausage sizzle and juicy, the day was awesome.

We look forward to another exchange next year.





# DESIGN AND INNOVATION TEXTILES

Textiles has been a hive of activity this year. Starting the year off working in the Library the students adapted well to their temporary home, but were relieved (as was the Librarian no doubt!) when we moved into the freshly renovated Textile Room after the room was blessed.



Pajama Shorts have been the favourite garment to make in the Junior School for 2024. Both Year 9 and 10's have been very creative and added applied designs which express their hobbies, personalities or homes.

In Year 12 and 13 the main focus this year was to enter the Remix Runway - Youth Fashion Show to fundraise for the Whanganui Cancer Society. It was the first time Ruapehu College students have been invited to compete alongside the Whanganui Colleges for this great cause. The students were all given wedding dresses to recycle into either street wear or red carpet. The show's theme for 2024 was "Enduring Spirit" and our students presented very chic garments, which they modeled on the catwalk.

Although this was a nerve-wracking experience for our students, they got up on the stage and did Ruapehu College and themselves proud. Nothing like the promise of McDonald's to get students up and running. In all seriousness, they shone on the stage and throughout the event following all of the ROCK values. I was very impressed.

We also have had an after-school Craft and Sewing Club run by Mrs. Richards, which has been very popular and the students have created many delightful projects. As the year comes to an end I



am very grateful to all those that have supported Textiles from coming to watch the Remix Runway Show, to taking on Textile Gateway students in their businesses, visiting and encouraging students in class, right through to very generous fabric donations.

A special thank you to our Jim, Chris and Wendy for all working your magic and making this happen during the renovations and moving. Most importantly thanks to all the students who took Textiles in 2024. You make it an exciting subject and I hope the skills you gained this year will help you in future.

Miss Nicole Jaquiere  
HOD Technology

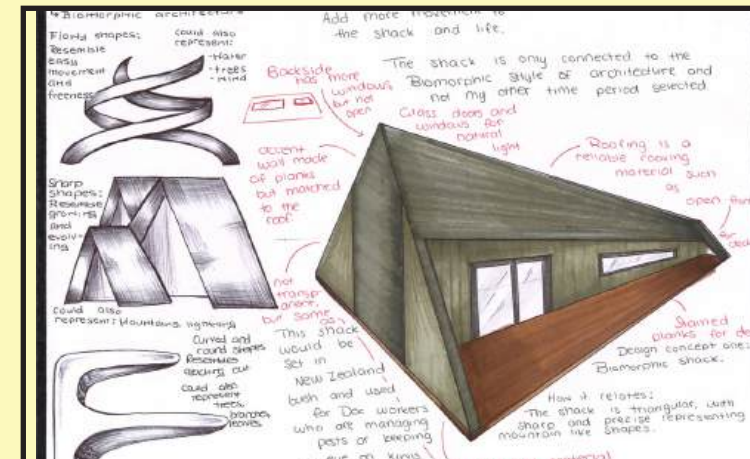
# DESIGN VISUAL COMMUNICATION

There has been a lot of activity in Design and Visual Communications in 2024, from the Year 9 Taster Course with Whaea Tamzyn to the senior classes with Miss Jaquiere.

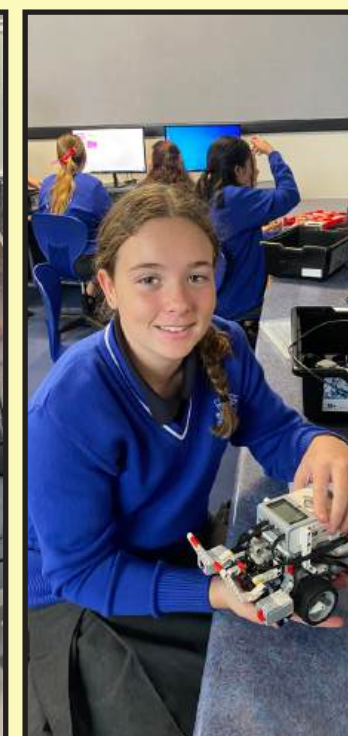
Students have worked on a wide range of projects to meet their design briefs, progressing from design ideation through development and refinement to reach their final concepts. They have sketched, created working drawings, and developed both three-dimensional digital and physical models of their design ideas.

Students have explored various client briefs, such as jewelry boxes and senior school hangout spaces, while examining a range of design influences from Aotearoa, Te Ao Māori, and around the world across different design eras. It has been non-stop and plenty of fun!

Miss Nicole Jaquiere  
HOD Technology



## DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY





# MATHEMATICS

The mathematics department has a wonderful team of young and experienced teachers. We have all gelled in well amidst all the media hype of the curriculum changes and the dreadful monster called "Numeracy", for some.

We had many pocket meetings throughout the year trying to support each other and sharing quick reminders through our group chat. There is always room for new teaching ideas with time. One of our school PD pillars of teaching, Differentiated Learning, was quite evident when numeracy and mainstream mathematics was taught pretty much throughout the year.

The support for students this year for numeracy preparation has been immense. There has been a greater understanding displayed by students as they build up the urge to succeed. Of course, we get the occasional comments: "where am I going to use this in life" and "why are there so many alphabets in Algebra". It was also very pleasing to see many senior students preparing well for their external examinations.

The new online examination (21 st century learning as we are told) has helped the year 11s believe more in what the changes are aiming at. For the year 13s, the department wishes them great

# LIBRARY

I feel a sense of both happiness and sadness when I say goodbye to the Year 13 group leaving us this year. Most of this group started at the college as Year 9 students the same year that I commenced work here. That same year that we were rudely interrupted by a rampant virus that spread rapidly around the world, but let us not digress, a good number of these students were great readers and still are great readers today, and that makes me happy.

Providing extra-curricular activities has been a focus of the library this year. Junior students were given the opportunity to participate in the Kiwi Exams run through the University of Canterbury, as well as the Junior Mathematics Competition delivered by the University of Otago. To help drive student success, "try everything", "give it a go" and "participate in something outside of the classroom" have been constant messages of advice at assembly this year, so those students that entered these challenges, or forced into doing so by their parents, can now tick that box as they were surely challenged.

Let us also acknowledge that lovely teacher in the textiles room who has been an amazing driver behind the Sewing and Craft Club established this year. This wee group are trying new things, growing friendships and generally enjoying the time together in that space.



success in their future endeavours. The juniors are slowly beginning to pick up the philosophy behind the curriculum changes and with time, they are expected to learn better. Many thanks to other teachers who have chipped in to support students when needed. The "Feedback Friday" initiative has been introduced this year, a tool used at junior level to monitor and ensure students understanding concepts that are being taught in class.

Raj Prasad  
HOD mathematics

The inter-whanau competition included board games on their schedule of activities this year. Not only do we have a growing number of chess players today, but also Catan, Rummikub and the ever popular classic Monopoly player numbers have also grown, not to mention cards. The deck of cards were replaced this year by many more, but would you believe of all the decks on my desk only one remains a full set.

The library continues to be a place to meet with friends, read a book or find some refuge from the busy-ness of school life, and it's been a great year getting to know a lot more of the students here. So, thank you all for your visits and if you were to be trapped inside a book, which book would it be?

Ms Kendall Richards  
Librarian



# SPORTS EXCHANGE



Thank you to our wonderful hosts, Taumarunui High school, this year for our sports exchange. Our students played netball, football, rugby, volleyball, basketball and ki-o-rahi. A big thank you to our teachers, staff, and parents who helped make the day a great success. Taumarunui won overall.





# SQUASH

## Squash Nationals

**Back Row:** Paige Drinkwater, Grace Rowe, Olivia Gray  
**2nd Row** William Barlow, Ben Lee, Danny Dowman, Mr Matthew Laurenson (Teacher)

**Front Row:** Maraea Buckingham, Hone Buckingham, Liam Burnard, Matthew Smith, Kirsty Osborne

Ruapehu College students have taken part in all kinds of Squash events throughout New Zealand. Our Students have represented the Ohakune Squash Club at events such as Superchamps and various club tournaments throughout NZ, they have represented Ruapehu College in interclub and at the New Zealand Secondary School Squash Championships and also their district at NZ Junior Age Groups and National Superchamps.

### Interclub

There was one Ruapehu College team this year that competed in the senior Ruapehu Zone Composite Interclub Competition which included teams from Ohakune, Turangi and Taumarunui. Teams played fortnightly around the region during terms two and three.

### New Zealand Secondary School Squash Championships

Ruapehu College entered both a boys and girls team into the 2024 New Zealand Secondary School Squash Championships in Wellington. This in itself is a significant achievement for a school of our size as most schools are from urban areas and not many can enter both boys and girls teams. The boys team included Liam Burnard (Captain), Matthew Smith, Ben Lee, Danny Dowman, Will Barlow and Hone Buckingham. The boys team went in ranked 13th but after some very tough rounds which came down to the wire they couldn't quite hang on to their placing. Their final round saw them facing Napier Boys High School after putting on a dominant display they came away with the win 5/0 which saw the boys team finish in 23rd place overall. The girls team included: Kirsty Osborne, Maraea Buckingham (Captain), Grace Rowe, Paige Drinkwater and Olivia Gray. The girls had a tough first round match facing a very strong Whangarei Girls team. The girls then went on to win their next 3 rounds and make it to the plate final. This final also came down to the wire, and unfortunately the girls were not able to claim the plate trophy for the 3rd consecutive year, going down 3/2.



Grace Rowe was notified before this tournament that she had made the shortlist for the New Zealand Secondary School Tournament Team that travels to Wellington to compete against Australia. Grace was selected as a reserve for the junior girls' team. This is a huge achievement, well done Grace.



# SQUASH

## Central Junior Team

Liam Burnard, Kirsty Osborne and Grace Rowe were all selected to be a part of the Squash Central Junior Elite Training squad, which is made up of the top juniors in the Central region. Central is one of the largest regions in New Zealand and includes areas such as Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatu and surrounding areas.

During the October school holidays, Liam was selected to represent Central at the New Zealand Junior Teams event, this event is where each district enters their top junior teams and battles it out to find the top districts in New Zealand. Liam competed in the individual competition prior to the teams event, he played in the under 19 division where he was seeded 11th however after some tough matches he finished in 16th. Liam then went on to compete in the teams competition where his contribution saw the boys team finish 4th narrowly missing out on a medal. This is a huge accomplishment as after six days of competition, which saw the best of the best battle it out. Liam was able to come away with some great results competing against New Zealand's best juniors and has no doubt set some good goals for next year.



the country. The most successful result was from the D grade Women's team who travelled to Methven, and after a very tough final, they came away with the runner up banner claiming 2nd in New Zealand. The team included Grace Rowe and Paige Drinkwater. Huge congratulations to the team. A big thank you to Ohakune Squash Club for their support of our students and to the coaches who have spent numerous hours supporting them.



It has been great that 2024 has been a busy and successful year for our squash students, but it has been amazing to see many new faces at the courts giving it a go. We farewell our year 13 players who are heading to various places next year. Good luck to Maraea, Kirsty, Will and Matty, we hope you continue playing and return for an Ohakune tournament in the future.

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped our students throughout the year in any way, without you these results would not have been possible. Bring on 2025, it's looking like it is going to be an exciting season of squash with some of our players kicking the year off in Christchurch at the New Zealand Junior Open.

