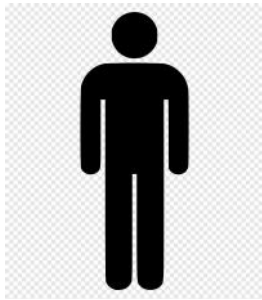


# Youthworkers in Rawhiti Primary School Report 2022




## Male Youthworker

*Jayden Wall worked in Rawhiti in Term 1 supporting young people before moving on to a new role supporting Shirley Boys High School*



## Melissa Moore

5th Year Youthworker  
*Loves: Netball, Creative Activities, Family*

 [melissa.entwistle@yat.org.nz](mailto:melissa.entwistle@yat.org.nz)

## TERM 4 TIMETABLE

### Wednesday 9.00-2:00pm

Girls Group, lunch time activity or support, Surfing support

### Thursday 12.00-2.00pm

Lunch time activity or support. Girls Group: emotional and social skills.

### Friday 9:00-11:00am

Winter Sport: Netball & Surfing support

## THE ROLE OF A YOUTH WORKER

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.

## Programmes and Support

- Girls Groups
- Mentoring
- Friday Winter Sports
- School Camp
- Surfing
- Lunchtime Support
- Community Programmes
- Community Activities



*“Children and adolescents who have a formal or informal “mentor-like” relationship with someone outside their home are less likely to have externalizing behaviour problems (bullying) and internalizing problems (depression). This group is also more likely to complete tasks they start, remain calm in the face of challenges, show interest in learning new things, volunteer in the community, engage in physical activities, participate in out-of-school time activities, and be engaged in school. Additionally, those who have a caring adult outside the home are more likely to talk with their parents about “things that really matter.”*

[Caring Adults: Important for Positive Child Well-Being Research 2013](#)

## GIRLS GROUPS

Melissa has been running Girls Groups with Years 7-8s and Years 4-6s. The programme focuses on friendships, feelings, words of affirmation and building greater self confidence. It has been great seeing the excitement from the girls this year and seeing the positive changes in their confidence week to week.

Some feedback from teachers-

“The girls thoroughly enjoyed girls group with you and always looked forward to your sessions. Since the girls have completed their girls group with you, I have noticed they have been communicating both to me and each other more about how they feel, and actively taking each others feedback on board. I also had feedback from parents about 3 girls in the first girls group, saying that they have not mentioned any problems with that particular friend trio since.”

## LUNCH TIME

Melissa is in school during some lunch times throughout the week. Melissa finds this to be the best time to chat and connect with the young people in a less formal setting. The young people love hanging out and following her around the school as she chats to them and other kids.

This has also been a great time to connect with teachers and have good conversations around what they think is beneficial for the young people from my role as a Youth Worker.

## SURFING

On Wednesday and Friday mornings we are at North Brighton Beach with some of the intermediate students. Surfing has been a fantastic way to connect with the young people as we are able to learn, laugh and have fun together.

It is great seeing the intermediates learning a new skill, cheering them on and celebrating when they first stand up on a wave.

“The seniors have also loved surfing and I have noticed boosts in their confidence since the start of the year, so thank you for being a part of that too!” -Teacher



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## FRIDAY SPORT

This year both Jayden and Melissa helped out with Friday afternoon sports. Jayden refereed and coached the Year 7 & 8 Capture the Flag team, while Melissa coached the Y 7-8s Netball team. These Friday afternoons not only help them develop sporting skills, but leadership skills, the art of winning and losing and teamwork! Plus we both love sports!



## EXTRAS

We help in a number of other areas of the school. The Youth workers are often around during break times, which is a great opportunity to connect with all of the young people in the school on a more informal basis, as well as helping out the duty teacher and running the odd game. We are always keen to be involved in the extras of school life like camps, trips and events!



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## BOYS GROUPS

Throughout the year Jayden has been running several groups. He has been running a Strengths Explorer workbook with several intermediate boys through the year. This programme helps our young people discover and understand how they operate. Their strengths are not necessarily things they are good at but things that motivate them. The feedback from the boys was great. After the first session the boys were surprised at how 3 strengths were able to so accurately describe themselves. One of the boys said "Oi, this is totally me!". It was really great to see their own recognition.

Jayden also worked alongside Carol from Mana Ake in running a friendship group in Tāwhirimatea. It was great to work alongside someone else in the school to be supporting boys in developing friendships and working towards understanding their own emotions. Each session ended with a team challenge. As the sessions progressed the boys noticeably got better at working as a team and each taking the lead of the group.

## MENTORING

Jayden & Melissa catch up 1-on-1 with individual students during the week that are referred by teachers. These can be informal one offs or a more formalised weekly catch up time. If you do have a young person that doesn't quite need Sandy or Mana Ake but could do with a 1-on-1 chat, do contact us or Paul, who signs off on our timetable.

## RAWHITI FUN DAYS

This year Melissa joined the year 7 and 8s on their three fun days. This was a awesome time to connect with the young people out of the class room. It was great to spend the day with the students, teachers and to get to know some of the parent helps.

## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

We see many Rāwhiti students at our other community activities, particularly our weekly clubs such as Rock Solid, Boys & Girls Clubs, holiday programmes and the many students learning instruments with our Amplify School of Music. It's great to see a number of them becoming volunteers and even one joined our staff recently!

