



Westbrook School

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Newsletter

Week 9 Term 4 3 December 2025



Colin's Kōrero

Ahurei: Our senior Kapa Haka roopu performed on Thursday night, last week, at the Sir Howard Morrison Convention Centre, as part of this year's Ahurei. Their performance was one of the best we have had the privilege to watch. I particularly appreciate that they dedicated the performance to me.

Rachel Weinberg's Whakatau: We had a wonderful welcome for our new Principal, Rachel Weinberg, on Monday of this week. The hall was packed with Westbrook tamariki, staff, whānau, past staff members, as well as the whole of Ngakuru school, their staff and members of their community. Many thanks to Brian Mohi, our Kaumatua, for overseeing the proceedings. I am confident that Rachel felt the warmth of our Westbrook welcome.

Property Upgrades over the holidays: Our existing turf is being replaced. The turf will be uplifted and removed, beginning on December 15. After Christmas, the new turf will be laid. We are also getting 6 new Shade Sails erected around the school over the summer break. Likewise, some of the drains in the Junior area of the school will be replaced. If you intend to come into the school for recreational purposes over this time, please be aware of the health and safety issues associated with the projects.

Principal's Farewell: There was an official farewell for me on Tuesday of this week, as the outgoing Principal. I very much appreciate the number of parents, whānau, ex-staff and past parents who attended this occasion. I am humbled and very moved by the words of appreciation I received, and the beautiful taonga I was presented with.

Certificates Assembly: The first of our End-Of-Year official Assemblies kicks off this Friday. Children who have served the school in one or more of the many service areas this year will be honoured. These include, Road Patrollers, Students Councillors, Compost Monitors, Breakfast Club helpers, Sound Technicians, Dynamos, House Captains, Librarians, members of the Tuakana Team, or in Kapa Haka.

Sewing Club

Here is a montage of photos from this term's Sewing Club.

Well done, guys!



2025 Calendar of Events

Term 4



Wed 3rd December	CBOP Athletics (cancelled)
Wed 3rd December	Last day for fill the bus donations
Thurs 4th December	Y4 Fun Day
Thurs 4th December	Y2 Blue Lake Trip
Fri 5th December	Certificates Assemblies (10-10.55 and 11.30-1.00)
Mon 8th December	Principal's Awards Prizegiving - Junior 9.45am & Senior 11.30
Tues 9th December	Year 6 Fun Day
Wed 10th December	Year 5 Fun Day
Wed 10th December	Year 6 Graduation - 5.45pm to 8.00pm
Thurs 11th December	Westbrook Way Day
Fri 12th December	Last school day for 2025 - 12 noon Finish

We are collecting 'Fill the bus' donations until 3pm today

Term 1 - 2026

Mon 2nd February	First school day for 2026
Fri 6th February	Waitangi Day - School Closed
Mon 11th May	Teacher Only Day - Maths PD Day 3 (Term 2)
Mon 10th August	Teacher Only Day - Maths PD Day 4 (Term 3)

School Reading Book Amnesty



Please have a check at home for any Westbrook Reading and Library Books - there are still a number out. We would really appreciate them being returned. All books can be placed in the green box in the office anonymously. Thank you for your support with this.

Break In Today at Westbrook

We had a sad start to the day with the break in of our shed this morning. We lost sausages, meat patties, sausage rolls, 100 ice blocks and a heap of fudge (made by one of our wonderful parents). If you hear anything, please let us know.

HOWEVER, we have been **blown away** by the sheer number of community members offering to donate/bake/replace or just give cash to help us make sure the kids don't miss out.

And they won't! We ourselves will cover what has been taken. The Team Fun Days, and our Westbrook Way Day, will still go ahead.

Again, thank you so much for your kind support.

Our community is generous and we thank you.

Term 4 Touch Congratulations

Last night was the finals.

Westbrook Pomare Girls & Freezing Hot Boys

Touch Teams both won their competitions.

Both games were really close.

The girls had to go to extra time and managed to come away with the win.

Fantastic work to the players, coaches and families who have supported our senior teams on Tuesday afternoons.

The Westbrook Way was shown by all our players



Farewell to 2025!

