



RUTHERFORD

TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL

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NEWSLETTER

18th DECEMBER 2024

Rutherford Technology High School

Avery Street
Rutherford NSW 2320

Phone:
02 4932 5999

Email:
rutherford-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website:
www.rutherford-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm
Friday 8:00am-3:30pm
Outside of office hours, a message may
be left on the school answering machine.

An appointment is necessary before
meeting with a staff member, including
the Principal or Deputy Principal, as they
have class, playground duty and other
commitments during the school day.
Please call our Administration Office to
make an appointment.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18th December 2024
Last day - Term 4

Thursday 6th February 2024
First Day / Return to School - ALL Students

13th February 2025
School Swimming Carnival (East Maitland Pool)

Thank you



The students and staff would like to say a very big thank you to the school P&C Association for their generous donation to purchase a new school bus.

The bus has arrived and we took delivery at the end of November. We are looking forward to putting it to lots of good use from next year.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2024 - That's a Wrap

As we finish school for 2024, I would like to thank the Rutherford Technology High School community for their support and contribution to student outcomes throughout the year.

This year has been another positive year for continued school improvement. We have completed a number of projects that continue to raise the standard of our setting with installation of our new disabled lift in the MPC, the electronic digital sign in the bus bay, our Rugby League health and fitness hub. Thank you to our generous P&C for additional chilled water coolers, as well as, a new school bus.

I would like to congratulate Year 12 2024 students and our staff who supported their completion of the HSC. This year our results continued trending in a positive direction with a number of outstanding student results. Kalynda Marriott topped the cohort, with all other students that are university bound, by already being offered university placement through the early entry scheme. We also have a number of students who have been successful in obtaining apprenticeships and traineeships.

It was incredibly pleasing to see the increased numbers of community who supported the various School Achievement Recognition Ceremony and Presentation Day this year. The extensive representation of student achievement was testament to the hard work and partnerships between students, staff and the community.

In 2025 we will be commencing a new School Improvement Plan. This will have a deep focus on student behaviour that is respectful, safe and engaged, explicit teaching, high performance and gifted education, whilst improving reading, numeracy and writing skills across all year groups. In addition, we will be formalising structures that track and support all Year 12 students in their preferred post-school pathway. We will work hard at strengthening the partnership between our school, our students and our community to ensure we work together.

Public Health Alert: Whooping Cough

NSW Health has reported that the incidence of whooping cough is at a 15-year high. The highest rates are seen in school-aged children aged 5 to 16 years.

Whooping cough starts like a cold with a blocked or runny nose, sneezing, a mild fever and an occasional cough. Coughing bouts can worsen and be followed by vomiting, choking or taking a big gasping breath which causes a "whooping" sound. The cough can last for many weeks and can be worse at night. Children and adults may just have a mild cough that doesn't go away. In adults the cough commonly lasts 5-7 weeks, sometimes longer.

Adolescents are offered a free pertussis vaccine through the Year 7 school vaccination program, as immunity decreases following their early childhood vaccines. GPs can administer free catch-up vaccination to children and adolescents for those who have missed doses. Pharmacists can also administer these free for children aged 5-19 years. The best protection against pertussis infection is vaccination.

Large outbreaks of whooping cough usually occur every 3 to 4 years as population immunity decreases. Lower exposure to whooping cough during the COVID-19 pandemic is a likely reason for this current increase.

If you think you or a family member might have whooping cough - If you or your child's situation is life-threatening, please call Triple Zero (000) or present to your nearest emergency department immediately. If it's not an emergency, call Healthdirect on 1800 022 222 if you or your child are unwell and you're not sure where to go. Healthdirect is free and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A nurse will answer your call, ask some questions and connect you with the right care.

If given early, antibiotics can reduce the duration of whooping cough symptoms. After 5 days of treatment with appropriate antibiotics, people with whooping cough are no longer infectious. Without treatment, they will remain infectious for 21 days. Antibiotics are rarely needed if it has been 3 weeks since cough onset. For more information check the [Whooping cough \(pertussis\) fact sheet](#) External link from NSW Health.

2025 Staffing

In 2025 I will be relieving as the Director Educational Leadership for the Bathurst Network. This will see Mr Andrew Robinson moving into the Principal role in my absence. Mr David Thomas will be the Deputy Principal for Years 8 and 11 and Mr Blair Newham will relieve as Head Teacher PDHPE for 2025.

