

Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 11

30 July 2020

Rotokauri School Arbor 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

WELCOME

Nau mai, haere mai ki te kura o Rotokauri.

Welcome to Paige Robinson Hastings, Evie Hodgson and Kayla van Rooij in Room 1.

We hope you and your whaanau/family enjoy your learning journey at Rotokauri School.

Ngaa mihi nui.

PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

Welcome back to the new term and I hope you all had a restful and relaxed holiday. We are all looking forward to a settled ten weeks of learning and teaching ahead of us. Remember to look after yourself and your whanau over the next two months. We all lead very busy lives and this term there will be many students playing sport so managing our time is extremely important. Nationally in education we are doing remarkably well in keeping the usual winter illnesses in check with our increased hygiene habits. We will be keeping the strict routines up at school as they are now becoming the norm.

At the beginning of this term a number of students moved classes throughout the junior school. This is a decision that is not taken lightly, but is a necessity to ensure that all classes in the first three years at school have low classroom numbers. We are very proud of the way that the students accepted the challenge to move classes. I was impressed with the smiles and excitement that I heard and saw in the first week of this term. Thank you parents for guiding and supporting them through this challenge in such

a positive manner. Please remember that the conversations within your family shape the thoughts and views of your child/children.

Thank you to all the parents/caregivers/whanau that helped the students with the planting on our Rotokauri School Arbor Day last Friday, 24th July. The SCENT project is looking amazing and it is due to the ongoing support from our school community, both physically and financially, that this project is coming to fruition.

I hope that you enjoyed the extra day of your holidays (Monday 20th July). It was a productive day for the staff whereby we began our plans for introducing a Graduate Profile and a localised curriculum. One of our next steps will be to seek feedback from the students and the community on both these topics.

I am immensely proud of the dedicated and professional staff that we have at Rotokauri School. They work tirelessly, often behind the scenes, to ensure that quality programmes are taught through an integrated curriculum. They are also constantly collaborating with others and participating in professional development which has an impact on children's learning. I value all the staff at Rotokauri School. It is therefore disappointing to hear about how some of them are being treated disrespectfully, by words or actions, by members of our school community and how the school is being discussed negatively in the wider community. I believe that families are very fortunate to be part of this incredible school. I would like to remind parents/caregivers of our school's enrolment scheme (ballot) which enabled you to enrol in your school of choice (Rotokauri) and guide you to the Complaints and Concerns Procedure which should be followed by all if there is anything you are unhappy with. We have developed our school values that are designed for not only students, but parents and visitors to our school.

Enjoy the next fortnight.

Ngaa mihi

Desiree Smith

BOT NEWS

Lateness

One of the roles of the Board of Trustees is to monitor attendance and lateness of our students, as this directly impacts on student progress and achievement. Thank you to the PTA for funding the VisTab in our school office as this aids staff in maintaining accurate records for attendance and lateness of students. We strongly encourage parents/caregivers to ensure that their child/children are at school in a timely fashion. The focus for the school for the remainder of the year is to track late students and decrease any patterns of lateness that may be emerging. School starts at 8.55 a.m. and we would appreciate students being at school by 8.45 a.m. This would ensure that they have time to prepare themselves for the day ahead and have some time interacting with their peers. It would also help with limiting the number of distractions that staff are experiencing with students arriving in their classrooms when they have begun their learning programmes.

What will this mean?

- Students will continue to use the VisTab to sign in after the 8.55 a.m. bell.
- Information about the reason for lateness will be gathered and recorded in eTap, the school's management system.
- The Principal and Deputy Principal will be monitoring any patterns of lateness on a weekly basis. A pattern of lateness at Rotokauri School shall be defined as:
 - When a student has been late 2 or more times over a week.
- If a pattern of lateness is emerging, it is an expectation that one of the Management Team will make contact with home to seek a reason and ensure that the student is at school prior to the bell at 8.55 a.m.
- If there is no improvement further steps on behalf of the school shall be:
 - First instance: letter home from Principal
 - Second instance: phone call from Principal
 - Third instance: second and final letter from Principal
 - Fourth instance: Board of Trustees notification and involvement if needed.