Early Finish on December 12th

Please make a note of the final day of school for 2025:

- **Last Day:** Friday, December 12th.
- **Early Finish:** We will be wrapping up the year a little earlier that day at 12:00 pm. (*This gives our hard-working teachers a chance to enjoy a well-deserved Christmas lunch!*)
- **Pick-up Time:** We kindly ask that all students are collected by 12:15 pm, as we will have no staff on site after 12:30 pm.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with these plans!

Getting Ready for 2026: Stationery!

\$30.00 per child

this has been added to your KINDO

We're making a few exciting changes to stationery for the 2026 school year to ensure every student gets off to the best possible start!

- **Ready on Day One:** All student stationery will now be issued directly to classroom teachers before the school year begins. This means all learners will have their books and resources ready to go from the very first bell!
- **Easier on the Pocket:** By doing this, we're also able to bring our stationery pricing down even further.
- **Simple Payment Options:** You can pay for stationery starting from 1st December via KINDO or with cash/Eftpos at the school office. You can choose to pay up front or set up a handy Automatic Payment on KINDO to spread the cost throughout the first term.

A Quick Note on Book Bags: Because so many of our wonderful students already have book bags from previous years, we are trying something new! If your child in Year 2 and up needs a new book bag, you can purchase it separately on KINDO.

Need a Sunhat or Headphones? You can easily purchase Sunhats and Headphones on KINDO, too! We'll make sure they are delivered straight to your child in their classroom.

New Staff 2026



Kia ora, my name is Hayley Mannington. I am returning to Westbrook School after living and teaching in Tasman, Nelson for the last two years. I was previously in the Year Six Team at Westbrook from 2016-2023, and the Acting Team Leader in 2023. I am looking forward to returning to the kura that I was educated in as a young girl, and my hometown of Rotorua. You will find me in the Year Five Team.

Kia ora tatou, I'm excited to be joining the fabulous Westbrook Year 5 Team in 2026.

Originally from New Plymouth, Rotorua has been home for the past 17 years. My husband, JP, and I have two children, James and Lucy, both in their early years of tertiary study.

Being active outdoors is my happy place - we are so lucky having the forest on our doorstep. Previously, I've enjoyed being part of my children's school's PTA's - it's a great way to understand how school works, get to know other families and teachers, and a practical way of supporting the community and our tamariki. I believe school should be an inclusive, fun and welcoming space where tamariki and whanau feel comfortable to learn, connect and play together. Looking forward to sharing our learning journey in 2026.

Ngā mihi nui Lizzy Gaston, aka Mrs G



Kia ora, I am Whaea Libbee and I am really looking forward to starting at Westbrook Primary School. I have three children, all of whom have attended Westbrook, so the school holds a very special place in our family.

Before coming to Westbrook, I taught Year 1 at Western Heights Primary School. My family and I have lived in Rotorua for the past six years, and we love being so close to the outdoors. You will often find us mountain biking, swimming, or walking around our beautiful city.

This year, I am especially excited to be teaching structured literacy and writing, as these are real passions of mine. I also love art and creative outlets and can't wait to see the wonderful ideas our tamariki bring to life.

I am excited to be joining the Year 2 team in 2026!

Fill the Bus



The team at **The Hits Rotorua** are once again running the successful **FILL THE BUS** campaign to support the **Rotorua Salvation Army Christmas Foodbank Appeal**.



We are collecting **cans and non-perishable food items** at Westbrook School over the next few weeks.



If you can spare any of the above items, please send them to the office by **3pm on Wed 3rd December** so the Student Council can have the items ready for collection on Thursday.

Thank you for helping us to help others this Christmas!

We are collecting 'Fill the bus' donations until 3pm today



LOST PROPERTY IT MUST BELONG TO SOMEONE!

All items will be on display outside the library on fine days until Friday 5th December

Please come and check if any of it belongs to your child.
All items left on Monday 8th December will be washed & donated to charity.

PLEASE name your child's clothing.
Named items will be returned to students.





A FUN PROGRAMME
THAT KIDS LOVE!

