

# Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 14

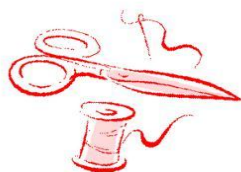
12 September 2013

## Rotokauri School *Wearable Arts Shows* Friday 20th September 2013

Join our students for an evening of inspirational designs with the theme



*"this is me"*



*\* Drinks and snacks on sale \*  
\* Raffles, Silent Auction & Spot prizes \**

*Show Times: 6.30pm-7.30pm Juniors (Rooms 1,2,3,8)*

*7.45pm-9.00pm Seniors (Rooms 4,5,6,7)*

*Admission Prices: Adults: \$3 for 1 show or \$5 for both shows.*

*Children (15 and under): Gold coin.*

*Tickets on sale NOW at the school office (limited tickets available for each show)*

*Shows kindly sponsored by:*



**Kip McGrath Professional Teaching for  
Yr1-13 in maths and English. Ph 8482262**

*Pacesetter (Cuff Family)*

*Janssen Family*

*Prizes kindly donated by:*

*RAFFLE \*Quilt - Jane Hurford made by Joy Hurford*

*\*Suitcase (value \$300) - Crystal Hilton @ Calder & Lawson House of Travel*

*\*Body Shop \*Contours Gym \*Okareka Dance Company*

*\*Professional Hair Brands (Nigel Smith) \*Pumice Food Group (Ladbroke Family)*

*SILENT AUCTION \*Rotokauri Lake Oil Painting - Heather Perring (Artist)*

**ROKOKAURI SCHOOL**  
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HAMILTON 3289

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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 our students in learning.

## **ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VISION**

We are responsible, confident learners and communicators.

## **ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VALUES**

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Persistence and Excellence.

## **INCLUSIVE SCHOOLING**

Over the last few months we have been looking into what it means to be an inclusive school. Saying that our school is Inclusive may sound easy but you need to continually look at your students, staff practices and procedures to make sure that inclusiveness is thriving at Rotokauri School.

A couple of weeks ago we put together an Inclusive register based on what the staff believe is happening in the school. As always we enjoy consulting with our community and therefore we would like to give you the opportunity to contribute to the register.

Please send any comments or suggestions to [mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz)

### **ROKOKAURI PRACTICE REGISTER AUGUST 2013** **EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THAT ROTOKAURI SCHOOL IS AN** **INCLUSIVE SCHOOL FOR OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

- Rotokauri School has high attendance rates across gender and races.
- There is a belief/expectation that all children will learn and reach their full potential.
- There is a strong student voice through the Student Council and students are often asked to give their views through various consultation processes.
- Students are happy and engaged as reported in student consultation packages.
- We listen to our students and follow up with their wishes e.g. toilets, basketball backboards and IT equipment.
- Continual celebration of all forms of success - at assemblies, in newsletters, within the class.
- Our students are proud, confident and comfortable to share with all audiences.
- Our students help to run community events e.g. Agricultural Days, Car Shows, end of year prizegiving.
- Senior students are involved in a duty system and show pride in keeping the school well maintained.
- Our students actively model our values system, very welcoming of visitors, student ambassadors.

- Older students work with younger students for paired writing.
- Students understand the concept of TEAM - Together Everybody Achieves More.
- Students feel comfortable around one another.
- Students are inclusive of people who are different (culture, personality)
- Student/parent/teacher relationships are strong.
- Students are spontaneous and are willing to take risks.
- Students are proud of attending this school. There is a feeling of belonging.
- Students that have left our school return to speak to our students.
- Students flourish in a safe environment.
- Students understand that the staff really do care about them as individuals.
- Students comment about the opportunities that they receive at this school.
- Students have an overall sense of pride and belonging and leave with a series of happy memories. We often talk to the students/staff about providing lasting memories.
- Students in Year 7/8 have strong leadership skills and often excel in those types of roles at high school.
- Students have a sense of belonging and therefore do not vandalize the school.

