

# Rotokauri School Newsletter



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**ROKOKAURI SCHOOL**  
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Dear Parents

*Nga mihi o te wa kia koe me to whanau.*

## **ROKOKAURI SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

Our positive environment will actively engage us all in learning.

## **ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VISION**

Together We Grow

- Unity (Kotahitanga)
- Inclusive (Manaakitanga)
- Guardianship (Kaitiakitanga)

Together We Learn

- Innovative (Auahatanga)
- Happy (Uruhau)
- Responsible (Tuutika)

## **ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VALUES**

Persistence

Resilience

Integrity

Diversity

Excellence

## **PRINCIPAL'S PIECE**

This is our last newsletter for the year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their contribution to the education of our students this year. It has been a year full of change, which has culminated in a productive and successful four terms. As I write this newsletter our Year 7 & 8 students have returned from their camp at Totara Springs in Matamata, our Year 5 & 6 students have enjoyed a fun day at Rainbows End, our Year 4 students have enjoyed a day at Waterworld and our Year 1 – 3 students have returned from an exciting day at Hamilton Zoo. What a wealth of experiences outside the classroom – these are the memories children will remember for a long time.

I am currently checking student's reports and I have been impressed with the academic, sporting, social and leadership skills that I am reading about. There will be some very proud parents when these reports come home next week.

A number of staff members will be leaving at the end of this year and I thank them for the dedicated work they have done for the school and wish them well for their future endeavours. Best of luck to Mrs Strong, Mr Wallbank, Mrs Hopewell and Mr Watkins. May you all have a safe and enjoyable holiday break with your children. Our 2018 school year will begin on 7<sup>th</sup> February. Merry Christmas to all our Rotokauri families.

Ngaa mihi nui

Desiree Smith

## **GENERAL MATTERS**

### **Class Structure for 2018**

Students will bring home an important note this week which will inform parents of the class that their child/children are in next year and the teacher in the class. If you did not receive this note please check with your child or contact their teacher.

Room 1 – Year 1 – Mrs Jacqueline Hill  
Room 2 – Year 1 & 2 – Mrs Andrea O'Rourke (nee Hall)  
Room 3 – Year 2 & 3 – Mrs Mary Evans  
Room 4 – Year 3 & 4 – Miss Kylie Christian  
Room 5 – Year 4 & 5 – Ms Tanya Stone  
Room 6 – Year 5 – Mrs Casey Sanders  
Room 7 – Year 6 & 7 – Mr Neville Harding  
Room 8 – Year 7 & 8 – Mrs Helena Kirkham

### **Wedding Bells**

Congratulations to Ms Hall as she prepares to get married during the school holidays. We hope that you have a wonderful day.

### **Last Day of Term 4**

The final day of the term is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. **We ask that students are picked up at 12.15 p.m.** There is a half day holiday programme being organised by Atmosphere if anyone would like to enrol.

### **Stationery Lists**

The note which will be coming home this week informing you of your child/children class will be attached to a flyer that explains all the details for ordering stationery for 2018. Any questions please contact Sharon in the office.

### **Disco**

The Student Council are holding a disco on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December in the school MPR. The junior school (Years 1 – 4) will be from 12 – 1.15 p.m and the senior school (Years 5 – 8) will be from 1.30 – 2.45 p.m.

No permission slip is required to attend. Entry fee \$2.00. Food and items on sale. Disco theme is **The 80's** so dress up and come along for a dance.

### **Religious Instruction**

The BOT have decided to discontinue Religious Instruction at Rotokauri School in its current format. Therefore, school will start on Tuesdays at 9.00 a.m. for all students in 2018. Thank you to Tom McIvor, Barbara Barris and Alison Kinghorn for the many years of dedicated service they have given to the school.