Friday 12 December **HALF DAY PROGRAMME**

**OSCAR
PROGRAMME
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

*Conditions apply

WESTBROOK SCHOOL

Let's celebrate the last day of school for 2025 with an afternoon full of icy fun! School finishes early, so come join us for games like freeze tag, creative crafts, and delicious icy treats. It's the perfect way to kick off the holidays with friends—book online and join the fun!

Before School Care 1: \$14.50 **Before School Care 2:** \$10
7:00am – 8:15am 7:30am – 8:15am

School Day: \$24 **4pm Pick Up:** \$38 **5pm Pick Up:** \$44 **6pm Pick Up:** \$48
12:00pm – 3:00pm 12:00pm – 4:00pm 12:00pm – 5:00pm 12:00pm – 6:00pm

Contact: Kirsty McCallum
Phone: 021 079 7737

Email: westbrook@kellyclub.co.nz
Facebook: @KellyClubWestbrook

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz

KELLY CLUB WESTBROOK UPDATE

What's been happening...

Tidy Kiwi Week

This week we celebrate **Tidy Kiwi Week**, focusing on teamwork and taking care of our spaces. Children took part in fun clean-up games, kiwi collages and activities that encouraged responsibility and pride in their environment.

The highlight of the week however came on **Monday**, when **Jingles the Elf** made his first appearance of the season! The children were thrilled to see him on Monday and enjoyed some games with him the last week days, adding a bit of festive magic to our tidy efforts.

We're proud of everyone's positive attitude and the great teamwork shown throughout the week!

What's happening next week!

		THEME: Kiwi Christmas! Term 4 Week 10, 8th December 2025				Weekly Activities Plan Kelly Club Westbrook
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
7:00 - 8:15 am	Christmas Cards & Structured Free Time	Fort Building & Structured Free Time	Cup Towers & Structured Free Time	Kid's Choice & Structured Free Time	Lego Creations & Structured Free Time	
8:15 - 8:30 am	Game: Simon Says	Game: Christmas Tree Relay	Game: Rob the Nod	Game: Staff Choice	Game: Wacky Relay	
9:00 - 10:00 am	Sign In & Structured Free Time	Sign In & Structured Free Time	Sign In & Structured Free Time	Sign In & Structured Free Time	Sign In & Structured Free Time	
10:00 - 10:30 am	Intro & Afternoon Tea Yogurt & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Crisp Chips and Salsa & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Cookies & Fruit	
10:30 - 11:45 am	Game: Blindfolded Bagpuss	Game: Elf on One Side	Game: Nightlight	Game: 8 Corner Dodgeball	Game: Turkey Tag	
	SPORT Bat Down Cricket	COOKING Christmas Pavlova	CRAFT Kiwi Christmas Ornaments	GAME Hit the Sleigh	DISCOVERY Christmas Smell Game	
11:45 - 12:30 pm						
12:30 - 1:00 pm	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	
1:00 - 1:30 pm	Snack Time Popcorn	Snack Time Baking	Snack Time Biscuits	Snack Time Crackers	Snack Time Vege Chips	
1:30 - 2:15 pm	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	
2:15 - 3:00 pm	Game: Bean Bean Bean & Projects	Game: Catch the Gingham Tail & Projects	Game: Caterpillar Race & Projects	Game: Cloud Hopping & Projects	Game: Coin Relay & Projects	

E: westbrook@kellyclub.co.nz

kellyclub.co.nz/westbrook

P: 021 079 7737



KELLY CLUB

DECEMBER 2025 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

WESTBROOK SCHOOL

**OSCAR
PROGRAMME
SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE!**

*Conditions apply

WEEK 1

Mon 15 December



PAPER, SCISSORS, ROCK

A brand new take on the timeless game of Paper, Scissors, Rock! Test your mind and body using everyday objects.

Tues 16 December



DREAM TEAM CHALLENGES

Join forces with your friends and be the best team you can be! See how many challenges you can solve when you put your heads together.

Wed 17 December



BALL BLAST

We know how to have a blast with these games! There is something for everyone to kick, catch, bounce or throw.

Thurs 18 December



KIWIANA CHRISTMAS

Get ready for a summery Christmas celebration! Have some fun in the sun with a gumboot toss and beach flag races.

