

# Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 1

10 February 2022



**ROKOKAURI SCHOOL**  
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HAMILTON 3289

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**[www.rotokauri.school.nz](http://www.rotokauri.school.nz)**

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 the new students that have started at Rotokauri School this year –

Room 5 – Cody Wade

Room 1 – Aedenn Tan, Cody Calnan, Liam Harrison, Cohen O'Brien, Te Aria Kingi, Cooper Wiseman, Theo Cowley, Cleo Mackrell

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

Nгаа mihi nui.

## **PRINCIPAL'S PIECE**

Happy new year to staff, students and their families. A very warm welcome back and a special welcome to all the new students mentioned above, and their families.

Also, this year we welcome Mrs Suz Brosnan and Mr Sam Brinkworth to our staff as classroom teachers and Ms Nicole Banks as a teacher aide based in Room 1. I have been impressed with the way in which children have settled back into school with all the changes and challenges. Well done.

There is a lot of important information in this newsletter so please take the time to read it through carefully.

Nгаа mihi

Desiree Smith

## **New Staff**

### **Mrs Suz Brosnan**

Hey Rotokauri community! My name is Mrs Suz Brosnan and I have been teaching for over 25 years, mostly in Years 3-4. I am excited about starting my journey at Rotokauri School and returning to teach juniors in Room 1. I have two children of my own, a daughter and a son, who both attend Rototuna Junior High School. I love exercising, mindfulness, reading and being in nature. At the beginning of the year, my fiancé, our families and I travelled down to my mother's place in Canterbury to get married!

### **Mr Sam Brinkworth**

Kia ora, I am Mr Brinkworth and I am very excited to be joining the Rotokauri School community. I grew up in Hamilton and attended Hamilton Boys High School. Following this I completed my studies at the University of Waikato in Environmental Sciences and Teaching. Outside of school I have a strong passion for sports, particularly golf, rugby, and cricket. I am looking forward to being involved in the school community and getting to know the students.

### **Ms Nicole Banks**

Kia Ora Rotokauri Whanau

I have joined the team this year working as a Teacher Aide here at Rotokauri School. Previously I was teaching in Early Childhood Education and then last year I decided to complete my Teacher Aide training. Prior to this I enjoyed being a stay at home mum with my two boys, Isaia and Elijah. I look forward to meeting many of you throughout the year, and I hope to get involved lots with the children's sporting teams and achievements this year.

## **PTA NEWS**

Looking to meet new people? Wanting to help out the school and community? Then why not join the Rotokauri School PTA. Take up the opportunity to be involved and support the school, share your knowledge and skills. The PTA meet once a month in the school staffroom. The first meeting for 2022 is 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

### **Lunches**

Lunches will start on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> February. Pies only will be offered at this stage:

#### **Large \$3.50**

Mince & Cheese

Butter Chicken

Peach & Passionfruit

Apricot

#### **Small \$2.00**

Mini Mince

Sausage Rolls

Please fill out the docket and staple it to one side of the brown paper bag, pop your money inside, fold over twice and drop it in the lunches box in the student foyer, thanks.

## BOT NEWS

Thank you to the BOT for the work that they have completed over the holiday period.

A new door has been installed between the Library and Room 2 to allow larger numbers and more space.



Whiteboard work stations were installed in Rooms 1, 2, 5, 7 & 8 and these provide much needed storage space for staff and students.



## **Swimming Tutor**

Thank you to the BOT for employing Mrs Sarah Selwyn as a swimming tutor for some of our students again this year. If you are concerned about your child's ability and would like them included in the extra swimming sessions on Monday and Tuesday lunch times please email [dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz)

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Classes and Teachers**

The following classes are operating this year –

Room 1	Year 1	Mrs Suz Brosnan
Room 2	Year 1 & 2	Mrs Andrea O'Rourke
Room 3	Year 2 & 3	Whaea Ariana Matenga
Room 4	Year 3 & 4	Mrs Claire Walker
Room 5	Year 5	Mrs Diana Donovan
Room 6	Year 6 & 7	Mr Scott Robertson
Room 7	Year 7 & 8	Mr Sam Brinkworth
Room 8	Year 8	Mrs Jane Rickman

### **Term Dates**

Term 1: 1<sup>st</sup> February – 14<sup>th</sup> April

Term 2: 2<sup>nd</sup> May – 8<sup>th</sup> July

Term 3: 25<sup>th</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September

Term 4: 17<sup>th</sup> October – 14<sup>th</sup> December

### **Key Times To Remember**

8.30 am Classrooms open

8.55 am School starts

11.00 am Morning tea

12.30 pm Lunch

3.00 pm School finishes

There have been some changes due to operating in RED. The school has been split into two groups and breaks for morning tea and lunch are taken at different times.