#### **EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THAT ROTOKAURI SCHOOL IS AN INCLUSIVE SCHOOL FOR PARENTS OF OUR CHILDREN**

- Parents do not have to sign in and out of the school.
- Parents are encouraged to come in to our school and support our staff and students in learning.
- Parents appreciate that staff at Rotokauri School make themselves available as part of the open door policy.
- Parent attendance at Meet The Teacher evenings and reporting to parent evenings is high.
- Parent support is strong at PTA events.
- Parents see Rotokauri School as a good place where their child will develop and reach their potential.
- Parents see this school as a learning environment that has a strong culture and values.
- Parents understand that Rotokauri has high expectations and believe that at Rotokauri School their children can reach their potential.
- Parents enjoy the informal chats with staff where learning ideas can be shared. Parents have often made an informed decision to come to this school. Many have come through ballots to get into this school.
- Parents see that their children are fully engaged in learning.
- Parents understand that we have differentiated learning happening right across the school.
- Parents know that if their child needs support within a curriculum area they will receive help.
- Parents have a good understanding of the policies and procedures that are in place to support their children.
- Parents are well informed through newsletters and emails. Parents are appreciative of the open transparent communication.
- Parents are very positive about the professional relationships they see between teachers and students.
- Parents feel as if they have been listened to.

### **EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THAT ROTOKAURI SCHOOL IS AN INCLUSIVE SCHOOL FOR STAFF**

- Teachers have produced a caring fun loving culture.
- Teachers return to Rotokauri School after employment at other schools.
- Teachers join in with all celebrations.
- Teachers understand the concept of being a TEAM.
- Teachers have produced a culture of inter-professional trust and respect for one another.
- Teachers understand that the heart of being here is for our students.
- Teachers have high expectations for themselves and are continually upskilling themselves.
- Teachers believe that attestation and appraisals are a positive process at this school.
- Teachers believe that whatever situation we come across at Rotokauri School we try and deal with it in a positive way.
- Teachers believe that they are listened to by management. Teachers believe that they are all leaders in their own special way.
- Teachers are asked to enquire and to inspire.
- Teachers are risk takers and willing to show students that they too are human and make mistakes.
- Teachers are confidently working within the Rotokauri Curriculum.

### **EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THAT ROTOKAURI SCHOOL IS AN INCLUSIVE SCHOOL IN RELATION TO BOARD /PRINCIPAL=BOARD**

- The Board supports one another in making sure school is a great place to educate students.
- The Board has open transparent communication between one another.
- The Board understands the concept of TEAM.
- The Board appreciate each other's skill sets and how these can improve the overall education of our students.
- The Board role model relationship expectations e.g. how people should be treated.
- The Board are open to new ideas from students/teachers and community.
- The Board are continually reflecting on policy and procedure.
- The Board are very supportive of the staff and the PTA.
- The Board understands that Rotokauri School is a special place and wants to enhance this.
- The Board understands that we work for our students and community.
- The Board works well with no hidden agendas.

### **EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THAT ROTOKAURI SCHOOL IS AN INCLUSIVE SCHOOL IN RELATION TO THE COMMUNITY / VISITORS**

- Community members/visitors are greeted and farewelled at the gate every day.
- Community members/visitors are made to feel welcome by our students, staff, Board and PTA.
- The community is encouraged to be an active member of our school.
- The community is listened to by all Rotokauri School parties.
- The community is active in giving the school feedback and this is openly appreciated.