Mr Matthew Laurenson

## Junior Prince Series

This year Ben Lee and Paige Drinkwater both participated in the Squash Central Junior Prince Series competition. This is where juniors from all over the Central district compete in a number of one day tournaments around the region gaining points based on their results. This year Ben Lee claimed the title for top overall male and also top overall junior and Paige Drinkwater claimed top overall female.

### Superchamps

Superchamps was another event where our college players got involved and were part of the various teams travelling around





# FOOTBALL



**Back Row:** Talei Phillips, Paige Drinkwater, Hannah Swift, Jamie Senekal

**4th Row:** Caleb Larsen, Matthew Smith, Jason Young, Komaihana Hawira, Ben Lee, Austin Herewini, Fergus Dempsey

**3rd Row:** Mr Michael Darmody (Teacher), Hunter Anderson, Noah Swift, Ezekiel Paynter, Ambrose Demchy, William Barlow, Jay Learmonth, Torin Thompson

**2nd Row:** Paetyn Brown, Milla Smith-Horne, Keira Varley, Jordi Demchy, Maddie Demchy, Tamara Gebbie, Mrs Sarah Demchy (Coach)

**Front Row:** Jack Maclean, Issac Swift, Claire Moore, Kodo Drayton, Charley Maclean, Wren Drayton, Kobe Learmonth

**Absent:** Connor Anderson, KC Callaghan, Aria Charmley, Halford Herewini, Paora Kumeroa, Emerson Lark, Jordan Patrick, Isla Thompson



# FOOTBALL

The Football programme continued to gain momentum this year with over 30 students taking part.

The numbers for training were regularly over the 20 mark all season; made up from a mixture of boys and girls from Year 9 to Year 13, braving all weather conditions on a Wednesday evening all throughout terms 2 and 3. They all worked hard to improve their basic skills and understanding of the game. We had to balance team selection carefully to ensure that everyone got game time, often taking two teams to games. Regardless of whatever team we put out the local results were impressive throughout the season, the highlights being beating Taumaranui twice and our all girls team gaining an impressive win against Whanganui Collegiate.

For the first time in a while we entered a Boys' team into the National Secondary Schools Football competition during Winter Tournament week, travelling to Wellington to take part in the Trident Tournament. Despite knowing that we would be making a giant step up from the local standard we face and would be the youngest, smallest and least experienced team at the tournament, the Boys were up for the challenge. As long as they remembered their boots, isn't that right Isaac! Results went as expected when predominantly Year 9 and 10 boy's played against Seniors, however the grit and perseverance shown to improve against stronger opposition was highly impressive. They gained the respect of everyone they came into contact with, including referees, coaches and players. It was an honour to coach these boys and a week that will never be forgotten. They now have a base for continued improvement but more importantly have developed their Growth Mind-set and Habits of Mind, which will stand them in good stead for whatever they do in the future on and off the field.

It has been a pleasure to work with all of our players and their parents, school and most importantly the individuals themselves can be proud of how they have conducted themselves this season.

Thank you also to Sarah Demchy for her assistance this year and I look forward to us developing the game further next year. Also to Luke Paynter and Mr Sims for their assistance during Tournament week.

M Darmody (Football Coach)





# BOYS RUGBY XV



Back Row: Te Atarangi Katene, Samuel Rowe, Gerrard Osborne, Bishop Hodge, Rico Pakai  
Front Row: Benson Carmichael, Rangipunehu Wilson-Leahy, Stuart Rose-Sinclair, Hunter Cross, Judah Sinai  
Absent: Richard Carmichael, Jack Deadman, Nikora Henare-Richards, Robbie Lilburn, Sheldon O'Hagan, Chrissy Winter

# BOYS RUGBY UNDER 15



Back Row: Izrayel Ruki, Jaeziah Waerea-Brown, Matty MacLean, Blake Rhodes, Jahlyius Rikihana, Rhythm Treanor Metekingi  
Front Row: Alecade Herewini, Elijah Neho, Ford Kumeroa Ponga, Jackson Windle, Jairus Hiroti  
Absent: Patrick Carmichael, David Hagley, Horomana Henare, Izhih Pui, Gt Treanor-Hall

## Boys Rugby Under 15

After a season filled with adjustments, challenges, and hard-fought matches, it's clear that the U15 boys' rugby team came away stronger than when they started. The experience of combining teams with Te Kura o Kokohuia, dealing with the constant rotation of positions, and playing against tough opposition like Rangitikei College and Whanganui City College made this year one for the books.

What stood out most was the resilience the players demonstrated. Every week brought new challenges-whether it was learning a new position, or figuring out how to communicate effectively with teammates they'd never played with before. Yet, through all the struggles, they adapted, supported each other, and found ways to improve as a team.

A massive thank you to Gabriel Hakaraia and Morvin Trow, who stepped up to coach and train these boys with such passion and commitment. Their guidance has been invaluable, and the growth we've seen in each player is a direct result of the time and energy that was poured into them. Let's not forget all the amazing parents behind the scenes who have been there at every match to help. Your support in keeping our players fueled and energized goes a long way, ensuring everyone has the chance to bond, share a meal, and celebrate the game, win or lose.

Tati Tutauha

Sports Co-ordinator



## BOYS RUGBY XV

Ruapehu first XV season. I first want to say it was a real pleasure to coach these awesome young men, thank you for all the support parents/coaches and also you to Tati, what a season! To see such growth in a group of young men was amazing to be a part of. With boys that hadn't played for years through to boys that had never played before. To see them at the start of the season, the improvement blew my mind. Then we have our boys that have played for years that took their game to another level. Winning the Premier 2 division was just a testimony for all the hard work the boys had put in throughout the season.

Chrissy Winter (First XV coach)





# SNOW ACADEMY



Back Row: Chase Tutemahurangi, Xavier Beukes. Rebekah Swift, Hone Buckingham, Caleb Larsen, Talei Phillips, Tamara Gebbie  
 2nd Row Mr Michael Darmody (Teacher), Emerson Lark, Komaihana Hawira, Ezekiel Paynter, Jay Learmonth, Mrs Meredith Wilson (Teacher)  
 Front Row: Milla Smith-Horne, Hannah Swift, Wren Drayton, Isaac Swift, Kobe Learmonth, Lee Wikohika, Aria Charmley  
 Absent: Elishka Aitken, Bella Drayton, Mica Hoyle, Jack McGonigle-Black, Noah McGonigle-Cate, Isla Thompson, Marshall Tweeddale

The season started well, with a great bluebird day with some nice snow conditions. However, the weather opportunities turned Tuesday Academy Day into terrible Tuesdays. We ended the seasons with only three training sessions, and quite a bit of that time on the Alpine Meadow, aka the Shredow. We had a few changes in coaches due to the unreliable snow conditions, but they kept up a positive attitude and many students benefited from their advice.

We had about a dozen skiers with quite a few newbies from year 9 coming aboard for the skiers and a couple of great additions to the snowboard crew to build up numbers. The teaching staff included Mick Darmody and Meredith Wilson.

We would like to thank Dempsey buses for their reliable service and assisting us in any sort of weather and letting us know in advance if the mountain was open. Thanks very much to Pure Turoa for providing great coaching staff and enabling us to get some training under way in challenging conditions this year. We would also like to acknowledge Ali Chamley who was in charge of local schools and for ensuring we had opportunities for the Snow Academy. These training sessions assist with student confidence and development on the snow and it's great to see the progress or the rails that were attempted.

Unfortunately weather conditions worked against our opportunities and competitions, hopefully conditions will allow for better days next year!

Skiers included:  
 Jay Learmonth,  
 Emerson Lark,  
 Mica Hoyle,  
 Bekah Swift, Bella Drayton, Tamara Gebbie, Xavier Beukes, Hone Buckingham, Bella Drayton, Komaihana Hawira, Wren Drayton, Kobe Learmonth, Ezekiel Paynter.

Snowboarders Included: Lee Wikohika, Marshall Tweedate, Chase Tuemahurangi, Isla Thompson, Isaac Swift, Hannah Swift, Mill Smith-Horne, Talei Phillips, Caleb Larsen, Aria Charmley.



# SNOW ACADEMY



# SURF TRIP



This years Year 13's went on their Leadership Camp at the end of 2023. The aim of this camp was to develop leadership skills in the context of surfing. A group of 14 students travelled to Gisborne with the threat of heavy rain, lucky our tents did not leak or get blown away. We visited Gisborne in a year when they had many weather events and this impacted the beaches by many logs and debris washed all over the beach. However, we negotiated the piles of wood and the rain with trips to Mahia and Tolaga Bay. Teachers that attended included Miss Wilson and Mr Mackrell.

Students stayed in Tents at the Waikanae Top 10 Holiday Park. The camp ran from Monday to Thursday. Monday was travel day and when we arrived in Gisborne we set up the tents. Just as we headed to the beach to meet up with Sarah, our surf coach, however that is when the rain came in. Students were in their wetsuits, and happily carried out with their lesson and were very successful in getting up on their boards.

Tuesday, we traveled to Mahia to avoid the worst of the rain. The waves were perfect, not that much sun, but warm enough for a picnic lunch. Wednesday was a visit to Tolaga and a very muddy walk to cooks cove. Sarah then met us for some afternoon surfing and the weather was in our favour.

The waves were great and students learnt about the etiquettes of surfing. Thursday was an amazing sunny day that started with feeding the stingrays and ended with a surf at a location called pipe. We said goodbye to Sarah, and travelled back to the mountain.



# WAKA AMA



Back Row: Lee Wikohika, Jaeziah Waerea-Brown, Manaia Kingi Mareikura, Ngateria Lole Uaea, Paetyn Brown

2nd Row Korin Walker, Stirling Elers, Komaihana Hawira, Ambrose Demchy, Atlas Elers

Front Row: Vanessa Ashford-Wallis, Talei Phillips, Mishalle Perkins, Makoia Arahanga, Maioha Wallace

Absent: Mollu Aitken, David Hagley, Malena Hawira, Anahera Marumaru, Tiaan Perkins, Haeley Perkins-Tamatea, Azlian Wall



# WAKA AMA

The National Secondary Schools Waka Ama competition took place in March 2024 at Lake Tikitapu in Rotorua. Once again, a new campaign showcased a group of paddlers who truly excelled, achieving outstanding results for young paddlers experiencing this for the first time.

Waka Ama transcends being just a sport; it is rich in history and traditions, serving as a means of identity, pride, and community. The connections and culture are intricately woven into the fabric of the sport, influencing both on-water and off-water experiences.

The journey to the Nationals is always grounded in commitment and effort. Our teams began their preparations by traveling to Whanganui for water training just weeks ahead of the National competition, which generally involves a swim competency assessment and water safety training at local pools. After school training sessions on land were conducted to improve readiness and foster teamwork for on-water training. The support from whanau plays a crucial role in the success of this initiative, as they assist in securing sponsorships, organising fundraising activities, driving, sending kai and often finding additional financial resources, all aimed at ensuring a memorable experience for our taura.

This year, 24 paddlers participated, with only 9 having prior experience in Waka Ama. Our junior teams consistently shine as they take the time to understand the different aspects of sprint racing, whether it's the 250-meter sprints or the 500-meter turn races, all while tackling significant challenges on race day. Our senior teams and experienced paddlers adapt exceptionally well and deliver outstanding performances, sharing their knowledge and insights with each other. The focus on learning and development truly outweighs the results, as the outcomes are simply a bonus for all their hard work.