### **Attendance and Absence Notification**

There are many justified reasons why a student may be kept at home for the day and we ask that parents contact us by telephone, email, in person or via the school app; ideally before 9.00 a.m. so that the absence can be appropriately recorded. When notifying the school please let us know your child's name, the class they are in and the reason for their absence.

Any unexplained absences on the teachers' roll after 9.10 a.m. will be followed up by a telephone call to the parents/caregivers. If the school is not notified of the absence and a reason the child will be marked as Truant.

Absences are monitored by staff, as this is a requirement of the Ministry of Education.

## **Staff Hours of Contact**

Please note that our staff are available in their class from 8.30 a.m. Due to privacy this may not be the best time to raise a concern in front of other families (or your child) so it may be appropriate to email your concerns to the teacher and/or make an appointment to meet at a mutually agreed time. Because of their teaching load and duties during the day, staff will endeavour to give an email response within 24 hours, between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. from Monday to Friday. E-mails sent to staff during the weekend will not be responded to until Monday.

Staff have professional meetings on Tuesday afternoons (3.15 – 5.00 p.m.) and Thursday afternoons (3.15 – 5.00 p.m.) so may not be available to address any concerns face-to-face on these days.

As a staff we are committed to open and positive communication with our families.

## **Communication with Families**

Schools are busy places with lots going on. We don't want any of our school community to miss out on the things that are happening. As much as we try and share information, we ask that you actively seek out and use the following sources to keep up-to-date with key events and information.

### **School newsletter**

Our school newsletter is published once a fortnight, on a Thursday. This is usually emailed to families but a hard copy can be requested.

### **Rotokauri Website**

Our [school website](#) features general information about the school, school event calendar and class webpages – [www.rotokauri.school.nz](http://www.rotokauri.school.nz)

### **School App**

The School Stream app can be downloaded onto your smartphone to receive instant notifications of events, reminders and cancellations. This app is available on iPhone, Android and Internet explorer pages.

### **Facebook**

The [school Facebook](#) page is a great way to see photos from events and read good news stories.

### **Seesaw**

The Learning Journey app is used by students and teachers to share their learning with families. This app is available on iPhone, Android and Internet explorer pages.

Teachers can provide the log in details for your student. This year, Seesaw will only be used by Rooms 1-4.

Please keep checking the noticeboard at the front of the school, the school calendar available on the webpage and your emails to ensure that you keep updated with events happening at school throughout the year.

## **Assemblies**

Unfortunately due to the RED alert level that we are currently in, whole school assemblies are not able to be held. Therefore, individual classes are holding mini assemblies in their classes on Fridays and presenting certificates to the students.

## **School Donations**

This year the Board of Trustees has once again made the decision to leave the school donation at \$100 per child, maximum of \$250 per family. This is used to support the school budget. All donations are gratefully received and can be paid to the school office, preferably by internet banking. The school bank account number is: ASB 123152 0116129 00. You are able to claim a tax credit from all donations.

## **Tech**

Our Year 7 & 8 students continue to be involved in Tech at Hamilton Junior High School.

The Technicraft fee for the year is \$100 and this can be paid to the school office. Students attending Tech on Mondays need to be at school by 8.25 a.m. They need to wear closed in shoes to attend. It has been mandated that all students attending Tech by bus needs to be wearing a face mask, and these also need to be worn at Hamilton Junior High. Hamilton Junior High have assured the BOT that rigid protocols are in place to keep our student safe and two Rotokauri staff members will attend with the students.

**PLEASE NOTE:** First day of Tech is tomorrow, Friday, 11 February and then Monday 14 February. Following that it will be every Monday.

## **Contact Details**

Can you please make sure you let the office know if there are any changes to your family's circumstances, such as changes of address, phone number, email address or family arrangements and emergency contacts' details. We want to ensure that everyone can be contacted if necessary.

## **Parking at Rotokauri School**

Thank you to everyone that is complying with the 2.45 and 3.00 p.m. pick up times. We have noticed that there is less congestion in the carpark and appreciate your support with this. Last week the police officer that was present on Rotokauri Road was extremely pleased with the way that parents/caregivers and staff were working hard to ensure a safe departure from school.

## **COVID UPDATE - Advice on Managing Covid-19 Cases In Our School**



## **Please read this information carefully**

The important information we are sharing below identifies how we will be managing any Covid19 cases which arise in our school. It should clarify many of the questions you might have following the emergence of Covid 19 in several local schools over the weekend. **Currently we have no confirmed cases of staff or students who have attended Rotokauri School this year.**

All this advice is taken from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education websites. This summary should help as a 'quick-guide' but your own health professionals should be the first point of contact for any medical advice.

