

Rotokauri School

Newsletter

Issue No: 15

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Room 7's new computers in action



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Dear Parents
Nga mihi o te wa kia koe me to whanau.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Our positive environment will actively engage our students in learning.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VISION

We are responsible, confident learners and communicators.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VALUES

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Persistence and Excellence.

E-NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first e-newsletter for Rotokauri School. Our mid-year parent consultation has shown us that you prefer to be communicated by email. The emailing of the newsletter is going to save the school both time and money, while also improving communication.

If you would like the newsletter sent to other family members or past student's families please inform us as soon as possible.

This is a two way communication highway so if you have articles or things you think would be of interest to our community please send all items to the office.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY QUESTIONNAIRES

In recent weeks the Board has sent out forms and rung all school community members to get feedback regarding the increased use of devices and technology in Room 7.

We would just like to thank everyone for their feedback, which gave the Board valuable information to help support our decision making processes.

Each student in Room 7 is now working on their own device supplied by the school and this will continue until the end of the term. Students in Room 7 have also received new furniture to help support their learning environment.

You will be able to view all the changes as part of a Room 7 Open Day to be held on Thursday, 13th November.

During discussions some questions were asked in relation to the setting up of the room which we would like to address:

1. Are there any health hazards in relation to the new room and use of technology?

All electrical changes to the room have been certified and all equipment is of Ministry specifications. Students will only be seated on the computer for the same percentage of the day as they would have been if they were communicating by pen and paper.

2. Is this going to cost the parents any additional money?

Information technology changes and updates are not cheap. We currently spend just over one fifth of our total budget on technology at Rotokauri School.

For the current trial period of one term we will not be requesting any money and / or devices from parents in relation to the changes in Room 7. Thanks to the generosity of Fonterra we have been able to outfit the room at minimum expenditure.

3. Will the students be safe while online?

Our students have been through an approved cyber citizen course and used resources that make them aware of the cyber environment and steps they should take to make sure they are safe while online. Students have been reminded of this when receiving their personal devices in relation to what is expected of them. Attempted misuse of the device by a child will result in them being taken out of the trial. Ministry approved firewalls have been set up and are regularly checked. Programmes are being installed so that the teacher can see in real time what all students are doing online.

4. Will my child be playing games and living in a virtual world?

No, these tools are there to support the educational programmes which are already currently being run in the classroom. This room has not been set up to engage students through games and social networks. These computers are helping students to work collaboratively with each other to solve real problems.

5. What next?

After nine weeks the students and staff will be asked to evaluate the trial and this information will then be passed onto the Board.

OPTIONS FOR TERM 4 2014

Both junior and senior syndicates will be undertaking individual options programmes this term. Parents of children from Year 4 up should have received an options list recently. You will note that some of these options cost money and it is important that you discuss these options with your child/ren before a selection is made. All forms need to be handed in to me by Tuesday, 28th October. If you can support this option in terms of transport / parent help please contact the organiser of the option.

Any parent or staff member who is running an option which leaves the school grounds will need to fill in a simple Risk Analysis Management safety form.

PLANNING AHEAD

Rotokauri School will commence on February 5, 2015. All dates in relation to other activities at school can be found on our website.

WEBSITE

Last year our website would only get 4 or 5 hits a month but now we are close to 500 hits per month. Our system tells us that people spend on average three and a half minutes on our page and will read 3 or 4 documents. Go have a look and see what your child's class is up to.

AGRISEA AVAILABLE – FREE – LAST CHANCE

If you would like some **free animal supplement**, please see Sharon at the school office

SCHOOL SHOW

Lots of positive feedback in regards to last terms show held at Fraser High School. Plenty of talent was on display and it's a credit to both staff and students who worked tirelessly on this production. This really demonstrated Rotokauri's concept of TEAM.