This campaign would not be achievable without the invaluable support of our coaches, Whare and Shayna Te Riaki, along with Chaana Morgan, who consistently create this nurturing environment for our taura. We also extend our gratitude to the parents and whanau, Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Te Ao Hou Marae, WPI, Tati Tutauha, and all the college staff whose contributions are vital to the success of this campaign.

Miss Chaana Morgan

Coach and Mentor





# INTERWHANAU COMPETITION

Weka 2nd: Athletics, Board Games 3rd: Badminton, Handball and Touch 3rd = Kapahaka and Swimming 4th: Cross Country, Kahoot, Football, Chants and Tug of War

Huia 1st: Football 2nd: Swimming, Tug of War Kahoot, Badminton, Handball and Touch 3rd: Cross Country, Board Games, Chants 3rd= Kapahaka 4th: Athletics

Tui 1st: Swimming, Tug of War Board Games, Badminton, Handball, Touch 2nd: Kapahaka, Cross Country, Chants 2nd= Football 3rd: Athletics, Kahoot

Kiwi 1st: Kapahaka, Athletics, Cross Country, Kahoot, Chants 2nd= Football 3rd: Tug of War 3rd: = Swimming 4th: Board Games, Badminton, Handball, Touch

Overall  
4th Weka 150,  
3rd Huia 210  
2nd Kiwi 235  
Champion house for 2024 Tui 280

This year's Inter Whānau sports competition was organised differently to increase participation. In the past, running a single sport during lunchtime resulted in the same group of students participating, leaving many others on the sidelines. To address this, the competition was expanded into a full-school event with various activities catering to different skills and abilities, all running simultaneously during a 50-minute period. This allowed all students to participate and represent their houses.

Under this new format, student engagement definitely increased.

The gym and fields were busy with sports, the library was busy with board games and some serious chess business and the designated classroom space was the place for kahoot and quizzes. Although this was successful in getting more students to participate, it is still the first year and there are certainly areas for improvement. With that in mind, more frequent events are planned for next year, along with a return of some lunchtime competitions.

Mr Matthew Laurenson



# VOLLEYBALL



## Volleyball Squad

**Back Row:** Alesha Noho, Tamara Gebbie, Kreize Houpapa, Cairo Fraser, Xavier Beukes, Harmony Hansen, Aiana Ilano

**2nd Row** Bonnie Seymour, Drevahn Wood, Moses Hodge, Azlian Wall, Blake Takitimu, Gerrard Osborne, R-Jaye Bromwich, Miss Chenille Bouskill (Coach)

**Front Row:** Elizabeth Hodge, Ngateria Lole Uaea, Nythanule Takitimu-Bourne, Bishop Hodge, Korin Walker, Sarah Herewini, Kiana-Jaye Gembitsky-Edmonds

**Absent:** Hiria Hancy, Komaihana Hawira, Nikora Henare-Richards, Jordan Patrick, Haeley Perkins-Tamatea, Te Mihi-Ratapu Taylor

As we look back on Term 1, we can't help but feel a deep sense of pride and admiration for the four teams that represented our College in the Whanganui tournament. Over the course of the term, these talented young athletes gave their all, travelling every other Wednesday to compete against teams from the surrounding areas of the Whanganui region.

Made up of two junior teams and two senior teams, the athletes showed not only their individual skills but also the power of teamwork, discipline and sportsmanship. Their dedication to their training, their commitment to one another and their determination to perform to the best of their abilities were evident in every match.

The Pihanga/Ngauruhoe Girls Team had an exceptional run, finishing in the top 4 - A fantastic result that speaks to the talent and resilience they brought to the tournament. It was a hard-fought season, and each player contributed in ways that went beyond the scoreboard, whether it was with a game changing play, a crucial assist, or simply lifting each others spirits after a tough match.

On the other hand, the Ruapehu/Tongariro Team, while placing 8th, showed incredible heart throughout the competition. Their ability to adapt, learn and grow as a team was a testament to their character and to the strong foundation they've built

together. No matter the outcome, the experience itself was invaluable, providing each athlete with lessons that will last far beyond this tournament.



## INTERWHANAU LEADERS



### Kiwi Leaders

**Head boy:** Robert Gray

**Head Girl:** Malena Hawira

**Deputy Head Boy:** Nikora Richards

**Deputy Head Girl:** Kiana Gembitsky-Edmonds



### Huia Leaders

**Head boy:** Hunter Anderson

**Head Girl:** Maraia Buckingham

**Deputy Head Boy:** Liam Burnard

**Deputy Head Girl:** Breeanah Tweeddale



### Tui Leaders

**Head boy:** William Barlow

**Head Girl:** Hira Hancy

**Deputy Head Boy:** Tarn Hoyle

**Deputy Head Girl:** Te Pere Akapita



### Weka Leaders

**Head boy:** Levarn Mate

**Head Girl:** Sophie Watt

**Deputy Head Boy:** Korin Walker

**Deputy Head Girl:** Skylah Metekingi



# TUG OF WAR

## Results

1st Tui  
2nd Huia  
3rd Kiwi  
4th Weka



# BASKETBALL

**Back Row:** Nythanule Takitimu-Bourne, Shaquarn Perkins-Teki, Jahlyius Rikihana  
**Front Row:** Lee Wikohika, Korin Walker, Jaeziah Waerea-Brown

**Absent:** KC Callaghan, Tannor Goff, Horomana Henare, Austin Herewini, Tiaan Perkins

This year's team was a blend of experienced seniors and promising juniors, many of whom were competing in the senior boys' social grade for the first time. For most of the players, it was an opportunity to step up, challenge themselves, and show what they were capable of. It wasn't an easy task competing against seasoned teams from the Whanganui region presented its fair share of obstacles, but the boys never backed down.

With a majority of the players being juniors, it was clear that this season wasn't just about immediate success, but about laying the foundation for the future. The teamwork and discipline that grew week by week were evident on the court and off. While wins were celebrated, the true victories came from the progress seen in each player's development and the way the team supported each other through both high points and setbacks.

While this season may be over, it marks just the beginning of an exciting journey for these young athletes. The lessons learned, the friendships built, and the skills developed will carry forward into next season-and beyond.

Miss Tati Tutauha



# GIRLS RUGBY

**Back Row:** Cyprus Martin, Atlas Elers  
**Front Row:** Vanessa Ashford-Wallis, Olivia Gray, Katie Ritchfield

**Absent:** Malena Hawira, Jorejina-Lee Paoratoho, Te Atawhaitia Richards, Hye-le Wihare-Hansen

This past rugby season has been one of growth, perseverance, and teamwork for our girls. Although we didn't have enough players to field a team on our own, the girls showed what true determination and community spirit looked like by joining forces with Te Kura o Kokohuia. What could have been a setback turned into a season filled with valuable lessons and unforgettable moments.

From the start, the challenge was clear. With limited numbers, we knew that combining teams would require some adjustment. There were logistics to work out, training schedules to coordinate, and a lot of new faces to get to know. Yet, the girls dove into every practice and every game with an attitude of growth and resilience. They adapted to a new system, built trust with new teammates and developed a deep understanding of what it takes to succeed as a united team.

Throughout the season, the girls faced tough opponents from across the Whanganui region teams with more experience, stronger numbers, and a deeper bench. It wasn't easy, and there were moments when victory seemed out of reach. But, what stood out the most was the heart of our players. No matter the score, no matter the odds, they kept fighting. Their tenacity in the face of adversity was inspiring, and each game win or lose taught them something new about resilience, strategy, and teamwork.

Miss Tati Tutauha





# NETBALL WHANGANUI COMPETITION



**Back Row:** Florida Jean Harding-Gray, Mishalle Perkins, Talei Phillips, Macy Anderson, Miss Chenille Bouskill (Coach)

**Front Row:** Elizabeth Hodge, Siobhan McDonough, Ngateria Lole Uaea, Jorja Richfield, Maioha Wallace.

**Absent:** Chiquita-Leigh Albert, Armani Perkins-Tamatea, Alysha Rhodes

Central and Whanganui Netball The 2024 netball season started with promise for the Ruapehu College netball team. Early practices were full of energy and enthusiasm, and the players showed great potential in their matches. The team was committed to improving, with

standout performances in the first few weeks, including strong defensive strategies and quick transitions in attack. The team seemed to be on track for a successful season, with each player bringing their skills to the court and working together as a cohesive unit.

However, as the season progressed, it became clear that consistency and commitment were ongoing challenges. Attendance at training sessions began to decline, and several players struggled to maintain focus on their roles within the team. This lack of consistency ultimately affected team performance, and morale began to wane. Despite efforts from the coach to address these issues, the team was unable to find the unity and drive needed to continue competing at a high level.

As a result, and after much consideration, the decision was made to withdraw from the remainder of the season. While this was a disappointing outcome, the experience highlighted the importance of dedication, communication, and teamwork-values that will hopefully be carried forward into future seasons. Though the team faced challenges, the early part of the season demonstrated that the players have the potential to succeed when they are fully committed. Moving forward, it's crucial that all players recognize the importance of consistency and dedication to the team's success.

# NETBALL CENTRAL PLATEAU COMPETITION



**Back Row:** Florida Jean Harding-Gray, Nette Fredericksen, Grace Rowe, Miss Chenille Bouskill (Coach)

**Front Row:** Mikayla Taitoko, R-Jaye Bromwich, Paetyn Brown, Patrick Carmichael, Gabby Callaghan



# WAIMARINO NETBALL

In the Whanganui Saturday competition, three of our student players - Sarah, Te Moana, and Haeley formed a dynamic team that played their hearts out, ultimately securing the title of Overall Champions. Their consistent performance throughout the season, combined with their resilience in the face of tough opposition, was nothing short of inspiring. Their win isn't just a testament to their skill, but to their unwavering commitment to each other and the game.

Meanwhile, a second group of players - Mishalle, Ngateria, Armani, Jorja, Paetyn, Janaia, Taleena and Tiana took to the court in the Thursday night Taihape competition. Finishing 5th overall in a competitive field, this team displayed an admirable spirit of determination and teamwork, learning and growing from each match. While they didn't come out on top this year, their journey was filled with moments of brilliance and heart - proof that success isn't always about the final score, but about the growth and experience along the way.

Behind every victory and every lesson learned, there was a community cheering these players on. From their coaches and supporters to the families who filled the stands, the Waimarino Netball Club

teams thrived because they knew they were part of something bigger than just a game. The friendships and encouragement from everyone involved made the tough times easier and the good times even sweeter.

It's this sense of community that makes these achievements even more meaningful. The girls' dedication on the court is matched by the support they receive off it, reminding us that sports are as much about the people we share the experience with as they are about the game itself.





