

the RISING FOUNDATION NEWS TERM TWO 2018

INSIDE

- 1 Chairman's Report
Confident Kelcie
- 2 Term Two Excursions
- 3 Mighty Middlemore
- 4 MIT Visit
- 5 NZ Fashion Tech
NZ School of Tourism
- 6 Giltrap Group Visit
- 7 UoA and NZ Police Visits
- 8 NZ Armed Forces
- 9 Community Action
- 10 Amazing Race & Bungy
- 11 Sports Day
- 12 The Parting Shot - Tiare
Many Thanks

Hi everyone

The Rising Foundation continues to flourish. Whilst we continue to work hard on fundraising, it is extremely important for our funders that we are able to show them the success that our students achieve each year on a number of measures. These measures are fully tested and audited by our external auditors RSM Hayes Audit.



1,428 students have been through our Programme since its inception nine years ago. Students who join TRF stay in school, attend consistently and regularly attain better academic results than the general school population. Actual audited measures of our success for the 2017 calendar year are as follows; TRF students across our five secondary schools achieved an 82% **pass rate in NCEA** for all students and a massive 95% pass rate for core students (excluding referrals), versus school average across all schools of 66%.

Attendance levels across all schools showed an overall improvement versus whole of school from between 1% and 26%. **Leadership roles** from amongst our students saw 2 become Head Prefects, 1 Deputy Head Prefect, 6 Prefects, 6 Cultural Group Leaders, 4 House Leaders, 2 Sports Captains and 1 Student Representative on the School Board of Trustees.

2017 saw 17 students graduate from Year 13. Of these students 2 are at University, 3 are at other Tertiary Institutes, 8 are in Full-time employment, 3 are in Part-time employment and 1 is in full-time training. I note that we have 45 graduates this year.

Attitudinal survey results show that;

89% of our students have gained **CONFIDENCE** because of being part of TRF

88% of our students have gained **LEADERSHIP SKILLS** because of being part of TRF

93% of our students have gained **SELF RESPECT** because of being part of TRF

93% of our students have gained **DETERMINATION** because of being part of TRF

89% of our students have gained **PURPOSE** because of being part of TRF

Congratulations to a wonderful group of young people!! You are inspirations to us all.

Regards *John*

John Bongard, Board Chairman, The Rising Foundation

Confident Kelcie

Bula, Ekamawir Omo, Hello I'm Kelcie.

I am a JB Graduate of the 2016 cohort from Pukekohe high school. I joined The Rising Foundation when I was 14 years old, this year will mark my sixth year as part of TRF.

When I reflect back on my journey throughout The Rising Foundation, all I have are positive memories, the constant laughter, the new knowledge and a lifetime of friends and family.



Unlocking Your Potential

Within my experience of TRF, something which has been engraved into my brain since I started this journey are the Four Pillars. Originally named Mensa, Collaboration, Accurate representation and Creativity.

To the current students you know them as Insight, Synergy, Integrity and (still) Creativity. Though we now use different words they still hold the same meaning. These pillars have made me learn so much more in life. They helped me push beyond the superficial barriers that limit people, they are principles that I still use to accomplish my everyday tasks.

Insight encourages me to think about things from all the angles and not be satisfied with just one explanation or point of view. Synergy helps me to see my identity clearly but also realise how important the others around me are in achieving our shared goals. Integrity reminds me to live up to my principles and keep putting the things I have learned into practice each day.

Creativity lets me use my gifts and talents and pushes me to find new ways to inspire and influence others and to keep the values of TRF spreading out into our society.

I am currently in my second year studying at the Manukau Institute of Technology, working towards my Bachelor's Degree in Nursing - Pacific. I chose this pathway for two reasons, 1) from a personal perspective I was able to witness the love, dedication, and care of specific nurses towards my friends and family and 2) this degree will allow me to learn and experience/witness new cultures. With my degree I hope to become a NICU nurse and to one day travel around the world and help those who are in need of care.

I am so grateful for the experience I have had with The Rising Foundation. The skills and knowledge in which I have gained have contributed so much to the woman I am today.

Kelcie

Term Two Excursions

Each year we try to make the most of the Term Two holidays. to open our students eyes to the opportunities that are out in the world waiting for them to explore. Our theme this term has been '**PURPOSE**' and we have encouraged our students to think about what it takes to live a significant life.

