

Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 10

31 July 2014

**Saturday
9th August**

Rotokauri School PTA presents

7.30pm

**Foundation Bar
Te Awa
The Base**

**Tickets:
\$20 pp
or \$35
double**



Fundraiser Quiz Night

**Tickets can be
purchased at the
Rotokauri School
Office**

Or

**Email Donna:
jdhayde@xtra.co.nz**

**Get your team together and join us for an
evening of fun and rivalry!**

**Ticket price: \$20 per person or \$35 double
(this includes nibbles)
All proceeds go towards blinds for the Multi
Purpose Room**

Saturday 9th August 2014 at 7.30pm

Venue: Foundation Bar

FOUNDATION
bar kitchen lounge

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL
462 Rotokauri Road
R D 9
HAMILTON 3289

Telephone (07) 849 5068
Fax (07) 849 4371

Email: office@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 our students in learning.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VISION

We are responsible, confident learners and communicators.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VALUES

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Persistence and Excellence.

VALUES

One of the things that visitors notice when they come to our school is our values which the students demonstrate on a daily basis. Each term we promote one of our five values. This term we will be promoting the value of excellence. Excellence can be found all through our school in children from different ages, cultures and in different curriculum areas.

What does excellence look like at our school? A few years back we got the students and the teachers to write down 3 statements that best represented excellence at Rotokauri School. They are as follows:

- I will do my best.
- I will take pride in what I do.
- I will celebrate my success.

If you see something that you would regard as excellence by one of our students please drop me a line so that we can celebrate the achievement also.

mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz

REMINDER ABOUT COMMUNICATION

Last term probably had one of the highest rates of sickness amongst Hamilton Schools for many years. What did come out of the sickness was the difficulty in contacting some parents whose children had become sick during the day. We realise that often the local school is not the first port of call when you change your mobile phone, but if you could update us with your latest contact number that would be very useful.

Earlier in the year we said that we would be trying to send all newsletters via email in the 4th term of 2014. To do this we need to get the email addresses of all parents. If you could pass this information to Sharon it would be much appreciated.

CHINESE VISIT

We have been lucky to be included in a very prestigious visit by 45 student ambassadors from Beijing. They are visiting Australia and New Zealand as part of a goodwill tour which will involve meeting the Auckland Mayor and our Prime Minister. We will be hosting our visitors on Wednesday, 6th August. They will be viewing our classrooms and have an opportunity to see our local zoo. We are hoping that this is just the start of our relationship with China. We are in the process of trying to gain a sister school in that region and have had some wonderful conversations with the New Zealand Embassy in Beijing.

SHOW AT FRASER HIGH SCHOOL

We are currently in communication with Fraser High School regarding the use of their facilities for a show that we would like to put on at the end of the term. This will involve having practices at Fraser High School. We require all of our students to be involved in this informal production. The date for this show is Thursday, 25th September. This show will be an evening event. More information on this in the coming newsletters.

QUALITY TEACHERS AT ROTOKAURI SCHOOL

Top staff are the cornerstone of all great schools. During term 2 I completed attestations on all staff and then made a summary to our Board. Here are some of the great professional characteristics of our staff in 2014:

- Teachers are very open to refining their teaching practice based on Ministry courses they may have attended. People running courses on behalf of the Ministry have noted a very positive working climate within the school.
- Teachers have taken on additional professional courses in Māori, IT and literacy, as well as Maths.
- Teachers are creating strong learning environments that promotes the importance of education to our students. There is a sense across the school that teachers are trying to make the students more responsible for their own learning and that they are teaching student's skills that make them more independent.
- Students are very engaged in learning across the school.
- Technology is now being assimilated more naturally across all learning areas. Students are using IT not only to find information but also to share with specific audiences.
- Students are not falling between the gaps. Students receive specialised support when identified by numerous procedures.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

Much of our reporting to parents in the senior school is completed at this time of the year. Being a parent myself whenever I receive my children's reports I tend to go straight to the comments area. I just want to know that my children are socialising well with other students and are trying to the best of their own ability. When I go to interviews I just want to know how I can help the teacher to help my child to be the best they can be.

MATHLETICS

Mathletics has been operating at Rotokauri School for 7 months and some of the progress made by children has been fantastic. The following three students are the top three for our school in terms of the amount of concepts they have mastered:

- 1st Petrice Vincent
- 2nd Parsa Soltanizand
- 3rd Lauren King

STUDENT ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

Question 3

Our online student survey showed that 80% of our students thought that Mathletics had made a difference to their Maths learning.