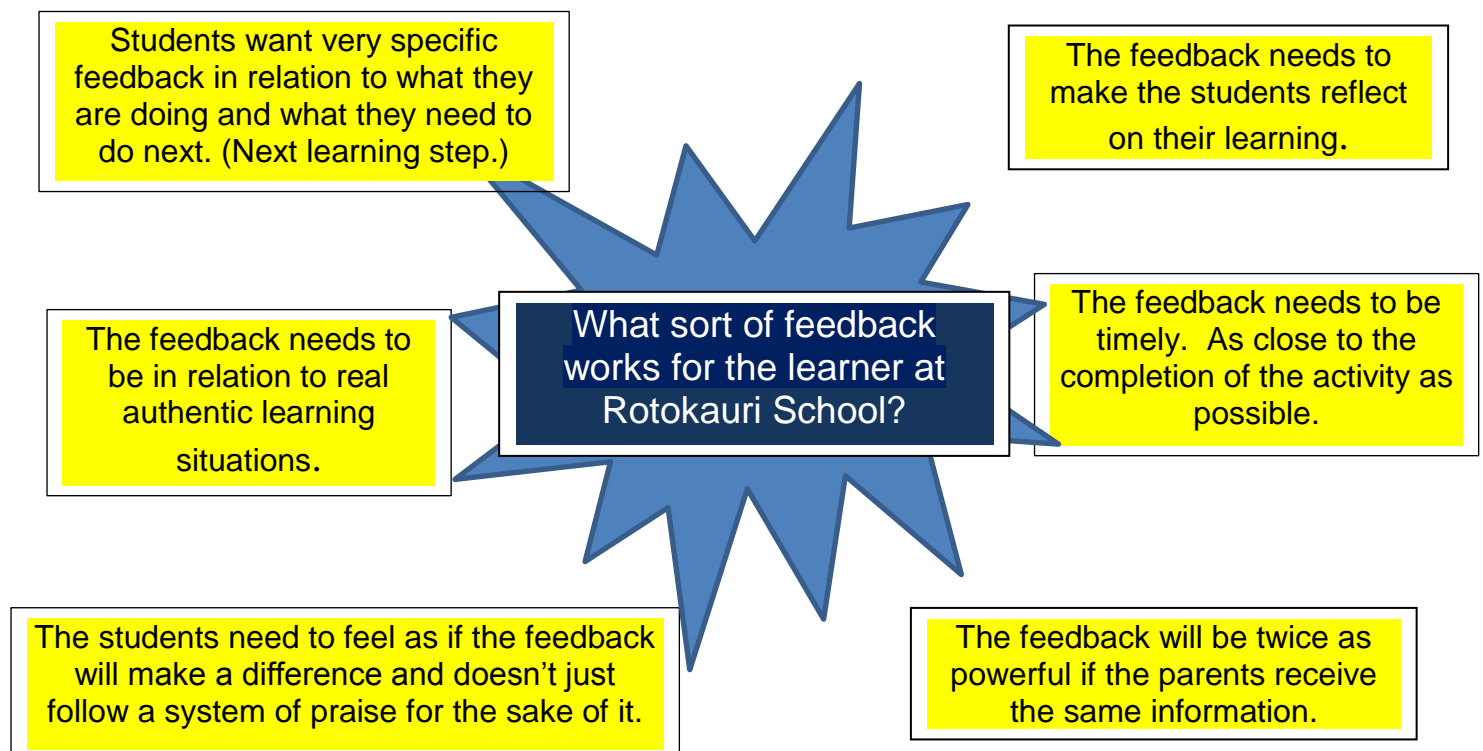
- The community appreciates that Rotokauri School is built on open relationships and communication.
- The community appreciates the visibility of staff, management, Board and PTA.
- The community wants to be a part of our school. Positive feedback regarding community flyer.
- The community is sending another generation of students to our school. Past pupils have children that are enrolled at Rotokauri School.
- The community shows its support by the number of parents on site at any one time.
- The community continually wants to support the school by offering their expertise and time.
- The community often mentions the family atmosphere that exists at Rotokauri School.
- The community feels this is a safe school.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STRATEGIC PLAN

We are currently putting together an IT strategy for 2014. We are really pleased with the progress we have made this year and are looking at supplying more IT hardware in the near future for our students. I'm not sure if you saw the Sunday programme a few weeks ago that showed a school in Auckland that had introduced a policy that students had to bring their own devices to school. It was an interesting documentary because the school was a decile one. The school had asked all of their parents to supply a device for their child / children. Many families obviously could not afford to buy an iPad outright but the school had got around this problem by arranging a leasing agreement whereby parents paid less than \$4.00 a week.