This year we farewell a number of staff including Tristan Chapman from HSIE, Lara Morton and Clarise De Claudio from the PE faculty, Jessica Pelley from the Support faculty, Kim Keast from the English faculty, Rebecca Raschke from MTC and Ben Bath from the TAS faculty. We also farewell a number of temporary SASS and SLSO staff. Their collective contribution has been outstanding for our students and we wish them well in their future endeavours. Despite the ongoing staffing challenges, we will start 2025 with a full complement of qualified teaching staff.

I would like to wish all our students, parents and community members a safe and relaxing holiday. Our students return to school on Thursday 6th February 2025 for all students.

Ms Simone Hughes
Principal

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Faculty Reports

ICT FACULTY REPORT



The ICT and LOTE Faculty have worked hard to provide great projects and activities for all students to participate in this year. From Robotics competitions and online coding competitions to Japanese cooking experiences, both faculty areas wish all students a safe and relaxing holiday and hope to see everyone back next year.

Stage 4 students in ICT have enjoyed designing characters and building 2D games within their mini electives. The digital technology students have learnt to safely browse the internet and use coding to enhance their understanding of technology. Students across the school are encouraged to keep up to date with the latest technologies to survive in a rapidly changing society.

Stage 5 ICT students have been introduced to an interactive and project-based year by taking part in the new Computing Technology curriculum. This year, students created 3D video games using the Unity Game Engine and analysed data related to the last 30 years of video game sales. The students were also assessed on their ability to visualise their interest areas by collecting data related to something they enjoy doing, eg. time on technology, basketball results and fitness tracking. Next year students should look forward to Automate Mechatronic Systems and learning how to design apps for mobile devices.

As our Stage 6 students begin Year 11 and continue to delve further into software-based industries in Year 12, our students have involved themselves in a range of challenges and continue to gain job ready skills. We have several students completing both a TAFE qualification in IT and learning the backend skills of Software Engineering. These students are encouraged to continue to practice their skills at home and look for any opportunity to develop examples of their work. These practical experiences can enhance students opportunities at the end of their studies and potentially set themselves up for life.

Upcoming events in 2025 to listen out for are:

Code Quest - Challenges high school teams to tackle real-world problems crafted by Lockheed Martin engineers.

Big Day In IT - Is an IT careers conference designed by students for students.

NCSS Challenge - Programming competitions teach students to code in Python.

RoboCup Junior - Project-oriented educational initiative that sponsors local, regional, and international robotic events for young students.

2025 Australian Schools Cyber Challenge - Is designed to provide students with an engaging way to learn vital technical cyber security skills.



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LOTE FACULTY REPORT

This year we have continued to integrate more technology within the learning of Japanese language. All Year 8 students have immersed themselves in the differing perspective of Japanese culture. These topics have included booking holidays in Japan, experiencing a range of foods and engaging in using new language structures to aid when using the Japanese language.



“Improved memory: using your brain to learn a new language can improve your memory — it’s like a workout for your brain! It helps with multitasking: if you can jump from one language to another, chances are you can type, talk on the phone and eat your lunch at the same time.”

While in Stage 5 Japanese, students further enhanced their ability to speak fluent Japanese and incorporate seasonal activities into their learning experiences. From participating in Setsubun and decorating the classroom with Cherry Blossom leaves, to learning about the moon during Otsukimi. Students learnt about both "imasu" (animated objects) and "arimasu" (inanimate objects) within this course through the tales within Japanese folklore. It is a great opportunity for students to gain an increased knowledge of the history of differing cultures.



Holiday Greetings and farewell to 2024. We in the ICT and LOTE Faculties wish all families, community members and students at our school, a merry and happy new year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another great year at Rutherford Technology High School in 2025.

Mr Peter Short
Head Teacher ICT & LOTE Faculty

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CAPTAINS MESSAGE

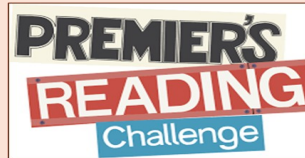
Throughout 2024 we have seen students excel in areas of sport, academics, and PBL. During Week 9 Rutherford Technology High School formally commended these amazing students on all of their hard work throughout the year during our School Achievement Recognition Ceremony and Presentation Day.

We've also had some fun events take place over the last two weeks of school. During our Presentation Day Assembly, Watpa (Blue house) was announced as 2024's champion house, and students were invited to an excursion to Central Coast Aquapark as a reward. Additionally, on Thursday 12th December RTHS's own Miss Jade Bassett organised a major Women in STEM event held in our movement space. Our Women in STEM Girls and selected senior STEM students were invited to talk with a variety of CEOs, and professional Women in the STEM industry.

