

Ruakituri School

Newsletter

Week 10 Term One 2026



Pānui Number Three

Kia ora koutou,

It's hard to believe we've already reached the final week of Term One! The days are getting shorter as daylight saving comes to an end on Sunday, 5 April, reminding us that autumn has well and truly arrived.

As we wrap up the term, please remember to return all pool keys to school. It's important we keep an accurate record of keyholders for next summer, so if you haven't done so already, we'd appreciate having them back as soon as possible.

Over the holiday break, you may notice some activity around the school grounds. We have scheduled ongoing repairs to our septic system, school pool and the school house. Our planned working bee had to be postponed, but if the weather plays nicely and we find a good window to go ahead during the holidays, we'll send out a message through our school chat to let everyone know. We completely understand if you already have plans, but any help offered at a later date will be warmly appreciated.

As we head into Easter and the school holidays, I'd like to wish all our families a safe, happy, and restful break.

Ngā mihi nui,

Jo

Award Winners



Well done to Ruby for her award recognising her fabulous addition and subtraction knowledge within 20. Keep up the great maths mahi, Ruby!



Marley was a deserving award recipient for his effort in managing himself and working much more efficiently and independently. Tino pai, Marley! We look forward to seeing you make further positive strides next term!

Contact Us

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School Phone – 838 7140
Email – office@ruakituri.school.nz
Tumuaki/Principal Jo Larsen
principal@ruakituri.school.nz

School Docs

We value everyone's opinion and feedback so please visit School Docs and review the policies and procedures.

Community username: ruakituri
Community password: 4195

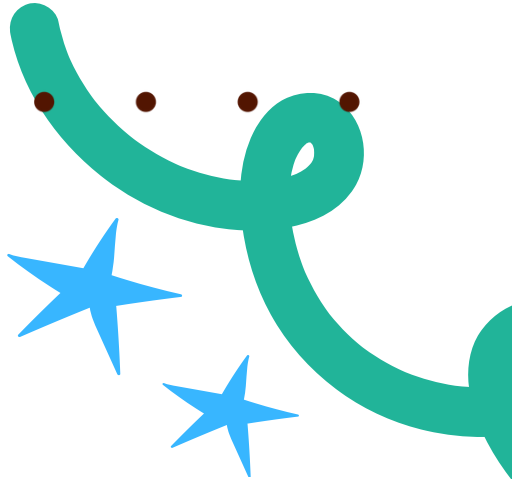
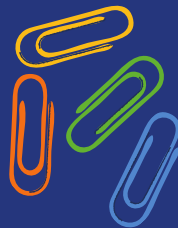
School Policies | Procedures



Welcome!

This site contains
Ruakituri School's
Policies and Procedures
along with useful checklists and forms.