School Donations

We would like to take this opportunity to provide some background regarding the payments we request from families at the beginning of each school year.

In New Zealand, we are very fortunate to have access to free education. However, current levels of Government funding only enable state schools to deliver a very basic educational experience. All schools receive funding to pay teachers (based on the school roll) and basic operational costs (power, water, heating etc.). Beyond that, school funding is linked to a school's decile (from 1 to 10). The decile system targets more funding to those schools with a higher proportion of students living in overcrowded homes or whose parents have low levels of income, employment or education. We are a decile 8 school because we have the lowest incidence of these challenges in our community. As a result, we receive a lower level of Government funding (almost \$1,000 less per student per year compared to a decile 1 school). You can find out more about the decile system online by searching for 'nz school decile funding'.

You may be aware that this year the Government introduced a school donations scheme. This is for schools that are a decile 1 – 7, unfortunately Rotokauri School is a decile 8 school and therefore we did not meet the criteria for involvement in this scheme.

At Rotokauri Primary School, we strive to deliver not just a basic, but a top quality educational experience for all of our children. But this is only possible with the financial support of our wonderful parent community and dedicated PTA. We will be relying on projected donations and fundraising to make up the shortfall once again this year. Without this support, we will have no option but to cut back on items such as relief teaching and teacher aide hours, curriculum resources, library books, technology upgrades, sports equipment and art supplies. Equally, if donations are greater than projected, we will be able to increase spending on these vital resources.

So while the donation is not compulsory, we respectfully request your help to maintain the level of resourcing our children currently enjoy:

	For the year	Per Term
One child at Rotokauri	\$100.00	\$25.00
Two children at Rotokauri	\$200.00	\$50.00
Three or more children at Rotokauri	\$250.00 max	\$62.50

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

Up to 33% of your donation may be claimed back as a tax rebate. A tax receipt will be issued on request. More details can be found at www.ird.govt.nz (rebate claim form IR526).

Payment Methods

The following payment methods are available for donations:

Internet Banking:

- Bank: ASB
- Account Name: Rotokauri School Board of Trustees
- Account Number: 123152 0116129 00

At the school office:

- EFTPOS, cash and cheques

Property Update

During the holidays work was undertaken as part of our 5 year plan. The large trees behind the library and Room 2 were removed, which has resulted in more light in both the rooms and no more acorns hitting the roof. The next step in this project is to improve the indoor/outdoor flow from the library deck and the development of a courtyard area for students to enjoy reading. Thank you Swamp Frog Arborist services for an outstanding job and thank you to the parents/caregivers for the donations received for the firewood that was removed.

The railings on Rooms 5, 7 & 8 were rebuilt as per building specifications, as well as the stairs on Room 5 being blocked for safety reasons. Thank you Josh from Vivod Developments for a fantastic job – we look forward to all the other jobs that you will be completing for the school.

And last but by no means least, the extensions on the busbay were almost completed. The concreting was completed by Vivod Developments and the structural framework has been built thanks to McLeods Sheetmetals. We are now waiting for the Perspex and seating to be undertaken and the project will be completed. Thank you to Laser Plumbing for doing this.

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

PTA NEWS

Disco

When: Friday 7th August

Where: School Multi-purpose Room

Time: 6.00 – 7.30 p.m Junior School (Years 1 – 4)
7.30 – 9.00 p.m Senior School (Years 5 – 8)

Cost: \$2.00 per student entry cost

Theme: Winter Wonderland

Food will be available for sale

Car Show

The PTA will be holding the Car Show on Sunday, 8th November at Rotokauri School. More advertising for this will be coming later in the term.

If you know someone who is willing to donate goods, vouchers or money please contact the PTA committee at pta@rotokauri.school.nz or let Sharon in the school office know.

Book Fair

We are accepting good quality novels, children's books, board games and jigsaw puzzles (with no pieces missing please). These can be brought to school any time from now and can be placed in the multipurpose room.

