

# ROXBURGH AREA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



TERM 3, August 7th 2025, Week 4

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Several key things are happening in the education world this week. Earlier this week Minister Erica Stratford announced significant changes to the national qualifications our senior students undertake. This is the biggest shift in qualifications since NCEA was introduced in 2002. At the moment we only have an outline of what this will look like. There is a lot of detail to come before we can determine if these changes will benefit the young people of the Teviot Valley.

Having said that, there are elements of what we know already that look promising. The Ministry is asking for feedback and as a staff we will take some time to consider the proposed changes and make a submission. Parents and the wider community are also invited to make submissions.

A key point to remember is that these changes are not all happening immediately. The

current Year 9 students will continue through the school under the existing framework.

It is students in Year 8 that will be impacted first. We understand all subject areas will have new curriculums in place by next year heading towards the new framework in 2028. This in itself is a huge undertaking for teachers. The staff at Roxburgh Area School are a team of professionals and will adapt to ensure the students get the best possible deal. In fact this is already happening

in Years 1-8 with new Math and English curriculums already in place. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Primary staff as they have adapted to these new curriculum areas this year as well as the newly mandated structured literacy initiatives. Needless to say there is a lot going on and these significant changes look likely to continue for the next 5 years at least.

Once we have the chance to learn more of the details we will share this with you. Below is a link to a Ministry site with more detail and the opportunity to give feedback as parents. As a school please do feel free to contact me to discuss any issues you may have with these proposed changes.



The Junior School enjoyed a visit from the author of the Wonky Donkey, Craig Smith.

<https://www.education.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-proposal-replace-ncea/details>

addition to these changes, nominations for the current board elections have closed. For the first time in quite a while we have a vote happening. It is great to see so many people keen to be involved in the governance of the school. I would encourage as many of you as possible to get out there and vote. It is an exciting time and I look forward to working with a new board. In the meantime, the existing board continues to work and support the school and I thank them for their mahi. Whilst there is a lot happening we continue our focus on the students and ensuring we offer the best education possible.

Nga mihi nui

**REMINDER: The Junior school only will be closed next Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August for a teacher only day. The Senior school will run as normal.**

**There have been some cases of head lice in the school.  
Can parents please check your child's hair.**

### **HEAD STUDENT REPORT**

Hey everyone, we hope everyone has had an enjoyable past week.

We have a few upcoming events worth mentioning. The chess tournament is coming up soon, and we know many students are looking forward to taking part. It's a great opportunity to put your skills to the test, and we're sure it'll be an enjoyable competition for everyone involved.

There's also a curling competition for a small group of Year 7 and 8 students. We'd like to wish you all the best—represent the school well, and we're confident you'll do Roxburgh proud. Next week is Math Week. Each day there will be a new math question for students to solve, with the chance to win a small prize. We encourage everyone to give it a go—it's a simple way to get involved and challenge yourself a little.

The Year 5 and 6 classes have been continuing their learning about rockets, exploring how they move in space and how they function. In maths, they've been focusing on column addition, and in literacy, they've been working with PHOM to help strengthen their reading and writing skills. The Year 7 and 8 class have been using protractors to draw and measure angles in geometry. In English, they've been learning how to write thriller stories, developing their narrative skills. As part of their science work, students have been working in groups to design and carry out experiments related to natural disasters. During P.E., all junior students have also been participating in Māori games using poi.



A Wonky Donkey story.

The Year 11 students have been busy preparing for their upcoming science exam, which focuses on photosynthesis and canopy management. In food technology, they've been completing practice assessments, and in English, they've been writing essays on the film Boy. They're also fundraising for their upcoming trip to Queenstown. It's great to see students across all year levels engaging with such a wide range of subjects and activities. Everyone is working hard, and we look forward to seeing the results of their efforts in the coming weeks.