### **Year Book**

Congratulations to everyone that has contributed to the 2017 Rotokauri School Year Book and to Mrs Sanders for compiling the final product. The Year Book is available for sale for \$5. Orders taken at office, no later than Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Book Amnesty**

Thank you to all the families that were able to find and return missing library books. If over the holidays you discover any school readers at home please return them next year. Having the correct number of readers for reading groups is important so all books returned are gratefully received.

## **Production**

Thank you to the many parents and caregivers that have shared positive comments with the school about our recent school production. It was a wonderful evening and we are so incredibly proud of what the students accomplished. As I said on the night events like this do not just happen – they take months of organising and I would like to thank Mrs Hopewell for being the Director who made everything come together and to all the staff for the huge contribution they all played in making the evening so successful. Check out our Facebook page for photos – thank you to Sacha Kahaki for these professional photos. The video of the evening is currently being developed and is likely to be available early in Term 1.

## **End of Year Prizegiving**

Our end of year prizegiving will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December on the school field at 6.30 p.m. If the weather is not on our side then the venue will be moved to Fraser High School. Families will be notified of any changes via email and Facebook.

## **Parent Survey**

Last week you will have received a Parent Survey via an email link to a Google Form. Please take the time to share your ideas and opinions with us as your input is helpful as we complete strategic planning for the year ahead. Any completed parent surveys with names attached go into the draw for a New World voucher.

## **Rental Accommodation**

If anyone knows of some local rental accommodation available from January 2018 for one of our staff members could you please let me know [dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz)

## PTA NEWS

**Rotokauri School Car Show & Gala Total: \$13,028.00**

**A big Thank-you once again to all those involved.**

**Anyone interested in these vouchers?  
Proceeds will be added to the Car Show &  
Gala Total.**

In need of a week's school holiday program these  
Christmas holidays or  
3 months membership at the gym?

Rotokauri School PTA has these two vouchers up  
for grabs, please email the PTA with your best offer.  
Highest offer for each voucher received by 3pm  
Friday 15th December takes it away.

Email: [pta@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:pta@rotokauri.school.nz)

Note: anytime fitness to be presented by  
31<sup>st</sup> December to validate voucher.



## CELEBRATIONS

At our assemblies the following children received certificates.

### Assembly Awards

#### Week 7

Room 1	Chloe Gyde - For willingly helping others in need. You are showing diversity.
Room 1	Nature Aitchison - For the persistence you have shown that has allowed you to achieve personal excellence in reading.
Room 2	Alex Perring - Making excellent progress in reading this term and showing the value of persistence by practising his reading at every opportunity.
Room 2	Callista John - Making excellent progress in writing this term and showing the value of excellence by producing work of a high standard.
Room 3	Hannah Milne - For capturing a moment in time by writing a detailed description about finding blue eggs in a nest.
Room 3	Zakk McDonagh - For showing such integrity as a loyal friend and kind classmate.
Room 4	Cory Burt - For outstanding effort and achievement in our Athletics Sports. Well done Cory.
Room 4	Neve Townsend - For 100% effort in our Athletics Sports and achieving good results. Well done Neve.
Room 5	Mārama Tangiora - Being a responsible group member during our dance.
Room 5	Ciaran Williams-Thomas - Being a responsible group member during our dance.
Room 7	Amos Robinson - For being a student who shows integrity and excellence in all that he does.
Room 7	Thomas Keightley - For being a polite and respectful student in class.
Room 8	Charlize Nevill - For being persistent and never giving up. Your recent math results are something you can be very proud of.
Room 8	Vanessa Campbell - For showing resilience, even when things aren't going your way - you still manage to smile.

