

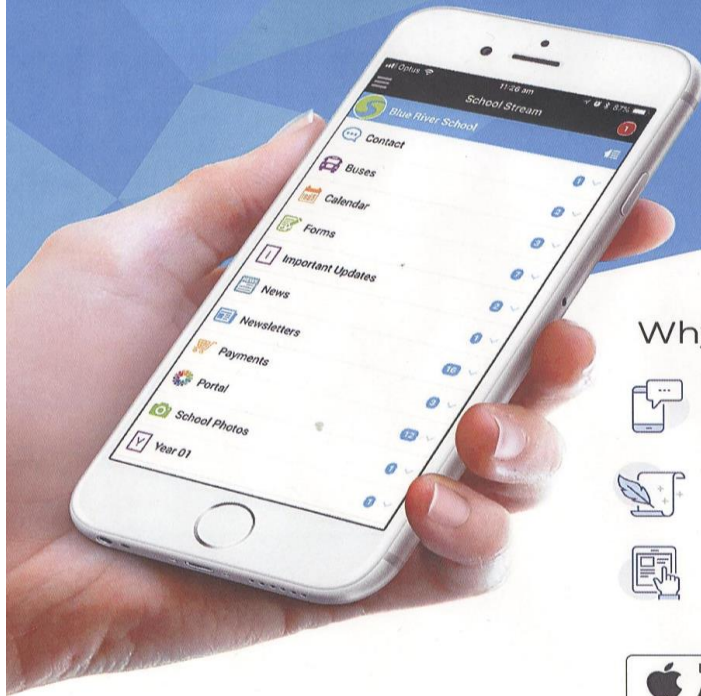
Rotokauri School Newsletter






Issue No: 6

9 May 2019

Download our school app for free!



Why download the app?



-  Receive instant notifications for important news.
-  Easily register absentees and excursions.
-  Keep up to date with events and set reminders.



Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.
2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.
3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.



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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

Respect

Empathy

Active Learning

Courage

Honesty

PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

Welcome back to Term 2 – I hope that you all enjoyed spending time with your children over the holidays and had a lovely Easter. It is pleasing to see and hear the children's excitement about being back at school. We have another busy term ahead of us, with lots of opportunities for our students to participate in.

At the end of last term it was my pleasure to present some students with Principal Awards for Term 1 –

- Room 1 = Maia O'Loughlin – shows all our school values, all the time.
- Room 2 = Mackenzie Moroney-Pearson – making a wonderful start at Rotokauri School and for always showing respect.
- Room 3 = Aja Jessop – showing our REACH values.
- Room 4 = Noah Rose – for always finishing his schoolwork on time and always listening to instructions.
- Room 5 = Madison Gibson – for her positive attitude and bubbly personality which makes everyone smile.
- Room 6 = Mason Newbold – being an active learner who listens carefully, follows instructions and always does his best.
- Room 7 = Olivia Moroney-Pearson – for showing great leadership potential.
- Room 8 = Baylee Garden – always being polite, responsible, caring, an active learner and stepping into her role as a leader at Rotokauri School.

Staff Update

The term has started with sufficient staffing for each class. The BOT have appointed a new teacher for Room 5 – Mrs Diana Donovan, but unfortunately her school cannot release her until the end of Week 5 (8 weeks notice is part of the Teachers Collective Contract), therefore she will begin at Rotokauri School on Tuesday 4th June. A big thank you to Mrs Jude MacDonald for teaching in Room 5 until this time.

Our new SENCO/DP – Ms Jaimee Carter - will start at Rotokauri School on Monday, 13th May.

Mrs Win Schmits has moved from Room 5 to Room 8 until a replacement teacher can be appointed. Thank you Mrs Schmits.

IMPORTANT - Change of Date - Cross Country

We have recently been notified that the cluster cross country has been moved forward a week and will now be held on Friday 24th May at Waitetuna. This has a direct impact on when we will be holding our school cross country. Therefore, this will now be held on Friday 17th May. Children are currently practising within their class programme.

Adults Behaviour

There have been some reported incidents within the school grounds and carpark of inappropriate language being used **in front of** children or directly **at** children. Please remember that swearing is not appropriate in either of these circumstances.

Mathematics

One of our targets this year is to improve the achievement of our students in Mathematics. During the holidays I have been investigating Maths research and would like to share with you some work from Jo Boaler. It is her advice for parents around steps to stamp out Maths anxiety in students.