They have been thinking about their future, what they want to do and who they want to be. They have looked at what they love and are passionate about, they have looked at what they are good at, their skills and talents. They have looked at what they can get paid for and they have looked at what the world needs. These are the four main ingredients of purpose and it has been pleasing to see our students gaining a more complete and practical vision for their future.

Over the last two years we have held our popular Careers EXPO at the Vodafone Events Centre in Manukau. But this year we decided to take the students out to our employers and tertiary education providers, instead of having them come to us, and the results have been brilliant!

We also took the opportunity offered by our friends at the Manukau Beautification Charitable Trust to contribute to our community and get some of our students doing a bit of hard work for the 'common good'. Of course it wouldn't be TRF if we didn't accompany all this learning and labour with some serious fun and challenging adventure!

In this episode of the *The Rising Foundation News* we want to share our Term Two experiences with you.



Mighty Middlemore!

Employing over 8000 staff in 81 professions, Counties Manukua District Health Board has a huge influence on the health of our area.

Many of our students have aspirations to work in the caring professions and our first Workplace Visit was to Middlemore Hospital.

We were hosted on the tour by 'Pacific Workforce Collaboration' who are tasked with recruiting Maori and Pasifika workers to the DHB.

The PWC team went 'all out' in their preparations and had arranged interesting and informative tours of many of the hospital's departments.

Our students were split into groups and visited the Operating Theatres, Radiology, Clinical Engineering, the Testing Lab, Data Analysis and Cancer Support departments.

Each department took the students behind the scenes and gave them opportunities to ask questions and get a really clear idea of what it would be like to work in their areas.

It was especially valuable for the students to speak to hospital workers from the same ethnic backgrounds, who have gone on to good careers with the DHB.

The senior Theatre Nurse that spoke to us joined CMDHB with her sister a number of years ago, at that time she was one of only three Pasifika women on the staff there.

Our students were encouraged to consider joining CMDHB so that more future workers can come from ethnic backgrounds that match the majority of the patients in South Auckland.

Our students know the reality of families managing on lower earnings and the impacts that has on housing, diet and health in general.

They all have family members who frequently need to use the local hospital system. This was a powerful, heartfelt call to be part of their solution.

This was a great day and we are really grateful to CMDHB and the Pacific Workforce team for their excellent hospitality.



We were very impressed by the facilities and really enjoyed meeting our hosts in the very modern looking Ko Awatea Block.

MANUKAU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



We had a great day touring the beautiful new Manukau Campus of MIT which houses the faculties of Digital Technology, Business, Health Studies and Nursing.

Aspiring nurses among our large group were particularly interested in the fully functional hospital wards for hands on practise. They even provide full body CPR/trauma manikins.

We were impressed by the scale and quality of the facilities. We are very grateful to our excellent guest presenters, who really gave the students a clear picture of the range of excellent opportunities afforded by completing courses at MIT.



We work hard behind the scenes to raise the running costs of our excellent programme. Will you partner with us?

Download the app
and find us on ...



The better way to give

4

Unlocking Your Potential



A number of our students are interested in designing and making clothes and we were grateful when NZ Fashion Tech opened their doors. Though small, the South Auckland campus is very well equipped to industry standard with dedicated and professional staff. Rather than being trained by academic staff, students are taught by industry professionals in body measurement, fitting, pattern making, fabric technology and garment construction.

Our students were impressed to learn that all graduates have found great jobs in prestigious fashion houses.

It was also good to hear about the variety of career options that diplomas from NZ Fashion Tech can lead to, both in New Zealand and overseas.

Many thanks to the NZFT Staff for taking the time to speak to us and inspire our students to aim high.



NEW ZEALAND SCHOOL OF TOURISM

A group of our students are keen on getting into the travel industry and we took them out to the New Zealand School of Tourism. They have a great new campus and we were amazed to see a full size airline fuselage mounted in their foyer! Its for emergency training purposes but it makes a great decorative feature too!

Our Tour Guide Ursula (Frank to her friends) was really enthusiastic and funny and showed us the classrooms and simulated airline cabin spaces where the hands on training happens for flight attendants. We learned that students go on to careers on cruise liners and in exotic holiday resorts and that there are many and varied options in the travel industry as a whole.

One piece of information that really caught our students imagination, is that each year some students from the school attend a six month internship with Disney World in Orlando, Florida that often leads to full time work. Great School, great options.



For many of our students the day with Giltrap Group was their favourite time of the week. We started off with a grand tour of Giltrap Motor Group. Shaun, our tour guide, showed us behind the scenes of the massive three-storey complex housing Volkswagen and Porsche Service, car grooming and showrooms with all the latest models for the students to admire. Then we had a lovely morning tea in the GMG offices with Derek, their Executive Director.