In order to assist us with the administration of managing any future cases in our school we ask that you use the following email address for Covid19 case management questions: [dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz)

## **Definitions of Contacts**

### 1. Close Contacts

*All household members of a case are considered Close Contacts.*

### **You are also considered a Close Contact if you have:**

- been close (within 1.5 metres) to a positive case of COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes **and** the Case was not wearing a mask or wasn't wearing it properly  
**or**
- had direct contact with respiratory secretions or saliva from a Case (eg, kissing, shared a cigarette, vape or drink bottle, or if the person coughed or sneezed directly on you)  
**or**
- spent time in an indoor space for more than 1 hour with a Case **and** at least one of the following:
  - the Case was singing, shouting, smoking, vaping, exercising, or dancing
  - the Case was not wearing a mask or wasn't wearing it properly
  - the indoor space was poorly ventilated (i.e. there were no windows or doors open)
  - the indoor space was smaller than 100m<sup>2</sup> (about three double garages).



Any person who receives an orange Bluetooth notification via the NZ COVID Tracer app is considered a Close Contact. The notification will provide advice about what to do and it is important to follow these instructions. These people may also receive a yellow QR notification for a location of interest via the NZ COVID Tracer app.

## 2. Casual Contacts

Casual Contacts are people who have been in the same place at the same time as someone infectious with COVID19 but may not have been near the infectious person. Casual Contacts are at lowest risk of getting sick with COVID19.

These people may receive a yellow QR notification for a location of interest via the NZ COVID Tracer app. The notification will provide advice about what to do and a link for more information.

## 3. What to do if you are a household member of a close contact?

*Scenario taken from MoE Guidance*

Scenarios	Response
<p><b>Scenario 10</b></p> <p>What <b>household members of Close Contacts</b> should do</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Household members of a Close Contact, including children/tamariki, <b>must stay at home until the Close Contact receives a negative day 5 test</b></li> <li>• If the Close Contact develops symptoms, household members should stay at home until the Close Contact returns an additional negative test</li> <li>• If any household member develops symptoms, they should get tested and stay at home until negative test result AND until 24 hours after symptoms resolve</li> </ul>

The diagram below summarises actions you **MUST** take if **YOUR CHILD** has been identified as a **CLOSE CONTACT**

<b>Advice for Close Contacts</b>	
Close Contacts – <u>must:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Self-isolate at home for 10 days</b> post exposure, <b>test immediately</b> and on <b>days 5 and 8</b> post exposure</li> <li>• Continue to isolate at home until <b>negative day 8 test result</b> received AND 10 days has passed since exposure</li> <li>• Be advised by public health when they can return to school / kura, and return to normal life</li> <li>• Get an additional test immediately if symptoms develop at any time during the 10 days. Stay at home until negative test result AND until 24 hours after symptoms resolve</li> <li>• Ensure that unvaccinated household members, including children/tamariki, stay at home until the Close Contact receives a negative day 5 test</li> </ul>

**Note** that household contacts are managed by public health, and they should follow the advice provided by public health rather than the school.

**Our school remains open for all students subject to the conditions above – we have prepared for a transition to online schooling if required and have made contingencies to manage staff illness. This is a most uncertain time for everyone and we thank you in anticipation of your support for our school, the staff but most of all your children who we are all here to support.**

## EVENTS

### School Picnic

Last Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> February the school held a modified School Picnic, Covid style! Buddy classes enjoyed having lunch together under the trees and then participated in some fun activities.

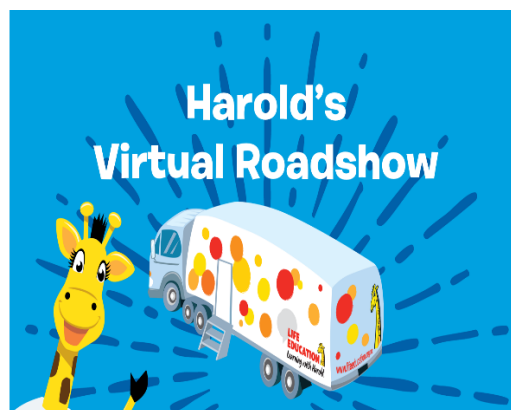
Check out the photos below.

### Life Education

All classes are participating in Life Education lessons with Harold and Sarah. Due to Covid restrictions and modifications to the Life Education caravan not being completed, the lessons are being taught on a virtual platform.

The theme for these lessons is:

Understanding and managing our feelings at school.



## **Summer Sports**

**Term 1** sports start fairly smartly so we have a quick turn around for organising teams, coaches and managers. Please fill in the Google form to register your child for summer sports by clicking the following link

<https://forms.gle/8sniyX3WHa7P83rq7>

**ENTRIES CLOSE 3.00 PM MONDAY, 14 FEBRUARY.**

### **Summer sports offered this term include:**

Touch Rugby - Years 1-8

Futsal - Years 3-8

Flippaball - Years 3-6

Waterpolo - Years 7-8

Cricket - Years 3-8

More information such as fees and playing days can be found at the top of the Google Form. If your child would like to play two different codes - you will need to fill in the form twice.