## Week 8

Room 1	Rhys Jorgensen - For your incredible courage. I am very proud of the way you performed on stage, even though it was scary.
Room 1	Ava Esselbrugge - For your incredible courage. I am very proud of the way you performed on stage, even though it was scary.
Room 2	Clarke Robinson - For showing the value of persistence by working hard on his writing.
Room 2	Ryan Russell - For showing the value of integrity and diversity by helping others and being a good friend to his classmates.
Room 3	Regan Bennett - For your contribution to the production. We enjoyed your love of music.
Room 3	Ryan Jorgensen - For your contribution to the production.
Room 4	Nadia Peng - For consistently displaying excellent work habits and being a focused learner.
Room 4	Isaac Stratford - For outstanding effort and achievement in our Athletics Sports.
Room 5	Mya Atchison - Being a role model to others.
Room 5	Riley Dempsey-Irvine - Being a risk taker and trying new things.
Room 6	Oliver Campbell - Showing enthusiasm and staying focused on his work. You are having fun as you work.
Room 6	Ella Burt - Showing maturity and perseverance when faced with a problem. You are a future leader.
Room 7	G'arni-Lee Clark - For always being a positive, hard-working student and for her awesome leadership of the Kapa Haka group this year.
Room 7	Ryleigh Beyer - For showing maturity and self-management skills during our production rehearsal - thanks Ryleigh.
Room 8	Georgia Westgate - For showing excellence in the organisation of our School Production. I really value your high-level of responsibility.
Room 8	Connor Hopewell - For showing integrity - I hear you giving positive feedback to others in the class - thank you.

## Week 9

Room 1	Liam Surgenor - For always trying very hard to do the right thing at the right time.
Room 1	Cavalier Kingi - For the persistence you have shown while you are learning to float on your back.
Room 2	Evie Wilson - For consistently showing the values of excellence and integrity by being an excellent role model for her peers. Be proud Evie.
Room 2	Jude Ploeg - For showing the value of persistence when things feel challenging. You have achieved such a lot this year Jude, be proud.
Room 3	Nirav Maharaj - For your persistence in improving your pencil grip. Keep it up.
Room 3	Elijah Esselbrugge - For showing excellence in extending your thinking beyond your first ideas.
Room 4	Lily Young – For always working hard to produce her best work. Keep it up Lily!
Room 4	Neve Townsend - For consistently showing the value of excellence by always producing her best work.
Room 5	Bridgette Donny – For always being honest and making the right choices.
Room 5	Melisa Soltanizand – For your kindness to others. You are a wonderful role model.

## Maths Whizz Results

### Week 6

#### Progression Placings:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Connor Williams-Thomas
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Bella'Capri Nelson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Lucas Birks

#### Classroom Placings:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Room 7
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Room 6
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Room 8

### Week 7

#### Progression Placings:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Isaac Stratford
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Connor Williams-Thomas
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Georgia Westgate

#### Classroom Placings:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Room 8
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Room 7
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Room 4

## Class Sharing Room 8

### *Hair Cut Day*

*Thursdays after school were hair cut days. About once every term or two, your mum would drive you down to Nickolas' Home Hair Salon. There was no use complaining about the cold spray and ripped-out knots. It just had to be done. You had to look 'nice and tidy,' straightened back and sides, with the side fringe brushed back, so your full face could be seen. Nickola would do the cutting with a pair of scissors that she would gather from the drawer of the desk in front of you. After she had combed your hair one more time, she would unclip your cape and reveal a tidy, stylish, trendy new you. Your mum would pay the \$20. You would say your goodbyes and walk out the doors, stroking your smooth, shiny hair.*

Written by Ella Kells (Room 8 student). A recount inspired by Gavin Bishop.

### *Monday Morning*

*This morning, at what felt like 5:00am, Mum came into my room and tapped my leg.  
"Time to wake up."*

*I was too tired to move so I gave myself ten minutes to relax. I let my eyes settle on the glary sky that seemed to be staring back at me through the window, forcing myself to squint.*

*I roll over, facing the opposite wall where my drawers stood dull and dusty.*

*Everything was faintly still and quiet,*

*Except for the dogs who were banging against the walls, panting effortlessly ready to greet us, as always.*