Fri 19 December



CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

Santa & his elves are readying the sleigh for the big present drop off! Let's make sure we have everything ready!

WEEK 2

Mon 22 December



3 SLEEPS UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

No Programme Today

Tues 23 December



2 SLEEPS UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

No Programme Today

Wed 24 December



1 SLEEP UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

No Programme Today

Thurs 25 December



CHRISTMAS DAY

Merry Christmas from Kelly Club!
No Programme Today

Fri 26 December



BOXING DAY

Boxing Day!
No Programme Today

Pricing:

FULL WEEK: \$270 **FULL DAY:** \$57 **HALF DAY:** \$39

7:00am – 6:00pm

7:00am – 6:00pm

7:00am – 12:30pm or 12:30pm – 6:00pm

SCHOOL DAY: \$47 **EVENT DAY:** Extra \$20

8:30am – 3:00pm

(Not Included in Full Week)

Contact: Kirsty McCallum

Email: westbrook@kellyclub.co.nz

Phone: 021 079 7737

Facebook: @KellyClubWestbrook

Address: 362 Malfroy Road, Pomare

BOOK NOW AT

kellyclub.co.nz/westbrook

Further information:
www.kellyclub.co.nz/hp#info



Our amazing mural, by Mark Noble!





MEET MARK NOBLE

WESTBROOK SCHOOL'S MURAL MAGICIAN

INTERVIEW BY THE STUDENTS OF ROOM 19

Room 19 students recently got an exclusive interview with local artist, Mark Noble, to learn more about the man behind the paintbrush. They covered everything like how he first got started in the fascinating process of painting on a grand scale. You might be surprised to hear that Mark never intended to be an artist!

Read on to discover what inspires Mark, how his background in Maths influences his art, the biggest mural he's ever tackled, and his simple but powerful advice for all our students.

Are you from Rotorua? If so, what school did you go to and do you have any special connections to our school? Yeah, I'm from Rotorua. I went to Glenholme Primary, then Rotorua Intermediate, then Rotorua Boys High School. My connection to Westbrook is my son Elijah who now comes here, and is in Year One.

Did you always want to be an artist and who or what inspired you? No, I never wanted to be an artist. I used to want to be a skateboarder but when I was 25 - 30 my knees and hips were getting really sore. I liked art, graffiti and other artists' work so I thought maybe I could do art because as long as my hands and eyes work, I should be able to do it for a long time.

Did you do art at school? No, I never did art at school. My parents told me to do Maths and Accounting and Economics because I was good at it.

When did you first start painting and how old were you when you decided to make it your career? I've been painting for 11 years and in the past probably 5 years I started turning it into a part time job. I paint Mondays and Tuesdays and work as a Social Worker for the rest of the week.

Are there other people in your family who are artistic and how have they supported you? My grandma did a little bit of art but other than that I don't have any other artists in my family. My Mum supports me through critique. She's pretty good at giving me strong, not so good feedback. But that helps me do art better because she's normally right.

How would you describe your art style in just three words? Connection. Natural. Human.

What is the biggest mural you've ever painted and what is your absolute favourite one? The biggest mural I've painted, and also my favourite one is the

one by the Mad Butcher along Fenton Street. It has my son Elijah in it. That mural was about 640 square meters and it took me 5 or 6 weeks to paint.

What was the biggest challenge or obstacle you had to overcome to be a successful artist?

Probably the hardest thing is finding work. Often it's through word of mouth, which is how I found out about Westbrook wanting some murals painted. It's also helpful to do some free art so that you can get your name out there. Having a portfolio of work that people can see what you can do, is important.

What is the process for painting a huge mural? My process is to do a design on the computer. Then I take a photo of the wall and scribble all over it with a special number or letter system. Next, on the computer, I transpose the design onto the photo and make the design a little bit see-through. Then I can see my letters and numbers and know which lines to paint where. Once the lines are on the wall, then I start painting.

You said you were good at Maths, do you think that's helped you? I think Maths often follows a process. And that's what art is, following something step by step. So yeah, I think it has helped.

