

Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 12

15 August 2019

GREEN DAY



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

Respect

Empathy

Active Learning

Courage

Honesty

PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

The weather over the last two weeks has definitely had an impact on the students. Being wet underfoot has limited the playing space, which has meant that the students have had to modify their games and play on new surfaces. Spare clothes packed into school bags are a good idea at this time of year, in case of accidents. For parents the wet weather means extra care is needed whilst driving in and past the school. Often hats and coats block children's vision and bad weather seems to affect children's judgement. We encourage drivers to:

- Please drive slowly.
- Only let children in or out of the car on the left-hand side of the road in the bus bay so that they step onto the footpath.
- Please make sure that children are buckled in before moving off.
- Drive 40 km/hr or less around school.
- Watch for children on pedestrian crossings and at the school exit gate.
- Watch for children when backing out of carparks.
- Please do not park beside the school mailbox as this obscures the vision of drivers departing the school in either direction.
- Do not park on yellow lines or on the grass outside houses – we do not want to create issues with our neighbours.

Reminders –

1. If your child is biking or scootering to school please make sure that your child has the skills to do so safely and ensure that they have the appropriate safety gear. If your child is younger than 10 years of age and wants to ride to school parents must write a letter/send an email requesting permission from the Principal.
2. If it is necessary for your child to bring a mobile phone to school it must be accompanied with a letter or email from the parents explaining why it is necessary for your child to have a mobile phone. The mobile phone must be handed in to the school office before school and can be picked up after school. The school takes no responsibility for actions taken by students with mobile phones before and after school when not on school grounds.
3. If it is necessary for parents to take students out of school for days and/or weeks, a letter prior to leaving needs to be addressed to the Principal requesting leave for students and explaining what the leave is for. It is a requirement from the Ministry of Education that Boards are aware of students attendance and that the correct coding for absences is used by staff.
4. Communication between home and school is important. Please ensure that the school has the most up-to-date contact details for your child. This also includes when parents are away and students are being cared for by others. It has been frustrating for staff trying to contact parents when children are unwell or absent and the contact details are not helpful. It is also disappointing that despite numerous methods of communication with parents in regards to the school photos (e.g. two emails, a notification on SchoolStream and a hard copy note) students still came to school with the incorrect sports uniform for their team photos. This causes a great deal of un-necessary time spent by staff trying to locate appropriate clothing so that the team photo is one that children can be proud of.
5. Picking up children early – the school would appreciate prior notice if you will be picking up your child/children early from school, for whatever reason. An email to the classroom teacher is an expectation and it would be appreciated if you could come to the classroom to collect your child/children rather than telling them to go to the office to wait. Classroom disruption when this happens needs to be minimal.

On a more positive note –

- Thank you to Cherie Moroney and Lisa Burt for their assistance with organising teams for the photos. Also thank you to Olly Kells and Aidah Ali for their fantastic work on the day as runners for the photographer.
- Thank you to the whaanau group and Cherie Moroney for their efforts in making school sets of poi for our Kapa Haka Performance Group.
- Thank you to the twenty-one families that came along to the Keeping Ourselves Safe Information Afternoon with Constable Jacob Goldsmith. He was extremely surprised at the amount of families that attended and was impressed with the thoughtful questions that were asked. Lessons with Constable Jacob started this

week in the classes and I know that staff have kept you fully informed about the particular lessons that are being taught.

- Thank you to the 53 families that have responded to the Agricultural Day Indoor Activities survey which was emailed to you. We will keep this open for one more week so if you have not answered the 3 simple questions please look in your Inbox and fill in the survey.

And the final thank you goes to everyone that joined in on Friday 9th August with the Green Day. This was organised to call on the Government to give primary and intermediate principals a fair deal. Teachers recently won pay parity with their secondary colleagues – because a teacher is a teacher, regardless of the age of their students. But the government refused to give primary and intermediate principals parity with principals of comparably sized secondary schools, or any support for growing workloads. In small schools, principals are doing a complex job but often without any extra support and while teaching. Some principals are also paid less than some teachers in large schools.

I felt humbled and lucky to have the support of my staff and our students and parents. Needless to say, I got something in my eyes that caused them to water a tad! What an amazing feeling.

Ngaa mihi
Desiree Smith

BOT NEWS

School Donations

All New Zealand schools are funded by the Ministry of Education for basic operational costs (power, water, heating etc) according to their decile rating. Rotokauri School is currently decile 8. While this can be seen to have many advantages, its biggest difficulty is that annually we receive only a fraction of the Ministry of Education funding that is given to low decile schools (approximately \$750 per student less than a decile 1 school). This has a huge impact on what we can offer our students.

