



School Newsletter

www.rotokauri.school.nz

Issue: 2 - 27 February 2025

Rotokauri PRIMARY SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

Our positive environment will actively engage us all in learning.



VALUES

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 - Ngākau Aroha

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

Active Learning - Mātātoa

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

Courage - Mārohirohi

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

Honesty - Ngākau Pono

Speaking and acting truthfully.



PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

Kia ora Rotokauri School whaanau

What a great first couple of weeks we have had.

Week 2 the whole school travelled to Mt Pirongia to complete the Mangakara Bush Walk. Thank you to all the parents/grandparents/caregivers that accompanied us. The weather was kind to us and everyone had an enjoyable time. The purpose of our school picnic is to spend time together as a school and for the buddies to build on their relationships.

Week 3 and I was privileged to join the Year 3s and Miss Reichelt at Horotiu School for the Get Set Go day. Once again thank you to the parents that came along to support the students and to assist with transport and supervision. It was a fantastic experience for our junior children. Lots of courage and resilience was shown as children tried their hardest to overcome challenges such as bike riding without trainer wheels. Well done to the Year 3s for their excellent behaviour, teamwork and modelling our Rotokauri School values.

Also during Week 3 we held our Meet The Teacher evening. Thank you to all the parents/caregivers that were able to attend the presentations.

The highlight for most children in Week 3 would have been the visit from Josh Coppins, a New Zealand former professional motocross rider. An inspirational speaker who shared the message of dreaming big and never giving up with the students. He also showed the students some tricks on his motorbike on the bottom field!! Thank you to Karlo Devcich for winning the competition for Josh to visit Rotokauri School. We received some great feedback from Josh about the student's behaviour and attentiveness.

This week, Week 4, is a sporty week with the Senior Swimming Sports, both here at school for the Div B swimmers and at St Paul's Collegiate for the Div A swimmers. Thank you to all the parents/caregivers and extended family for attending to encourage and support the swimmers.

Our sporty week will finish tomorrow with the school's annual bi/triathlon. Don't forget to keep getting those entries in.

What has become very obvious as I attend events with the students is that our high behaviour expectations and set of values is alive at Rotokauri School, and even when not on the school property our students model these. We can all be proud of this. I look forward to seeing lots of you at the bi/tri tomorrow cheering on our athletes and watching as our senior school buddies encourage their younger buddies.

Ngaa mihi
Desiree Smith
Principal

PTA NEWS

Lunches

Just a reminder that school lunches have now started. This is a service that runs throughout the year every Wednesday. 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 these from The Base Te Rapa, then giving the orders out at 1 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

PTA Committee

The PTA is always happy to welcome new members to their committee and appreciate the support received from families of Rotokauri School.

What does the PTA do: The PTA help organize fun things for the children and parents of Rotokauri School, such as the school discos, quiz nights and the car show / school gala.

What do they fundraise for? The PTA fundraise for all sorts of projects around the school and donations are made every year to each classroom for resources, school camp and subsidizing bus travel etc to enable more children to participate in activities provided by the school.

How can you help? Join the PTA, they meet once a month on a Wednesday from 6.30 - 8pm in the staffroom.

If there is something in particular that you would like to see the PTA fundraise for do let them know. Please email your idea to pta@rotokauri.school.nz

The first PTA meeting for the year is being held on Tuesday 4th March in the staffroom at 6.00 p.m

BOT NEWS

Employment

The management team at Rotokauri School has worked hard over the holiday period to ensure that the school opened on the first day fully staffed and they continue to work hard to have qualified teachers releasing fulltime staff (as per the Teachers Collective Agreement).

The Board of Trustees would like to announce that they have accepted Paige Thomas's resignation. Paige has decided to take a different direction with her career and we wish her every success in the future. Her last day at Rotokauri School will be Friday 28th February. This has not been an easy decision and we thank Paige for her time in Room 3.

We have been fortunate to appoint another teacher for the remainder of the year. Miss Anna Baker will be teaching at Rotokauri School from Monday 3rd March. She will be coming into school this week in order to make the transition as smooth as possible for the students.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the Principal.