Jar Hoop Game

This very popular game will be running again at the car show. Closer to the date we will be asking each family to donate jars of goodies for this.

Pie Fundraising

We will be taking orders for Oxford Pies soon. Keep a look out for the order form in your child's bag. All instructions will be provided on the form.

STAFF NOTICES

Teacher Responsibilities

Most teachers are kept busy with just their day-to-day teaching duties. Add to these the extra roles that teachers undertake outside the classroom and you end up with very busy staff members. At Rotokauri School we also have an expectation that staff will attend three compulsory meetings per week – Staff Meeting, Professional Development Meeting and Syndicate Meeting. Currently at Rotokauri School we have staff that are volunteering by:

- Coaching sport e.g. hockey, netball, touch, gymnastics
- Serving on a committee e.g. PTA, Student Council
- Opening Library at lunchtimes

There are many activities that are outside the classroom that staff commit to in order for our students to gain extra opportunities and to keep our children safe e.g.

- Organising school events e.g. Fun Fridays, school trips, camps

- Organising fundraising
- Attending school discos
- Playground and carpark duty

Some responsibilities that staff undertake are subject to remuneration e.g. mentoring new teachers, being a lead teacher of a curriculum area or leading a school initiative such as Enviro.

Please know that the staff at Rotokauri School work extremely hard to provide a quality education for your child/children, often above and beyond their classroom responsibilities. The Ministry of Education and our own Board of Trustees have a focus on Wellbeing and Wellness for staff and students, this will be our focus for the remainder of the year as well. We encourage our staff to have a work/life balance and appreciate that often their families come second. Providing staff with positive and encouraging feedback is always appreciated.

Parent Interviews

Thank you to the parents/caregivers that attended parent interviews for their child/children earlier this week. Being invited to a parent-teacher interview doesn't mean there is a problem with your child's progress. At Rotokauri School this is an opportunity for teachers to discuss your child's progress so far this year and to unpack their report.

It is timely after parent interviews to review the processes we have in place and to reflect on what could be improved. I will be sending out a survey next week and would appreciate and value any feedback you provide.

Why it's worth going to parent-teacher interviews?

Parent-teacher interviews give you a great opportunity to:

- learn more about your child's academic, emotional and social development
- help your child's teacher understand more about your child
- make plans with the teacher about how you can both support your child
- show your child that you value and are interested in their learning and what is happening for them at school

Of course, if you do have concerns, it's a chance for you to raise them with your child's teacher if you haven't done that already.

If you don't get through everything you want to discuss at a parent teacher interview, you might need to arrange another meeting with your child's teacher.

Talking with the teacher: tips

- Being **open and friendly** will set you up for positive communication with the teacher. You can show that you respect what the teacher is saying by listening carefully and trying not to become defensive, even if you disagree with feedback about your child.

- It's important to get as much out of the meeting as you can, so it's okay to ask the teacher to explain, clarify or say more if you don't understand what's being said.
- If you have a concern about something, try to be specific and avoid blame.

If you have to discuss problems with the teacher, it helps to come ready with some possible solutions, or at least some positive and practical suggestions. Be willing to listen to the teacher's ideas too.

If you make any decisions, it's good to agree on who will follow up and when.

Arranging parent-teacher meetings at other times

If you have any concerns about your child's social or academic development, **you don't have to wait for a formal parent-teacher interview** to talk about them.

Your child's teacher will be happy to arrange a meeting with you to discuss any issues. You just need to contact the school to make an appointment. Teachers are also happy to be contacted via their school email account.

Tough Guy / Girl

Rotokauri School has **11 places STILL AVAILABLE** for this popular event to be held at **Ngaruawahia Christian Camp on Friday, 11 September 2020**. **Students in Years 3-8** can be entered as part of our school team. **Our school entries close on Friday, 28 August** and are on a first in, first served basis. **No unpaid entries will be accepted.** Please click on the link below and follow the instructions.