Question 4

Amount of time spent at home using Mathletics?

Less than one hour	36.17%
One to two hours	34.04%
Two to five hours	25.53%
More than 5 hours	4.26%

Question 5

The amount of time spent on Mathletics at school?

Less than one hour	43.48%
One to two hours	41.30%
Three to four hours	10.87%
More than 5 hours	4.35%

Question 6

Type of devices owned?

Desktop Computer	54.35%
Laptop Computer	65.22%
Tablet Computer	76.09%
e-book reader	13.04%
Playstation	26.09%
Xbox	26.09%
Wii	19.57%

Question 7

What do you use devices for?

Gaming and entertainment	47.73%
Keeping in touch	22.73%
Learning	25.00%
Downloading music and photos	4.55%

Question 8

Would you like to use IT more often as a way of learning at school?

Yes	85.11%	No	4.26%	Unsure	10.64%
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Question 9

Would your parents be interested in you using more IT in the classroom to help you learn?

Yes	63.83%	No	14.89%	Unsure	21.28%
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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN OUR SCHOOL

Successive Boards have been supportive and proactive in making sure that our students have some of the most modern Information Technology equipment available. As from last week we had 110 devices in the school. This number does not include cameras, videos and overhead projectors. Later on this year we would like to show you these in action in our classrooms.

SKIP-A-THON

Well done everyone! It's a credit that 176 participants managed to raise \$5,100 for music and science equipment.

Well done to Lily Allen, winner of the bike.

Also a special mention to ***Alex Dashfield*** and ***Gemma Yorke*** who also did an amazing job with sponsorship.



FONTERRA SUPPORT

Our latest batch of computers has come from Fonterra and we must acknowledge the work behind the scenes that Mr Teale did to negotiate these computers for our school. Thanks Mr Teale.

MILK IN SCHOOLS

We are one of 1470 schools that are involved in the Milk for Schools programme. We could not have implemented this project without the support of our senior student helpers who each day give out the milk. Thank you seniors.

OPERATION CLEAN UP

A school of 200 students can collect a lot of old resources. At the end of last term Suzanne Miller spent a whole morning cleaning out our server room. Thanks Suzanne, we can now see all the floor and shelves.

SCHOOL DONATIONS

Thanks to all the parents who paid the school donation in full and/or made other arrangements with Sharon. The percentage did rise to just over 50% but not to the required level to give out the \$500 incentive. Continue to feel free to make arrangements with Sharon at the office.

PAST ROTOKAURI PUPIL DOING WELL

It's nice to see Rotokauri students doing well no matter where they may be. I often get parents of past pupils telling me what their children are now doing and it's nice when the past students are doing things that they really enjoy.



Jason Dockerty at Rotokauri School in 2004

Volunteer of the Year

Work with young people has earned Whitianga's Jason Dockerty the title of Volunteer of the Year.

Whitianga Community Services Trust nominated Jason for his work with youth, at the trust's after school "youth space" programme.

The Countdown checkout supervisor says the work involves organising activities for up to 30 young people, ranging from games events, movie nights, disco and an amazing race event.

Jason says the programme keeps young people busy and safe.

"Hanging out, playing pool, table tennis and doing activities."

Jason moved to Whitianga from Hamilton for a better lifestyle than the city. When he's not volunteering for youth space, his interests include IT and technology, and recently, speedway.

"I had a taste of it in dad's car on the last race day, now I'm getting my own car."



- Brian Rogers

OPTIONS FOR SENIORS

Our senior students really enjoyed their options afternoons and according to the review that they filled out would like to do something similar again in Term 4.

We could not have been as successful in this programme without the support of a couple of parent helpers who took some of our students for Art. Thank you Heather Perring and Rosemary Pritchard for their support with our students.

SOCCER WORLD CUP

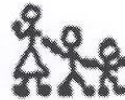
There was an amazing amount of interest towards the World Cup recently and thanks to Mr Monaghan we had a World Cup soccer ball to give out to the student that managed to predict the winning team of the 2014 World Cup. In the end 5 students had selected Germany to win. I then selected a couple of seniors to organise the draw. Congratulations to Amber Belle whose name was drawn out.

HIWI THE KIWI

All of our school will be attending a Hiwi the Kiwi show, which is about conservation. This according to other schools that have viewed the show is pretty amazing. This show will take place on 14 August. Our students are only required to pay \$2 as our PTA have very kindly offered to pay for the remainder of the attendance fee. Thank you PTA.