We were already 'blown away' by the quality of the vehicles and facilities. We then walked across the road and met Marie at 119 GNR for a tour of the new home of Aston Martin, Bentley and Lamborghini! Wow! This was like visiting another planet for our students and sitting in cars worth hundreds of thousands of dollars was a real privilege and delight. You can bet their social media pages will be alight with cool car photos!

Finally we headed out towards the Airport to visit the EMD Parts Distribution Centre. This is where all VW, Audi, Skoda and Porsche parts arrive from Europe and are sent out to dealerships all around New Zealand.

Our tour guide Tua was excellent and really engaged with our students. We walked through the massive warehouse filled with racks of every conceivable car part, with orders being selected using an array of lifts and hoists. Tua told us a bit of his story, he had a rough start in life, like many of our students but the Giltrap Group had seen his potential and took a punt and hired him. He hasn't looked back since.

This was just what the students needed to hear. That they can be employed on the strength of their character and don't have to feel any less employable than workers from different ethnicities, neighbourhoods or backgrounds.

Our van loads of students were buzzing as we drove home from our experience and we got back to find a lovely e-mail from Marie congratulating us on the attitude and behaviour of the students. What could be better?

Thank you Giltrap Group!





THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tamaki Makaurau
NEW ZEALAND

Some of the best careers in New Zealand begin with studies at the University of Auckland. We had an excellent afternoon visiting all the Central Auckland Faculties. Rather than take the official tour we had the pleasure of being guided by Aso and Wendy who have both studied at UoA and did a brilliant job of explaining how each faculty led to work.

Having our own people guiding us helped the students feel much more comfortable to ask lots of questions and really get the most from the experience.

We visited the Faculties of Law, Arts, Music, Sports, Science, Engineering and Business and also went to the main library and student centre.

The UoA City campus is massive and the buildings are beautiful and impressive. Many of the students felt a bit awestruck and thought it would be so cool to study in these amazing places.

Thanks to Aso and Wendy for a brilliant tour and some serious exercise walking between sites, up alleys and through underpasses!

"This gave us an experience of what to expect when we go to uni."
Y12 Student



NEW ZEALAND
POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

We have always had a excellent relationship with the NZ Police and it was a great privilege for our students to visit some of the more exciting units around Auckland.

After Constable Cory Lowe showed us around the Manukau Police Station we went on to the Ellerslie Dog Unit (Continued on Page 8)



The students loved listening to Sgt Pederson and meeting the dogs and their handlers and watching a demonstration of 'track and attack' techniques that the dogs are taught.

Then it was on to the exclusive Eagle Helicopter Unit where Sgt Callum Young showed some amazing video of high speed aerial pursuits, night vision and heat vision surveillance that led to the successful apprehension of criminals.

The students were very clear that they prefer to stay on the right side of the law! The Helicopter task force is an exciting and highly specialised team and the 12 positions available are very sought after.

Our final visit in a very well organised day was to the Mechanics Bay Maritime Police unit where the students met Sgt Gary Larsen and had a tour of the boats that patrol and protect the Auckland Harbour and wider coastal areas.

Our thanks go to all involved for another inspiring and informative day that will really help our students with their future career decisions.



It was a thrill to see one of the helicopter crews scramble and take off during the presentation and having a presenter from South Auckland really made the Maritime Police visit extra special.



Sincere thanks to Staff Sergeant Emma Geange for her excellent and relatable presentation on behalf of the NZDF.

Realising that over 100 different professions are represented in the Defence Force and plus the excellent pay and benefits package, gave our interested students even more incentive to consider a career serving their country both here and around the world.



COMMUNITY ACTION

This is one of our favourite times of the year and the students love getting stuck in and working hard for our local communities. This year we got to give a facelift to the grandstand of the Manurewa Football Club in the Memorial Park and repaint some of their fences too.

The pictures speak for themselves but a BIG thank you to Barbara Carney and the Manukau Beautification Charitable Trust for providing a great lunch and all the materials and equipment to do the work. Also to the team from Aspire 2 Trades, for their wisdom and guidance. Our students learned that skill and technique need to be added to enthusiasm to get a job like this done properly.