How long does a mural usually take to complete? It depends on the size of the wall, but it could be anywhere from 3 to 10 days.

What are your favourite tools to use and what happens if you make a mistake on a large wall? I use a spray gun most often to paint. The cool thing about painting is if you make a mistake, it's okay, you can just fix it. I just paint over it and keep going.

What is the single best piece of advice you can give a student in our school who might like to pursue a career in art? The best thing is just keep trying. And that's for anything. Just keep trying!



Photo: Mark's first completed mural at Westbrook on the end of Room 2 depicting our school whakataukī.

Save the Date!!

toodamnhippy
CREATIVE

The Enchanted STORYBOOK NOOK

Enchanting Christmas
Extravaganza

SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER
3pm till Late

380 Oturoa Rd, Hamurana
Parking across the road

Market Stalls - Facepainting - Food - Festive Garden Magic
And more...

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



Christmas GROTTO

WHEN: 21ST AND 22ND DEC
WHERE: 320 MALFROY RD



THIS WILL BE THE 4TH YEAR THAT WE HAVE RUN THIS FREE
COMMUNITY EVENT.

LAST YEAR, THE GROTTO HAD 1400 PEOPLE VISIT OVER THE 2 DAYS.



GOAL

FOOTBALL ACADEMY



DECEMBER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME!

for 6-13 Year old Boys and Girls.

Dates:

Monday 15 December
Tuesday 16 December
Wednesday 17 December

Time: 9am - 3pm

Cost: \$45 per player per day

Location: Western Heights Primary School Field, Turf and Gym

Programme: Our days are spent having fun playing and learning about football. We group the children into age and ability groups working on 4 concepts of the game through the morning and then putting it all together with fun game-based tournaments in the afternoons. We also like to sprinkle in some other entertaining events and games to keep your children engaged and smiling!

Register: Online at www.goalfootballacademy.nz/holiday-programme-registration

GOAL

More info and register at: www.goalfootballacademy.nz

Or text/phone Ben on 021 053 8978

YEAR 5/6 HOLIDAY CAMPS

OUR EXCITING NEW YEAR 5/6 CAMP IS HERE! LEARN VOLLEYBALL BASICS,
PLAY FUN GAMES, AND HAVE A BLAST ON THE COURT!

WHO

Students in years 5/6

WHEN

January 20 and 27

TIME

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

WHERE

Hamurana Sports &
recreation centre

COST

\$30 per session



SCAN HERE TO
REGISTER

Questions? Please contact coachben@volleyballbop.co.nz

www.volleyballbop.co.nz

VBOB

SCHOOL LUNCH OPTIONS



Order and pay for lunches online by 8.30am
It's simple all you need to do is register at www.lunchonline.co.nz



**Win a Razor Hovertrax
Stealth!!**

**Every order this week
goes in the draw to win
a Razor Hovertrax Board**

**Buy a lunch this week and be in the
draw to win!**

Terms

Winner will be drawn randomly. Open to all
Lunchonline schools with lunches available between
17th November October to 21st November



Scan to register an account

TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS WHEN USING LUNCHONLINE

- Always remember to press "Submit" once you have completed your order
- "Transactions" will show all your top-ups and purchases
- Remember to check the cut off time for your providers. To view cut-off times and menus – go to "Menus" under "Families" on the Home Page

If your child is unwell or can't attend school, log onto Lunchonline, click on to the order for this day-you will see a cancel button. This must be done before the providers cut off time for ordering (most providers are 9am on the day of delivery, but some vary - check with your school).



SUSHI (Mondays Only)



Supplied by Sushi Bar Haru

Every Monday, sushi is available for lunch and is ordered and paid for on [KINDO](#) or at the school office.