Bring your own devices is becoming more common in New Zealand schools and there are many positive reasons for doing this.

What are your thoughts on bringing your own devices to school? Any feedback / comments would be appreciated and can be emailed to [mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz)



## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

The Student Council are in the process of completing another survey of our students in relation to sports equipment. In our next newsletter we will be able to give you the results of what our students would like. Our Council have made requests in the past in relation to upgrading pool changing facilities and increasing of IT equipment. Because of the way they have produced their survey and presented their information to school management and the board they have proved to be very successful representing the student's wishes.

## **BALLOT FORMS AVAILABLE**

The Board have stipulated that 20 spaces will be available for students turning 5 between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013 and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014. If you know someone who has a child who turns 5 during that set time period and they want to come to our school make sure they get a ballot form from our office. All ballot forms need to be returned to the office by 3.15 pm Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September.

## **UNDER PRESSURE**

There is an excellent article in the New Zealand Listener (24<sup>th</sup> August) regarding children, school and stress. Although the article is mainly in relation to NCEA there are passages that talk about National Standards and the added stress that it is placing on students and teachers. Learning should be fun and enjoyable. It should be based on students being engaged and having an enquiring mind. It shouldn't be about every child getting above the standard as a sign of their personal success. National Standards can take the joy of learning away from some students (if as parents and teachers we let it). Some students may never reach the standard but they are learning and making progress and that is what is really important. As teachers and parents we need to make sure that we are supporting our students, not pressuring them to the point where they disengage themselves from learning because they view themselves as failures. Quite by chance I came across a quote from an educational leadership book which I think sums a lot of things up. "When parents/teachers treat children like performance machines or place their academic achievement above other values...children not only are stressed but also may feel that their best personal qualities are not valued by others. Children are socially skilled, deeply loyal, funny, feisty, caring and imaginative but may never come to value these qualities or see them as anywhere near the core of their being. In these circumstances, children are also more likely to view others in terms of their achievement and see them as threats or competitors. They suffer a diminished sense of others and themselves".

## **ENTERPRISE**

Financial literacy means teaching students about skills that they can use for the rest of their lives. At Rotokauri we teach financial literacy through our yearly enterprise programme. Financial literacy works best when set in a real environment and not from the theoretical pages of a book. This year our students will once again be working as classes to feed and water all the visitors to the Rotokauri Car Show. This event will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2013. Students very quickly find out about their marketing skills and the laws of demand, supply and price. They also learn how important customer service is if they want to establish repeat business. Please make sure that you tell everyone about our Car Show so that it can be a real success for our students.

## **CARSHOW HELPERS REQUIRED**

We currently need school parents to help man the gates on the day of the car show. This just requires people to take money from the paying public. If you think you can help out drop me a line [mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz)

## **CAR RESTRAINTS**

A new law will be coming into effect as from the 1<sup>st</sup> November as part of the Land Transport Road User Amendment Act. Basically, children up to their 7<sup>th</sup> birthday need to be in an approved child restraint. This will have an impact on the way that we transport our junior students to sporting and cultural activities. I would say that very few people have approved car restraints for children of that age and therefore we will most likely have to use buses more often.

## **QUALITY OF SPEECHES**

The quality of speeches this year was excellent and every single student who stood up in front of their class should be commended. A little story that I would like to share with you revolves around our value of persistence. For years Simeon Kahuroa had a goal of trying to win the Rotokauri Speech competition. Each year he would come close but would be pipped at the post by another student. Not deterred by this and showing a great deal of persistence and skill he wrote a tremendous speech this year, which won not only our school competition but also the inter-school competition. Some of the school speeches can be viewed on our Facebook page.