1. Encourage children to play Maths puzzles and games. Puzzles and games, anything with dice or playing cards, will help children enjoy Maths and develop number sense, which is critically important.
2. Always be encouraging and never tell children they are wrong when they are working on Maths problems. Instead, find the logic in their thinking e.g. if your child multiplies 3 by 4 and gets 7, say “I see what you are thinking. You are using what you know about addition to add 3 and 4. When we multiply, we have 4 groups of 3 . . . “
3. Never associate Maths with speed. It is not important to work quickly, and we now know that forcing students to work quickly on Maths is the best way to start Maths anxiety for children.
4. Never share with your children the idea that you were bad at Maths at school or you dislike it. Researchers found that as soon as parents shared that idea with their children, their children’s achievement went down.
5. Encourage number sense. What separates high and low achievers is having an idea of the size of numbers and being able to separate and combine numbers flexibly e.g. when solving $29 + 56$, if you take one from the 56 and make it $30 + 55$, it is much easier to work out.
6. Perhaps most important of all: encourage a growth mindset to let students know that they have unlimited Maths potential and that being good at Maths is all about

working hard. When they tell you something is hard for them or they have made a mistake, tell them, “that’s wonderful – your brain is growing!”

Reading

Staff at Rotokauri School value Reading and appreciate the efforts of parents/caregivers for ensuring that Reading is an important part of home life as well as school life. Here are some tips for home reading –

- Establish a home reading routine. Read aloud with your child/children every day. Ten minutes for each child around a book of his/her choice. Share your enjoyment for reading and this will be the model your child will adopt.
- During home reading time, turn off electronic devices and give each child ten minutes of your undivided attention.
- Before you read a book, set your child up for success. Reading is not a test! Talk about the illustrations and the title, talk about the characters, the author and what is happening in the book. This is a short introduction, not an interrogation.
- If reading time is stressful, move the reading to a new location. Instead of sitting at the kitchen bench, move to the lounge, or go outside and sit under a tree, or take the books to the park etc.
- Find a reading time that works for your family. Limit the time and set the time if reading in the past has always been difficult. It is better to have an enjoyable 10 minutes than a laborious 30 minutes where everyone is left feeling frustrated.
- At the end of the 10 minutes reading, ask questions that encourage discussion e.g. what was your favourite part? Tell me about the characters? What do you think will happen next?
- Encourage your child to read independently. A bedside light is one of the best enticements for your child to read before going to sleep. After the 10 minutes of reading with you, your child can elect to continue reading independently.
- If your child has reached the level of chapter books, you can continue to share reading time because now as a family you can read silently together or talk about the books your child is reading. Readers read differently in their heads as compared to reading aloud.
- Visit the local library. Let your child select their books. Not every book has to be read cover to cover. Your child might select books based on illustrations or factual information on a topic of interest.
- Model what it means to be an enthusiastic reader. Create a home of readers where everyone reads.

Rotokauri School Values

Just a reminder that our values are now based around our acronym REACH – respect, empathy, active learners, courage and honesty. This term our focus value is **empathy**.

Empathy is the power to understand perspectives other than your own.

Empathy is the foundation for building bridges between individuals.

Empathy is the ability to put yourself in the shoes of someone else and understand what they are feeling or experiencing.

Empathy is trying to understand what another person is feeling. It is seeing the world through another’s eyes.

Why is developing empathy important for children?

Building an understanding of what others are feeling, how their own actions can impact on others, and why someone might be experiencing feelings at a particular time is a valuable life skill for children to possess. Helping children to develop a strong sense of empathy is beneficial because:

- It helps them to build a sense of security and stronger relationships with other children.
- It encourages tolerance and acceptance of others.
- It promotes social harmony and can reduce the likelihood of bullying.

How can we help children develop empathy?

Parents are children's first teachers and modelling empathetic behaviour is one of the best ways parents can teach their child this valuable skill. Other simple ways empathy can be developed include:

- Helping your child to name their feelings, as understanding their own feelings is an important first step in understanding the feelings of others.
- Talking to your child about how other people may be feeling and why. This helps to build their emotional language and think about other people's perspectives.
- Caring for animals and plants, helps children understand the role they play in helping another living thing survive, thrive and be happy.

How to practice empathy at school and home

Children can be practising empathy by:

- Listening to someone rather than trying to talk to them.
- Asking someone how they are feeling if you think there is something wrong.
- Learning about people from different backgrounds and cultures.
- Showing concern and care for others.
- Paying attention to the needs of others.
- Getting to know someone better instead of judging them.