Swimming Pool

Our school pool is an asset to the school that we need to appreciate and having it open to the community is something that we need to be grateful for. We all need to stick together as a Rotokauri School family and take care of each other in and around the pool, take care of the facility, take pride in its appearance, ensure appropriate behaviour, and above all, keep our children safe. By doing so, we can all enjoy this facility for years to come. The Board have discussed this at our recent BOT meeting as we have received feedback from concerned key holders and we would like to continue having this facility available for all but the behaviour/non-compliance of a small number ruins opportunities for others.

Teacher Only Days

With so many changes happening in education currently the Ministry of Education has decided that boards can close their school for 2 full days for curriculum related purposes. These days do not need to be made up at the end of the year.

The Board of Trustees would like to notify the community that they have approved Teacher Only Days for Rotokauri School on

Friday 11th April (end of Term 1) and Thursday 19th June (Matariki weekend).

Proposed Amendment to the Rotokauri School Enrolment Scheme (Home Zone)

The Ministry of Education is currently working with the Board of Rotokauri School to amend its existing enrolment scheme home zone. After consultation with the Board, we have developed a proposed amended enrolment scheme for Rotokauri School under section 72 of the Education and Training Act 2020. As part of this process, we are consulting with the school's community and with people living in the area for which the school is a reasonably convenient school. The enrolment scheme could affect which school a student will be entitled to enrol in, or school transport entitlements. If you have any comments about the proposed amendment for Rotokauri School that you would like to be included in the final report about this proposal, please forward them to Waikato.EnrolmentSchemes@education.govt.nz by the 14th of March 2025.

The purpose of an enrolment scheme is to:

- avoid overcrowding, or the likelihood of overcrowding, at a school,
- ensure that the selection of applicants for enrolment at a school is carried out in a fair and transparent manner
- enable the Secretary to make the best use of the existing network of state schools.

The proposed amendment expands the current home zone to include the Brymer Heights subdivision (Patatee Terrace, Kawariki Drive and associated streets). Details of the proposed amendment can be viewed at the link below:

<https://www.education.govt.nz/have-your-say/rotokauri-school-enrolment-scheme-amendments/details>

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dress Code

Rotokauri School students are not required to wear a uniform at school, however, the school does require all students to dress in an appropriate manner, which is suitable for primary school students. The following dress code is to be observed by all students while attending school or at any school event.

1. All clothing should be clean, tidy and suitable to participate in the full range of curriculum activities – visible underwear, midriff tops, extremes of fashion and offensive images (language and/or images) are inappropriate.
2. Hooded tops may be worn. No hats, hoods or head wear to be worn inside classrooms.

3. Shirts may have logos except those advertising alcohol, cigarettes or those with offensive language or symbols. No gang colours or symbols are permitted.
4. Shorts and skirts must be of a reasonable length.
5. Footwear should be suitable for inside and outside activities, flat shoes only.
6. Students are allowed to wear a watch/FitBit, however, they cannot be phone/video call capable, or be able to play games. Using inappropriately is an IT violation.
7. Jewellery of cultural significance can be worn e.g. a Christian cross, Māori carving/greenstone.
8. Earrings are allowed, but for safety reasons, only basic studs or sleepers are acceptable.
9. It is not necessary for students to wear makeup or false nails at school. Nail polish can be worn. Tinted eyelashes need to get school permission.

Please name all clothing and personal belongings.

If there is an issue with the dress code the teacher will talk to the student concerned, it will be recorded on PB4L and parents/caregivers will be emailed as a reminder.



We are delighted to partner with Mitey over the next year to grow and support the mental health and wellbeing of all our students.

The Sir John Kirwan Foundation has designed Mitey with NZ teachers and the University of Auckland to provide an evidence-based approach to teaching mental health education to primary and intermediate aged children.

It is built around the NZ curriculum and embedded into everyday learning, to ensure children are equipped with the age-appropriate skills and knowledge they need to recognise and respond to mental health issues in both themselves and others before they enter teenage years.