## **MATHLETICS**

We have spent time consulting with students, parents and staff regarding Mathletics. Feedback has been very positive and therefore as a school we will be doing the Mathletics programme in 2014. As stated in previous newsletters the school will pay \$10 per student for 2014. Parents need to pay \$20 per child attending Rotokauri School. For us to make a smooth transition into this maths programme we need to get all the money in by the end of the year. Now we realise that the end of the year is leading into Christmas which can be expensive. Therefore, we are starting to take the money for Mathletics from next Monday. This will give people the opportunity to pay early and seemed to be a very positive move and worked well for our Swim Safe Programme. We need all money for Mathletics in by 20<sup>th</sup> December. If you want to pay this off in instalments between now and then please see Sharon at the office.

## **CARPARK SAFETY**

Over the last few weeks we have noticed that parents and other adults picking up students have not been using the car park correctly. This may be because of the weather conditions but it doesn't change the fact that they are endangering the safety of all the students and parents that use the car park.

The only place that people should drop off or pick up students is in the drop off zone. Presently we have parents who are trying to drop off and pick up students where ever they please, often requiring them to do some highly dangerous manoeuvres. The other area of concern is adults walking their children across the car park without using the pedestrian crossing. Please ensure you are following the rules that were implemented to keep everyone safe.

## DENTAL NURSE

The dental nurse will be at Rotokauri School to check all the children's teeth from Thursday, 17 October to Friday, 1 November.

## SCHOOL HATS

Just a reminder that all children need to be wearing the Rotokauri School hat during Terms 4 and 1. If you need to purchase a hat they are available at the school office for \$14.00.

## NITS / HEAD LICE

These pesky critters never seem to go away. Please make sure you check your child's head regularly and treat if necessary.

## MUSIC TUITION FORMS

Some contract forms have come back to the office for Guitar/Ukelele lessons, which is fantastic. However, it would be great if more students took up this opportunity to have guitar or ukelele lessons, at the affordable rate (\$10 per group lesson) that the tutor is offering. Forms need to be back by **Thursday the 19th of September**, so the tutor (John Maydon) can pick them up to organise the classes. If you have lost or mislaid your form, there are spare ones at the school office you can pick up.

## AGRICULTURAL DAY – 23 OCTOBER 2013

Entry forms are available from the school office. **The final close off for entries will be the last day of Term 3, Friday, 27 September. Chicken entries are due back by Monday, 23 September.**

## AGRICULTURAL DAY – HELPERS NEEDED...PLEASE

We still need volunteers to help on the day. Below is a list of jobs we need help with. If you can spare a few hours of your time it would be really appreciated. Please see Sharon in the school office if you can help.

**Stewards x 3** - to assist the calf, kid and lamb judges by organising the children with their animals, writing down the judges results and tying ribbons on the animals.

**Flower Show Scribe x 1** – to assist the judges by writing the certificates once judging is complete.

## AGRICULTURAL DAY – TROPHY RETURN

If you were awarded a trophy at last year's Agricultural Day, please return it to school as soon as possible ready for this year's prize giving.

## LAMB AND KID GOAT HELP

If you are new to Agricultural Day, would like help or to ask questions, please see Sharon at the office as we have a parent who is willing to give you advice.

## AGRISEA ANIMAL SUPPLIMENT

Free bottles of Agrisea are available at the school office. Please ask if you would like some.