Auckland Adventures



This was a day of constant motion. We were split into nine teams and through the day we were racing from task to task, challenge to challenge from the harbour bridge, Silo Park, the Waterfront or up Queen Street to Aotea Square. This all dovetailed into a strict but friendly schedule, set by the wonderful team at AJ Hackett Bungy.

One of the biggest barriers that prevents us from becoming our best selves and pursuing our goals and dreams in life, is fear. Fear was designed to report threats to us, but so often we allow fear to control us and limit our capacity to succeed.

When you stand on the edge of a platform with your feet tied to a length of elastic and a 40 meter drop to the water of the Auckland Harbour below, you feel fear, real honest fear for your life. Its not a memory of fear or an imagined fear, its the real thing. And when you can summon your courage, and will and overcome your urge to run, when you jump, something inside changes. Your world expands, you become a stronger, more capable person in your own eyes. The relief you feel when the bungee holds and you are winched back up to the 'jump pod', with your friends all cheering you, just reinforces the elation.

The next time our students are afraid, of a test, a bully, an interview, even a spider, this experience will help them realise that they are up to the challenge and have what it takes to overcome. That's why TRF does extreme adventures, and it works.

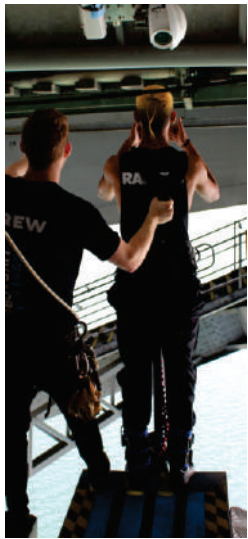


The long walk out and up under the bridge was a challenge in itself. When you first see the little jump pod tucked up under the central arch of the Harbour Bridge you start to realise what you are in for! Feel the fear and jump anyway! Sometimes that's what life requires of you. Some of our Year 9's were an example of bravery to their older team mates.



Student Quotes

"Day trips were challenging because I did some things that I probably would have never done on my own." -Y9
 "My favourite thing was the Police visit. It helped me gain more information about the police. The other thing is the bungee jump, it helped me be more confident and not scared of things like heights." -Y12
 "I can overcome any obstacle if I try." Y11



As a bonus, every jumper went home with a certificate, a T-Shirt, photos, some great memories and a sense of invincibility. Thank you A J Hackett for proving what we already knew: They can do anything if they are willing to give it a try.

Sports and Family Day

To Round off our school holiday activities all the schools got together for a day of fun, food and serious competition at Sir Edmund Hillary Collegiate in Otara. It was great to see some of our parents pop in through the day and it was great to see the wonderful inter-school camaraderie and good natured ribbing that make our sports days.



There is strength in numbers and these gatherings remind us that we have the numbers to have a huge influence in our communities. We encourage all of our students to stand out from the crowd and stand up for the values we all hold dear.



THE PARTING SHOT



Tiare at her Graduation with Diane Bongard and Sarah Fay

In 2015, Eli Tulafono, co-founder of The Rising Foundation gave me the opportunity to become a programme coordinator. At the time, I was a full-time student at AUT and was attending TRF camps as a JB Graduate.

I always loved working with the students, so becoming part of the team was a natural choice. With the generosity of TRF Trustee Sarah Fay, I was able to study at Te Wananga O Aotearoa (TWOA) and gain my Bachelor of Social Work - Biculturalism in Practice.

Learning the bi-cultural world view equipped me to engage with our students' diverse communities. The uniqueness of the programme allowed me to become confident in my own cultural body of knowledge and Identity. I learnt of social injustices that have stigmatised our Pasifika and Maori people. The work we do with our students is actively breaking these stigmas by promoting Mauri Ora.

This journey has ignited my desire to explore my Cook Island heritage and gain a relationship with my dad. This strengthened my stance as a Cook Island Maori social worker. My studies have definitely impacted me on a personal and professional level. I am forever grateful to Sarah Fay for sponsoring me and to TRF for believing in me and seeing what I was capable of before I did.

A Community of Friends of TRF

The Rising Foundation would like to acknowledge all Sponsors, Philanthropic Trusts, Corporate Businesses, Individuals, Local Businesses, School Trustees, Principals, School Staff, Families and our Community Trusts who sponsor students or have helped us to expand our programme. So far we have seen over 1300 students and their families and friends benefit from our work across the wider Auckland area. Without your generous support and collaboration we couldn't do the work we do.

Thank you for choosing to support The Rising Foundation; we all truly appreciate it.

MAJOR SPONSORS



Unlocking Your Potential