# ATHLETICS

## Athletics: Champions

Junior Girls  
1st place Vanessa Ashford-Wallis  
2nd place Maddie Demchy  
3rd place Katie Ritchfield

Junior Boys  
1st place Ezekiel Paynter  
2nd place Izhik Pui  
3rd place Kobe Learmonth

Intermediate Girls  
1st place Rebekah Swift  
2nd place Karaitiana Horne  
3rd place Olivia Gray and Siobhan McDonough

Intermediate Boys  
1st place Samuel Rowe and Chrissy Winter  
2nd place Connor Anderson  
3rd place Stuart Rose-Sinclair

Senior Girls  
1st place Kristy Osborne  
2nd place Paetyn Brown  
3rd place Mishalle Perkins

Senior Boys  
1st place Ambrose Demchy and Noah Swift  
2nd place Jason Young  
3rd place Kodo Drayton

## House Competition

1st Kiwi  
2nd Weka  
3rd Tui  
4th Huia

House Chants  
1st Kiwi  
2nd Tui  
3rd Huia  
4th Weka



## Whanganui Secondary Schools Athletics

**Back Row:** Olivia Gray, Jorja Ritchfield, Cyprus Martin, Kobe Learmonth

**3rd Row:** Sarah Herewini, Keira Varley, Ford Kumeroa Ponga, Angus Williams, Connor Anderson, Grace Rowe, Paetyn Brown

**2nd Row:** Kristy Osborne, Te Atarangi Katene, Ezekiel Paynter, Noah Swift, Liam Burnard, Rebekah Swift, Miss Chenille Bouskill (Teacher)

**Front Row:** Vanessa Ashford-Wallis, Maddie Denchy, Paige Drinkwater, Mishalle Perkins, Milla Smith-Horne, Maddie Whitehead, Katie Ritchfield

**Absent:** Nikora Henare-Richards, Karaitiana Horne, Claire Moore, Tiaan Perkins, Haeley Perkins-Tamatea, Izhik Pui, Sophie Watt, Chrissy Winter



# ATHLETICS





STUDENT CALENDAR

31 January	Seniors Only
1 February	All School Powhiri
2 February	P5 Interwhanau Tug-o-War
14 February	Vision and Hearing
15 February	Yr 9 and 10 HEEADSSS assessment
19 February	Yr 13 Careers workshop YWRC
20 February	Interwhanau swimming sports
29 February	Yr13 mini trip
1 March	School Athletics
4 March	Whanganui Secondary Swimming
4 March	Marae Trip Yr 11 Art Yr 10 Te Ao Maori
7 March	Yr 13 2-day trip
8 March	Yr 11 Puhoro Wananga
10 March	Kiwi Forever
12 March	Whanganui Athletics
13 March	Junior 3 Way Conferencing
14 March	Careers Day Trip Building and Tech students
14 March	Yr12 2-day trip
18 March	Waka Ama Secondary School Nationals
21 March	Yr 9 and 10 HEEADSSS assessment
25 March	Victoria University Talk Yr 12/13
27 March	12 Bio Freshwater Trip
4 April	Ugly Shakesphere Macbeth
5 April	Canterbury University Talk Yr 12/13
8 April	YWRC employment rights
11 April	Yr 9/10 HEEADSSS assessment
12 April	Anzac Assembly
29 April	1.00pm Assembly/Kapa Haka
29 April	Netball skills & drills program -
3 May	L2 Puhoro Trip
6 May	Level 1 mathematics assessment 1.2
9 May	Senior Parent Teacher Meeting
13 May	Otago University visit Yr 12 and 13
14 May	School Cross Country
17 May	Interwhanau Kapa Haka
20 May	Massey University visit Yr 12 and 13
21 May	Whanganui Cross Country
22 May	Geo trip - Research
22 May	NCEA LITERACY (Y 11)
23 May	NCEA NUMERACY (y11)
29 May	NCEA LITERACY (Y10)
30 May	Year 11/12 Puhoro Wananga
30 May	Year 11 Science/Geo Field Trip
5 June	Level 2 Puhoro
6 June	Whanganui Interschool Cross Country
10 June	Waikato University Talk Yr 12/13
12 June	Girls in High Viz day Yr 11
14 June	Smokefree Rockquest Whanganui Regional Final
19 June	Girls in High Vis Event
19 June	Year 10 Burger Challenge Period 4
19 June	Yr 8's Orientation Day
19 June	Duke of Ed senior tramp
21 June	Pūhoro site visit for Y12 students
21 June	Rangatahi Expo
24 June	Squash Exchange
25 June	Sports exchange Taumaranui
27 June	1.00pm Gideons Assembly/Mentoring
1 July	Portfolio Trip Year 12
4 July	ear 9 Social Studies trip
23 July	Lines Company Talk
26 July	Ruapehu Senior Ball
30 July	Snow Academy
31 July	Junior 3 Way Conferencing

1 August	Squash Nationals
2 August	Students against dangerous driving
2 August	Waikato Uni Talk
5 August	Outdoor First Aid Course Y12&13 PE Class
5 August	Level 1 Ski and Snowboard exams
6 August	Snow Academy
9 August	1.00pm Whanau Activities
12 August	Massey University Field Trip
13 August	Snow Academy
15 August	Kapa Haka Whanganui
16 August	Kapahaka trip
16 August	Remix Fashion Show (Cancer Society Fundraiser)
16 August	Whitecliffe College - Tertiary
19 August	Photolife - School photos
20 August	Coffee Course - L2 Foods
23 August	Pūhoro Y11 wānanga ki Whanganui
27 August	Pūhoro Y12/13 Wānanga ki Manawatū
2 Sept	Winter Tournament Week
3 Sept	Snow Academy
10 Sept	Snow Academy
11 Sept	NCEA Literacy (yr9/10)
12 Sept	NCEA Numeracy (yr 9/10)
17 Sept	13 Bio Plant Adaptations
18 Sept	NCEA Lit (yr11)
19 Sept	NCEA Num (yr11)
20 Sept	Duke of Ed Practice Journey
25 Sept	Ki-O-Rahi Tournament
25 Sept	Senior Parent Teacher Evening
16 Oct	NZQA L3 DCAT EXAM
22 Oct	Sports breakfast
25 Oct	Duke of Ed Tramping
30 Oct	Vision and Hearing
1 Nov	Senior Prizegiving
6 Nov	Kai Mahi Evening 4.30pm-6.30pm.
13 Nov	Junior 3 Way Conference
13 Nov	Junior Kapa Haka Practice - All Day
14 Nov	Induction Day Year 8 Students
20 Nov	Junior Science Exams
20 Nov	Rural Health Year 9 2.10pm
20 Nov	Cultural Festival
26 Nov	Yr 9 Maths Exam
26 Nov	Duke of Ed Tramping
28 Nov	Junior Sport Exchange
29 Nov	Year 10 Maths Exam
2 Dec	Year 12 Surf Leadership Camp
2 Dec	Year 10 Work Experience
2 Dec	Year 9 Camp week
9 Dec	Year 10 Camp
9 Dec	Year 10 Camp Napier
9 Dec	Year 9 Business and Industry week
11 Dec	Christmas Dinner
13 Dec	Junior Prize giving



SWIMMING

Swimming Sports Champions

Junior Girls	
1st place	Atlas Elers
2nd place	Tamara Gebbie
3rd place	Paige Drinkwater
Junior Boys	
1st place	Ezekiel Paynter
2nd place	Kobe Learmonth
3rd place	Isaac Swift

Intermediate Girls	
1st place	Rebekah Swift
2nd place	Talei Phillips
3rd place	Siobhan McDonough

Intermediate Boys	
1st place	Sam Rowe
2nd place	Tiaan Perkins
3rd place	David Hagley

Senior Girls	
1st place	Stirling Elers
2nd place	Jorja Ritchfield
3rd place	Anahera Marumaru

Senior Boys	
1st place	Matt Smith
2nd place	William Barlow
3rd place	Ambrose Demchy

House Competition	
1st Tui	
2nd Huia	
3rd= Kiwi	
3rd= Weka	

Whanganui Secondary Schools Swimming Competition Results

Ezekiel Paynter  
3rd Equal in 50m freestyle  
4th in 50m backstroke  
5th in 50m breaststroke

Tamara Gebbie  
3rd in 50m freestyle  
4th in 50m backstroke  
2nd in 50m breaststroke

Sam Rowe  
5th in 50m freestyle  
3rd in 50m backstroke

Stirling Elers  
4th in 50m backstroke

Angus Williams  
5th in 50m breaststroke



**Swimming Championship**  
**Back Row:** Tamara Gebbie, Jorja Ritchfield, Kobe Learmonth  
**2nd Row** Sarah Herewini, Angus Williams, Ezekiel Paynter, Talei Phillips, Miss Chenille Bouskill (Coach)  
**Front Row:** Georgia Smith, Elishka Aitken, Stirling Elers, Rebekah Swift, Siobhan McDonough  
**Absent:** Samuel Rowe





# CROSS COUNTRY



**Whanganui Secondary Schools Cross Country Championship**  
**Back Row:** Sam Williams, Jaeziah Waerea-Brown, Ben Lee, Angus Williams  
**Front Row:** Maddy Demchy, Connor Anderson, Maddie Whitehead  
**Absent:** Claire Moore

Congratulations to the students who participated in the Whanganui Secondary Schools Cross Country.

**Results**  
 Year 9 Girls  
 Maddie Demchy 5th  
 Maddie Whitehead 9th  
 Year 9 Boys  
 Ben Lee 11th  
 Junior Boys  
 Sam Williams 4th  
 Senior Girls  
 Claire Moore 12th  
 Senior Boys  
 Connor Anderson 15th  
 Angus Williams 18th



## Cross Country

**Under 15 girls**  
 1st place Katie Richfield  
 2nd place Maddie Demchy  
 3rd place Rebekah Swift

**Under 16 girls**  
 1st place Karaitiana Horne  
 2nd place Maia Allen  
 3rd place Sophie Watt

**Girls 16 and over**  
 1st place Claire Moore  
 2nd place Mishalle Perkins  
 3rd place Haeley Perkins-Tamatea

**Under 15 boys**  
 1st place Ezekiel Paynter  
 2nd place Sam Williams  
 3rd place Kobe Learmonth

**Under 16 boys**  
 1st place Sam Rowe  
 2nd place Connor Anderson  
 3rd place Emerson Lark

**16 and over**  
 1st place Liam Burnard  
 2nd place Angus Williams  
 3rd place Ambrose Demchy

**House Points**  
 1st Kiwi  
 2nd Weka  
 3rd Tui  
 4th Huia



# INTERWHANAU KAPA HAKA

Ruapehu College celebrated its 20th year of Inter whanau kapa haka. 22 years ago (minus 2 years due to Covid restrictions), under the Management team of Bruce Levick (Principal), John Laurenson (Deputy Principal) and Leigh Hynes (Assistant Principal) supported teacher Merrilyn George alongside Vera Wilson, Kaye Oliver and other whanau members introduced an inter-whanau kapa haka competition.

The students operated on a 6 period day (to include their timetabled lessons and kapa haka practices) during Term Two. Student led, each house/whanau puts together a bracket including karanga, whaikorero, haka powhiri, patere and the school song Rapuhia kote Matauranga.

This year was special as we welcomed manuhiri who had played a role in our long and proud competition with Bruce Levick, Leigh Hynes (from the Management team) and Jerome Ormsby and their families travelling to be part of our day. Jerome, under the guidance of teacher Kai Hagenar, made the trophy in 2000 with greenstone gifted by Joe Waretini from Picton in 1986, when our school kapa haka roopu toured the South Island. The taonga aptly named the Matiu Mareikura and Joan Akapita Memorial Trophy.

Bruce Levick summed up the day saying "how much it has grown since its humble beginnings and how it is now a polished, interesting and thoroughly enjoyable event. Discipline on stage and the teamwork were impressive. This end product was a blend of learning and enjoyment at its best and what education is all about".

We thank the parents and students for their support of this competition. The growth of our students and the courage they show performing in front of family and peers fills us with overwhelming pride and truly demonstrates why this day is so important.

