

Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 10

2 July 2020



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

We are nearing the end of one of the most memorable and challenging terms in the history of New Zealand schools. We now know that we have the capability to teach and learn online if required. I would like to once again thank our staff and families for the amazing support extended to our students throughout the first half of this year. An incredible amount of energy, commitment and flexibility went into providing opportunities that enhanced wellbeing, as well as focusing on the key learning areas. We look forward to seeing what the second half of the year presents us!

It is a pleasure to wander around school at present as the children are very settled and focused on their classroom learning activities. Routines are back in place and teachers and teacher aides are working hard to ensure programmes are engaging and extending the children. We look forward to maintaining this momentum after the holidays. Our students have shown an extraordinary amount of resilience upon returning to school and have coped well with the length of the term, but are now showing a readiness for a break.

Term 2 comes to an end on Friday 3 July and will commence again on Tuesday 21 July.

Teacher Only Day

Monday 20 July is Teacher Only Day. Staff will be working on our Rotokauri Curriculum on this day.

Meeting with Teachers

If you would like to meet with a teacher please email them to ensure that they will be at school when you are available. Sometimes you can just catch them in the mornings (as teachers are required to be in their classrooms from 8.30 a.m.) or after school, however often they have appointments, meetings, responsibilities that require their attention. If you email prior they can usually change plans if possible.

Lateness

Being late for school has a negative impact on your child's learning. Being just 10 minutes late every day adds up to an hour a week of lost learning. Over a year this adds up to one week of school missed in a year! Being late for class often means important instructions are missed and the class is interrupted. Your child may feel uncomfortable and on the outer with peers. Children need to arrive on time ready to settle into their school work. Arriving at least 5 minutes before the first bell allows your child to interact with their peers and teacher and get themselves ready for their busy day. The start of school bell rings at 8.55 a.m. at Rotokauri School.

Attending school regularly and arriving on time helps prepare children for the real world, where it is expected that they turn up to work every day and on time.

Early Pickups

We like to keep distractions in classrooms to a minimum, therefore we ask that you email the teachers and cc the office or phone the office if you need to pick your children up early from school. When you are at school to pick up your child, call into the office to sign them out. The classroom will then be phoned and the teacher asked to send your child to the office to meet you.

Have a wonderful holiday everyone, enjoy spending time with your children without the lockdown restrictions. We will see you all back at school on Tuesday 21 July.

Ngaa mihi

Desiree Smith

BOT NEWS

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the students of Rotokauri School for all their hard work during lockdown. Distance Learning was a new challenge and the BOT were very impressed with the feedback from the staff about the children's engagement with this new style of learning. It was pleasing to hear how the students continued to display the Rotokauri School R.E.A.C.H values during this time.

The school's Board of Trustees is a committee of parents/whanau and staff elected to govern the school. Their roles are to –

- Oversee the school's strategic direction.
- Ensure that funds from the Ministry of Education, as well as those raised locally by our community, are allocated effectively in order to have the best interests of our children.
- Support the leadership to ensure that we have a strong and inclusive culture.

- Be involved in the employment of staff.
- Monitor the progress and achievement of all students.

At Rotokauri School the emphasis is on the development of each child's strengths and talents. The BOT strive to offer the very best education for all our students. Resources are in place to help all children reach their full potential, including those who need extra support.

The Principal is automatically a member of the Board of Trustees. The Principal is responsible for the management of the school, so that it meets the direction set by the BOT.

Our current BOT consists of Paul Burt, Craig Zillwood, Rebecca Jackson, Brad Kells, Ioana Manu, Andrea O'Rourke and Desiree Smith.

Some examples of things the BOT have done over the last year include:

- Planning for future classrooms and infrastructure.
- Meeting with the Education Review Office (ERO) when they reviewed the school.
- Planning for upgrades around the school (replacing decks, painting, fixing the drop-off bay, pool maintenance).
- Being part of the team interviewing new teaching staff.
- Getting involved in school activities, talking to school families, being part of the community.