Mitey has successfully implemented its approach to schools in Auckland and we are excited to be included.

The following link will take you to Mitey's homepage www.mitey.org.nz

Maths At Rotokauri School 2025

As you may have read in the media, the New Zealand Curriculum has been revised and refreshed. This year, staff are focusing on the Revised Maths Curriculum and we are using one of the government suggested resources, Maths No Problem, to support the teaching of mathematics here at Rotokauri School.

The new curriculum has key learning specific for each year group. We will be changing our mathematics teaching so that all students in the same year group visit one classroom to be taught together in that year group at 11:30am, starting in Week 6 (10-14 March)

Room 1 - Foundation Stage

Room 2 - Foundation Stage

Room 3 - Year 2

Room 4 - Year 2

Room 6 - Year 3

Room 7 - Year 5

Room 8 - Year 4

Room 9 - Year 6

Room 10 - Year 7 and 8 taught together due to all working at Phase 3 content.

Using Maths No Problem, we will use lots of equipment (such as cubes, tens frames, number discs) to explore word problems. A key piece of research underpinning this approach is Jerome Bruner's CPA approach. He concluded that people learn in three stages, Concrete objects, Picture representation and Abstract thought (CPA). Children (and adults) can find maths difficult because it is abstract. The CPA approach introduces abstract mathematical concepts in a concrete and tangible way.

Tasks are designed to be accessible to all learners. The whole class will learn the concept together, with built-on extension opportunities for advanced learners and support for learners who need extra practice and learning reinforcement. Lessons carefully build on the previous one, creating small steps to mastery level understanding of concepts and confidence.

Every lesson has opportunities for the students to work collaboratively and independently. The collaborative components help develop your child's ability to effectively communicate their thinking and further develop their ideas through conversations with others. The independent components help your child to consolidate and apply the concepts they have been learning in the lesson.

Children will be challenged to use a number of different methods to show their understanding of concepts. Multiple representations help students develop an understanding of the relationships mathematical concepts have to each other and the world around them, and will build their critical thinking skills.

Built on research, the maths problems are carefully chosen and varied as students move through the lesson to challenge and further develop the student's knowledge and understanding, in order to build a strong foundation.

All concepts are covered in depth, including number, geometry and statistics. Maths No Problem meets all the requirements of the New Zealand Curriculum with opportunities to go beyond them on all levels.

We will be holding a maths information evening next term to share what is happening in the classrooms with you. Further information about assessment and reporting will be shared with you at a later time.

If you have any further questions about maths for your child, you are welcome to approach their classroom teacher in the first instance.

Junior Swimming Sports and Display 2025

5 year olds, 6 year olds and 7 year olds

On Friday 7th March, the Juniors will participate in Swimming Sports and a Display in the school pool. Parents are welcome to this event. There will be races and a display of learning for each age group.

Children will need to bring - 2 towels, togs, warm jersey, water bottle, goggles, caps and earplugs if required.

11:00am: 7 year olds

12:30pm: 6 year olds

1:45pm: 5 year olds

Please provide a note or email the classroom teacher if your child is not participating due to illness.

Senior Swimming Sports 2025

On Monday, the 24th February, eighty students participated in the Division A swimming sports at St Pauls Collegiate. It was a fun day filled with great competition. All of our students showed our REACH values throughout the day.

Thank you to all of the parents who came to support our students and our staff members who helped run the event. Below are the final results from the day.

25m Breaststroke			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
8 Year Old Boys	Liam Harrison		
8 Year Old Girls	Ada Westgate	Sophie Swain	Kyla Martin
9 Year Old Boys	Marley Toia	Blake Oulton-Hewitt	Carter Cowley
9 Year Old Girls	Evie Hodgson	Mya Allen	
10 Year Old Boys	Aston Burt	Kayden John	
10 Year Old Girls	Hannah-Leah Warbrick	Scarlett Swain	
11 Year Old Boys	Hugo Hodgson		
11 Year Old Girls	Miley Fraser		
12 Year Old Boys	Liam Surgenor	Koby Payne	
12 Year Old Girls	Rebecca Cameron	Mya Hoebergen	Chloe Gyde