### **COVID Vaccination Passes**

As always, teams are formed depending on the numbers available for the year group and they will not be entered unless there is a coach and manager who have a COVID Vaccination Pass.

Students who are already 12 and students turning 12 this term will need to be vaccinated as many of the codes require this to enter the venues.

If you have any questions or queries, please email Jaimee Carter at [jcarter@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:jcarter@rotokauri.school.nz)

Please be aware that these are sporting organisation rules not Rotokauri School.

### **Biathlon/Triathlon**

The annual Rotokauri School Biathlon/Triathlon will be held in Week 4 on Friday, 18 February. We are just working through the logistics of operating this at RED Level and will update you next week in a separate email.

Children competing in the TRIATHLON will need a roadworthy bike and a helmet, as well as their togs and towel. Children competing in the BIATHLON will need their togs and towel.

A family entry slip will be coming home next week for you to indicate which event your child is entering to help us with our organisation.

## CELEBRATIONS

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Room 1	Room 1	Having a fantastic start to the year!
Room 2	Ada Westgate	For being a role model in Room 2. What a great start.
Room 2	Casey Mancer	For making a fabulous start to Room 2. Way to go.
Room 3	Paige Robinson Hastings	For showing the value of being an active learner. You have had a fantastic start to the year.
Room 3	Lucas Birchall	For having an excellent start to the term. You have been so helpful.
Room 4	Room 4	For being an awesome class. Keep it up!!!
Room 5	Reece Calnan	Showing Rotokauri School value of Empathy
Room 5	Bella Gyde	Being such a great classroom helper first week back
Room 6	Whole of Room 6	Surviving our first week back to school in 2022, under the RED LIGHT system.
Room 7	Liam Barnes	For being a role model and active learner in class discussions
Room 7	Caitlin Furlonger	For having a positive learning attitude and thinking outside of the box
Room 8	Bianca Wallis	For showing the school values, especially empathy. Thank you so much Bianca!
Room 8	Cole Turney	For being an active learner, working hard in your group and completing your Treaty of Waitangi work to a high standard.
Room 8	Jamie Haldane	For being an active learner, working hard in your group and completing your Treaty of Waitangi work to a high standard.
Room 8	Isaac Stratford	For being an active learner, working hard in your group and completing your Treaty of Waitangi work to a high standard.

**Photo Sharing**  
**School Picnic**  
**Rooms 1 & 2**

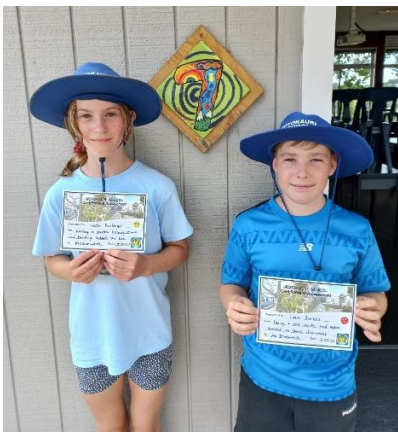


Rooms 5 & 6





## Assembly Certificates





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# NO LIMITS

## P O O L S

FREE QUOTES

**Alex Short**  
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We build quality custom fiberglass pools, water features and spas on site to any size and shape. We also refurbish pools. Other services we offer include concrete, retaining walls, pipe testing, block walls, fencing, decks and tiles.

<b>RYLEE CARLSON</b>	
BABYSITTER AVAILABLE	
Cellphone: 027 519 3346 txt or call, (at school between 940 and 3pm)	
Past Rotokauri school student	
14 years old (15 in August)	
<b>\$10.00 an hour or can discuss</b>	



**DKJ Welding services provides:**

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Project Management



**JUNIOR CRICKET**

**HAMILTON STAR UNIVERSITY**

**MUSTER**

**FEBRUARY 11 2022**

4:30pm - 5:30pm  
Gate 3a Silverdale Road  
Don Llewellyn Pavillion / University Cricket Nets  
Contact: [cricket@hsucc.co.nz](mailto:cricket@hsucc.co.nz) / 027 666 9438

All Junior Grades welcome  
Friday Night & Saturday Morning  
Softball & Hardball Cricket Teams

The poster features a central graphic of a red cricket player silhouette swinging a bat, with a red cricket ball and stumps below it. The background is dark blue with green and yellow rays emanating from behind the player. The text is in white and yellow, providing details for a 'Junior Cricket Muster' event.