If you would like to contact the BOT please email bot@rotokauri.school.nz

STAFF NOTICES

Class and Portrait Photographs

We are still waiting for the key codes to be sent. These will be available after the holidays.

Team Photographs

These will be held on Thursday, 6 August. More details closer to the time.

Carpark Behaviour

Schools are busy areas, where there are often lots of children who do not always understand the danger of roads and vehicles. Please make sure to take extra care in and around the school entrance ways.

We rely on parents/caregivers and staff to be role models for our students when in the carpark and bus bay/pick up/drop off zone.

At Rotokauri School we are very conscious of road safety. Please help us with this by always using the road crossing when delivering or collecting your children from school. We ask that you do not walk through the carpark.

Please do not park on the yellow lines and the disabled car park (unless you qualify). The yellow lines and crossing are there to keep your children safe so please respect this and be a role model by doing the right thing.

Bus Bay / Drop Off / Pick up Zone

This is an area where you can quickly set down and pick up your child/children. They create a safe environment for children and keep traffic moving. Drop-off and pick-up areas are designed for 2 minutes to drop off or collect your child/children.

There can often be queues at drop-off and pick-up areas at school so we recommend that parents/caregivers –

- Use the area like a quick moving taxi rank.
- Move forward in the queue of vehicles.
- Assist your child/children to quickly get in and out safely and then move off.
- If your child/children are not ready to get straight into your vehicle at pick-up time, you will need to drive round the block and queue to enter the area again or find a carpark to move into.
- Teach your children to look out for your vehicle and to get in quickly when you pull up.
- Insist that your child/children enter and leave the vehicle in a safe manner e.g. on the correct side of the vehicle.

During Level 2 we instituted a system requiring visiting parents to sign in when coming into the school in the morning. This meant most parents just opened the car door and the students popped out and made their own way to class. This made for much safer and smoother arrivals and departures in the drop off zone.

Closely related to this was the way in which students walked to class. During the lockdown it was noticeable that students became much more independent and took more responsibility when they were just dropped off. We welcome parents to our school but we also encourage students to develop the skills mentioned above.

Anything we can do to minimize the dangers in the car park and smooth the traffic flow helps everyone.

Students Walking / Biking To School

We encourage students to walk, scooter or cycle to and from school to improve students' health and fitness. However, it is the responsibility of both school and home to support students to learn road safety skills.

Safe Cycling

- The Police recommendation is that only children over the age of 10 cycle without an adult and this is the guideline that Rotokauri School follows. Therefore, if your child is cycling under the age of 10 a letter to the Principal must be sent to school.
- When riding on a bike students need to be seen, preferably by wearing bright clothing or a high visibility jacket.
- A correctly fitted helmet needs to be worn.
- If you are on a bike it must be walked across the road and in the school grounds.
- Bikes are to remain in the bike stand during the school day. A padlock is optional.

Safe Walking

- Always use the footpaths provided.
- Use pedestrian crossings if available, look both ways and check that vehicles have stopped before stepping out.
- Be careful with driveways.
- Follow the road rules of STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.

Safe Scootering

- Younger students (under 10 years) are allowed to ride their scooter to school if they are accompanied by a parent or caregiver.
- Scooters must be walked into the school as for bikes.
- We recommend that helmets are worn for protection.
- We recommend that high visibility vests are worn.

Dogs on School Property

Because of the potential health problems from dogs fouling on the grounds, and the danger from unrestrained pets, we have a rule that no dogs are allowed on school property at any time, unless having consent from the Principal. Signs are posted at the gates and we appreciate parent/caregiver and community members' cooperation in taking notice of these.

VisTab Tablet – Sign-In and Sign-Out Register

Thank you to the parents/caregivers that have been signing in and out as requested. This allows us to keep accurate attendance records in the event of a fire, natural disaster or lockdown. This register must be completed if you are removing your child from school for any reason.

ICAS Exams Nominations

We are calling for entries for the ICAS exams to be held in Term 3. Exams offered this year are in Science, Digital Technologies, English, Spelling and Mathematics.