All whanau performed to a high standard, but the winner who took out the much valued inter whanau trophy was KIWI, 2nd Tui, 3= Huia and Weka

Congratulations to all students who played a part and performed on the day.

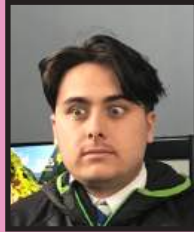
Mrs Maxine Hakaraia





# YEAR 13 PROFILES

Name: Hunter Anderson  
Known for: Not knowing how to spell  
Wants to be: Watching anime  
Most likely to be: Collecting Pokemon cards  
Famous for saying: UGH my brain - my bra-in isn't wercking



Name: William Barlow  
Known for: Being a ranga  
Wants to be: Eating  
Most likely to be: 20-year-old dad  
Famous for saying: I GKMS



Name: Maraëa Buckingham  
Known for: The Dawg  
Wants to be: Rich  
Most likely to be: Poor  
Famous for saying: Nga Mihi



Name: Ambrose Demchy  
Known for: Being tall  
Wants to be: A lawyer  
Most likely to be: In a cult  
Famous for saying: Hear me out



Name: Kodo Drayton  
Known for: Being late  
Wants to be: Sleeping  
Most likely to be: Single  
Famous for saying:  
Wghhattt!?!?!?!?!?!?!?



Name: Hiria Hancy  
Known for: Thinking upstream  
Wants to be: Environmentalist  
Most likely to be: CEO of Ngati Rangi  
Famous for saying: Oieea



Name: Claire Moore  
Known for: Being so chill  
Wants to be: A Chef  
Most likely to be: Chocolate  
Sculpturer  
Famous for saying: To Be Honest



Name: Linkin Harding-Gray  
Known for: One Pump (Fortnite)  
Wants to be: Professional Mermaid  
Most likely to be: On Steroids  
Famous for saying: Don't worry about it



Name: Tarn Hoyle  
Known for: Quitting math halfway through an assessment  
Wants to be: Somewhere else  
Most likely to be: A hippie  
Famous for saying: Dirty  
!#!@#\$%^&()



Name: Bianca Lomio  
Known for: being quietly meticulous  
Wants to be: happy and/or successful  
Most likely to be: working for a charity org (Red Cross)  
Famous for saying: Would you like to try one?



Name: Laiven Lomio  
Known for: Mispronouncing names  
Wants to be: Disney princess  
Most likely to be: Broke  
Famous for saying: I wanna go home



Name: Noah McGonigle-Cate
Known for: Gaming boy
Wants to be: Gaming
Most likely to be: Gaming
Famous for saying: My brother is so annoying



# YEAR 13 PROFILES

Name: Kirsty Osborne
Known for: The Dawg
Wants to be: A Pro Squash Player
Most likely to be: A Farmer
Famous for saying: The Dawg



Name: Noah Swift  
Known for: Being Hungry  
Wants to be: Eating  
Most likely to be: Eating  
Famous for saying: Are you gonna eat that?



Name: Hye-le Wihare-Hansen  
Known for: Soul survivor from Raetihi  
Wants to be: Pro Ultimate Frisbee Player  
Most likely to be: Crying in an exam  
Famous for saying: Slay



Name: Matthew Smith  
Known for: For being so short  
Wants to be: >6'  
Most likely to be: World shortest basketball player  
Famous for saying: I'll do it if you do it



Name: Jamie Taitoko  
Known for: Being so mysterious  
Wants to be: Missing  
Most likely to be: Computer Scientist  
Famous for saying: Minecraft



Name: Angus Williams  
Known for: Big fart on his first day  
Wants to be: In the Army  
Most likely to be: KIA  
Famous for saying: I don't have  
any famous sayings I guess





## BOARD OF TRUSTEES PRIZEGIVING SPEECH

Congratulations to our graduates - those of you who have reached year 13 and are moving on to university, training in the trades, going into work or finally getting that gap year.....

I acknowledge the successes of all of our students who have done their best to achieve their goals and aspirations, with honesty, confidence and rapuhia ko te mātauranga ...to seek further knowledge, or ROCK -.our school values.

I would like to acknowledge my BOT colleagues, Shayna Te Riaki our deputy chair, Michiko Gembitsky and Christine Wallis, our parent representatives. Lesley Edmonds as Uenuku representative, Tarake Mareikura our representative for Ngati Rangī, Helena Burns as our staff representative and William Barlow, who has been an outstanding student representative, bringing great insight to our discussions. I thank you Will and wish you well in your next adventure. Hayley Moore has stepped up to represent the students for the coming year, thank you Hayley, I look forward to you picking up where Will has left off, and to keep that conversation flowing for the students. And not to forget Kay Sutton our secretary, Kay works tirelessly in the background keeping us all in line, providing guidance, and making sure I don't nik her pens!!!

The role of the Board of Trustees is crucial in connecting students, teachers, and the community to ensure that funding is used effectively to support student success. The focus is on achieving success for all learners by actively engaging with the community and following a developed framework. This framework allows for ongoing assessment throughout the year to ensure that every student is supported in reaching their goals.

We have continued to invest in our 13 school houses, keeping them in tip top condition for some of our teaching staff to live in, and our school has gone through some major refurbishments over recent years and is looking wonderful. Shade sails for the summer and double glazing for the winter, all this takes dedication to maintain. With that in mind I acknowledge the hard work and commitment from Jim Edmonds, our Property Manager, and our caretaker Chris Chamorro.

Overall, I'm pleased to say that financially we are in an excellent position and as a board we pride ourselves in being able to say to our staff "tell us how we can help you to achieve the goals of our students".

**The future**  
As we look towards the future, we continue to consult with the school community to ensure our learners get the best. "It takes a village to raise a child" has never been a more important statement.

**To our staff**  
The job of the board is to set, monitor and evaluate our strategic goals and aspirations, and ensure we are on the right track. The success of the strategic plan falls to our teaching team, under the guidance

of our Principal, Mārama Allen and the Senior Leadership Team. To ensure everyone is working towards the same goal, so that our kids have the best chance at getting the best education right here at Ruapehu College. The hard work our teachers put into getting that success is evident today as we celebrate achievement.

To each and every one of you, thank you for your dedication to our learners, the hours you spend away from your families outside of school time to get those results and above all the compassion you show to get the best out of every student.

Last but not least - to the stars of the show - those who graduate from Ruapehu College. Today you take the training wheels off, you walk out of school to embark on the world of adulting, a world that doesn't always go as planned, a world that may sit you on your backside a time or two before you find your feet....

But that's ok, only you can determine your own path in life and when you find it grab it tight and ride the wave. Success will be yours! Whatever you are planning to do, do it with the values you have learned here at Ruapehu College, then go out there and smash it.

There will be times you come across things in life, and you'll be all like

**I DO NOT LIKE GREEN EGGS AND HAM!  
I DO NOT LIKE THEM, SAM-I-AM.**

Then you can remember this day and say to yourself

**YOU DO NOT LIKE THEM. SO YOU SAY.  
TRY THEM! TRY THEM! AND YOU MAY.  
TRY THEM AND YOU MAY, I SAY.**

Don't let the green eggs and ham of life put you off trying things, because if you don't try you'll never know if you like it!!

Tēnā koutou katoa.  
Lyn Griffin-Chappel  
Presiding member



## SPORTS BREAKFAST

Coaches & volunteers  
Sports would not happen in our school and community if we did not have individuals that were willing to give up their time to invest in our young people.  
Our coaches and volunteers often have to take time off work, or miss out time with their own family to dedicate themselves to coaching or managing a school sports team. Sometimes this can be incredibly rewarding, other times it may feel like a thankless task!  
Many hours are spent preparing, showing up at training, traveling to games, organising things in the background, they are often the van driver, supporter, counsellor, friend and mentor.  
So much goes into taking a sports team and for this, we are incredibly fortunate and grateful.  
So today, we want to honour you and celebrate with you and take the time to tell you how thankful we are to have you.  
To our students  
We also want to recognise your hard work on & off the sports field through the character and commitment awards.

Character and Commitment Awards are designed to recognise students who have shown strong character and/or commitment during the course of their season. They may not be the top performers, but they are students who have had a great attitude, participated in all aspects and contributed strongly. Their demonstration of the values of character and/or commitment will have contributed to their team or individual progress.

**Character & Commitment Awards:**  
Volleyball

This year we had 4 teams that travelled on alternate weeks to Whanganui during Term One, two Junior and two Senior teams. These teams are made up of some very talented players and they all represented the College exceptionally well throughout this tournament.  
Overall the girls finished in top 4 and the boys finished up placing 8th.  
**Volleyball Awards**  
Character & Commitment  
Ngauruhoe  
Elizabeth Hodge  
Character & Commitment  
Tongariro  
R-Jaye Bromwich, Nikora Henare  
Character & Commitment  
Ruapehu  
Drevahn Wood, Gerrard Osborne  
Character & Commitment  
Pihanga  
Haeley Pekins-Tamatea, Sarah Herewini

**Waka Ama:**  
It was great to be back at Lake Tikitapu with an awesome group of 22 students making up 3 crews participating. We had some amazing results this year.  
U19 Boys - 7th Place in Te Kei Finals  
U16 Girls - 8th Place in Te Takere Semi  
U19 Girls - 9th Place in Te Takere Semi

This amazing kaupapa couldn't happen without the dedication of our amazing coaches Whare, Shayna and Chaana. Their commitment to this endeavor and our students is amazing. We couldn't do it without them, we are super grateful.  
A special thank you also goes to the parents that helped out with driving the students to training in Whanganui each Saturday and Sunday and also helping out a lot when they went to nationals in Rotorua. Karipa Wood, Steph Waerea, Lau and Pete Wiks are standouts.

**Waka Ama Awards**  
Character & Commitment U19 girls  
Paetyn Brown  
Character & Commitment  
U16 girls Atlas Elers  
Character & Commitment U16 girls  
Ngateria Lole Uaea  
Character & Commitment U19 boys  
Lee Wikohika  
Character & Commitment U19 boys  
Azlian Wall

**Football:**  
We had three football teams, coached by Sarah Demchy and Mr Darmody. The Ruapehu College boys football team took the opportunity to compete in the Trident Tournament in Wellington at the start of September. They played against teams from schools with 1000+ students and predominantly year 12 and 13 boys.

They have had a great season. Although there wasn't a competition for all three teams this year to compete in, they still got the chance to play teams weekly from



Whanganui, Taupo and Taumaurunui.

**Football Awards**  
Character & Commitment  
Claire Moore  
Excellent attitude to training and shows full commitment to the team.  
Character & Commitment  
Paige Drinkwater  
Full commitment to training and steady progress through the season  
Character & Commitment  
Paora Kumeroa  
Excellent improvement throughout the season and full commitment to training  
Character & Commitment  
Torin Thompson  
Excellent improvement throughout the season and full commitment to training





Girls Rugby  
This year for the girl's rugby season, they had combined with Te Kura o Kokohuia. Ross Wallis took on the rugby girls team and helped out tremendously with driving the girls to their game each week and helped coach and support them all season with training and games. People like this are hard to find, so we thank you for your help and kindness.

Girls Rugby Awards  
Character & Commitment  
Olivia Gray  
Character & Commitment  
Malena Hawira

Reps mention:  
We had two girls that were selected to play representative rugby for Whanganui. Well done to Olivia Gray and Te Atawhaitia Richards who made it into the U16 team.