At Rotokauri School, we strive to deliver a quality educational experience for all of our children. However, this is only possible with the financial support of our parent community. We also rely on fundraising and the efforts of the PTA to make up any shortfall and to give our students as many opportunities as possible and not disadvantage them.

School donations at Rotokauri School support teacher aide hours, library books and extra sports equipment, art supplies etc. While the donation is not compulsory, we respectfully request your help to maintain the level of resourcing our children currently enjoy. The Board of Trustees tries to keep our school donations to a minimum. The Rotokauri School donations are set at \$100.00 per child (\$25.00 per term), with a maximum of \$250.00 per family of 3 or more children.

Payment can be made either in full or instalments, by cheque, cash or eftpos. For those wishing to pay using online banking our Rotokauri School details are:

Bank: ASB

Account name: Rotokauri School

Account number: 123152 0116129 00

For children starting school throughout the year, the donation is based on the number of terms your child attends.

Students in Years 7 & 8 pay an additional fee to attend Tech at Hamilton Junior High School. This fee covers the cost of materials.

PTA NEWS

Values Reflection Evening

Thank you to the PTA for hosting this valuable evening and for providing the delicious supper.

Car Show

Book Fair

Back Again By Popular Demand!!!

For the last two years our school has raised over \$1000 at the Book Fair thanks to the donations, work and purchases by the community. We have decided to have another Book Fair this year. The Book Fair will be held at the school Gala/ Car Show on Sunday 10th November. We are looking for donations of good quality books. (Sorry no magazines, encyclopedias, compendiums or readers digests).

So start to clean out your cupboards or bookshelves and bring those unwanted books along to Rotokauri School starting from this week. The collection point will be in the multi-purpose room.

We would also love some clean paper bags to place the books into once they are sold. If you have any queries, please contact the Book Fair Co-ordinator: Desiree Smith (Phone the school)

Sponsorship

We would like to ask if you or your company would be able to donate an item(s) or voucher(s) that we would be able to use as a prize for any upcoming fundraisers.

Alternatively, we are also looking for sponsorship for the Car Show and Gala which helps with the organisational costs.

In exchange for your support we will provide advertising for your business in our school newsletter and on any sponsor's boards at events. We would also be happy to discuss any specific advertising requests that you may have.

Fundraising activities make an important contribution towards providing the 'extras' and opportunities that a school budget does not stretch to and allows the PTA to make students' time at school more enjoyable. Any help that you or your business may be able to offer Rotokauri School would be greatly appreciated.

GENERAL MATTERS

Speeches

At Rotokauri School speeches are a compulsory component of our Oral Language programme. Winners of the school competition in Years 5 - 8 will go on to represent our school at the Cluster Speech Competition held at Te Uku. Each student will be asked to prepare a speech in class and will then bring it home for practising.

The genre this year is: Persuasive

The topic this year is: Open

Length of speech:

- Year 1 & 2 = 1 minute
- Year 3 = 1 minute 30
- Year 4 = 2 minutes
- Years 5 - 8 = 3 minutes

The use of props, pictures etc is permitted, however the use of IT is discouraged in case of technical difficulties.

We look forward to seeing the student's creativity and ability to write a speech develop.

We would encourage you to support your child by helping them to improve their presentation skills (by reinforcing what is being taught in the classroom).

Voice control

- Intonation – this is the way your voice rises and falls when speaking. Stress certain words and soften others – this adds feeling and mood to the speech.
- Clarity – your voice must be clear – if it is not, try speaking more slowly. Concentrate on pronouncing each word and do not run words together. Keep head up – words will not be muffled then. Imagine someone is trying to lip read your speech.
- Speed – your speech must be delivered slowly enough to be understood and yet quickly enough to keep people interested. Do not speak too fast!
- Volume – speak loudly enough so that people at the back of the audience can hear. To increase volume stand tall and breathe into the bottom of your chest. The quantity of air in your lungs determines how loud your voice is. Too little air means a squeaky, strained voice and a sore throat!

Body Language

- Stance – is you stand up straight and hold your head up you look more confident. Try to stand in one place and as still as you can.
- Facial expression – look friendly, and smile (if it is appropriate to your speech). Once you have relaxed a little make contact with your audience by looking at specific faces. These people will feel that they are involved in your speech and are important.