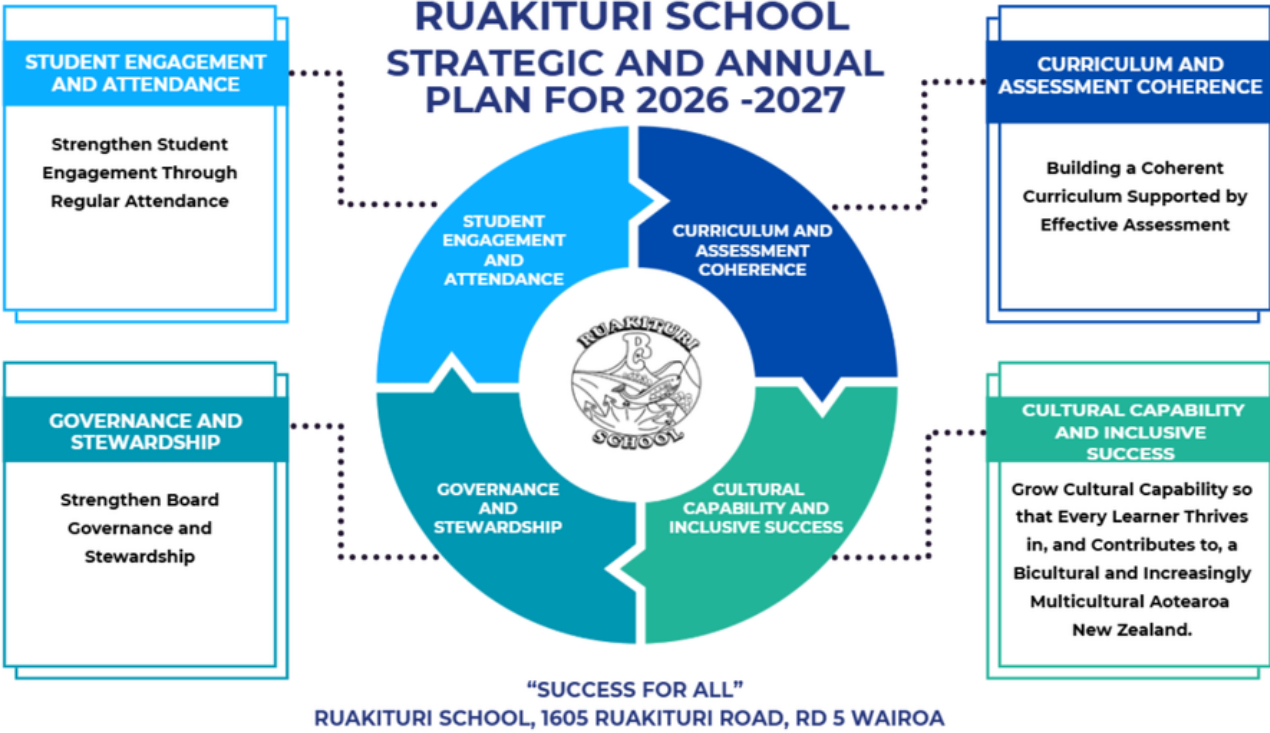
Strategic and Annual Plans for 2026



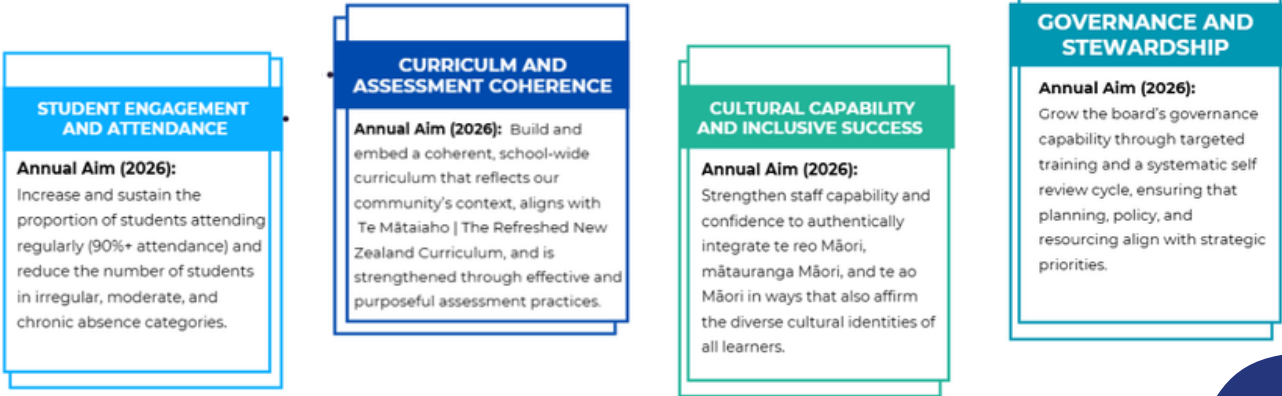
Introduction

The 2026–2027 Strategic Plan below has been developed following a thorough review of our school’s progress and performance over the past year. We drew on a range of information; including end-of-year assessments, Analysis of Variance results, school-wide data, and feedback from our November 2025 ERO review.

In shaping our next steps, the Board also considered current Government priorities for education, such as changes to curriculum and assessment, as well as national goals to lift achievement and improve attendance. Our strategic goals for 2026–2027 reflect these priorities while staying true to the needs and aspirations of our school community.

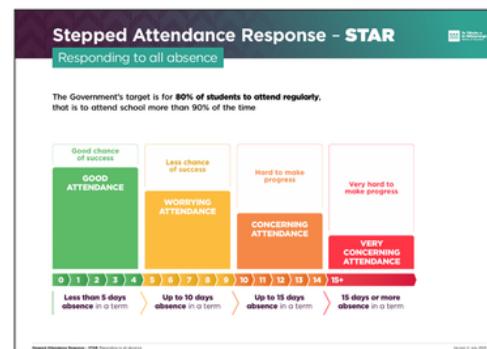


Four Annual Aims For 2026



Ruakituri RECIPE School Values

Responsibility
Excellence
Courage
Integrity
Pride
Empathy



Every Day Matters

As Term 1 comes to a close, thank you for your consistent effort to ensure your children attend school and for keeping us informed about any absences. We appreciate how well you balance busy family and work lives while supporting regular attendance.

I'm pleased to share that our year-to-date attendance is above 90% — a fantastic result and great progress toward our goal of strengthening student engagement through regular attendance. To assist, I'll continue to provide monthly attendance updates so you can easily track your child's attendance as recorded in our school management system (SMS).