These **ONLINE** assessments are available for children in **Years 4 – 8** and are aimed at students who are **ABOVE** in these areas or demonstrate ability.

Please complete the registration form attached with this week's newsletter if you wish your child to sit any ICAS exams (**\$15 per examination paper**) and return to the school office along with the entry fee by **Friday, 24 July 2020**.

Parent Interviews

Attached to this newsletter is the information necessary for booking your appointment slots for our upcoming Parent Interviews. Interviews will be 15 minutes long and are being held on Monday 27th July and Tuesday 28th July. At these interviews you will be given your child's mid-year report. It is therefore important that you meet with your child's teacher to unpack the comments in their report. Due to this being an important face-to-face opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss your child's progress we ask that you make arrangements for your pre-school children to be cared for during the parent interview time. This will allow the focus to be on our students learning.

Please be mindful of the timeframes as interviews are back to back for staff. If you need more time, you will need to arrange another time to meet the teacher. For split families we ask that you arrange one interview per family. However, if this is not possible please email Miss Smith dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz to make other arrangements.

The booking schedule will open today Thursday 2nd July at 9.00 a.m.

CELEBRATIONS

Values Awards

Aston Burt	Room 1	Showing the school value of Active Learner
Corbyn Stratford	Room 1	Showing the school value of Courage when working with Ms Carter
Cameron Emslie	Room 2	Showing the school value of Respect
Noah Rose	Room 5	Showing the school value of Respect

Assembly Awards

At our assemblies the following students received certificates. Congratulations.

Week 10

Room 1	Jayden Day	Working hard at home with learning his sight words.
Room 1	Aston Burt	Doing so well with learning his sight words.
Room 2	Cameron Emslie	For relating to others with respect, including your class mates and teachers.
Room 2	Hugo Hodgson	For sharing your knowledge of birds and living creatures, and your interest to learn more.
Room 3	Cooper-Love Buckle	For showing respect and leadership within the classroom! Keep up the great work.
Room 3	Mackenzie O'Rourke	For taking pride in forming your letters and numbers beautifully in handwriting! Keep up that dedication.
Room 4	Brianna Donny	For working very hard to get her reading done correctly.
Room 4	Ashton Newbold	For working hard in all areas of his learning.
Room 5	Liam Buckle	For your focusing super powers during class discussions.
Room 5	Mercedes Barber	For your detailed explanation on Dogs.
Room 6	Jett McFall	For showing great progress in Reading. You have been working well in class and showing excellent understanding. Your hard work has paid off as you are progressing.

Room 6	Charlie Jones	For showing great empathy towards others. You have been helpful and have shown great manners towards others.
Room 7	Maya Sharma	For always being an Active Learner in the classroom.
Room 7	Melisa Soltanizand	For stepping up and filling in someone else's role when they were away.
Room 8	Ciaran Williams-Thomas	For completing an excellent science investigation and board about using a lemon to power a light bulb.
Room 8	Ella Sumner	For completing an excellent science investigation and board about duck feathers.

Cross Country Results

Well done to all our students who completed the school cross country last Friday 26 June in challenging weather conditions. Congratulations to the students below who placed first, second or third in their age group. Certificates will be presented at this Friday's assembly which starts at an earlier time of 2.10 p.m.

	1st	2nd	3rd
5 Year Olds Boys	Jayden Day	Noxx Rogers	Thomas Warner
5 Year Olds Girls	Hannah-Leah Warbrick	Ellie-Rose Anderson	Heidi Viljoen
6 Year Olds Boys	Toby Milne	Carter Moka	Jackson Connolly
6 Year Olds Girls	Kaylee Quinlan	Anna Haldane	Maia O'Loughlin
7 Year Olds Boys	Nate Turney	Liam Surgenor	Cairo Nelson
7 Year Olds Girls	Izzy Christensen	Ava Esselbrugge	Shaan Judge
8 Year Olds Boys	Brooklyn Christensen	Luca Haldane	Ashton Newbold
8 Year Olds Girls	Khloe Woodward	Aja Jessop	Jiya Prajapati
9 Year Olds Boys	Noah Rose	Reece Calnan	Samuel Watkins
9 Year Olds Girls	Hannah Milne	Acacia Barham	Nalei Nelson
10 Year Olds Boys	Cole Turney	Cory Burt	Archie Cameron
10 Year Olds Girls	Neve Townsend	Sophie Fairclough	Deanna Smith
11 Year Olds Boys	Seth Westgate	Lewis Surgenor	Vincent Gibson
11 Year Olds Girls	Bella Wilson	Hannah Hobbs	Lily Allen
12 Year Olds Boys	Oscar Stratford	Ben Milne	Layton Farrell
12 Year Olds Girls	Mia Walker	Ella Burt	Ella Caulfield