- Gesture – movement of hands and arms can be very expressive, and can be used to “underline” what you have said. Arms should not be folded across your body as this reduces your volume and makes your audience feel cut off from you.
- Response to the audience – react to any positive audience response. Smile with them; frown with them; nod in agreement with their response. Try not to be put off by any interruptions!

Good luck everyone.

Student Lunchboxes

At Rotokauri School we encourage students to fuel their body and mind with healthy food options. Please do not send lollies or sweets to school as part of their lunch or Brain Break.

We have some students with severe food allergies and we encourage parents to know what their children are eating. For these reasons students are not allowed to swap or share food, unless it is a special, organised school event.

Food scraps such as apple cores, orange peel, bread crusts etc are collected for recycling in our compost heap and worm farm. Other food is taken home by the students so parents can see what hasn't been eaten.

Please note that in an effort to limit packaging and rubbish, students will bring all rubbish from their morning tea and lunch back home in their lunch box.

Please do not send students to school with glass containers as these are a Health and Safety risk for the students themselves and others. It is also important to have containers that the children are able to open themselves.

Bags are mostly stored outside classrooms. If you include meat/fish or other perishable items in lunchboxes you may like to include a chilly pack in their lunchbox.

Students are encouraged to bring named drink bottles to keep in the classroom. These should be filled with water.

Students are discouraged from bringing food to school that requires re-heating.

Daffodil Day

What is Daffodil Day? The Cancer Society of New Zealand's Daffodil Day symbolises hope for 1 in 3 New Zealanders affected by cancer. It is an opportunity to raise awareness of cancer. Donations are used to support those affected by cancer and their whaanau, fund lifesaving cancer research and help reduce the incidence of cancer for our children and grandchildren.

This cause has meant a lot to the staff and past/present students due to the passing of two dedicated teachers from cancer. Mrs Gaylene Morgan and Mrs Clara Lange played a big role in the lives of the Rotokauri School community and we honour their memory by contributing to this worthwhile cause. So show your support, whether it's

volunteering your time, organising a fundraising campaign, making a donation by phone, online or to one of the street collectors, **every gift counts**.

Keeping Ourselves Safe

The Keeping Ourselves Safe programme is underway in each of the classrooms and lessons with Constable Jacob Goldsmith start this week. The parents' role in this programme is to support their child with the home-based activities that are included in the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme.

What Students Will Learn

Years 1 – 3 resources will help students to learn:

- a range of safety skills that they can use when interacting with others
- what they can do if they have been or are being abused.

Year 4–6 resources will help students to learn:

- a range of safe practices that they can use when interacting with others
- what they can do if they have been or are being abused
- what happens when abuse is reported.

Year 7–8 resources will help students to learn:

- a range of safe practices that they can use when interacting with others
- what they can do if they have been or are being abused
- what happens when abuse is reported.

Lost Property

Staff and students work hard to keep the amount of Lost Property to a minimum. Each week clothes are on display on the deck outside Room 4 or as part of our assemblies. Please help us by naming your children's clothing so that it is easily identifiable and then the clothing can be returned to its rightful owner. Many children do not recognise their own clothing and often there is more than one child in the school wearing particular clothing items. We will not be keeping clothing in the Lost Property container (stored in the Student Foyer) for long as they are becoming smelly and some weeks overflowing the container – so we encourage parents/caregivers and the students themselves to check on a regular basis.

SPCA Help

In our last newsletter two senior students asked for your help to support the SPCA. The girls have been inundated with large volumes of goods for the SPCA and are amazed at the generosity of our community. The students will be holding a Cupcake Day to fundraise as well, this is timetabled for 12th September. On the 13th September the SPCA will be presented with all the donations at our Celebration Assembly.

Talent Show

Last Friday the students were given a note about our school Talent Show. This will be held on Friday 27th September as part of our final Celebration Assembly for the term. There are three categories: Juniors (Years 1 – 4), Seniors (Years 5 – 8) and Mixed (Years 1 – 8). There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category. Entries need to be in by Friday 30th August. No late entries will be accepted.

Guidelines for participation:

1. Acts must be 3-5 minutes
2. Acts must use appropriate behaviour e.g. language, dance moves.
3. Acts can include props, music etc which must be provided by the student.

If you require more information or another entry form please speak to the organising students – Baylee Garden and Karenza Curtis (Room 8). Well done girls.