Lastly, Year 12 hosted their 'Festive Fun' day fundraiser on Tuesday 17th December, where students were invited to dress up in Christmas themed outfits for the day.

On behalf of the Senior Leadership Team, we would like to wish all students and staff a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday. We look forward to seeing you all next year and welcoming our new Year 7 students in 2025.

Eva Turner
School Captain



2024 Premier's Reading Challenge

Students have shown dedication to both reading and their learning when they complete the challenge as they are required to read 20 books from September the previous year to August in the current year.

Thank you to all students who participated and congratulations to the following students for completing the 2024 Years 7–9 Premier's Reading Challenge.

- Year 7 Liseli.A; Olivia.A; Haillee.B; Jack.C; Kiara.C; Jake.H; Alexis.J; Ryder.KW; Kenadie.M; Lenahya.M; Toby.M; Tia.VS; Heidi.W; Nadar.W
- Year 8 Mckenna.B
- Year 9 Maria.E; Tahlia.S; Angel.WC
- Year 10 Emily.B; Haylee.L



Rutherford Technology High School School Achievement Recognition Ceremony Tuesday 10th December 2024



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Rutherford Technology High School End-of-Year Presentation Day Friday 13th December 2024



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Rutherford Technology High School End-of-Year Presentation Day Friday 13th December 2024



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Impressions 10 - 2024

In Week 8, Year 10 students participated in *Impressions 10*, an engaging and dynamic program designed to equip students with essential interview and presentation skills in preparation for their future career pathways.

This year's program was a resounding success. Community panellists, including industry professionals and local employers, provided invaluable feedback and insights, highlighting the impressive preparation and engagement demonstrated by the students. Many panellists were so impressed by the students' potential that they identified multiple opportunities for employment and apprenticeships.

A standout moment of the program was the exceptional achievement of six students who earned the maximum score of 75. Additionally, 44% of participants achieved a high distinction or distinction, a testament to their dedication and the program's robust preparation process.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the local business and community representatives who generously contributed their time and expertise to make *Impressions 10* a success:

- Rutherford Technology High School P&C Association
- University of Newcastle
- Maitland City Council
- Training Services NSW
- Youth Express
- Educational Pathways
- MEGT Australia
- Little Treasurers Childcare
- St Nicholas Early Education
- Rotary Club of Rutherford/Telarah
- Jenny Aitchison MP
- Hunter New England Health
- Creative Landscapes
- Maitland Baptist Church
- The Mutual Bank
- BME Group

This year's *Impressions 10* has reaffirmed its place as a cornerstone of our career-readiness initiatives. By fostering connections between students and the workforce, the program not only provides valuable career insights but also empowers students with the skills and confidence to excel in their future endeavors.

We look forward to continuing the success of *Impressions 10* in the coming years and creating even more opportunities for our students to engage with industry professionals.

Alana Wykes
TAS/VET Teacher



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Retail Services Excursion

On Thursday 12th December 2024, our Year 12 Retail Services students visited Stockland Greenhills to complete their 2024 field study.

The students investigated visual merchandising, selling techniques, shopping centre design, store layouts and store products/services. Some students even found the time to complete some pre-Christmas shopping.

As always, the students were outstanding representatives of our school.



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RTHS 2024 TSP Rugby League Year in Review

On behalf of Mr Griffiths and myself, we would like to acknowledge and congratulate each and every student who has been part of our TSP Rugby League family in 2024.

The dedication and commitment you have all demonstrated when training in lessons at school, representing Rutherford Technology High School in competitions and coaching at our partner primary schools, is to be commended. We both feel very privileged to be able to work with all students on a daily basis at Rutherford Technology High School.

We would also like to further acknowledge the success of some of the teams and individuals who have performed at an elite level this year:

Teams

Under 14 Buckley Shield
Open Boys University Shield
Under 15 Girls 9's
Under 16 Girls Rugby 7's
Under 16 Boys 9's
Under 16 Boys and Girls Rugby 9's

State Semi Finalists
Hunter Champions
Hunter Champions
Hunter Champions
Hunter Finalists
Hunter Finalists

Individuals

Rutherford Technology High School TSP Rugby League 2024 MVP

Rutherford Technology High School TSP Rugby League 2024 Leadership Award

Buckley Shield Player of the Year
University Shield Player of the Year
Kacey Drummond Female Player of the Year
Male Player of the Year
Female Player of the Year

Clayton Ellevson
Angel Ngungutau
Ashton Allen
Eliza Davis-Eather
Clayton Ellevson
Ashton Allen
Shatikka Eulo
Ashton Allen
Angel Ngungutau

Mr Luke Miller
TSP Rugby League Coordinator



Thank you to the Major Sponsor of our
TSP Rugby League Program
McDonalds Rutherford



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RTHS 2024 TSP Rugby League Year in Review



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I would like to acknowledge the students for their hard work and dedication to Mathematics by entering the Australian Mathematics Competition in August.