*No wind howling,*

*no jug boiling,*

*no birds chirping.*

*Just silence.*

*Having packed my school bag, I hugged the dogs goodbye.*

*My sister and I struggled into the car and drove off down the roughly tar-sealed driveway on our way to school.*

*I stared through the tinted glass.*

*Everything was beaming with light; from the green trees shadowing the sun to the steamy road beneath the wheels. Everything was still, just still.*

*Finally, my sister and I arrived at the school Bus Bay. The clouds were lifting, exposing broad daylight. The birds came out from their hiding place letting everyone know that they were there.*

*Balls were bouncing.*

*Children were loudly communicating with one another.*

*Everything alive,*

*everything moving,*

*the voices softened.*

*The bell rung.*

Written by Nick Westgate (Room 8 student). A poetic memoir inspired by Rachel Tombleson.

## Room 4

### The Exam

*A few weeks ago, I did my violin exam. It was at someone's house and I went with my mum. We met Clara, Rosemary, Vanessa and Ella S there. While I was getting my violin out Vanessa started practicing her exam pieces. But then when my violin was already to go, a young lady said that it was time for Vanessa to play her pieces to the examiner. Now it was my turn to practice my exam pieces. My pieces were The Muppet Show Theme, Pitlochry and Ecosaise. Then in a few minutes the lady came again and said now it was my turn to play my exam pieces to the examiner!*

*I was a little nervous but also excited because I could get distinction! I went in with Rosemary because she was going to play the piano. The examiner was really friendly. He said that we could start playing so we did. I did the best I could do while the examiner kept on writing and writing. Then I did the next piece then the next and then finally I was done. Now I could go to school!*

*After the school days it was the weekend. Finally! Now I could rest, but then there was a phone call. It was from Clara! She said that my score was 143! I passed distinction! Yay! But the sad news was that she was in hospital. Whatever could happen next?*

By Nadia Peng

### Inter-school Athletics

Congratulations to the large group of students that participated in the Inter-school Athletics Competition last week. Here are the results from their day's competition –

60m	Boys	8 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Hosea Warbrick
80m	Girls	10 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Anaiya Nelson
80m	Boys	10 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Oscar Stratford
80m	Girls	11 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Georgia Westgate
80m	Boys	11 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Isaac Collinson
80m	Boys	12 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nick Westgate
100m	Girls	8 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Bella'Capri Nelson
100m	Boys	8 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Hosea Warbrick
100m	Boys	8 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Asher Hapi
100m	Boys	8 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cole Turney
100m	Girls	9 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Paige Moka
100m	Girls	10 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Anaiya Nelson
100m	Boys	11 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Isaac Collinson
100m	Boys	12 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nick Westgate
200m	Boys	8 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Isaac Stratford
800m	Girls	10 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Jessica Cuff
800m	Boys	11 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Cole Viljoen-Thomson
High Jump	Boys	10 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Oscar Stratford
High Jump	Boys	11 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jakin Warnock
Long Jump	Girls	9 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Achsah Samuel
Long Jump	Girls	10 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Anaiya Nelson
Long Jump	Boys	10 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Oscar Stratford



Long Jump	Boys	11 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Isaac Collinson
Long Jump	Boys	12 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Nick Westgate
Shot Put	Boys	9 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Lamayne Clark
Shot Put	Boys	10 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Oscar Stratford
Shot Put	Girls	12 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Molly Fletcher
Shot Put	Boys	13 years	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Reiley Samuels-Porter
Discus	Girls	10 years	1 <sup>st</sup>	Anaiya Nelson
Discus	Girls	12 years	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Molly Fletcher

Junior Girls Relay – 2<sup>nd</sup> Rotokauri



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## Babysitter Available

Hi my name is Jaimee Carlson and I am a reliable 15 year old (ex student of Rotokauri School). I am available for babysitting at nights and on weekends. I have my own transport and have experience caring for my siblings and other friends /families children.

Please call me on 022 033 0401 or my mum Marie on 0274 303 844

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