CAR SHOW

Although you have received this newsletter via email there are still times when we can't do without paper. Today your child should have brought home 5 flyers for the Car Show which will take place on Sunday, 16th November. Can you please put these flyers under the window wipers of cars that are special e.g. racing, performance, classic, vintage, exotic etc.

To make this day a success we need to get both cars and people along. All of our students will be involved in class stalls. Please make sure you invite family and friends to this event.

CAR SHOW AND COUNTRY FAIR 2ND HAND STALLS

If you would like somewhere to sell your old gear bring it along to the Country Fair on Sunday 16th November.

For just \$10.00 you can have a stall on the courts to get rid of your old junk and make some money as well.

Get your kids to have a clear out before Christmas!

Contact Hayley hndyorke@xtra.co.nz or Antonia chevvi@xtra.co.nz

ABSENTEEISM

I have written on a number of occasions about the statistical correlation between attendance and student performance. Anything under 80% will result in serious voids in your child's knowledge and skill base. High absenteeism also impacts on social relationships.

Continued absenteeism will impact seriously on a child's ability to access special programmes (remedial and gifted and talented) and as a school we would need to consider if a student's continued absences are preventing another child from accessing limited, expensive and valued resources and teacher time.

The school expectation is that if children are selected for extra assistance (e.g. special programmes, Gifted and Talented, Reading Recovery) then they will attend regularly and that any extra work will be completed at home.

If you are unsure of where your child stands in relation to attendance drop me a line and I will reply.

SCHOOL HATS FOR TERMS 4 AND 1

All Rotokauri students need to wear a hat during Terms 4 and 1. Rotokauri hats are available from the office for \$14. It is important that we take pride in wearing our Rotokauri hats, therefore we ask that no decorations or graffiti are added to the sunhats.

TEAM BUILDING

Teachers naturally do team building exercises with students to help build spirit and culture within their classroom environments. Humans naturally enjoy socialisation and group dynamics whether it be in a family, sporting or work environments. Within groups people have different experience, skills, beliefs and communication styles. To bond people and harness their individual skills in a collective way can be difficult. Here are seven steps towards building a remarkable TEAM.

1. Assemble a team of doers. If a person selected for a team turns out to not be a good fit, take quick action to correct the choice.
2. Set priorities, and make sure all the team members have a common understanding of them.
3. Let them do their job and don't micro manage them.
4. Knockdown barriers such as political and resource obstructions that are keeping team members from accomplishing their goals.
5. Express gratitude frequently for work well done.
6. Take the heat for any team mistakes without transmitting heat down the chain.
7. Celebrate the teams' successes with them.

CHICKEN COMPETITION RESULTS

Rearing

	Junior	Intermediate	Senior
1st	Seth Westgate	Savannah Smith	Olivia Robinson
2nd	Corbyn Smith	Rebekah Pritchard	Emma Fryer
3rd	Lily Allen	Thomas Keightley	Olivia Robinson

Most Obvious Pet

	Junior	Intermediate	Senior
1st	Corbyn Smith	Savannah Smith	Georgia Snelgrove
2nd	Seth Westgate	Kayla Westgate	Olivia Robinson
3rd	Anya Fuller	Thomas Keightley	Josh McLaughlin

Rearing Champion – Olivia Robinson

Rearing Reserve Champion – Savannah Smith

Most Obvious Pet Champion – Savannah Smith

Most Obvious Pet Reserve Champion – Corbyn Smith

Junior Champion – Corbyn Smith

Intermediate Champion – Savannah Smith

Senior Champion – Olivia Robinson

CHAMPION CHICKEN – Savannah Smith

RESERVE CHAMPION CHICKEN – Corbyn Smith

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL AGRICULTURAL DAY RESULTS - SHIELDS AND TROPHIES 2014

LAMB

Lamb Points Trophy - **Bailey Lochore-Halpin and Thomas Perham (34 points)**

This trophy has been around since 1968 and was won last year by Hayley Monaghan.