A special mention to Lucas Fraser who did exceptionally well with a High Distinction.

*Mrs Debbie Evans
Mathematics Faculty*



**student
exchange**
AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

**Are you keen to meet exchange students
and learn about different cultures
from across the world?**

Then hosting may be for you!

Laura Hearn is the local coordinator for Student Exchange Australia New Zealand. The organisation currently has two students arriving in January 2025 whom still require a volunteer host family.

Additionally, they also have students arriving in April who are eagerly awaiting the news that they have a host family.

Students stay for either a 5-month or 10-month program and attend a local high school. Even if you could only commit to part of their program length, it is welcome.

Should you have any questions Laura is happy to answer them. Please give her a call/send a message on 0403 715 939.

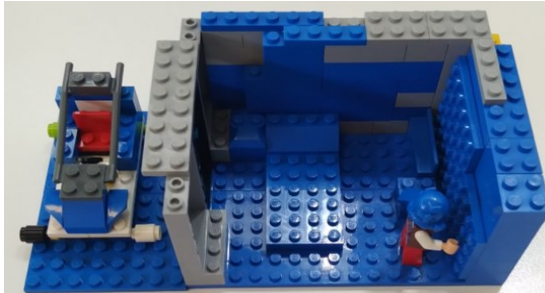
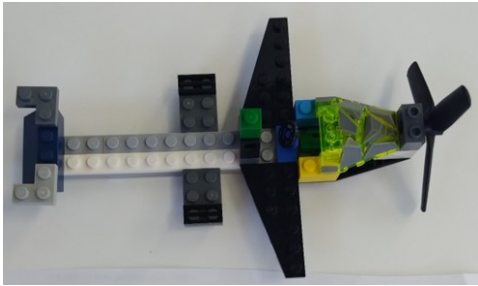
Final Year 7 Library Lesson Task

During this fortnight's Year 7 library lessons, students have been introduced to the book - *The Prison for the Magically Cursed* by author Brett Perkins.

The lesson task was for students to think of a magical curse, for the main character - Mason Davis to possess, then build a Lego scene relating to the curse.

Congratulations to all students, for their creative builds.

The book is a great book for all ages and appeals to reluctant readers. It is the first book of *The Magical Cursed* series with the 3rd book, just released in November



TSP Football Presentation Day



The staff at Rutherford Technology High School would like to thank the 140+ TSP Football students who participated in our end of year activities and the Champions League finals through the extreme heat on Tuesday 17th December 2024.

Whilst the activities and games were heavily modified and venues were changed the attitudes of the students remained unreal and the behaviours on show were exemplary. Well done to the Year 9 teams who played in a heavily supported final and well done to T.Gibbons, Orange team for winning the league.

The afternoon culminated in the presentation of our major award winners for 2024 and the “hanging of frames” by our graduating Year 10 class.

Although this Year 10 alumni may not have been the biggest or the most vocal around the school, the students that have graduated exemplify our school core values and were extremely well supported by their younger TSP peers today.

Well done to all involved!

Mr Blair Newham
TSP Football Coordinator



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Merry
Christmas
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Students Last Day of School

Wednesday 18th December 2024

Office Hours 2024

Thursday 19th December 2024 - OFFICE CLOSED

Friday 20th December 2024 - OFFICE CLOSED

Office Hours 2025

Friday 31st January 2025 - OFFICE CLOSED

Monday 3rd February 2025 - OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday 4th February 2025 - OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday 5th February 2025 - OFFICE CLOSED

Students Return to School

Thursday 6th February 2025 - ALL STUDENTS RETURN



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JANUARY 2025 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS

Open hours for the Uniform Shop in January 2025.

ONLINE ORDERING AVAILABLE VIA THE BELOW LINK

<https://daylightschoolwear.au/rutherford/>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE ONLINE - PRIORITY SERVICE WALK INS WELCOME ALSO https://daylightschoolwear.au/rutherford/						
26 <i>HAPPY Australia DAY</i>	27 CLOSED	28 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS 10AM - 4:30PM	29 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS 10AM - 4:30PM	30 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS 10AM - 4:30PM	31 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS 8AM - 3PM	FEB 1 CLOSED
2 CLOSED	3 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS 8AM - 3PM	4 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS 8AM - 12PM	5 SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS 8AM - 12PM	6 NORMAL TRADING HOURS 1PM - 5PM	7 CLOSED	8 CLOSED

Online ordering available through the below link.