## KEEP NEW ZEALAND BEAUTIFUL

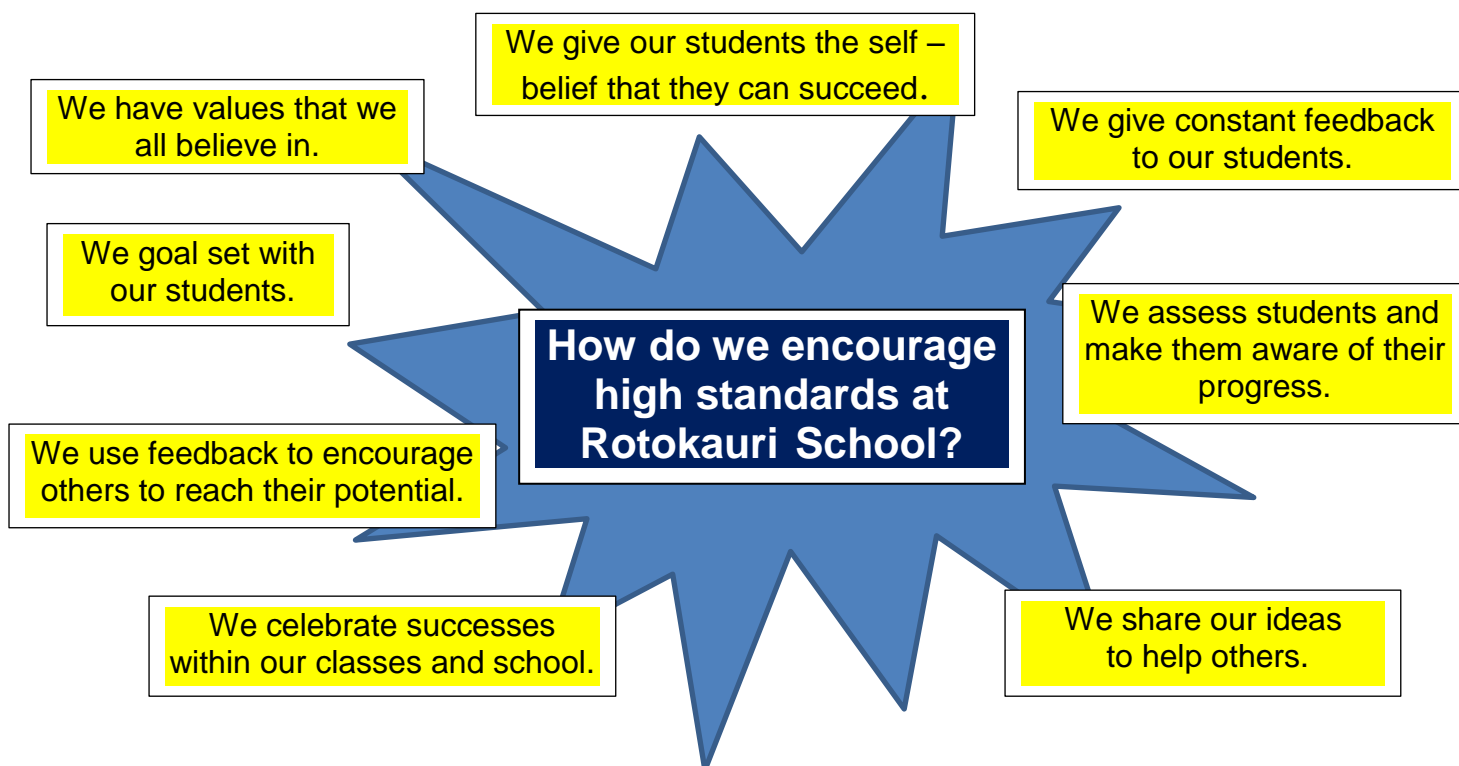
On Monday from 11am to approximately 11:30am, we will once again be participating in the Keep New Zealand Beautiful campaign. This will involve all our classes picking up rubbish in our school and around our community. The three senior rooms will be cleaning up outside our school grounds. We would appreciate some helpers coming along to help supervise. If you are able to help, please let the class teacher know, or the school office. Thanks for your support

## FEES OWING

**Please remember to pay the following to the school office:**

- Religious Instruction fee per year - \$5.00 per child
- Photocopying fee per year - \$4.00 per child
- Room 2 – Newspaper in Education fee - \$3.00
- Year 7 & 8 students only – Technology Fee \$100.00 per student per year.