House Points

1st = Kakariki on 267

2nd = Kikorangi on 257

3rd = Kowhai on 254

4th = Whero on 240

After School Spanish Club

Fun Languages offers an opportunity for children aged 2-12 years old to learn Spanish. Our team are all fluent or native Spanish speakers and passionate about taking children on a journey of discovery through the language and culture of Spanish speaking countries. The focus is on fun games, activities, songs and crafts that will enable them to use their new language for real purpose.

When: Wednesdays 3pm-4pm

Where: Rotokauri School Library

10 week term: 22nd July-23rd September

Cost: \$15 per session. 10 week term = \$150

FIRST SESSION IS FREE TO TRY

NEW STUDENTS CAN JOIN ANYTIME

Please register your interest at amber@lcfclubs.co.nz or call 022 199 3958

Class Sharing

Matariki Celebrations

Room 1





Room 2





We worked together to make pikelets and hot chocolate for a delicious shared kai.

I was making sweet pikelets and we were making milo. Sweet, yummy milo. We were in our pyjamas.
By Hannah-Leah Warbrick.



We all had a hot chocolate because it's Matariki New Year. We had delicious pikelets with sweet red jam on it.
By Carter Moka

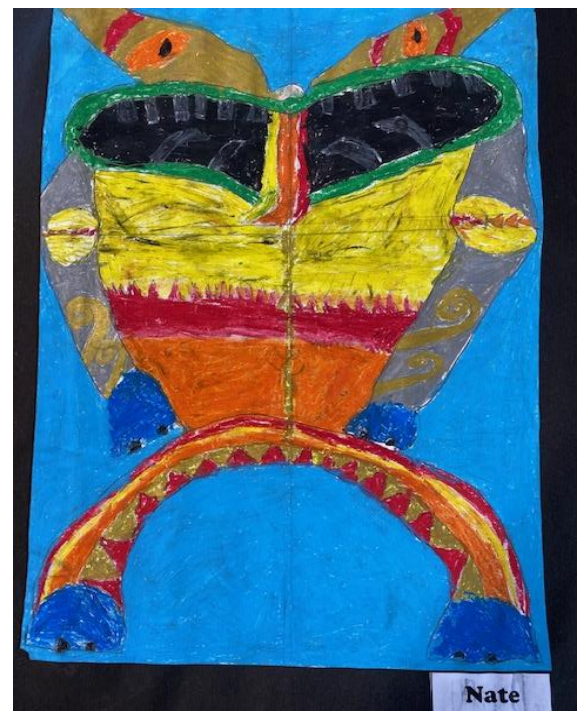
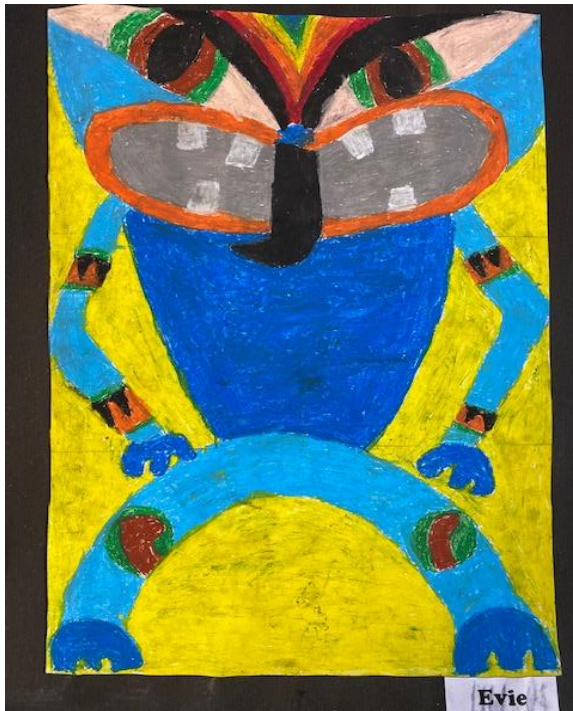
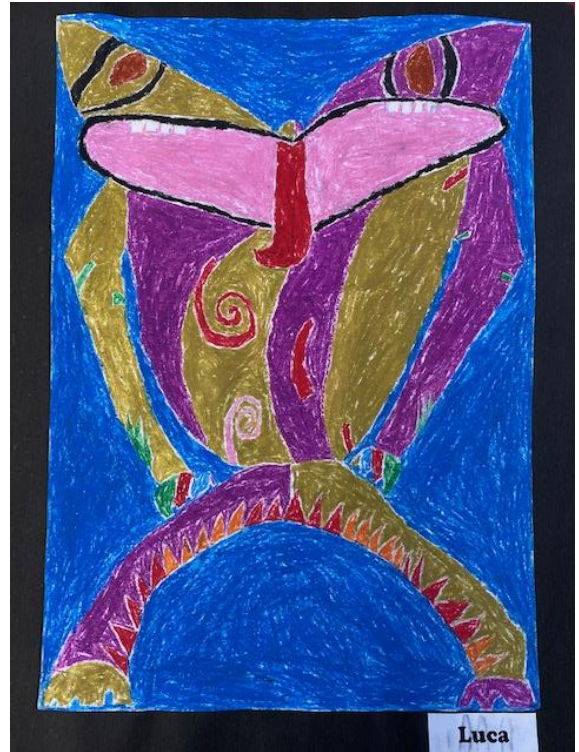
Today we made yummy pikelets and chocolate milo. It was yummy. Me and Hannah-Leah poured the mixture into the frying pan. What we put on the pikelets was red jam for Matariki.
By Mahi Sharma

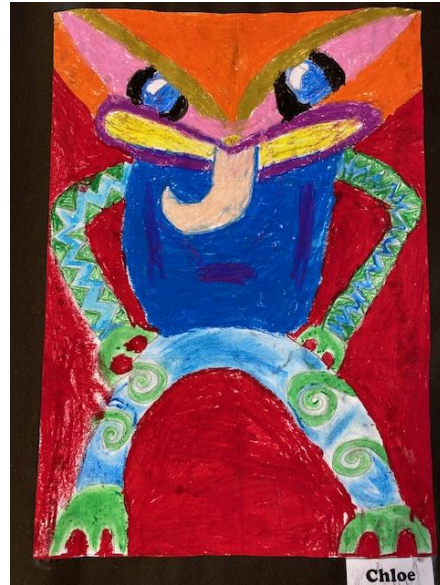
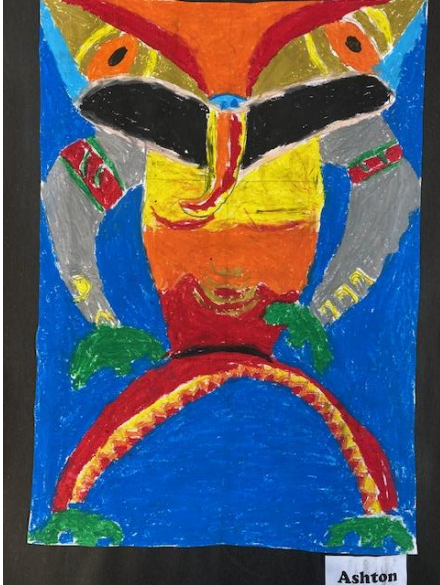




Matariki kites Manu tukutuku on display in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Room 4





Room 5

Matariki - By Mia

What is Matariki? Matariki is a star cluster. A star is a large group of stars. Matariki is a signal for Maori that the New Year has arrived. It is a time for renewal. The star names are: Waiti, Waita, Ururangi, Tupu-a-nuku, Tupu-a-rangi, Waipuna-a-rangi and Matariki. Matariki is a time to remember the whanau or close ones that went before you. Matariki comes in late May or early June.