<https://daylightschoolwear.au/rutherford/>

You will be notified by the Uniform Shop when your order is ready for collection.

Return to Normal Trading Hours from Thursday 6th February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CLOSED	CLOSED	8AM - 12PM	CLOSED	1PM - 5PM	CLOSED	CLOSED



Rutherford Technology High School Uniform Shop

Price List

ITEM	PRICE
GIRLS	
Junior Girls Blouse	\$36.00
Senior Girls Blouse	\$36.00
Tartan Skirt	\$50.00
BOYS	
Junior Boys Shirt	\$36.00
Senior Boys Shirt	\$36.00
UNISEX	
Softshell Jacket	\$75.00
Everyday Shorts	\$35.00
Maroon Knit Fleece	\$65.00
Junior Polo	\$40.00
Senior Polo	\$40.00
SPORTS	
Sports Short	\$33.00
Trackpants	\$50.00
Sports Polo	\$40.00
ACCESSORIES	
Beanie	\$15.00
Scarf	\$20.00
White Socks Short-cut – 3 pack	\$20.00
OTHER	
Reusable Tote Bag	\$1.00

Uniform Shop Hours:

Tuesday 8:00am-12:00 noon

Thursday 1:00pm-5:00pm

Purchase Online: <https://daylightschoolwear.au/rutherford>

Please ensure all orders are collected from the Uniform Shop

MASTERCARD, VISA & EFTPOS ACCEPTED & CASH ACCEPTED - NO CHEQUE PAYMENTS. NO LAYBY.

**Prices are subject to change without notice*

The wearing of school uniform at Rutherford Technology High School is mandatory. The school uniform is manufactured and sold by Daylight Sportswear at a dedicated onsite Uniform Shop at the school. This is the ONLY location that the school uniform is available for purchase.

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Rutherford Technology High School P&C Association

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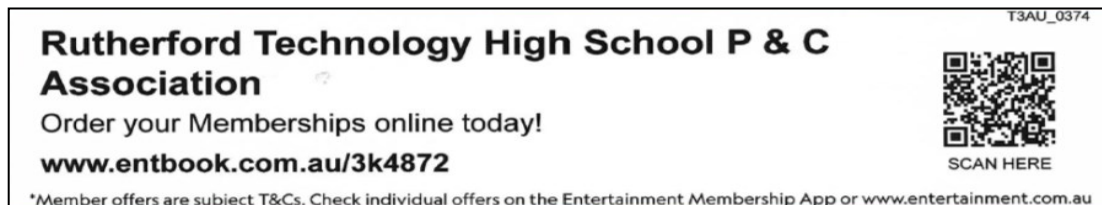
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when you purchase a Single City Entertainment Membership*

*T&Cs apply.


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[Thank your for supporting for Rutherford Technology High School P&C Association](#)



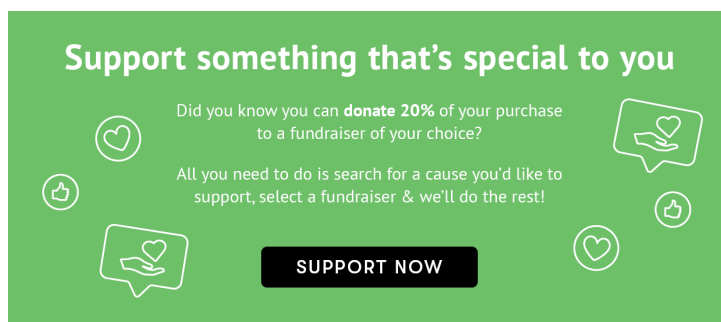
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Order your Memberships online today!
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*Member offers are subject T&Cs. Check individual offers on the Entertainment Membership App or www.entertainment.com.au



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EASTS LEISURE & GOLF

Aird's
OF LOCHINVAR



Maitland



Bakers Delight *Rutherford*
We're for real.

The staff and students who are involved in the Wellbeing programs would like to acknowledge the generosity of 'Bakers Delight' at Rutherford who provide us with bread.

We express our appreciation and hope our school community can reciprocate.

Rutherford Technology High School has an Official Facebook Page – just go to Facebook and look for 'Rutherford Technology High School NSW Official Site' and click on 'Like'.



We will be using the Facebook page to keep everyone informed about events at the school, important dates for your diary, and general information about the school.

Link:

<http://www.facebook.com/RutherfordTechnologyHighSchool>

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