



School Newsletter

www.rotokaurischool.school.nz

Rotokauri PRIMARY SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

Our positive environment will actively engage us all in learning.



Unity (Kotahitanga)
Inclusive (Manaakitanga)
Guardianship (Kaitiakitanga)
Innovative (Auahatanga)
Happy (Uruhau)
Responsible (Tuutika)

REACH

Respect - Whakaute

We show that we value ourselves, value others, our school and our environment.

Empathy - Ngakau Aroha

We are able to step into the shoe of another person and try to understand their thoughts and feeling.

Active - Learning Matatua

We don't give up, even when we are challenged.

Courage - Marohirohi

We are brave as we face new experiences and difficult situations.

Honesty - Ngakau Pono

Speaking and acting truthfully.



PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

Kia ora Rotokauri School whaanau

Happy new year to staff, students, parents/caregivers and our wider school community. A very warm welcome back and a special welcome to all the new students and their families.

The children have settled back to school well and teachers are spending time reinforcing our school values, systems and processes. There is a lot of information in this newsletter so I encourage you to please take the time to read it through carefully.

Ngaa mihi

Desiree Smith

Principal

WELCOME

Nau mai, haere mai ki te kura o Rotokauri. Welcome to the new students that have started at Rotokauri School recently

Room 1 - Shanon Jayamaha Hitilage, Areefah Hussain, Edith Crellin, Ryker Wenzlick, Holley Emerson, Flynn Smith-Thorpe, Eloise King, Claire Smith, Layla Tremayne, Avyaan Sagar, Amelia Ogle and Zack O'Brien

Room 7 - Elijah Sinclair

Room 8 - Aiden Nand

Room 9 - Ariesha Nand, Miley Fraser, Inshirah Hussain, Rangjot Dhaliwal, Mannat Waraich and Matiu Erueti

PTA NEWS

Lunches

School lunches will officially start next Wednesday 18th February. This is a service that runs throughout the year. If you would like to help the PTA on a Wednesday please leave your name at the school office. This involves collating orders in the morning and then collecting food from The Base, Te Rapa, before giving the orders out at 1.00 pm.

Orders can be placed in the white box in the student foyer in either -

An envelope from home with name, room number and food order written on the front and money inside (change can be given if needed) OR

By filling in a docket in the student foyer with the same information and either

Stapling it to a brown pie bag with the money inside the pie bag (just fold it over twice so your money won't fall out) if you are ordering a pie OR

Putting it all in a ziplock bag if you are ordering Sushi or Subway

Students need to pick up their orders from the MPR at 1.00 pm (school lunch eating time).

On offer:

PIE RANGE

- \$ 4.00 butter chicken pie
- \$ 3.50 mince pie
- \$ 3.50 mince and cheese pie
- \$ 2.50 mini mince pie
- \$ 2.50 sausage roll

SUSHI RANGE

- \$12.00 chicken and vegetable sushi (8 piece)
- \$ 9.00 tuna and vegetable sushi (8 piece)
- \$ 4.50 chicken (4 piece) sushi
- \$ 4.50 salmon (4 piece) sushi

SUBWAY RANGE

- \$ 6.50 6 inch sub with meat, lettuce, tomato, cheese (and a cookie)

Available in ham, beef or vegetarian

BOT NEWS

Swimming Pool

Thank you to the swimming pool committee for a wonderful job over the holidays maintaining the school pool. Many families have used and appreciated this facility being open over the holiday period.

However, it is disappointing to hear that a number of the school rules have been ignored by some adults and children. These rules are designed to keep swimmers and spectators safe at the swimming pool. Please report any inappropriate behaviour if you witness it to the Principal dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz

Property Developments

Once again, the school has been a hive of activity over the holiday period.

Thank you to Cary Viljoen and Brooklyn Winikerei for completing more bright and colourful painting on the concrete in the junior area.

Rooms 9 & 10 have had a sliding door installed to make the teaching space more flexible, enabling the block to be used as single cells or a collaborative teaching area.

At the end of last year the BOT were successful in their application to the Grassroots Trust to enable the purchasing of a digital sign for the front of the school. We continue to work on the technical components needed to have this fully functioning - we look forward to sharing all our news with you once everything is fully operational.

Work has also begun on the new busbay at Exit 2.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Staff and Classes

We are proud to announce that we have started the year with our highest number of students and with a full complement of staff.