Empathy is easy to say, but hard to do. This is an easy quote for children to remember – ***“Empathy is seeing with the eyes of another, listening with the ears of another and feeling with the heart of another.”*** – Alfred Adler

Reminder

Please keep checking your emails, our Facebook page and the noticeboard to ensure you are up-to-date with what is happening at school. Also, ensure that you have our school app on your mobile phones for communicating important notices to you e.g. lockdowns, and talk to your child's teacher about SeeSaw which is the way your child's progress and achievement is being shared with you by your child. This will show your child that you are interested in knowing about their time at school.

Ngaa mihi
Desiree Smith

BOT NEWS

Parent Election Notice

Rotokauri School Board of trustees' election.

Nominations are invited for the election of **5** parent representatives to the board of trustees.

A nomination form and a notice calling for nominations will be posted to all eligible voters.

You can nominate another person to stand as a candidate, or you can nominate yourself. Both parts of the form must be signed.

Additional nomination forms can be obtained from the school office.

Nominations close at noon on 24 May 2019 and may be accompanied by a signed candidate statement and photograph.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

Voting closes at noon on 7 June 2019.

Signed
S Verstraten
Returning Officer

PTA NEWS

DISCO

When: Thursday, 16 May 2019
Where: Rotokauri School Multipurpose Room
Entry Fee: \$2.00
Theme: Neon
Food & Drinks: Available to purchase
Times: Juniors (Years 1-4) 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm
Seniors (Years 5-8) 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm



Nature Trail

During the holidays some more progress has been made on the Nature Trail. We now have a fence surrounding the garden area.

Entertainment Books

Thank you to the families that supported this fundraiser. We still have a few outstanding books. Please either return or pay for these as soon as possible.

GENERAL MATTERS

Medication at School

If your child has any medication at school it is the responsibility of you, the parent / caregiver, to check that it is not out of date and that the medication form is up to date with any changes that have occurred since it was first filled in. Please take the time to check this.

Pool Key Return

We still have a number of keys outstanding. Please return them to the school office as soon as possible.

Dental Appointments

There are a number of students attending dental nurse appointments. Please follow these guidelines –

- contact the school prior to the appointment so that staff are aware of your child leaving school during learning time.
- sign your child in and out of school using the VisTab at the office.
- the directive from the Dental Nurses is that children are expected to return to school after their appointment.

Attendance

Each term a report is presented to the BOT on student attendance. Last term there were a large number of students with low attendance rates, which are of concern. The Ministry of Education expectation is that students are attending at or above 80% of the time that school is open for instruction. On your child's upcoming report you will notice the attendance rate for Term 1. If you would like to discuss your child's attendance and possibly the impact it has had on their learning please speak to their classroom teacher.

LitQuiz

Team 1: Ella Sumner, Bridgette Donny, Grace Cox and Hayley Jorgensen

Team 2: Cole Viljoen-Thomson, Connor Williams-Thomas, Cooper Miller and Carter Jackways

The annual Lit Quiz Waikato regional finals were held at Southwell School, on Wednesday 1st May 6:30pm.

22 teams entered and were from schools all over the Waikato region. It is open to Years 5, 6, 7 and 8 students who sit a selection quiz in Term 1 to find out who will make up the teams.



The quiz is made up of 10 categories and there are 10 questions per category. There is no prescribed reading list - the quiz aims to encourage a broad range of reading and students do not know the categories covered. Spot prizes are awarded throughout the night for random questions that any individual can answer, both from the school teams, and in the audience.

This year's categories covered topics such as Ducks and Drakes, Fire, Accessories, Buildings, and Mythological Characters. Some of the books that questions covered this year included: Where the Wild Things Are, Wuthering Heights, To Kill a Mockingbird, Huckleberry Finn, Cinderella, Puss in Boots, Snow White, Harry Potter series, The BFG, Dork Diaries, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Anne of Green Gables, Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse comics, a wide variety of Superhero comics, and Charlotte's Web

Thank you to Toni Rae and Sarah Dyer for coaching these teams since the beginning of the year.

ePRO8 Competition

We have entered two teams in the ePRO8 Challenge again this year and they are competing at Maeroa Intermediate today. The ePRO8 Challenge is a competition, an engineering and problem solving race. Teams compete to:

- build large sized structures
- solve practical problems
- engineer using pulleys, motors, gears, wheels and axles
- invent machines that can complete simple tasks
- undertake unusual and fun experiments
- construct basic electronic circuits
- solve interesting problems using practical maths

Our teams are:

Rotokauri Ravens (Years 5 & 6) – Bridgette Donny, Bella'Capri Nelson, Jesse Zillwood and Paige Moka.