The Incredible Years

Parent, teacher, and children training



Developed by Dr Carolyn Webster-Stratton

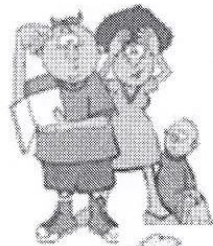
The Incredible Years Parenting programme is designed to develop positive family relationships, empower parents to make change and to manage children's behaviour. Practical step-by-step suggestions help in handling everyday situations parents face. The course runs for 14 weeks in total. It is aimed for parents of children aged between 3 and 8 years.

Why a Parenting Programme?

- Parenting is the most important job adults do.
- Many of us are not trained or prepared for the task.
- Improves family functioning.
- Learn new skills to manage challenging behaviour.
- Encouragement and support.
- Confident parents make a difference in families.
- Learning parenting skills in a supportive group is effective and fun.

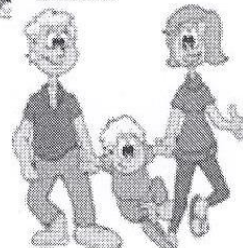
Parenting Skills

- Play/involvement.
- Praise/rewards.
- Limit setting.
- Discipline.



Interpersonal Skills

- Problem solving.
- Communication.



Academic Skills

- Learning after-school routines.
- Involvement at school.
- Coaching children to learn.

Or for more information about Incredible Years visit the Incredible Years website:
www.incredibleyears.com

Who runs it and where is it held?

The course, plus notes and text books are supplied free of charge. All the organization requests is that you give your time to attend the sessions.

Programmes are run at various locations and we try to place you in the programme closest to where you live.

If you are interested in attending, please come to the office and collect a Referral form.

TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS

These will now take place on the afternoon of 2 September starting at 1.30 pm. We had to make a change from the original date as we had a clash with the junior soccer tournament. Envelopes will be coming home in the next few weeks. If your child has been in a sport or cultural team and does not receive an envelope, please contact Sharon in the school office.

AGRICULTURAL DAY

Our School is still a country or rural school and many of our city neighbours like this country atmosphere and have therefore chosen to send their children to Rotokauri School. City schools are often very envious of the opportunities offered to country pupils and this is why we are seeking your support for our Agricultural Day.

Unless we get more pupils participating it could be lost from Rotokauri School forever. Rotokauri has a long and proud history of calf, lamb and goat Agriculture Days to uphold and it is up to the present day pupils, staff and parents for it to continue or be lost.

Animals are all obtainable from local farmers who are always keen to support the Agriculture Day movement giving help to children and educating them in the care and presentation of their animals. Not only do some farmers supply an animal some will even supply food as well. Even if you do have to provide milk powder yourself at the end of the exercise you have an animal to keep, sell or return to the farmer and your child has had a unique opportunity to bond and completely care for an animal and show it as well. In many cases this may be their only chance to do this in their entire lifetime. If you would like help obtaining an animal, please ask Sharon in the school office.

Many past pupils and adults in our community today have happy memories of their school's calf club days. We don't want to see Rotokauri School in danger of losing this special day from its annual programme and we urge you to consider giving it your support now and in the future.

We are always keen to get volunteers to train as judges. Please enquire at the school office.

More information in newsletters to follow. Entry forms will be sent home soon.

Rotokauri Agricultural Day	22 October 2014
Gordonton Group Day	28 October 2014
Waikato A & P Show Day	31 October 2014

TROLLEY DERBY

A few weeks ago I was speaking to the Principal from Whatawhata School regarding a trolley derby that we held 18 months ago on our school field. Whatawhata School have access to a road that is about to get commissioned next month and inquired if we and other schools would like to be involved in a trolley derby. I thought that some of you may still have your trolleys from our last event. If so and they are legal in relation to the rules and specifications feel free to enter them in this event. See information following.

Whatawhata School Trolley Derby

This information sheet tells all you need to know to get started on your Trolley Derby Kart! The Trolley Derby will be happening around the middle of August, about 6 weeks from now. We will confirm all the details closer to the time...The school holidays is a great time to get started with your design and construction so good luck and have fun!

Categories

We have three different age groups:

Zoomers - 5-6 year olds

Sprinters – 7-9 year olds

Rockets 10-13 year olds

Competitors will compete in a range of competitions. These include:

Fastest individual trolley

Fastest dual rider trolley

Stock racing – Race using the pre-made trolleys

Best design

Most creative design (may include costumes)

Parent-free design and construction

Other on the day special awards!