4 pieces of teriyaki chicken or salmon sushi
\$5.00 a pack

Small Chicken Katsu or Teriyaki on Rice
\$5.00

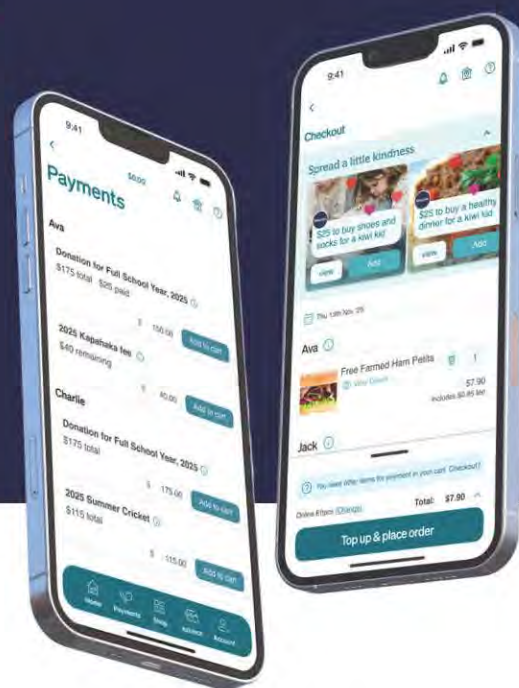
Large Katsu or Teriyaki on Rice
\$7.00

Sushi will be delivered to the classroom with the other lunches.

Making School Payments Simple

One Account. All Your Schools

Whether you're new to Kindo or already using it, managing school payments is easy.



New to Kindo?

- Scan the QR code to create your account
- Enter your details and add your student (s)
- Browse the school shop, purchase and check out.

Already have a Kindo account?

- Log in to your Kindo account
- Navigate to 'My Details'
- Select your student and add membership
- Select new organisation from the dropdown list
- Browse the school menu, add items to your cart, and check out.



Please Note:

Don't complete set up until the new school year starts!



Have questions?

Our friendly team is here for you.

0508 4 KINDO (0508 454 636)

hello@mykindo.co.nz

Parking around the school boundaries

We have some unhappy 'neighbours' around the school boundaries. At times, they are struggling to get INTO their own driveways, particularly around 3pm, as cars are blocking the entrance way. Please remember that cars **MUST NOT be parked within 1 metre either side of a driveway**. We thank you for your respect of others.

Going Home at 3pm

We have a problem at the moment with a number of students returning to school after 3pm, either on bikes, scooters, skateboards etc. The school is a busy place for teachers after school, with meetings going on most days, as well as parent meetings and onsite after school care etc.

We respectfully request that once students go home, that they do not come back until the next day! There is no supervision after school, and we have had some near misses with children on bikes etc.

If your child has a sports practice, they need to go home and come back at the appropriate time.

SEESAW DIGITAL PORTFOLIOS

At Westbrook we use the Seesaw digital portfolio to share your child's learning journey with you. Please take the time to go on to it regularly and view or comment on your child's work. The children love to see their parents taking an interest in what they do at school. Reporting to parents about their child's progress and achievement is also done through Seesaw. If you have not yet joined Seesaw, please do so as soon as possible. Your child's teacher can assist you with this if you need help.



We invite you to visit the SchoolDocs site at <https://westbrook.schooldocs.co.nz>. Our username is "westbrook" and password "pomare". If you wish to review one of our Term 2 review topics, please follow the instructions below.

SchoolDocs Instructions for Reviewers

1. Follow the link to each policy.
2. Read the policy.
3. Click the red Policy Review icon at the right-hand top corner of the page. A new screen will appear.
4. Select your role (board member, staff member, or parent/caregiver) from the drop-down list.
5. Enter your name.
6. Submit your ratings and comments.

If you don't have internet access, the school office staff can easily provide you with printed copies of the policy and the review form.

Term 4 policies

- **Bullying and Harassment**
- **Behaviour Management**
- **Searches, Surrender, and Retention of Property**
- **Minimising Physical Restraint**
- **Stand-down, Suspension, and Exclusion**
- **Staff Wellbeing and Safety**

Westbrook School



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Westbrook School

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Flooring Design

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Better results in Maths and English are just a tap away.





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Excellence in Mechanical Workmanship in Rotorua

TAP HERE



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Anne Samson
School of Ballet



Anne Samson
Life Registered Member
Royal Academy of Dance

SUSHI BAR Haru
everyday fresh to start your day fresh





Adventure City Electrical Ltd



Help fuel our school & fill up at **Challenge Rotorua**

CHALLENGE !



getgas



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