Room 1	Rata	Year 1	Mrs Suz Brosnan sbrosnan@rotokauri.school.nz
Room 2	Manuka	Year 1 & 2	Mrs Andrea O'Rourke aorourke@rotokauri.school.nz
Room 3	Totara	Year 2	Miss Paige Thomas pthomas@rotokauri.school.nz
Room 4	Ponga	Year 2 & 3	Miss Ally Reichelt areichelt@rotokauri.school.nz
Room 6	Puriri	Year 3 & 4	Mrs Diana Donovan ddonovan@rotokauri.school.nz
Room 8	Nikau	Year 4 & 5	Mrs Julie Bradshaw jbradshaw@rotokauri.school.nz
Room 7	Matai	Year 5 & 6	Mrs Claire Walker cwalker@rotokauri.school.nz
Room 9	Kauri	Year 6 & 7	Mr Sam Brinkworth sbrinkworth@rotokauri.school.nz
Room 10	Kahikatea	Year 7 & 8	Mrs Jane Rickman jrickman@rotokauri.school.nz

Principal	Miss Desiree Smith dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz
Deputy Principal SENCO (Special Needs Coordinator)	Ms Jaimee Carter jcarter@rotokauri.school.nz
Junior Syndicate Leader	Mrs Andrea O'Rourke aorourke@rotokauri.school.nz
Senior Syndicate Leader	Mrs Jane Rickman jrickman@rotokauri.school.nz
Office Administrator	Mrs Sharon Verstraten office@rotokauri.school.nz
Caretaker	Mr Bernie Ridley
Teacher aide - Learning Support	Mrs Raewyn O'Brien
Teacher aide - Learning Support	Ms Sarah Dyer
Teacher aide - Learning Support	Mrs Cherie Moroney
Teacher aide - Learning Support	Mrs Helen Rose
Teacher aide - Learning Support	Mrs Selma Booyens

Introducing Miss Reichelt in Room 4

Kia ora koutou, I am pleased to introduce myself as one of the new teachers joining the Rotokauri whanāu. My name is Miss Reichelt and I am walking into my first year as a qualified teacher. One of my main passions in life is dance. I have been dancing for 18 years and have been lucky enough to educate and instruct my dance students for the last 5 years. I love my cat, the beach, and spending time with family and friends. I'm stepping into this year with excitement, fresh eyes, open arms, and a mindset ready to take on new opportunities during my Rotokauri journey.

A Little About Miss Thomas in Room 3

Kia ora, my name is Paige Thomas and I'm excited to join Rotokauri School as a new teacher this year! I recently graduated from the University of Waikato with a passion for creating a supportive and engaging learning environment. I believe in fostering curiosity, kindness and confidence in my students while making learning fun and meaningful. In my free time I love going outdoors, whether that be camping, swimming or taking a simple stroll. I look forward to getting to know the tamariki, whaanau and wider school community.

Term Dates

Term 1 3 February - 11 April

Term 2 28 April - 27 June

Term 3 14 July - 19 September

Term 4 6 October - 16 December

School Bell Times

8.30 am classrooms open - children arriving earlier must be seated in the busbay

8.55 am school starts - parents/caregivers to leave

10.00 am brain break

11.00 am morning tea (5 minutes eating first, then play)

12.30 pm lunch (play for 30 minutes, then eating from 1 pm)

2.55 pm children released from classes

Late students

Any student arriving after the 8.55 am bell must sign in at the office on the VisTab.

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 (leave an absence message), email to the school office or in person 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.

Student Leave

If a student needs to take leave for any purpose and for any length of time please contact the Principal. A Student Leave form will need to be completed and signed prior to the student taking leave.

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. We would prefer emails only be sent from Monday – Friday, unless it is an urgent matter.

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 and the school event calendar.

Facebook

The school Facebook page is a great way to see photos from events and read good news stories. Please keep checking 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

Assemblies are held on Fridays at 2.20 – 2.45 p.m. and we are pleased to invite parents/caregivers to these. They will be held outside the Principal's office in fine weather and inside the MPR when weather is not so good. This is a time to celebrate the successes of our students with class certificates being presented, school notices shared and classes showcasing their amazing work.