Gymnastics

It has been wonderful to have the knowledge and skills of Lauren O’Sullivan from Hamilton City Gym Sports coaching the Rotokauri GymSport team twice a week. Thank you to the parents that have been coming along to help the students improve as well. We still require transport to the GymSports Festival on Thursday 22nd August, so if you can help please get in contact with Ms Carter – jcarter@rotokauri.school.nz

Junior Football Tournament

Congratulations to the students that have been chosen to participate in the cluster Junior Football Tournament. A reminder that burger pre-orders are due in to the office this Friday 16th August. For us to participate we will require parent help on the day. Please complete the permission slip and return to the school office (with payment) by this Friday 16th August.

Agricultural Day Entry Form

The Agricultural Day Entry form is available on the school website www.rotokauri.school.nz under the newsletter attachment section. **The last day for entry forms to be returned to the school office is Friday, 20 September. Sorry, no late entries will be accepted.**

Trophy Return

Could all Agricultural Day trophies be returned to the school office please so that they are ready for this year’s event.

CELEBRATIONS

Values Awards

Well done to the following students for showing our Rotokauri School values –

Deanna Smith	Room 5	Active learner
Maddix Anniss	Room 5	Active learner
Mahi Sharma	Room 2	Empathy
Anna Haldane	Room 2	Empathy

At our assemblies the following children received certificates.

Assembly Awards

Week 2

Room 1	Oliver Ashplant - For amazing effort and resilience during football coaching.
Room 2	Toby Milne - For making the right choices for your learning and taking pride in all your work. Keep it up.
Room 2	Leelyn Clark - For continuously being respectful to everyone and taking pride in your work. Well done.
Room 3	Zeke Sia - For your awesome hard work developing your fluent expressive reading.
Room 3	Luca Haldane - For your awesome effort in reading and writing tricky words.
Room 4	Imogen Jennings - For being an active learner in her reading and maths.
Room 4	Addison Jennings - For being a very enthusiastic active learner especially in her maths.
Room 6	Riley Dempsey-Irvine – For being an active learner, and managing distractions well. Making excellent choices.
Room 6	Mya Aitchison - For writing an amazing introduction in our persuasive topic of “Should animals be kept in zoos”.
Room 7	Hannah Hobbs - For an outstanding effort to research the history of the Treaty of Waitangi.
Room 7	Jayden Ward - For an amazing piece of informative writing about the Treaty of Waitangi.
Room 8	Riley Cornelissen - For continuing to be a positive learner and class member. You show persistence working towards your learning goals. Be proud Riley.
Room 8	Ella Prangnell - For being an active learner, especially when working on her writing goals. You show thoughtfulness and perseverance. Well done Ella,

Week 3

Room 1	Franco McQueen - For making a big effort with his writing, keeping his letters on the line, and being an active learner.
Room 1	Maddox Stratford - For making a big effort with his work and being an active learner.
Room 2	Nihil Maharaj - For taking ownership in your learning and being an active learner. Keep up the great work!
Room 2	Mahi Sharma - For being an active learner and being focused and determined during learning time.
Room 3	Cairo Nelson - For your hard work and effort in your learning. Kia mau te wehi!
Room 3	Alex Dombroski - For working hard on your writing and publishing. Nicely done.
Room 4	Lachie Anderson - For showing empathy with others by helping them to be an active learner.
Room 4	Reed Kahaki - For showing empathy with others by helping them to be an active learner.
Room 5	Sari Tangiora - For listening carefully to instructions and being a kind class member.
Room 5	Tanisha Shankar - For taking pride in your learning. Keep it up!
Room 6	Cole Turney - For showing excellent understanding of division, and strategies being used.
Room 6	Taylor Underhill - For having the confidence to join in on class discussions and sharing her ideas.
Room 7	Aidah Ali - For doing a fantastic job as a runner for the Team Photos this week.
Room 7	Olly Kells - For doing a fantastic job as a runner for the Team Photos this week.
Room 8	Alaura Pickles - Having the confidence to share her ideas, and working purposefully towards her learning goals in writing.
Room 8	Cole Viljoen-Thomson - For showing real focus in his learning achieving consistently high standards, but especially for showing kindness and support towards others.

Class Sharing

Room 3 REACH Values Video

As part of our learning of the school values, we put together a video about the school values and how we earn values cards. The value cards go into a draw at assemblies. [View the video here.](#) Performed and filmed by Room 3.



SNACKS

GROW SNACKS

Milk and milk products give children calcium to help build strong bones and teeth. They also help adults maintain strong, healthy bones. Some great choices are:



Milk for Schools – if not already, get your school on board!



www.sportwaikato.org.nz
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SNACKS

GO SNACKS

Grain foods give our brain and body energy to GO and are a good source of fibre. Try grainy crackers and grainy bread to get more fibre.



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