

# Youthworkers in Rawhiti School

## Term 1 & 2 Report 2016



### Matt Barnes

7th year in FT  
Youthwork

*Loves:* Fishing,  
Basketball, Food  
and the Outdoors

027-257-1768



[matt.barnes@yat.org.nz](mailto:matt.barnes@yat.org.nz)

### Kelsi Henderson

Youthwork &  
Law Student

*Loves:* Baking, the  
Outdoors and trying  
new things

027-332-5510



[kelsi.henderson@yat.org.nz](mailto:kelsi.henderson@yat.org.nz)

### James Ridpath

Trust Manager

*Loves:* Football,  
Movies & his kids  
Henry & Thomas

027-637-6465



[james.ridpath@yat.org.nz](mailto:james.ridpath@yat.org.nz)

### Michael Pickering

Trainee Youthworker

*Loves:* Sports, Video  
Games and playing  
his guitar

021-163-3173



[michael.pickering@yat.org.nz](mailto:michael.pickering@yat.org.nz)

## PURPOSE & HISTORY

Youth work is the process of creating an environment where young people can engage in informal educational activities, support a young person's development and help them build healthy connections with family, peers, and their community. It encompasses role modelling, being accessible to young people and being around to help young people make good choices.

Our Youth workers have supported the communities of Central, North and Freeville Primary schools in various ways for many years. They have led a variety of programmes including boys clubs, girls groups, sports coaching, leadership programmes, mentoring, lunchtime support, helping with trips, camps and a general part of school life. We have continued this support in the merged Rawhiti Primary school, and have enjoyed settling into the new school, building relationships, and offering specialist support.



*"The YAT workers are fabulous, they give our students massive support and have a hugely positive effect on our community" Andrew Redmond (Senior Teacher)*

## Programmes and Support

- Mentoring
- Girls & Boys Groups
- Leadership Development
- Classroom Support
- Sports Coaching
- Amplify School of Music
- Camp & Trips
- Art Programmes
- Break Time Support

## MENTORING

Kelsi and Matt have one-on-one mentoring sessions with Year 7 & 8 pupils in school, that the senior teachers have referred for special attention. Sometimes it's done through an activity such as baking, or just sitting and chatting. It's a chance to encourage the positive things in them and work through tough situations that they may be going through.



## AMPLIFY MUSIC SCHOOL

Youth Alive Trust offers music lessons in the community, and in February 2016, started offering music lessons at Rawhiti School two days per week. Josiah & Grace now teach guitar, drums and piano to 37 pupils each week and also run a Rock Band which had its first gig at school at the end of Term 2.



**YouthAlive** TRUST  
Building Brighter Futures with Young People in New Brighton since 1989

Grace Vineyard Beach Campus,  
111 Seaview Road,  
New Brighton, Christchurch  
☎ 03 3881001  
✉ [office@yat.org.nz](mailto:office@yat.org.nz)  
🌐 [www.yat.org.nz](http://www.yat.org.nz)

## OUTDOOR SKILLS

Matt has been running a Outdoor Skills group twice a week with the Year 5/6's. This group has looked at many practical skills which are needed in the outdoors such as knot tying, Morse code and bivvy building. The programme builds trust, allows Matt to speak into the way they interact as a group and give personal reflection.



## YEAR 8 LEADERSHIP & CAMP

Matt has been working with Jenny & Andrew to plan a Leadership Camp for the Year 8's for many months. He has taken them all through Gallops internationally recognised leadership tool called Strengths Explorer, including a number of group coaching sessions, then in Week 1 of Term 2, after a day of 'in-school' camp prep, they headed away for 3 days to Peel Forest. One of Matt's passions is running youth camps, so what better way to do this than run a school camp! Camps are a brilliant for personal development, you take someone out of their usual day to day life and all of a sudden people become willing to change and develop. This camp was run similarly to Outward Bound, a combination of 'full-on' activities to push everyone's comfort zones beyond what they thought possible, then teaming that up with short practical sessions on leadership skills. Activities included rafting, high ropes, tramping and horse trekking. Some feedback from students about camp was:

*"the whole camp pushed me to my limits and I did things I didn't know I could do"*

*"I learnt how I am a leader in my own sort of way and to take the opportunity"*

*"I learnt to never give up on what you want and take everything that can make you a better person in all of your life"*

*"It taught me to push through the challenges with a positive attitude."*



## COOKING

Matt has been working alongside 5 students in the Year 7/8 class to improve their cooking skills. With his background in catering they have in a short amount of time already picked up a few key cooking skills and pulled off several rather tasty treats such as chutneys, wild game, and dressings.





## SPORT

James, Michael and Kelsi are all coaching football teams for winter sport in Terms 2 & 3. Both Michael and Kelsi are coaching Year 5/6 teams while James is taking a Year 7/8 team. All three YAT members love getting out on a Friday afternoon, helping develop new skills and encouraging them. Sport is a great opportunity to build and strengthen existing relationships, but also to form new relationships. Youth Alive Trust also hosts the Table Tennis Competition in its renovated Gym, which hosts 7 tables playing continuous doubles all afternoon!



Grace Vineyard Beach Campus,  
111 Seaview Road,  
New Brighton, Christchurch  
☎ 03 3881001  
✉ [office@yat.org.nz](mailto:office@yat.org.nz)  
🌐 [www.yat.org.nz](http://www.yat.org.nz)

## ART GROUPS

Kelsi has been running art-groups three times a week with half of the senior class, moving onto the second half of the class near the end of term two. The art program was initially developed by Amber Paterson and a teacher from South New Brighton School as an extension program. Based off 'Miky to Tikki Tu Meke', a piece by artist Dick Frizzell, (who is the behind the infamous Four-square man!) students create Picasso-styled self portraits using an online program, and transition this into an item of their choosing, reflecting something of themselves. This transition is then drawn and painted onto a 6x12" canvas, now proudly on display.

As an art extension, this project is challenging many of the students, not only in their art skills, but in their own self reflection and the way they see themselves.



## RESOLUTION GIRLS GROUP

In term one, Kelsi facilitated Resolution Girls with a group of seniors. They met on Friday afternoons to take the referred girls on a journey of self discovery, uniqueness & inner beauty. It's an opportunity to challenge ideas, getting the group to consider topics that



affect them daily, in a new light, and empower them to take control of their choices, such as emotions, relationships and self care. The 8 week program ended with a challenging and inspiring afternoon of horse riding.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES



We see Rawhiti pupils in many of our community programmes, outside of school. Rock Solid attracts 50-60 intermediates most weeks from all local schools, including many from the Learning Centre. Our Boys Clubs and Girls Clubs hosts the smaller children and our holiday programmes cater for all ages from 5 - 17 year olds. Our youthworkers are in New Brighton Library everyday after school and on weekends interacting with many Rawhiti students, and also organise big events popular with all schools such as the recent Epic Dance Party. One recent highlight was planting trees in Burwood Forest with the intermediates.