School Donations

This year the Board of Trustees has made the decision to increase the school donations to \$120.00 per child, maximum of \$280.00 per family. This is used to support the school budget. All donations are gratefully received and can be paid via your school Kindo account. 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 \$100.00 and this can be paid via your school Kindo account. Students attending Tech on Mondays need to be at school by 8.25 a.m. They need to wear closed in shoes to attend.

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. We want to ensure that everyone can be contacted if necessary.

No Nuts or Sharing Food Please

We have a number of students with nut allergies, which means that should they touch or eat nuts (even the tiniest amount) they could potentially have an allergic reaction called anaphylaxis. This can be life threatening as anaphylaxis affects breathing, blood pressure and can cause unconsciousness or death. Medication is held at school for these students and safety plans are in place.

Nuts can hide in all sorts of places - muesli bars, biscuits and spreads. Packets of snack foods show on the labels whether they contain nuts and we ask parents/caregivers to be mindful of what is placed in their children's lunchboxes.

Rooms 8 and 10 are also WHOLE EGG FREE - no whole eggs or egg sandwiches due to children with severe egg allergies.

In order to provide a safe environment for these children, we actively discourage children from sharing food at Rotokauri School. We would be grateful if you could discuss the potential dangers around sharing food at school.

GIFTED AND TALENTED

At any time during the year, parents are welcome to complete a Gifted and Talented Parent Questionnaire. If you feel your child is operating at least 2 years above their same age peers in one or a range of areas that may include academic achievement, creativeness, the arts/drama/music or sporting ability, social and emotional awareness and/or spiritual/cultural knowledge and skills. Please see Ms Jaimee Carter, should you require further information about the opportunities at Rotokauri School for gifted students. Parent Gifted and Talented Questionnaires can be accessed at any time from the school website under the tab Special Programmes and are available at the school office.

Parking at Rotokauri School

Thank you to everyone that is complying with the carpark guidelines. Our road patrol student volunteers are new to their positions and are still training, so please be kind and patient to them. Please remember to remain in your parked vehicles if you are in the busbay or in the bottom section of the carpark – these are two areas where vehicles are meant to move smoothly through. Students in Rooms 7, 8, 9 & 10 if they do not have younger siblings are expected to be picked up from the bottom carpark. We continue to work on systems that will make pickups run smoothly. When the senior students are operating the STOP signs, it is an expectation that parents wait to cross - unfortunately this week two adults ignored the students which endangered our students. Please be respectful and follow the set rules.

After School Care

Unfortunately, we can not provide After School Care at Rotokauri School. However, we are working in partnership with the Western Community Centre to make this available off-site. Students are picked up from the school at 3.00 p.m and are taken to the Western Community Centre where they are provided care and activities, until parents/caregivers can pick them up.

For further details or bookings please check out the Western Community Centre webpage (look up Western Stars After School Care) or phone Melissa on 02041311382.

Sunhats/Sunscreen

It is a school requirement that students and staff wear school sunhats in Terms 1 & 4. Sunhats must have no graffiti or embellishments and a toggle that ensures the sunhat stays on whilst playing. New sunhats are available from the school office.

Sunscreen is provided in each classroom. Teachers will remind students to apply sunscreen at each break but it is the responsibility of students to apply this. It is recommended that students come to school with a layer of sunscreen that has been applied at home.

Stationery

Thank you to the families that have purchased their stationery packs through Office Max. We ask that all stationery is purchased before Monday 17th February so that students can start using them.

Medications

Please ensure that you come to the school office to fill out a medical form if your child requires medication during school hours. Please do not bring 3 times a day antibiotics to school to be administered - this dose is manageable at home. Only 4 times a day antibiotics will be given at school if needed. 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 and how much medication is available throughout 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 the school office know so that these plans can be completed or updated (as per the Ministry of Health regulations).

Photos of school events

Every year a team of senior students work to put together the school Year Book. They strive to make it a memorable photographic record of school events held throughout the year. If anyone takes photos at any 2025 school event of their child and would be happy for them to be used in the 2025 Rotokauri School Year Book (printed publication only), please email them to sdyer@rotokauri.school.nz noting who is in the photo and at what event.

Scholastic Book Club

Rotokauri School is again participating in the Scholastic Book Club this year. Twice a term during the school year students will bring home a Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered. You'll find award-winning books, as well as old and new favourites. Every order placed earns Rotokauri rewards points which are used to purchase new books and resources for our school.