<https://eventdesq.sportstg.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=RegisterAdd1&EventDesqID=33511&OrgID=20511>

1. Select Hamilton, Friday, 11 September and the year group of your child e.g. Y3
2. If asked for a pin code enter **Ham20**
3. Tick the terms and conditions box
4. Click next to continue with your entry and entering personal details
5. Tick Teacher for Bib Collection and write Rotokauri School in FULL
6. Remember to pay for your child's entry online

Gymnastics

Our schoolwide focus this term is on Gymnastics. Classes have booked sessions in the MPR each week to develop their skills such as balance, landing and rotation. Children will need to wear suitable clothes that allow for movement during their gymnastics sessions.

Hamilton City Gymnastics Festival Years 2-8

The Hamilton City Gymsport Competition **is on Thursday, 27 August** at Hamilton City Gym on Mainstreet Street, Te Rapa. **The entry fee is \$5 per child** and must be paid to the school office by **Wednesday, 12 August**.

Practices will be held on **Wednesdays and Thursdays during the lunch hour from 12.30 -1.10 p.m.** If you choose to allow your child to participate, we expect them to

commit to attending **BOTH** the coaching sessions available to them. Please discuss this with them as there are limited spaces, and while we would like to include everyone, it may not be possible.

We are on a shorter time frame due to the COVID-19 pandemic and have 5 weeks to learn our 3 routines. Routines were sent home earlier this week. Children **MUST** know their routine off by heart and to a reasonable standard by **Friday, 7 August** as we will not be taking students who have not put in the effort to commit to learning their routines.

Attitude Parent Evening

Rotokauri School invites parents of **Year 7-8 students** to attend a parent workshop on **THURSDAY, 13 AUGUST at 6.30 p.m. in the MPR**, covering the content that will be delivered in regards to our Year 7-8 puberty session on Friday, 14 August. Parents of Year 6 students are welcome to attend the parent workshop too, however, only Year 7 and 8 students will attend the workshop on Friday. More detailed information will come home to parents closer to the date.

Read the blurb below to find out a little bit about Attitude or look them up on their website. <https://www.attitude.org.nz/>

Attitude is New Zealand's largest external health education provider who deliver inspiring presentations in more than 400 New Zealand high schools and intermediates annually. Attitude impacts approximately 275,000 students each year. Attitude programmes are a unique mix of information, inspiration and humour, offering young people strategies for solving problems, handling stress, building resilience and negotiating relationships. By partnering with schools, youth workers and existing local programmes, Attitude also directs students to the support they might need.

GENERAL MATTERS

Trophy Return

Could all Agricultural Day and Speech trophies be returned to the school office please so that they are ready for this year's events.

Agricultural Day

Thank you to the families that responded promptly in regards to entering an animal for Agricultural Day. Due to the interest numbers the animal section of Agricultural Day will be continuing this year. The indoor activities will not be completed on this day. Further details about changes will come later this term.

Agricultural Day Helpers Needed

To make this day run smoothly we are totally reliant on volunteers. Below are 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.

- **Calf, goat and lamb stewards 1 x each section** - to assist the judge by organising the children with their animals, writing down the judges results and tying ribbons on the animals.

Agricultural Day Entry Form - Calf, Lamb and Goat only

The entry form is attached to this newsletter and is available on our website www.rotokauri.school.nz under newsletter and newsletter attachments and notices. **The last day for entries is Friday, 18 September. Sorry, no late entries will be accepted.**

We are currently looking for day old chickens for interested children.

Team / Group Photographs

Team Photographs will be taken on Thursday, 6 August. This year we will be using the on-line ordering system so payment details will come home at a later date. **Remember to send your child with their sports uniform on the day of the photo and if necessary, to have black leggings or shorts so that the photographs look tidy with everyone looking like a team.** Team coaches and managers are welcome to come along to school and be in the photo. For an idea of the timetable on the day, please contact Sharon. Teams / Groups to be photographed are: Netball, Touch – Term 4, 2019 and Term 1, 2020, Waterpolo, Student Council, Peer Mediators and Kapahaka Performance Group.