What are the traditions of Matariki? Most people celebrate Matariki with having big feasts with: kumara, maori potatoes, cabbage, yam, meat and seafood. Another tradition is waiata which means songs in maori. Some people use kites or hot air balloons and fireworks to mark the occasion. The most important Matariki tradition is spending time with your whanau (family).

What are four Matariki legends?

- 1: When Matariki and her six daughters got thrown up into the heavens they disappeared only to come out every late May or early June.
- 2: When Papatuanuku and Ranginui got separated Tawhirimatea got so angry he tore his eyes out throwing, them into the heavens.
- 3: Matariki loved her six daughters so much they would gather together every year before the sunrise to have family time in the north east horizon.
- 4: Tawhirimatea was so angry he threw Matariki and her six daughters into the sky and from that day on they would only be seen on the north east horizon late May or early June.

There are many different names for Matariki, let me tell you some: Pleiades, eyes of god, the seven sisters, eyes of royalty, makaila'l subaru (which means gather together) and little eyes. 15,000 people celebrated Matariki last year. Interestingly 19 percent of the world celebrates Matariki. Matariki is actually 440 light years away. If Matariki is bright and clear it means that it will be a good harvest for farmers. Matariki is a special time of year!

Room 6

In Room 6 this week, we have been celebrating Matariki with different activities.

Poi Making

With some help from some awesome parents and Mrs Evans, we worked in buddies to create some great poi. We are now learning a waiata and actions to go with it.



Poupou Art

This traditional medium of Maori art can be seen on most marae in New Zealand and is a taonga to be treasured by all of us. Through the process of observing, discussing and creating a poupou ākonga will make connections with the symbols, content, patterns and importance of this Māori art medium. We did put a twist onto our Poupou to symbolise ourselves and favourite things to do.



Shared Kai

We celebrated by having a shared kai for breakfast. We had cereals, toast and Milo.



Room 7

The Horror of the Sky

As I was munching away at the lush grass, I smelt a disturbing smell. I looked around and saw my cow brothers weren't bothered by it. So I wasn't. But I soon forgot about that horrid smell. I was too busy running as fast as a cheetah to a ginormous clump of grass.

When I was eating that delicious grass, (did I tell you it was delicious?) I smelt it again. It smelt like gas. I started to panic. Then I felt the wind rushing above me. I saw flocks of birds evacuating the trees. Oooo the trees, the delicious trees, (oh yes the trees) any way, the trees were swaying about. Then my cow brothers started running and panicking. I looked up and saw my worst nightmare. A huge ball shaped object was roaming the sky. Everyone started running away, through fences, over gates and running even more! This time I panicked again. I started running.

It's been 5 months since the floating object. When I was running 5 months ago, we ran until we reached the NASA space station. We sneaked our way into a rocket. We pressed the button. AND LIFT OFF!!! I was the captain of it obviously, and then we flew up and into outer space. We flew for a couple of days, then we saw it. I said "oh no, it's the" ... By Lachlan Emslie



To Be Continued



The Balloon Attack!

Hi, the name's Barney, and yes I'm a bird and no I'm not ashamed of being a bird. Anyway, please sit down because I have a wonderful story to tell. But first, make sure you're comfortable, does anyone need to use the bathroom? You sir, well I'm not waiting so hold it in.

It all started a couple, well, days ago.... It all started out as a nice, normal, foggy but beautiful morning. Until... A big fat bouncy ball was flying and it had little people in a basket thing underneath. I was furious at the ball for ruining my morning. So, I went back to my house (tree) and told my fellow bird siblings what had happened. When I told them they were furious as well. So the next day we decided to...