## **SPORT'S REPORT**

### **Netball**

RAS A faced off against Dunstan 9A in what began as a tightly contested match. There was some excellent shooting and strong gameplay across the court. However, the team let it slip in the second half, with too much wasted ball and missed opportunities to capitalise on turnovers.

They will have a chance to redeem themselves this weekend, as they come up against Dunstan 9A again in the B1 grade semi-final. The team is determined to use last week's game as motivation to come back stronger.

RAS B is heading to Cromwell after school today, to play last week's game against Cromwell College Intermediate Gold. Good luck to you today.

### **Clay bird Shooting**

On Thursday 21st August, our students will be competing in the Inter-School Clay Bird Shooting Competition held in Balclutha.

The team's first practice session is scheduled for tomorrow (Friday) at 4pm with Raymond Gunn.

Trey Whitu, Shane Warren, and Cooper Warren are all excited to get back out there and are looking forward to representing RAS.

### **Year 13 P.E trip Raffle**

Our Year 13 students are heading away soon for their P.E. trip to Ōhau!

To support their journey, they'll be selling an exciting ski raffle – so keep an eye out and get behind them by purchasing a ticket. Your support is greatly appreciated!

### **Netball Draw - Saturday 9 August 2025**

<b>Team</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Opposition</b>	<b>Court</b>
RAS A	11.05	V DHS 9A	CR
RAS B	10.00 OR 11.05 Depending on results of game Thurs night	V DHS Ruby  V DHS 9 Gold	Ct: CR  Ct: 4
Teviot Stars/A	12.10	V Cromwell 8A	Ct: MD
Teviot B	11.05	V TTS Panthers	Ct: 8

### **Umpires:**

**10.00** - Marissa May-Crawford Ct: 7 Ruby Smith Ct: 7 Kahtaralise Keil Ct: PB

**11.05** - Te Ohorere Keil Ct: MD

**12.10** - Cam Patrick Ct: 8 Issy McNeish Ct: 8



Some looks of concentration in the Library for the annual Chess tournament.

**DISNEY THEME!**

# JUNIOR DISCO!

**22<sup>nd</sup> August Friday**  
YEARS 1-4 4:00PM-6:00PM  
YEARS 5-8 6:30PM-8:30PM

**\$2 ENTRY  
CANTEEN!**

The poster features a central globe with 'DISNEY THEME!' written across it, surrounded by white stars on a purple background. At the bottom, there are illustrations of various Disney princesses and Mickey Mouse.

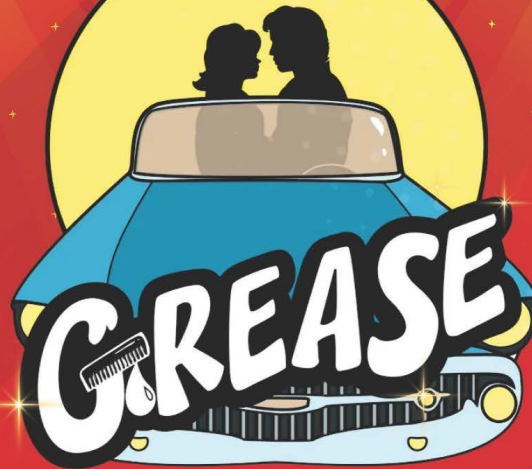
**SNACKS**

- FIZZY DRINKS 2\$**
- BAG OF CHIPS 1\$**
- LOLLY MIX 2\$**

The menu is set against a white background with illustrations of Disney characters: Cinderella, a piggy bank, Rapunzel, Moana, and a group of princesses at the bottom.

# DUNSTAN HIGH SCHOOL

PRESENTS



Tickets available from iTICKET.co.nz or 0508 iTICKET

Adults \$25

Child \$20

Group discount available

ALEXANDRA MEMORIAL THEATRE 7:30 PM

DOORS OPEN 7 PM

20<sup>TH</sup>, 21<sup>ST</sup>, 22<sup>ND</sup>, AUGUST

Book, Music and Lyrics by  
JIM JACOBS and WARREN CASEY  
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