Thank you to the parents who have paid their fees already. ☺



## ARTZ ON SHOW

Artz on Show is an exciting, confidence building, School Holiday Performing Arts Workshop. Come along for a week of hip hop, jazz, drama, vocals + more  
Monday 7 – Fri 11 October, 9 am – 4 pm daily concluding on Friday with a show for parents  
[www.onshow.net.nz](http://www.onshow.net.nz) or 09 529 1909



**Nicki Fredrickson**  
Workshop Director  
On Show Holdings Ltd. - P.O. Box 26550,  
Epsom, Auckland 1344  
526 Manukau Road, Epsom, Auckland  
M: 021 727 969  
FB: [facebook.com/artzonshow](https://www.facebook.com/artzonshow)

## **“AN EGG A DAY IS OKAY”**

**True! The yolk of an egg contains cholesterol which tends to make people think that eggs are bad for us. However, research shows that cholesterol from eggs does not increase our blood cholesterol, it's saturated fats in our foods that do this. So unless you have high cholesterol, an egg a day is okay!**

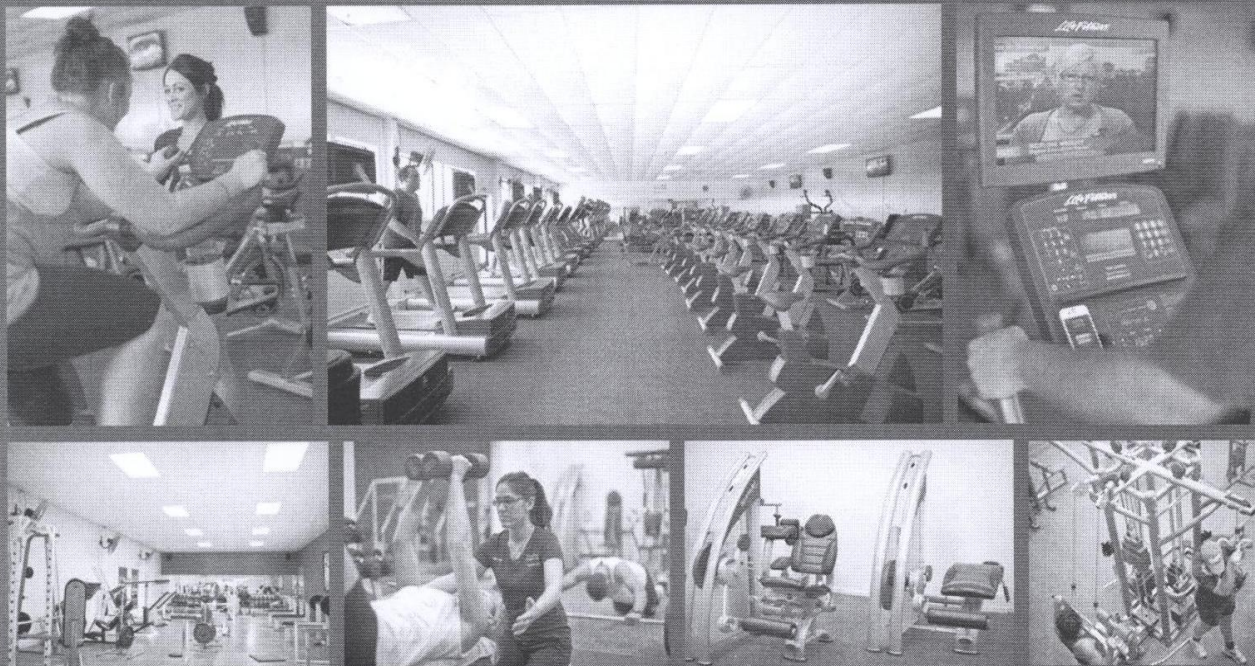


## **‘EVERYONE NEEDS TO PUSH PLAY 30 MINUTES A DAY’**

**False. Adults need to push play for at least 30 minutes each day, but children need at least 60 minutes of huff and puff a day. So get star jumping, riding your bike, running around and playing games/sports that will increase your huff and puff time to keep you fit and healthy!**



# Discounted Gym Memberships available to ROKOKAURI SCHOOL PARENTS & STAFF



**\$14.80 per week**  
Normally \$17.80pw

- Over 160 free carparks
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**Magnolia wanted**

I am looking for magnolia for my shop, if anyone has a tree and wouldn't mind me giving it a good trim could you please let me know on 0274 303 844

Thanks  
Marie Carlson

Don't forget we offer a 10% discount to the Rotokauri community