Class and Portrait Photographs

The access key codes were sent home the first few days of this term. If you would like to order photographs please remember to do so by Sunday, 9 August to get free delivery to the school. If you order after this date you will have to pay for postage to your home. If you did not receive your access key code and you would like to place an order, please contact Photoslife directly on 0800 501 040 and they will be able to supply your code.

Medical Requirements

Please ensure that you come to the school office to fill out a medical form if your child requires medication during school hours. If your child needs to use an inhaler please ensure that they are brought to school, named and in a sealed plastic bag. No medications can be administered without written permission. **If medication is held at school please take the time to check expiry dates during the year so that if needed, the medication will work correctly when administered.**

If your child has an allergy, is asthmatic or has other medical conditions that require a health plan please let Jaimee Carter know jcarter@rotokauri.school.nz so that these plans can be completed or updated (as per the Ministry of Health regulations).

CELEBRATIONS

Values Awards – Term 3 Week 1

Hugo Hodgson	Room 3	Showing the school value of Courage
Tommy Selwyn	Room 4	Showing the school value of Courage
Tanisha Shankar	Room 6	Showing the school value of Respect
Mackenzie Moroney-Pearson	Room 3	Showing the school value of Active Learner

Assembly Awards

At our assemblies the following students received certificates. Congratulations.

Term 3 Week 1

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Room 1	Rydge Shortland	For being an active learner and stretching unknown words in your writing. Ka Pai!
Room 1	Alexis Heerdegen	For being an active learner, learning from your mistakes to write 'letters' correctly.
Room 2	Carter Moka	For showing the value of empathy by welcoming in our new students into our class and taking them under your wing. You are very kind.
Room 2	Maddox Stratford	For showing the value of active learning by working through challenging learning especially in maths. Your brain is growing!
Room 3	Aniket Raju	For demonstrating active learning throughout all your work.
Room 3	Izzy Christensen	For showing our REACH values throughout the school and class.
Room 4	Alex Dombroski	For using the value of active learning by working out a word problem on his own.
Room 4	Ryan Russell	For showing the value of active learning by working hard on his art
Room 5	Reed Kahiki	For stepping up with the quality of your handwriting
Room 5	Imogen Jennings	For the excellent maths you have completed this week
Room 6	Charlotte Few	For showing great empathy towards a friend. Thank you for showing kindness.
Room 6	Cooper Hobbs	For starting the term off excellent by being organised, focused and ready for learning. Keep it up Cooper. Ka pai.
Room 7	Aditya Raju	For the way you have tried to use all of our REACH values this week.
Room 7	Matthew Webber	For your focused and quiet determination to your classroom work.
Room 8	Daksh Prajapati	For working hard in all areas of your learning
Room 8	Oliver Campbell	For listening to feedback and working hard in your writing

EAT TO ENERGIZE

BEFORE SPORT

1-4 hrs before your game, fuel your body with GO foods such as porridge, weet-bix, a wrap or a sandwich with grainy bread, pasta salad or healthy leftovers.

www.sportwaikato.org.nz
© This resource was developed by Sport Waikato 2020

EAT TO ENERGIZE

EAT RIGHT EVERY DAY!

It is important to eat healthy, well-balanced meals and snacks every day, not just when you play sport. Keep your body healthy, strong and ready for action all year round.

www.sportwaikato.org.nz
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WIN 25 FREE ENTRIES!

25 free entries into the Grassroots Trust Kids Challenge will be won by one school who has registered as a team before August 10th!

REGISTER YOUR SCHOOL TEAM TODAY
www.roundthebridges.co.nz

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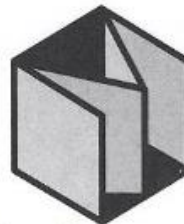
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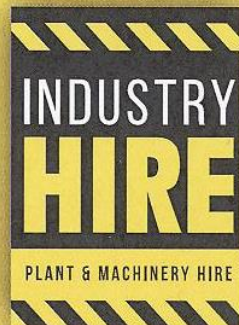
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