Books are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$2) and span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests. It is easy to order. Just look over the catalogue with your child, select the books you want, and either order online using the LOOP link listed on the catalogue, or, fill in and return the order form to the school office with payment before the date stamped on the front of the catalogue. The books will arrive at school one - two weeks after this date. If you want the books to be gifts, make a note of it on the order (or tick the gift option if ordering online) and books will remain at the school office for pick up instead of being handed to your child.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 14th February	Whole School Picnic
Monday 17th February	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 18th February	Year 7 & 8 immunisation education session
Tuesday 18th February	5.30 p.m BOT meeting
Thursday 20th February	Get Set Go Day at Horotiu - Year 3s
Thursday 20th February	Meet The Teacher evening
Monday 24 February	Senior Swimming Sports 8 years+ (St Pauls)
Friday 28th February	School Biathlon/Triathlon
Monday 3rd March	Tech
Monday 10th March	Tech
Monday 10th March	Rooms 2, 3, 4 & 6 cricket sessions
Thursday 13th March	Rooms 7 - 10 cricket sessions
Monday 17th March	Tech
Thursday 20th March	Cluster swimming 8 years+ (St Pauls)
Thursday 20th March	Rooms 7 - 10 cricket sessions
Monday 24th March	Tech
Thursday 27th March	Rooms 7 - 10 cricket sessions
Monday 31st March	Tech
Monday 7th April	Tech
Wednesday 9th April	Year 7 & 8 immunisations
Friday 11th April	Last day of term

Te Whatu Ora

Health New Zealand

Waikato

RURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

School Based Immunisations

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Public health nurses will be delivering two school-based immunisation programmes in your child's school during 2025.

Year Seven Students

These students will be offered the Boostrix vaccine which is a booster for their early childhood immunisations of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough). This is the same vaccination that would have been given to your child at 4 years age if you consented.

Information about the year seven programme will be given to students at school and this session may include watching the Ministry of Health Presentation on Year Seven Immunisations and is designed specifically for this age group.

At this information session, your child will be given a consent form to bring home for you to read and choose whether or not to have your child immunised by the Public Health Nurses at school. Whether you choose to immunise or not, the form needs to be returned to school.

Year Eight Students

From 1 January 2017, Males and Females aged 9 to 26 inclusive (ie under 27 years) have been eligible for HPV (Human Papilloma virus) immunisation. The focus has historically been on cervical cancer prevention for women but increasing evidence has emerged of the impact of other HPV related cancers on men so both groups are now offered this vaccine free of charge. This vaccine will be given in two doses 6 months apart.

Information will be given to the students about the HPV vaccination programme at school. This may include viewing the Ministry of Health presentation about the HPV Vaccine Information and is for the year 8 age group.

Your child will be given a consent form to bring home for you to choose whether or not to have your child immunised by the Public Health Nurses at school

Information on the immunisations is included on the consent form which will be given to your son / daughter at the information session unless you specifically request that your son/daughter be excluded

Please complete the consent form and answer all the questions and return the form to school

If your child is not being vaccinated at school you still need to fill in the section with your child's name and details on it

For further information on these vaccines phone 0800 IMMUNE (466 863)

Public Health Nurse: Tina Wheatley Email: tina.wheatley@waikatodhb.health.nz

New Year,
New Priorities.

Let's talk property.

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THIS IS MY BACKYARD TOO.



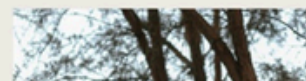
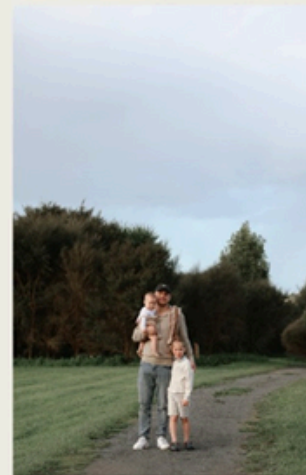
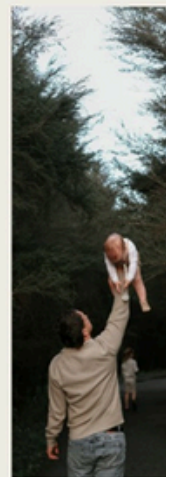
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