Boys Rugby:  
Prem 2- Congratulations to these rugby boys for taking out the Manawatu Premiere 2 grade finishing in 1st place overall. It was a hard season for these boys traveling almost every weekend to Palmerston north but they rose to the occasion and did themselves and Ruapehu College proud. A huge thank you to Chrissy Winter, Sheldon O'Hagan, Shayna & Whare Te Riaki and all the parents who helped support the boys this year. Your hard work doesn't go unnoticed and we are truly grateful for your time, commitment and dedication to the team.

1st XV awards  
Acknowledge Chrissy Winter as coach. Character & Commitment  
Chrissy Winters – Never missed a training, player with the most points in the Manawatu Premiere 2 division, selected for Whanganui U16's and is the Vice-Captain. He has worked hard this whole season, he is also a good role-model for young boys who wish to take their game to a new level  
Character & Commitment  
Sam Rowe – Committed player, has high standards on and off the field. Selected for Whanganui U16's and is a good role model for young future rugby players.

The U15 boy's rugby team also combined with Te Kura o Kokohuia this year. Coordinating with another school always comes with a lot of struggles with training and having to adjust to different positions every week. A big thank you to Gabriel Hakaraia and Morvin Trow for putting their

hands up to coach and help train these boys every Monday and also to Shey MacLean, Glenda Windle and Amy Rhodes for helping with after match kai. The team received 4th place in their competition and are hoping for a better season next year.

Boys Rugby Awards  
Acknowledge Coach & Manager :  
Morvin Trow & Gabe Hakaraia  
Character & Commitment  
Jackson Windle  
Character & Commitment  
Ford Kumeroa Ponga

Boys rugby reps mention:  
When it comes to rugby we have a large contingent of Ruapehu College students making up a bulk of the Whanganui representative teams. It is so great to see our school represented strongly in these representative teams. Well done to the following students and their representative achievements.

Whanganui Representative Teams U16  
Sheldon O'Hagan  
Chrissy Winter  
Robbie Lilburn  
Hunter Cross  
Stuart-Rose Sinclair  
U14  
David Hagley  
Izhik Pui

Basketball:  
This year the basketball team was coached by Justice Hiri and Taniora Taitumu. They had a great season with hard competition. It was a good effort from the boys considering the majority of their team were juniors and they were competing in the social senior boys grade.  
Basketball  
Character & Commitment  
Tannar Goff

Squash:  
As a school and a community we are very fortunate to have the squash facilities we do and a strong supportive squash club with a lot of our squash kids achieving some huge things outside of school and getting some great results!  
This year, Matt Laurenson took two teams to compete at a secondary school nationals competition that was held in Wellington. One boys team and one girls team. Emma Rowe, Brenda Burnard, Conrad Smith,

Steve and Rosalie Dowman, Simon Barlow, Diana Cranston, Tia Bailey, Craig Buckingham and Sarah Drinkwater travelled away with the team to Nationals. It doesn't go unnoticed that you take time off work to come along and support the team. So thank you. Thank you to all of the parents of the players that provided baking and meals for the team to use in the kitchen at squash during the multiple fundraising tournaments. A special mention to The Laurenson Trust and the Ohakune Squash Club for all of their support with raising funds for the team.

Squash  
Character & Commitment  
Liam Burnard. For his commitment to coaching and supporting both teams this year. He has also taken on a large role as team captain. He helped coordinate fundraising that enabled the team to go on this trip. Liam was always happy and smiling on and off the court. His positive attitude is contagious and he was often making others laugh.  
Character & Commitment  
Maraea Buckingham for her commitment to helping the team make it to the nationals. She took on a large role of the organisational side of the fundraising with Liam. She was also always positive at nationals and put a smile on many people's faces especially with her energetic support when her teammates were playing.

Congratulations to Ben Lee and Paige Drinkwater for coming 1st place for men's and women's in the Squash Central Junior prince series. Congratulations to Ben Lee finishing first place overall.  
Squash achievements outside of school

There have been some impressive results happening outside of our school that need mentioning. Liam Burnard, Grace Rowe, Kirsty Osborne selected to be a part of the Squash Central Elite Junior Coaching Programme.



Liam Burnard was selected to represent Squash Central at the NZ interdistrict teams event. He also placed 16th in NZ in the individual section. Grace Rowe and Paige Drinkwater were part of the Ohakune Squash Clubs D grade team that won the Squash Central D Grade Superchamps competition and then went on to come runner up in the New Zealand National D Grade Superchamps competition. Grace has been selected as a reserve for the New Zealand Secondary School Trans Tasman Tournament Team to face off against Australia.

Special Sports:  
Netball Reps mentions:  
Well done to the following students for making the Whanganui Netball Representatives team for 2024. We are proud of you and your representative achievements.

Whanganui U18  
Te Moana Hagley  
Haeley Perkins-Tamatea  
Paetyn Brown

Whanganui U16  
Sarah Herewini

Aotea U17  
Te Moana Hagley

Whanganui Reps end of year prizegiving awards:  
Congratulations to Haeley for also getting the Most improved prize at her end of year rep prizegiving  
Haeley, Te Moana and Sarah were also a part of the Waimarino club netball team that took out their Prem 3 grade in the Whanganui netball competition this season.

Equestrian:  
Bella Drayton, Maddie Whitehead and Milla Smith-Horne represented Ruapehu College at the North Island Secondary Schools Equestrian Champs held in Taupo in September. The week-long event gave the girls a significant opportunity to develop their confidence, engage a growth-mindset, and display our ROCK values. Special mention must go to Bella, who achieved 4th place in the dressage with her horse Willow'. Congratulations to you individually, and as a team.

Free ride skiing  
Mica Hoyle  
This year was Mica's first time competing in a free ride competition. He came 7th in the U16 Treble Cone stop of the Junior freeride world tour. Mica and his brothers were also made Whakapapa ambassadors this season.

Go-karting  
Emerson Lark

Emerson has been karting for 2 years, competing in regional club events all around the North island on purpose built kart circuits. At the beginning of this year, he competed in a new category Superkarts, running on car racing circuits like Taupo International Race Circuit and Hampton Downs. In fields of up to 30 to 40 other karts, traveling at speeds of 160kph. He has been working through his license to qualify for the Superkart Nationals held in July.

Tae Kwon Do:  
Sophie Watt  
Over the years, Sophie has competed in a few gradings and has gained herself the blue belt. Overall she has received 4 metals. 2nd of March she competed in the Bay Open Tournament in Tauranga winning herself a silver medal. On the 1st of June she competed in the NZUTA Open Tournament in Tauranga winning herself a gold medal. On the 17th of August she competed in the NZ Kukkiwon cup also in Tauranga winning herself a silver medal.

And on the 28th of September she competed in the TUNZ Open Tournament in Lower Hutt, Wellington where she had secured herself a gold medal.  
Gabby Callahan  
02 March 24: Bay Open (regional level) - GOLD  
13 Apr 24: Budo South (regional level) - SILVER  
1 Jun 24: NZUTA Open (regional level) - SILVER  
15 Jun 24: Caboolture Open (Australia regional) - SILVER  
17 Aug: Kukkiwon Cup (NZ National Championship) - SILVER  
28 Sep 24: TUNZ Open (regional level) – SILVER

Motocross:  
Karaitiana Horne  
It has been a very successful year for Karaitiana. She is the NZ Junior Womens Motocross champion 4 years running and is the first Women in NZ to hold both titles for Senior and Junior Women's Motocross Nationals. Having turned 15 this year she was eligible to race in the senior ranks where she had finished 7th place overall in the Australian Promx series. She is the 2024 NZ Junior Women 125/250 Champion, NZ Senior Women Champion and Junior Women 125/500 Australia Champion.

Special Mentions:  
Groundsmen:  
A huge thank you to Jim and Chris for the hard work out on our sports grounds. They have added in a Ki o Rahi field and have been busy spraying the fields to get the correct grass growing with less moss. They have raised the standards of our

sports ground tremendously. It seems that we have some of the best rugby grounds competitively to those in the Manawatu.

A big thank you also goes to many community members that give a lot of time and resources that many of you may not even notice, usually on the weekends when no one is around. Alan Whale and Rabbit do a lot of digger work, Bruce Rollinson does a lot of spraying out on the fields and Nate from PGG Wrightsons for his contribution with his effort and advice for our grounds. Canteen Aunties: Channel, and her lovely ladies in the kitchen throughout the sporting calendar have provided lunches for our students to take away on sports trips.

Laurenson Trust  
The Laurenson Trust is a huge asset to our school community allowing so many sporting trips to go ahead because of their financial backing.

The Trust provides cash prizes for our top students at prizegiving, sports teams weekly travel costs for sports teams are subsidised, as are camps & outdoor education trips. Students representing their sport at a representative level can apply for funding to assist their efforts. We are so very grateful and fortunate to have your support. Thank you.





# JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING 2023

## Sports Awards

Athletics Junior Girl (PTA Cup) Rebekah Swift Junior Boy (PTA Cup) Emerson Lark Cross Country Junior Girl (Mary Whale Cup) Karaitiana Horne Junior Boy (Herbert Smith Trust Cup) Wren Drayton Intermediate Boy (Leo Cleary Cup Int Boy) Sam Rowe Swimming Junior Girl (Cert) Talei Phillips Junior Boy (TG Drayton Cup) Tiaan Perkins Intermediate Boy ( Cup) Sam Rowe Netball Checkers Cup Sarah Herewini Checkers netball team for a player who has made an outstanding contribution to netball within our school Rugby MVP Under 16 Rugby (Golden Oldies Trophy) Chrissy Winter Best Team Man 2nd 15 (Kui & Proude Trophy/cert) Tuharakia Wallace-McLeod Basketball Supporters Club Award for Most Improved Player Waata Te Piira Te Riaki & Sarah Herewini Football Most Valuable Junior Player (Dave Billmore Trophy ) Wren Drayton Squash Best Junior Female Player (Megan Laurenson Trophy) Grace Rowe Best Junior Male Player (Jackie Laurenson Trophy) Hone Buckingham Volleyball Most Valuable Player Junior (Cert) William Waitokia Best Team Member Junior (Cert) Nythanule Takitimu-Bourne Waka Ama Junior Boys Kaihoe (Maunga Sports Trust) Chrissy Winter Junior Girls Kaihoe (Maunga Sports Trust) Ngateria Lole Uaea Logan Dixon Trophy – Junior Excellence in Sport Karaitiana Horne Blues Awards Elishka Atkins Obstacle racing - youngest NZ competitor to compete in the World obstacle race in Belgium 2023 Gabby Callaghan Taekwondo - 1st in NZ 12 - 14 years black belt division 2023 Karaitiana Horne Motocross 1st in NZ Under 12 -16 girls for last 3 years

## Year 9 Subject Awards

Elishka Atkins Subject Award in Design and Innovation Foods and Performing Arts. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Mathematics and English. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Elishka also receives the Sims Award for Excellence in Performing Arts. Gabby Callaghan Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation Foods. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Wren Drayton Merit Award for Diligence in English. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Sasha Gray Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Olivia Gray Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation Foods. Distinction in Junior Diploma. David Hagley Subject Award in Design and Innovation Hard Materials. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Maori Performing Arts. Teaana Hansen-Patea Distinction in Junior Diploma. Florida Harding-Gray Subject Award in Mathematics. Merit Award in Te Reo for Improvement. Merit in Science for Consistent Effort. Merit Award in Social Studies for Careful and Steady Application. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Komaihana Hawira Merit Award for Improvement in Science and Te Reo Maori. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Laykin Horne Subject Award in Art. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Paora Kumeroa Merit Award for Diligence in Art. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Ford Kumeroa Merit Award for Diligence in Physical Education. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Ngateria Lole Uaea Subject Award in Te Reo Maori and