50m Breaststroke			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
10 Year Old Boys	Jayden Day	Harry Gyde	
10 Year Old Girls	Indiana Payne		
11 Year Old Boys	Hugo Hodgson		
11 Year Old Girls	Anna Haldane		
12 Year Old Boys			
12 Year Old Girls	Mya Hoebergen	Chloe Gyde	

25m Backstroke			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
8 Year Old Boys	Louie Baker		
8 Year Old Girls	Colette Griffin	Layla Day	Shepard Cairns-Eade
9 Year Old Boys	Zac Hoebergen	Marley Toia	Joseph Willis
9 Year Old Girls	Khloe Bennett	Sophie Quinlan	Mya Allen
10 Year Old Boys	Aston Burt	Cohen Harris	Corban Stratford
10 Year Old Girls	Scarlett Swain	Hannah-Leah Warbrick	Keani Kingi
11 Year Old Boys	Carter Moka	Hugo Hodgson	Cody Wade & Maddox Stratford
11 Year Old Girls	Elsie van Rooij	Miley Fraser	Esme Gyde
12 Year Old Boys	Koby Payne	Isaac Steger	Nihil Maharaj
12 Year Old Girls	Bella Gyde	Ava Esselbrugge	Peyton Martin & Rebecca Cameron

50m Backstroke			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
10 Year Old Boys	Harry Gyde	Milos Standing	
10 Year Old Girls	Scarlett Swain	Indiana Payne	
11 Year Old Boys	Koby Rose		
11 Year Old Girls	Esme Gyde	Inshirah Hussain	Anna Haldane
12 Year Old Boys			
12 Year Old Girls	Bella Gyde	Cavalier Kingi	Cooper-Love Buckle

25m Freestyle			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
8 Year Old Boys	Liam Harrison	Louie Baker	Anthony Williams
8 Year Old Girls	Te Aria Kingi	Shepard Cairns-Eade	Ada Westgate
9 Year Old Boys	Zac Hoebergen	Marley Toia	Joseph Willis
9 Year Old Girls	Mya Allen	Khloe Bennett	Sophie Quinlan
10 Year Old Boys	Ammon Hippolite	Jayden Day	Kayden John
10 Year Old Girls	Hannah-Leah Warbrick	Keani Kingi	Heidi Viljoen
11 Year Old Boys	Carter Moka	Cody Wade	Archer McFall
11 Year Old Girls	Miley Fraser	Elsie van Rooij	Esme Gyde
12 Year Old Boys	Isaac Steger	Aniket Raju	Kade Calnan
12 Year Old Girls	Ava Esselbrugge	Mya Hoebergen	Bella Gyde

50m Freestyle			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
10 Year Old Boys	Harry Gyde	Ammon Hippolite	Aston Burt
10 Year Old Girls	Hannah-Leah Warbrick	Scarlett Swain	Indiana Payne
11 Year Old Boys	Koby Rose	Maddox Stratford	
11 Year Old Girls	Miley Fraser	Esme Gyde	Inshirah Hussain
12 Year Old Boys	Nihil Maharaj	Isaac Steger	Kade Calnan
12 Year Old Girls	Bella Gyde	Mya Hoebergen	Cooper-Love Buckle
Individual Open Medley			
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
10 - 12 Year Olds	Bella Gyde	Chloe Gyde	
House Relay			
1st Kowhai	2nd Kakariki	3rd Whero	4th Kikorangi

CELEBRATIONS

Values

Week 3		
Ryker Wenzlick	Room 1	For demonstrating the value of courage .
Eva Lu	Room 2	For demonstrating the value of respect .
CJ McNabb	Room 3	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Devyn Sharma	Room 4	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Cody Calnan	Room 6	For demonstrating the value of honesty .
Lucas Birchall	Room 7	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Te Aria Kingi	Room 8	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Maddox Stratford	Room 9	For demonstrating the value of courage .
Bella Gyde	Room 10	For demonstrating the value of active learning .