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ATTENDANCE

Annual Aim (2026):

Increase and sustain the proportion of students attending regularly (90%+ attendance) and reduce the number of students in irregular, moderate, and chronic absence categories.

Bottle Top Mural

A huge thank you to everyone who has been collecting bottle tops so far. Your support is truly appreciated. We now have the plywood and are in the process of getting it undercoated in preparation for the mural. While we haven't started assembling just yet, we're excited to begin putting everything together and to complete the project in Term 2. In the meantime, please keep collecting plastic bottle tops of all colours and sizes, and encourage friends and family to do the same. Every little bit helps bring our design to life!



RUAKITURI SCHOOL

MINI GUARDIANS OF THE RUAKITURI VALLEY
COMMUNITY BOTTLE TOP ART PROJECT



Community Recycling

A reminder that recycling is collected on the second Sunday of each month.



Ruakituri **Vision** Success For All

Ruakituri **Mission**

Kia tipu, kia manawanui, me nga akonga pai
To create active, confident and positive learners

Term Two Big Breakfast



2026							APRIL						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11							
12	13	14	15	16	17	18							
19	20	21	22	23	24	25							
26	27	28	29	30									

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 31st March – Aurora Day for Year 6 Students

Thursday 2nd April – Grand opening of the new Te Reinga Bridge

Thursday 2 April – End of Term One

Monday 20 April – Start of Term Two

Monday 20 April – Big Breakfast

Saturday 25th April – ANZAC Day



Date: Monday 20th April Time: 9.00am

On Monday morning, we are looking forward to welcoming all students, staff, and whānau to Ruakituri School for the start of Term Two.

Join us for a delicious breakfast to kick off the second term of 2026

This is the perfect opportunity to reconnect, catch up, and prepare for an exciting term ahead. All welcome!

Ruakituri Playgroup

LOCATION
Ruakituri Community Hall

Free!

Every Wednesday
9 AM – 12 PM

Tairawhiti REAP

We are so excited to welcome our families back to the Ruakituri Playgroup! Whether you're a regular or new to the area, come along to the Ruakituri Community Hall to kick off a brand-new year of learning, play, laughter, and connection.

CONTACT: Amanda McGurk
0226912908
eg.ruakituri@tairawhitireap.org.nz

Expect fun, exciting, and engaging activities for the little ones and a great chance for the adults to catch up over a coffee. Let's build our community together!

See you there!!!

Ruakituri School Term Dates

Term 1 28th Jan – 2nd April Public Holidays Waitangi Day Fri 6th February	Term 3 20th July – 25th Sept Public Holidays – None
Term 2 20th April – 3rd July Public Holidays ANZAC Day 25 th April Observed Mon 27th King's Birthday Mon 1st June	Term 4 12th Oct – Date in Dec TBC Public Holidays Hawke's Bay Anniversary Fri 23rd October Labour Day Mon 28th October

Please Contact Our School Team
For All Student Absences

Grand Opening Te Reinga Bridge

Thursday 2nd
April



This Thursday marks a significant day of progress for our community since Cyclone Gabrielle, and we would love to make this a shared school experience.

You're warmly invited to join Di and me with our school group at Te Reinga for the official opening. If preferred, Di and I can transport students to Te Reinga and return them to school afterwards. We'll be leaving school at 9.10 a.m., and we ask that all students wear their school uniform for the occasion.

School will continue as normal following the ceremony, although the exact return time is still to be confirmed. With prior arrangement, children are welcome to spend the remainder of the day with their whānau if that better suits your travel plans.

02
APR

Te Reinga Marae
Ruakituri Road

TE REINGA BRIDGE
GRAND OPENING

PROGRAMME

9:30AM - 10:00AM

GUESTS ARRIVE AT TE REINGA MARAE
Guests will be briefed on pohiri process

10:00AM - 10:15AM

POHIRI ONTO MARAE
Karanga, Seating in whareniui or designated area, Whaikorero (Tangata Whenua & Manuhiri)

10:15AM - 10:30AM

OFFICIAL SPEECHES
Dignitaries and key speakers will deliver speeches at the marae

10:30AM - 10:40AM

TRANSITION TO BRIDGE
Everyone makes short walk to the bridge

10:40AM - 11:00AM

BRIDGE CEREMONY
Cutting of the ribbon (photo opportunity) followed by a walk-over karakia ceremony conducted by Richard Niania

11:00AM

RETURN TO MARAE
Kaikarakia invites guests back to marae

11:15AM

KAI & REFRESHMENTS
Informal whakawhanaungatanga

END OF EVENT