Trolley Kart design

These are the important design rules for your trolley:

Size: Width is no more than 1.2m, length is no more than 2.4m.

Weight must not exceed 30kg – a light trolley is a fast trolley!

Seats: Trolleys can be one or two seater.

Wheels: Each trolley must have a minimum of three wheels.
Pneumatic wheels are the best by far

Brakes: Each trolley must have a braking system that acts on at least two wheels and provides stable and efficient braking. For 5 and 6 year olds, a runner may run behind the trolley with a “braking system” (e.g. rope or bungee!). We recommend “dead man” braking systems – these are much safer for children.

Steering: All trolleys are required to have a steering system capable of manoeuvring the kart in a controlled way. Rope steering is NOT allowed as it is unsafe.

All projects should be SHARED design and construction between adults and children!

We encourage the use of recycled materials

Robustness: To ensure safety, chassis designs must be strong and safe. Bodies may be constructed from any materials for effect.

Competing in the Trolley Derby

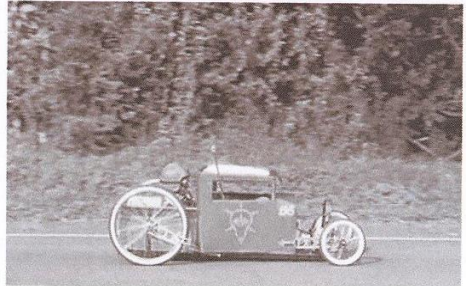
All entries must have been received at least 7 days prior to racing. A disclaimer and safety form must be signed by parents and children. Parents must be able to transport trolleys to and from the race site.

Trolley safety and robustness will be checked on the day prior to racing.

Children must wear head protection (at a minimum a cycle helmet), elbow and knee pads, enclosed shoes, long sleeve shirts and long pants – no skin showing!

The start is a standing start (no running starts).

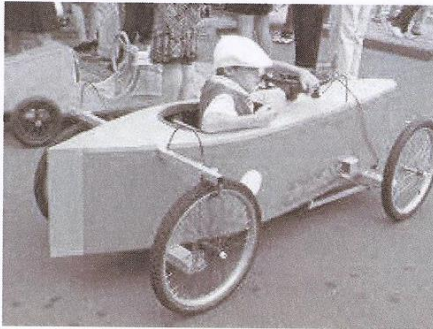
Drivers must be able to stop themselves at the end of the race.



Whatawhata School
To Grow, To Achieve, To Care

9 Kura Street RD9 Whatawhata - 07 829 8820 - www.whatawhata.school.nz

Some handy design ideas to get you started from mbtrolleyderby.co.nz



Designs: Trolleys can be as simple as the old soapbox with 4 pram wheels or a purpose-designed, 3 wheeler recumbent with an aerodynamic carbon fiber body! 3 Wheelers have less friction and drag so generally go the fastest - though may not be as stable as 4 wheelers. A really great book full of plans and trolley designs that can be found in most libraries is "The Billy Cart and Trolley Bible", by Glyn and Jane Bridgewater. There are also lots of designs available on the Internet.

If speed is your goal, the action of your wheels and their rolling resistance is the most important aspect to consider. Of course, speed is useless if you haven't got control, so pay careful attention to your steering, brakes and structural rigidity. Keep your construction light!! Contrary to popular

belief, weight is an enemy to every trolley.

Centre of Gravity: The height of your trolley and its centre of gravity can majorly effect your stability. If you have a high "sitting on top" drivers setup you will require a wider track otherwise you can flip your trolley. The lower your centre of gravity, eg the lower the seated driver, the more stable your trolley will be. For stability and reduced air drag, position as much of your weight below the axle as possible.

Stability: Your axle "track" is essentially the width from one wheel to the other. Your wheel base is the distance between your front and rear axles. Generally speaking the wider your "track" the more stable your trolley and the easier it is to steer. If your track is too narrow and wheel base is short the trolley can flip easily and steering is too jerky. In widening your track, try and keep the main body of your trolley narrow for optimum aerodynamics. If a trolley has a long wheelbase and narrow track it is usually very stable but slow to change direction. A short wheelbase and wide track, meanwhile will change direction easily but sometimes too quickly and even when you don't want it to.