Maori Performing Arts. Merit Award for Improvement in Design and Innovation Foods. Merit Award for Diligence in Physical Education. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Charley-Jean MacLean Subject Award in Design and Innovation Soft Materials and Science. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation Hard Materials and Social Studies. Merit Award in Digital Studies for Consistent Effort and Improvement. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Fletcher Mason Subject Award for Digital Studies and English. Merit Award for Improvement in Science and Social Studies. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Siobhan McDonough Merit Award for Diligence in English. Merit Award for Perseverance in Design and Innovation Soft Materials. Merit Award for Improvement in Te Reo and Consistent Effort in Maori Performing Arts. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Talei Phillips Merit Award for Diligence in English. Merit Award for Effort in Performing Arts. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Te Atawhaitia Richards Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation Hard Materials and Design and Innovation Foods. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Grace Rowe Subject Award in Physical Education. Merit Award for Consistent and Careful Application in Mathematics and English. Merit Award for Improvement in Social Studies and Design and Innovation Hard Materials and Design and Innovation Foods. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Jamie Senekal Merit Award for Diligence in English and Physical Education. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Zoe Smith Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science, English, Social studies and Design and Innovation Soft Materials. Merit Award in Digital Studies and Physical Education for Consistent and Focused Approach to her Learning. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Georgia Smith Merit Award for Diligence and Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation Hard Materials and Merit Award for Outstanding Effort in Performing Arts. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Georgia also receives the Most Improved Junior Artist Trophy. Rebekah Swift Subject Award in Science, Social Studies and Mathematics. Merit Award for Diligence in English and Physical Education. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Torin Thompson Merit Award for Consistent Effort and a Mature Approach to Learning in Digital Studies. Merit Award in Science and Physical Education for Consistent Effort. Merit Award for Improvement in Design and Innovation Soft Materials. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Ataahua Waaka Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Improvement in Digital Studies. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Lily Wilton Subject Award for English. Merit Award for Measurable Progress in Mathematics. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Mihi Winiata Merit Award for Improvement in Social Studies. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Achieved Junior Diploma Year 9 Ivy Baker Xavier Beukes R-Jaye Bromwich Hone Buckingham Patrick Carmichael Mackenzie Fitness David Macrae Hollie Martinsen Riley Maw Jack McGonigle-Black Tiaan Perkins Kaneihana Rapana Harlow Rokstad

Lily Taylor Chase Tutemahurangi  
**Year 10 Subject Awards**

Maia Allen Subject Award for Social Studies, English, Art, Maori Performing Arts and Physical Education. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science and Mathematics. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Connor Anderson Subject Award for Social Studies and Digital Studies. Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Improvement in Mathematics and Science. Merit Award for Diligence in Physical Education and English. Kotui Ako Top of Class Award in Spanish. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Tiana Atkins-Wihongi Merit Award for Improvement in Maori Performing Arts. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Benson Carmichael Merit Award for Diligence in Physical Education. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Jordy Demchy Merit Award for Improvement in Science. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Khloe Gamman Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science. Merit Award for Consistent Effort, Application and Perseverance in Social Studies. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Kiana-Jaye Gembitsky-Edmonds Subject Award in Design and Innovation Foods. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Kiana also receives the Marilyn George Practical Foods Trophy for Most Promising Student in Practical Foods. Treyton Gray Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Application in Design and Innovation Resistant Materials. Achieved Junior Diploma. Nikora Henare-Richards Subject Award for Science. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Bishop Hodge Merit Award for Diligence and Steady Application in Mathematics and Physical Education. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Mica Hoyle Merit Award for Consistent Application and Effort in Social Studies. Merit Award for Diligence in Physical Education. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Emerson Lark Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Digital Studies and Physical Education. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Ash Learmonth-Warren Merit Award for Improvement in Art. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Maia-Jay Lima Merit Award for Consistent Effort in English and Design and Innovation Foods. Merit Award for Application in Te Reo Maori. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Manaia Kingi Mareikura Merit Award for Consistent and Diligent Application in Te Reo Maori. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Drew Moore Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Social Studies and Digital Studies. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Drew also receives the Performing Arts Trophy for Contribution to Production. Jazmyn Pitiroi Merit Award for Improvement in Te Reo Maori. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Samuel Rowe Subject Award in Mathematics and Design Innovation Resistant Materials and Agriculture/Horticulture. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science and Social Studies. Merit Award for Diligence in Physical Education and English. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Sam also receives the Dixon Cup in Engineering and Practical Work and the Turners and Growers Cup for High Achievement in Junior Agriculture. Hannah Swift Subject Award in Physical Education, Social Studies, Science and Mathematics. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Kimihia Taylor Subject Award in Maori Performing Arts. Achieved in Junior Diploma. Aaliyah Te-Pania Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Social Studies. Achieved in Junior Diploma.

Campbell van der Lubbe Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science and Social Studies. Merit Award for Diligence and Application in Mathematics. Distinction in Junior Diploma. Achieved Junior Diploma Year 10 Blake Adam Sydney Charlton William Cooper Austin Herewini Sarah Herewini Karaitiana Horne Honore Horomia Jaydah-Lee Ioannidis Hawira Katene Te Atarangi Katene Caleb Larsen Jay Learmonth Paretuarangi Mareikura Wilson Levann Mate Ariki McLeod Judah Sinai Yoko Belle Story Nythanule Takitimu-Bourne Simeon Taura-Hawira Naomi Van Overmeeren Korin Walker Tuharakia McLeod Apollo Wilson  
**Special Awards**  
Nga Ara Scholarships - Genesis & M Wilson The Nga Ara Scholarships are sponsored by Genesis Energy. These scholarships support students with a Technology or Trades package.



# SENIOR PRIZEGIVING 2024

## Sports Awards

Athletics Intermediate Boy Champ - Walter Warner cup Chrissy Winter and Samuel Rowe Senior Girl Champ - Turners & Growers cup Kirsty Osborne Senior Boy Champ - Turners & Growers Cup Ambrose Demchy and Noah Swift Aggregate Boy 800/1500/3000m - Michael Cleary Cup Samuel Rowe Aggregate Girl 800/1500/3000m - ECNZ Trophy Karaitiana Horne CROSS COUNTRY Intermediate Female Champion (ECNZ Trophy) Karaitiana Horne Intermediate Male Champion (Leo Cleary Cup) Samuel Rowe Senior Female Champion (ECNZ Trophy) Mishalle Perkins Senior Male Champion (Dillon Shield) Liam Burnard SWIMMING Intermediate Male Champion Samuel Rowe Senior Female Champion (John Evans Trophy) Stirling Elers Senior Male Champion (John Evans Trophy) Matthew Smith RUGBY BOYS Most improved Senior Player - Trophy Rico Pakai Best & Fairest Senior player - Trophy Rangipunehu Wilson-Leahy MVP Under 16 rugby ( Golden Oldies Trophy) Chrissy Winter 1st XV Character & Commitment (Cert) Bishop Hodge 1st XV Character & Commitment (Cert) Samuel Rowe VOLLEYBALL Most Valuable Player (Certificate) Sarah Herewini Best team Player (Certificate) Drevahn Wood Basketball Contribution to Basketball - (Cert) Shaquarn Perkins-Teki Most Improved Nythanuel Takitimu-Bourne SQUASH Best Female Squash Player (Triggell Trophy) Kirsty Osborne Best Male Squash Player (Triggell Trophy) Liam Burnard Character &

They recognise students' outstanding engagement in STEM subjects or Puhoro, and encourage their continued engagement in this area. This year we have 3 Year 10 recipients for Outstanding Engagement in STEM Nikora Henare - Richards Maia Allen Connor Anderson Mowat Voon Cup For a student active in reading & sports Sam Rowe Principals Award For special recognition Connor Anderson Te Kaahu Trophy Donated by Mr & Mrs Murphy-Peehi for leadership, initiative & dedication in the promotion of cultural activities among juniors at Ruapehu College Ngateria Lole Uaea Junior Citizen Award – Lyons Family Award Citizen Award for Good Character, having personal integrity including the qualities of honesty, caring for other people & supporting the peer group Kiana Jay Jim Perry Award Most improvement across a range of

sporting, social & cultural activities Sponsored by the Laurenson Trust \$100 Hannah Swift Lila Pakinga This scholarship has been established to acknowledge the efforts of the late Lila Pakinga in advocating for the natural environment in the Ngāti Rangi rohe and her passion for the education of young people. \$1000 scholarship Awarded to a Year 10 student to support them in the following academic year. Connor Anderson Ruapehu Anglican Parish Award Generous in their contribution to school life, displaying a growth mindset to overcome difficulties Austin Herewini Milne Family Trophy Top Year 9 Academic Award Fletcher Mason Ruapehu Bulletin Trophy Year 10 Academic Excellence Award – Junior Dux Sponsored by the Laurenson Trust \$100 and Stationary pack sponsored by Awhi Maia Allen

his brothers were also made Whakapapa ambassadors this season. Mica Hoyle Go Karting : Emerson has been karting for 2 years, competing in regional club events all around the North island on purpose built kart circuits. At the beginning of this year, he competed in a new category Superkarts, running on car racing circuits like Taupo International Race Circuit and Hampton Downs. In fields of up to 30 to 40 other karts, traveling at speeds of 160kph. He has been working through his license to qualify for the Superkart Nationals held in July. Emerson Lark Motorcross: It has been a very successful year for Karaitiana. She is the NZ Junior Womens Motocross champion 4 years running and is the first Women in NZ to hold both titles for senior and Junior Women's Motocross Nationals. Having turned 15 this year she was eligible to race in the senior ranks where she had finished 7th place overall in the Australian Promx series. She is the 2024 NZ junior women 125/250 champion, NZ Senior Women Champion and Junior Women 125/500 Australia Champion. Karaitiana Horne





Interwhanau Awards for 2024 Weka 2nd: Athletics, Board Games 3rd: Badminton, Handball and Touch 3rd = Kapahaka and Swimming 4th: Cross Country, Kahoot, Football, Chants and Tug of War Huia 1st: Football 2nd: Swimming, Tug of War Kahoot, Badminton, Handball and Touch 3rd: Cross Country, Board Games, Chants 3rd= Kapahaka 4th: Athletics Tui 1st: Swimming, Tug of War Board Games, Badminton, Handball, Touch 2nd: Kapahaka, Cross Country, Chants 2nd= Football 3rd: Athletics, Kahoot Kiwi 1st: Kapahaka, Athletics, Cross Country, Kahoot, Chants 2nd= Football 3rd: Tug of War 3rd: = Swimming 4th: Board Games, Badminton, Handball, Touch Fourth Weka 150, Third Huia 210 Second Kiwi 235, Champion house for 2024 -Trophy Tui 280