Weeks 1 and 2		
Aareefah Hussain	Room 1	For demonstrating the value of courage .
Claire Smith	Room 1	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Mehreen Kaur	Room 2	For demonstrating the value of courage .
Brielle Cowley	Room 2	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Karlo Devcich	Room 3	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Isabelle Paki	Room 3	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Carter Beer	Room 4	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Kit DeZoete	Room 4	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Seán Parkes	Room 6	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Ayaan Kotte-Godage	Room 6	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Van MacDonald-Hooper	Room 7	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Kayla van Rooij	Room 7	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Rooth Jayamaha Hitihamilage	Room 8	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Liam Harrison	Room 8	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Ammon Hippolite	Room 9	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Heidi Viljoen	Room 9	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Carter Moka	Room 10	For demonstrating the value of courage .
Cavalier Kingi	Room 10	For demonstrating the value of active learning .

Class Certificates

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Room 1 Rata	Edie Crellin	For being an Active Learner by always joining in with activities and trying your best. Keep it up!
Room 1 Rata	Ryker Wenzlick	For being an Active Learner by always joining in with activities and trying your best. Well done!
Room 2 Manuka	Eva Lu	For always having great listening skills.
Room 2 Manuka	Theo Tipene	For working hard to learn the routines of Room 2.
Room 3 Totara	Shay Gill	Showing outstanding self-control and using your ignoring muscles. Keep up the good work.
Room 3 Totara	Lexi Viljoen	Settling into school so well, especially with a new teacher. Well done!
Room 4 Ponga	Aroha Bhagat	For showing empathy and kindness to her peers. Your actions make a positive impact on those around you. Ka pai.
Room 4 Ponga	Leo Ruston	For consistently confronting challenges in his learning and showing amazing resilience. Keep shining bright!
Room 6 Puriri	Grayson Ireton	Your growing independence when working.
Room 6 Puriri	Arlo Clarke-Gray	Great start to your year, you have settled down well.
Room 7 Matai	Kayla van Rooij	For showing the value of courage in trying new things.
Room 7 Matai	Corban Stratford	For showing good skills in helping others.
Room 9 Kauri	Maddox Stratford	For being an active and enthusiastic learner in Room Kauri
Room 9 Kauri	Miley Fraser	For consistently showing our school REACH values.
Room 10 Kahikatea	Aniket Raju	For showing strong leadership and being an active learner.
Room 10 Kahikatea	Bella Gyde	For showing empathy and supporting a student with a skill in our swimming lessons.
Room 10	Scarlett Swain	For showing courage and being an active learner in our swimming lessons and plays.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday 28th February	School Biathlon/Triathlon
Monday 3rd March	Tech (Yr 7 & 8)
Friday 7th March	Junior School Swimming Sports (5 - 7 year olds)
Monday 10th March	Tech (Yr 7 & 8)
Monday 10th March	Rooms 2, 3, 4 & 6 cricket sessions
Thursday 13th March	Rooms 7 - 10 cricket sessions
Monday 17th March	Tech (Yr 7 & 8)
Tuesday 18th March	BOT meeting - 5.30 p.m
Thursday 20th March	Cluster swimming 8 years+ (St Pauls)
Thursday 20th March	Rooms 7 - 10 cricket sessions
Monday 24th March	Tech (Yr 7 & 8)
Thursday 27th March	Rooms 7 - 10 cricket sessions
Monday 31st March	Tech (Year 7 & 8)
Monday 7th April	Tech (Year 7 & 8)
Wednesday 9th April	Year 7 & 8 immunisations
Friday 11th April	No School - Teacher Only Day
Friday 11th April	Last day of term

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Tarun Kumar

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New Year,
New Priorities.

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THIS IS MY BACKYARD TOO.



Te Rapa Junior Rugby 2025



Weigh In Dates:

Sunday 9th March 9.30am-11am

Friday 14th March. 5.30pm-7pm

Fees: \$70 first child
\$30 per sibling

Come down to the Te Rapa Rugby Club on Vickery St.
We look forward to seeing returning members and new families to the club.