Wheels: Your choice of wheels determines your rolling resistance. We strongly recommend the use of Pneumatic tyres, that is inflatable tyres, with decent bearings on your wheels. Aim for at least an 8 inch wheel - something off a child's BMX, Mountain Buggy or baby stroller. Small wheels can often be unstable at high speed and harder to control. Old wheelchair wheels are ideal as they have very strong axles and bearings. They can be attached directly to the side of the trolley. Old 10-speed bike wheels make great, cheap trolley wheels providing they are pumped up hard. However this type of wheel must be supported on both sides of the axle. Old motor mower wheels are fine but don't usually have bearings. Pneumatic (air-filled) and solid trolley wheels with bearings can be bought for about \$40 a pair from SuperCheap Auto or Mitre 10 Mega. The traditional kiwi trolley often runs on mower wheels or small trolley wheels, however these won't give you enough speed. Remember the bigger the wheel the faster you'll go.

Wheel bearings play a critical part in the speed of a trolley. Make sure your bearings are clean and use light oil.

Brakes: There are two common braking systems:

Deadman Braking - this is where the brakes are held in the 'brakes on' position by a spring, bungee or bike inner tube. To race, the driver pushes the brake lever and the wheels are released. This is a great system for young drivers as the brakes only stay off while the driver is in control ~ the instant they freak out and move their feet, the trolley slows down.

Active Braking - Cars & bikes use an active braking system.

There are many ways to create rudimentary versions, for example:

- A large piece of car tyre rubber on a lever activated by the drivers foot;
- A hinged lever carrying the foot pressure via a rod to the back wheels.

If you use 10-speed or wheelchair wheels, it will be possible to have brakes on all wheels. If you have a fixed rear axle you can incorporate a bike disc brake.

Steering: There are a whole range of steering designs – a search on the internet will find many ideas. Because trolleys with old-fashioned rope steering have proven to be dangerous, rope steering is NOT allowed.

Body (cockpit) design: Shaping techniques for the body of your trolley are almost infinite, ranging from cardboard and sticky tape to carbon fibre. Whatever you use can make the most basic trolley look like a speed demon. A design that uses chassis and body construction can really take advantage of lightweight skinning materials.

Thin plywood makes a great overall skin structure, which can then be filled out with polystyrene, cardboard and brown paper. With a rigid structure taking the weight of the driver and the stresses of the braking and steering systems you can use polystyrene, cardboard, sticky tape, PVA glue and paint to create an elaborate and aerodynamic skin.

Ensure any sharp or solid protrusions inside or out are well padded for your and others' safety.

FIFA U-20 World Cup 2015

Hamilton North Football Club are providing you the opportunity to attend the FIFA U-20 World Cup 2015 in New Zealand. There are 7 host cities and we are all proud that Hamilton is one of them. This is our chance to be the great kiwi hosts we are known for and ensure the stadiums are full of people, noise, colour and movement. Play your part to ensure we create the biggest celebration of global football ever seen in New Zealand. Below is some information for you.

24 teams from Asia, Africa, Europe, South America, Central and North America and Oceania will qualify for this event between May 2014- March 2015, and we know that New Zealand and Fiji have already qualified.

Games for Waikato Stadium are on:

Sunday 31 May 2015 - 1pm and 4pm, (double header group games)

Wednesday 3rd June 2015 - 4pm and 7pm, (double header group games)

Saturday 6th June 2015 - 1pm and 4pm, (double header group games)

Thursday 11th June 2015 - 7.30pm, (round of 16 match)

Sunday 14th June 2015 - 1pm, (quarter-final match - ticket not included in venue pack)

8 games all up, 6 pool matches, a round of 16 and a quarter-final match.

Venue pack prices which include 7 matches (quarter-final not included) at Waikato Stadium are Adult - \$87.00 + \$6 service fee Child - \$30.00 + \$6 service fee Family - \$204.00 + \$18.00 service fee *Family pack is 2 adults and 2 kids *kids must be 14 and under at the time of the tournament.

These prices include our Hamilton North 25% discount as we have sold an amazing amount of packs. One of the highest amount of ticket sales by a club in New Zealand and we are really proud of that.

Purchasing a venue pack also gets you:

- First access to purchase quarter-finals (we have one in Hamilton) and semi-finals tickets
- Optional entry into the FIFA U-20 World Cup 2015 Final ballot.

Venue packs will not be available next year so ensure you get your tickets early. If you are interested in other Host Cities venue packs we can make an enquiry for you.

Contact Nicole Mills

Hamilton North Football Club

secretary@hamiltonnorthfootball.org.nz



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