Rotokauri Ragdolls (Years 7 & 8) – Lucas Birks, Carter Jackways, Connor Williams-Thomas and Baylee Garden

Thank you to Mrs Schmits for all the practice sessions that she has organised for the students so that they are well prepared for the competition.

Boxes Needed Please

The students with responsibility for Recycling would like your help please. They desperately need boxes which they can use for storing recycled paper. If you have any spare boxes (any size will do) could you please drop them into school.

CELEBRATIONS

At our assemblies the following children received certificates.

Assembly Awards

Week 10 - Term 1

Room 1	Franco McQueen - For completing many learning tasks this week
Room 1	Carter Moka - For working very hard to improve his speed reading this week.
Room 2	Koby Rose - For being, an absolute pleasant member of Room 2 and always having a warm caring attitude towards all you do.
Room 2	Nihil Maharaj - For being, an absolute pleasant member of Room 2 and always having a warm caring attitude towards all you do.
Room 3	Luca Haldane - For mastering heaps and heaps of basic facts. Addition and subtraction. Amazing!
Room 3	Isaac Hapi - For your efforts in writing are paying off. You are including descriptive details. Ka pai!
Room 4	Kaeleb Beets - For working hard using his imagination to build a house for our class mouse Ralph.
Room 4	Clarke Robinson - For using the value of being an active learner in reading and also helping others.
Room 5	Eli Bell - For always being respectful, kind and helpful. You are a valued class member Eli, and we all admire your courage.
Room 5	Deanna Smith - For taking great responsibility for her learning, and for her kindness and friendship towards others.
Room 6	Neve Townsend - For always being a positive member of Room 6. You are always up for a challenge. You are respectful and it is a pleasure to have you apart of our class.
Room 6	Sophie Fairclough - You have had an awesome term, working hard and always respectful. Thank you for being a happy, positive member of Room 6. You are awesome!
Room 7	Olivia Moroney-Pearson - For an excellent term, meeting all her in-school deadlines including optional homework. Your positivity is infectious!
Room 7	Mikayla Farrell - For always being a kind, helpful and respectful member of Room 7. You are making great progress in your reading. Keep up the good work!

Week 1 –Term 2

Room 1	Bosston Edgar-Brewer - For being an active learner and completing learning activities.
Room 1	Scarlett Swain - For being an active learner, and choosing learning activities in her free time.
Room 2	Kade Calnan - For being an active learner and completing your writing independently.
Room 2	Zach Williams - For completing your work to a high standard and giving everything a go.
Room 3	Hunter Edgar-Brewer - For demonstrating in depth understanding when listening to stories read aloud.
Room 3	Ashton Newbold - For writing an action packed recount about your holidays.
Room 4	Flint Coyle - For working hard in reading and being an active learner.
Room 4	Nirav Maharaj - For doing very well in his spelling words.
Room 5	Lily Young - For always using initiative and being an active learner.
Room 5	Madson Garden - For taking responsibility for his own learning and making a sustained effort.
Room 6	Jay Williams - I am very proud of you for working hard in Maths this week. You have completed the set which is what we have been working hard towards.
Room 6	Melisa Soltanizand - It is a joy to have you in Room 6. You are positive and are always working hard. You are friendly and always respectful.
Room 7	Jesse Zillwood - For showing creativity when writing about ANZAC.
Room 7	Bella Wilson - For always volunteering to help out with anything that is needed, often before anyone else.
Room 8	Ella Sumner - For her positive and focussed approach to learning. Especially impressive is her determination to achieve her cross country goal.
Room 8	Cooper Miller - For his high level of thinking when discussing text, sharing pertinent ideas confidently. We all enjoy his gentle and witty humour too!

MAAORI VS MĀORI



In te reo Maaori, either a macron (Māori) or a double vowel (Maaori) is used to indicate pronunciation of a long vowel. Sport Waikato follow the Waikato-Tainui preference and use a double vowel in our communications.

www.sportwaikato.org.nz

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STARS

MATARIKI

Matariki is the Maaori name for the cluster of stars visible during June/July. There are two versions of Matariki. One being that the cluster has 7 stars and another where there are 9 stars that light up the sky.



Developed by Sport Waikato 2019

FREE
CYBERSAFETY
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

THURSDAY 16 MAY - 7PM
HILLCREST HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM



NEW ZEALAND
POLICE

We have guest speakers:

Pauline Spence (Educator) from Netsafe
Constable Jack Driver from the Waikato Police Social media team
Constable Pete Van't Wout – School Community Officer

Please RSVP on the event link below so we get a rough idea of numbers.
Please share this event.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/458156674953426/?ti=ia>



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