#### Top Sports Awards

Contribution to Sport Ambrose Demchy Awarded to a student who has contributed highly to the running, organizing and facilitating of sport within Ruapehu College. Work Hard Play Hard Leigh Hynes Trophy Kirsty Osborne Awarded to a young wahine who achieves well in sport for the college and also works hard in the classroom, thereby opening up more opportunities for their success in life. Sports Allrounder of the Year – Toki Trophy Samuel Rowe Awarded to a student who has the best overall sports participation in the school with a high level of participation across numerous codes competing for Ruapehu College and club sports. Best Overall Senior in Sports – Cup Karaitiana Horne This is awarded to the student who has the highest level of sporting achievement and participation Donated by Sue & John Laurenson Prefect Awards - Hye-le and Ambrose . Ruapehu College Prefect Cup Sarah Demchy. Awarded to an outstanding member of the community. Most Supportive Member of Staff Cristopher Chamorro and Jimmy Edmonds

#### Academic Awards Year 11

Maia Allen Subject Award for Design and Innovation - Foods, Art, Mathematics, English, Physical Education. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science. Maia also receives the Year 11 Incentive Award for NCEA Level 1 Food & Nutrition donated by Fiona Fraser. Connor Anderson Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science and Geography and for Improvement in Mathematics. Connor also receives the Kotui Ako Academic Award for 1st in Class in Level 1 Spanish and Participation Award for the University of Otago Junior Mathematics Competition. Tiana Aitkins-Wihongi Merit Award for Perseverance and Consistent Effort in Te Reo Maori.Sydney Charlton Subject Award for Design and Visual Communication. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation - Foods. Jordi Demchy Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science. Austin Herewini Merit Award for Focus and Perseverance in Design and Visual Communication. Karaitiana Horne Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Science. Emmerson Lark Merit Award for Improvement in Mathematics.Jay Learmonth Subject Award for Design and Innovation - Resistant Materials. Jay also receives the Gordon Lin Trophy for top DTC Student. Ash Learmonth-Warren Subject Award for Music. Maia-Jay Lima Merit Award for Outstanding Effort

and Diligence in English. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation - Resistant Materials and Improvement in Design and Innovation - Foods.Manaia Mareikura Merit Award for Diligence and Perseverance in Te Reo Maori.Paretuarangi Mareikura Subject Award for Te Reo Maori. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Art. Gerrard Osborne Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Physical Education. Shaquarn Perkins-Teki Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Improvement in Music. Samuel Rowe Subject Award for Science and Mathematics. Merit Award for Outstanding Effort and Work in English. Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Improvement in Art and Consistent Improvement in his Practice for Design and Innovation - Hard Materials. Samuel also receives the Level 1 Hard Materials Prize donated by Place Makers Ohakune. Judah Sinai Merit Award for Improvement in Mathematics and Consistent Effort in Science. Judah also receives the Waimarino Tree Resource Incentive Award donated by Ian Forster for Level 1 DTC.Hannah Swift Subject Award for Geography. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Mathematics, Physical Education and Science. Campbell van der Lubbe Subject Award for Digital Technology.

#### Academic Awards Year 12

Jasmine Adam Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation - Food Technology. Kenneth Anderson Merit Award for Diligence and Effort in Practical Tasks in Design and Innovation - Soft Materials. Kenneth also receives the Migos Rose Bowl Trophy for consistent effort in Practical Task in Design and Innovation - Soft Materials. Macy Anderson Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Good Work Ethic in Chemistry. Brian Bailie Subject Award for Design and Innovation - Hard Materials. Elaina Beukes Recipient of the Year 12 Design and Sewing Trophy for her commitment to Textiles within school and the community. Liam Burnard Subject Award for Mathematics and Physical Education. Danny Dowman Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation - Hard Materials. Stirling Elers Subject Award for Design and Visual Communications. Merit Award for Improvement during the year in Biology and Contribution to Visual Art. Merit Award for Outstanding Effort in English. Raukura Gray Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Level 3 Te Reo Maori. Evie Hansen Receives the UCOL Top Award for Improvement, Engagement and Commitment to all areas of her education and attitude to her studies. She also receives the UCOL Participation and Commitment Award in U-Skills Care Skills Level 2.Moses Hodge Subject Award for Visual Art. Merit Award for Diligence and Effort in Physics. Merit Award for Commitment and Perseverance in Physical Education. Moses also receives the UCOL Participation & Commitment Award for U-Skills Business Enterprise Level 3. Anahera Marumaru Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Tourism and Perseverance in Design and Innovation - Soft Materials. Hayley Moore "Subject Award for English, Geography, Chemistry and Media Studies. Merit Award for Improvement throughout the whole year in Mathematics. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Biology."Alysha Rhodes Subject Award for Design and

Innovation - Foods. Jorja Richfield Recipient of the Land Based Training Cup for Agriculture Student of the Year. Lucia Seymour Subject Award for English. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Biology and Geography. Brent Siemonek Recipient of the PGG Wrightsons Ohakune Award for Diligence and Perseverance in Practical and Theory Agricultural Work via Gateway. Zoe Southall "Subject Award for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Steady Application in Mathematics and Music. Merit Award for Consistent Work Ethic in Chemistry. Merit Award for Outstanding Effort in English. Isla Thompson Subject Award for Level 2 Music. James Tweeddale Recipient of the Robin Rowles Memorial Award for Leadership in Practical Areas. Keira Varley Merit Award for Improvement and Perseverance in Design and Innovation - Resistant Materials. Sophie Watt Merit Award for Most Improved in Physics.

#### Academic Awards Year 13

Hunter Anderson Merit Award for Improvement and Diligence in Art and Consistent Effort and Application in Music. William Barlow Subject Award for Music. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Digital Studies. Merit Award for Outstanding Effort and Diligence in English and Media Studies. William jointly receives the Sims Award for Excellence in Senior Performing Arts."Maraea Buckingham Subject Award for Tourism. Ambrose DemchySubject Award for English and Music. Ambrose jointly receives the Sims Award for Excellence in Senior Performing Arts. Kodo Drayton Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Hard Work through the year in Physics and Chemistry and Consistent Improvement in Mathematics. Linkin Harding-Gray Subject Award for Art. Linkin receives the Dr Jordan Memorial Prize for his Achievement in Art. Tarn Hoyle "Subject Award for Biology. Merit Award for Perseverance and a Positive Work Attitude in Digital Studies. Merit Award for Outstanding Diligence and Effort in Media Studies and English."Bianca Lomio Subject Award for Design and Innovation - Food Technology. Merit Award for Perseverance in Biology. Bianca jointly receives the Sue Hardwich Memorial Trophy for Excellence in Practical Foods. Claire Moore Subject Award for Design and Innovation - Soft Materials. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Tourism. Kirsty Osborne Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation - Food Technolgy. Laiven jointly receives the Sue Hardwich Memorial Trophy for Excellence in Practical Foods. Claire Moore Subject Award for Design and Innovation - Soft Materials. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Design and Innovation - Soft Materials. Merit Award for Consistent Effort in Art. Noah Swift Subject Award for Physics and Mathematics. Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Hard Work in Chemistry. Noah is the recipient of the Senior Mathematics Award for High Standard in Level 3 Mathematics, Statistics and Calculus, donated by the Cast Family. Jamie Taitoko Subject Award with Distinction for Digital Studies. Merit Award for Perseverance and Consistent Effort in Psychology, and Steady and Careful Application in Mathematics.

Jamie also receives the Year 13 Puhoro Graduate certificate. Jamie also receives the Peck Campbell Cup for Excellence in Humanities, and receives \$200 from the Ruapehu Lions Club for outstanding high achieving work in digital studies. Hye-le Wihare-Hansen Subject Award for Chemistry and English. Merit Award for Consistent Effort and Steady and Careful Application in Biology and Physics. Angus Williams Receives the Kotui Ako Award for Effort in NCEA Level 3 History. Angus is the recipient of the Early Settlers Award for Diligence and Class Spirit in History, donated by the Scarrow Family Trades Academy Most Consistent Student in Construction Izybel Graham Most Improved Student in Construction Blake Takitimu Most Outstanding Student in Construction James Tweeddale Nga Ara Scholarships The Nga Ara Scholarships are sponsored by Genesis Energy. These scholarships support students with a Technology or Trades package. They recognise students' outstanding engagement n STEM subjects or Puhoro, and encourages their continued engagement in these areas. Year 11 Gerrard Osborne, Year 11 Treyton Grey, Year 12 - Year 12 Outstanding Engagement in STEM Scholarship Hayley Moore Year 12 - Year 13 Outstanding Engagement in STEM Scholarship Tamahuia Sinai Puhoro - Outstanding Engagement in Puhoro Connor Anderson Puhoro - Outstanding Engagement in Puhoro Stirling Elers Lila Pakinga Scholarship Grant This scholarship has been established to acknowledge the efforts of the late Lila Pakinga in advocating for the natural environment in the Ngāti Rangi rohe and her passion for the education of young people. Awarded to a Year 11 student to support them in the following academic year. Kiana-Jaye Edmonds Ruapehu College Vocational Excellence Award Kirsty Osborne "This is awarded to a student who demonstrates vocational excellence and to also raise the status of vocational education. The student will receive \$500 along with this award. We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the following students on the scholarships they have received for their itertiary education.

#### Special Awards

Top Year 11 Student 2024 Maia Allen Top Year 12 Student 2024 Receives the top Yr 12 academic trophy donated by Kim Basse Hayley Moore Dr Nicola Jordan Scholarship "Dr Nicola Jordan, from Te Matau-a-Māui (Hawke's Bay) has generously sponsored this award. Through this award, she is continuing to honour her grandfather, Dr Lewis Jordan, who worked for almost 30 years as a GP in Ohakune and Raetihi, and who valued art, nature and wellbeing. He got great pleasure from the privilege of knowing so many of the whānau of the Waimarino and sharing his training in medicine to support them. This award is for showing Resilience, Diligence and Passion in Learning with the goal of giving back to our community through knowledge and education. You have displayed these qualities throughout your school life, and as you move on to further studies we wish you all the best and know this sponsorship will support you in some way. The recipient of the Scholarship will receive \$500." Hye-le Wihare-Hansen The Lines Company \$200.00 sponsorship

For Excellence in Physics Noah Swift Andrew Beggs Memorial Trophy Tarn Hoyle For a student who upholds the values that were upheld by Andrew Beggs: a good work ethic, respect for the environment and concern for others. Ruapehu Anglican Parish Award Awarded to a student who has been generous in their contribution to school life, and for displaying a growth mindset to overcome difficulties.Hayley Moore The Rotary Trades Award \$500 sponsorship James Tweeddale Awarded by the Raetihi Ohakune Rotary Club to a student who shows outstanding promise in the area of Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry or Trades, to assist them in achieving their goals for the future to the value of \$500. Maungarongo Trophy Hiria Hancy For showing leadership, dedication and initiative in the promotion of kapa haka during their year at school. Brian Eades Trophy Claire Moore perseverance and endeavor. Waimarino Shield Donated by the Maori community of the district for an all-round student in academic, sporting, and social areas, including Maori culture and values, plus \$100 from the Laurenson Trust. Hye-le Wihare-Hansen Loftus Shield William Barlow For services to the College, including providing a good example and reliability in all areas – academic, social and sporting, plus \$100 from the Laurenson Trust. Principal's Award For their positive contribution to school life.William Barlow Proxime Accessit Trophy donated by Peter Berry and Family with \$100 from the Laurenson Trust. Ambrose Demchy Dux Trophy donated by Ian & Dorothy Meredith. \$200 from the Laurenson Trust & The Raetihi Ohakune Rotary Club sponsorship of \$500. William Barlow