Attaaaaaaaaaaaaack, the big fat bouncy ball, it had to go. But a couple of us were hit, and then it hit me "doof" no, not like that. An idea, it wasn't the same balloon, it was a decoy! So, we searched and searched and searched, until... we saw something in the distance. Oh *gasp*, my mother's 2nd cousin who has a very strange disease and the bird doctor can't explain it, has just been hit. By a baby...

We turn and flee from the bouncy ball, the very tiny human also known as a baby is throwing bread stick thingees at us. Fly, fly away my friends. I only have 8 siblings left, before I had 22. These humans think all we eat is bread, so they just shove the bread down our throats until we eat it. Hmmm, we must defeat the bouncy ball once and for all. Yeeeeeaaah. We must pop it, every bird go and get your beaks sharpened. Go, go, go.

There's the stupid ball, here we go, this is the plan, Bailey, Tim, Tom and Bella, you guys need to distract the humans while me, Barvey, Timmy and Maya try and pop the ball. If the ball won't pop and we need your help, I will make this sound "ck,ck,ck,ck,ck,ck,ck,ck" come and help us, good, let's go... It won't pop. ck,ck,ck,ck,ck,ck,ck,ck. Everyone. Peck this spot, if we can get at least one hole, it will slowly go down. POP! We've done it, let's go home and watch the people be terrified. Aaaaaaaahhhhhhhhhhh "doof". Whoops maybe the hole was TOO big. Oh well, let's go home and celebrate. Victory is ours! And so, from that day on, whenever a bird came across a bouncy ball, the human would just go higher and higher until the bird leaves. But I did find out that the big fat bouncy ball is actually called a balloon. Hope you enjoyed the story, until next time my friends.

By Ava Viljoen-Thomson

The Balloon Invasion #1

There I was going for my morning fly, the sun was shining, the crickets were chirping, it was just a calm morning like any other. Then out of the gloom came a, I don't know what it is but it sure was ferocious. It was even worse than that mama eagle (plane). It had fire shooting up onto its stomach and there were two things in it, it had two wings and two legs. Honey it's probably just a Kereru. No it was no bird I had ever seen. They were sitting in a nest sort of thing. I just made it out alive before it gobbled me up. Honey bunch what colour was it. It was pastel blue and grey. Oh then that's no bird, we'll have to find out another time right now you need to rest, that thing has got you too afraid. Just rest that's all you need to do. Thank you love.

Stay tuned to find out if we find or catch that hideous beast.
The End by Carter.

This is the thing I saw.



Room 8

In Room 8 our inquiry focus has been learning about Matariki, the Māori New Year. As part of our Matariki celebrations we have been designing and making kites ready for our kite flying day on Friday. Through our research we discovered that kites are traditionally flown during Matariki to connect earth to heaven and is a time when we can remember our ancestors.

Making our kites...



Matariki Shared Breakfast


Our Matariki shared breakfast was a wonderful social occasion. Room 8 students planned a scrumptious feast of waffles, Māori bread, toast, and cereal. Thank you to all the staff and families that brought in waffle machines and kai, your support and generosity was appreciated by us all.



*Wishing you
all a happy
and safe
holiday from
all of us in
Room 8.*



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The advertisement for NO LIMITS POOLS features the company name in large, bold, black letters. Below the name, the word "POOLS" is written in a smaller, spaced-out font. The background is a light blue, rippling water texture. In the bottom left corner, the text "FREE QUOTES" is written in a white, italicized font. In the bottom right corner, the contact information for Alex Short is provided: "Alex Short", "022 313 9282", and "admin@nolimitspools.co.nz".

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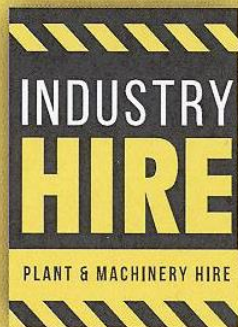
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