Most Obvious Pet Trophy – **Rylee Carlson**

Donated by Autolink Automotive in 1991. This trophy was won last year by Hayley Monaghan.

Lamb Leading Trophy – **Thomas Perham**

This trophy was first awarded in 1998. Last year it was won by Hayley Monaghan.

Lamb Rearing Shield – **Thomas Perham**

This trophy was first awarded in 1998. Last year it was won by Hayley Monaghan.

GOAT

Doug McFarlane Shield – **Amarah Duncan and Cassie Hayde (38 points)**

This was a new shield in 1999. Thanks to the McFarlanes for the donation. It is a points trophy. It was won last year by Mackenzie Hammond-Wood.

Goat Most Obvious Pet Trophy – **Bailey-Anne Brooks**

This trophy was kindly donated by the Keast Family in 2009. Last year this trophy was awarded to Mackenzie Hammond-Wood.

Goat Leading Trophy – **Tommi Rae**

This trophy was kindly donated by the Keast Family in 2009. Last year this trophy was awarded to Mackenzie Hammond-Wood.

Goat Rearing Trophy – **Cassie Hayde**

This trophy was kindly donated by the Keast Family in 2009. Last year this trophy was awarded to Cassie Hayde.

CALF

Calf Points Trophy – **Leaf Clifton and Jorja Scott (32 points)**

This trophy was initially won by a race horse "DANDY". It was then donated to the school by CP Buckenham and has been used as a points trophy since 1945. Last year Alexandra Dashfield won this trophy.

Calf Leading Trophy – **Jorja Scott**

The Martin Leading Cup has been awarded since 1989. Alexandra Dashfield won this cup last year.

Calf Rearing Shield – **Alexandra Dashfield**

This shield was donated to Rotokauri School in 1945 by Federated Farmers. Last year it was won by Ashley Taylor.

Dairy Type Trophy – **Jorja Scott**

This is the J Barker Trophy and was started in 1943. Olivia Woolerton won this last year.

Beef Type Trophy – **Rebecca Perham**

This trophy was first awarded in 1998. It was won by Sarah Baker last year.

POOL / TENNIS COURT KEYS AVAILABLE

These will be available to school families from Tuesday, 28 October until sold out – first in first served. A form needs to be signed by an adult so please do not send payment with your child. The cost is \$75.00 with \$10.00 being returned to you at the end of the season when your key is brought back. The pool will be opening for the season on 24 November. See the advert later in the newsletter if you are interested in swimming lessons for your child.

A MESSAGE FROM ONE OF OUR CHINESE VISITORS

New Zealand – being educated is like an amazingly wonderful journey

Go to school – go home – go to school... this pattern is repeated version of all students, but in New Zealand education system makes this boring pattern becomes sparks shine in the students eyes and passion from deep in their hearts.

Chinese education may be better in forcing children to absorb more knowledge but this also locks the creative talents from blossoming. New Zealand education may be following their hearts, and the time spent at school is like preparation of students to enter the society, during this preparation stages, students are harvesting happiness, self-confidence and passion....

We spent 7 days in New Zealand and visited 3 schools. The people and the schools leave deep impression on me. I remember fondly and deeply of the bright smiles on Gisborne Girls High and the Chinese students studied in MaCleens College all exhibit self-confidence, also the polite little boy in the school next door to the zoo.

When we visited the last school “Zoo School” (Rotokauri School), a little boy touched my heart. When all of us girls from Beijing were laughing and talking during our walk in the beautiful garden, that beautiful environment totally relaxed me, this showcased not only the environment was beautiful but people are more beautiful. When we walked past the steel gate of the zoo, none of us thought of holding on the gate to help others pass, only that little blond boy that accompanied us, quietly using his skinny body to hold on the gate to keep it open to help the students behind us pass easily. When all students passed the gate, he then carefully closed the gate and walked behind us. This act of kindness really makes me shame of myself, this also high lights the biggest difference between NZ and China education. Over there, a small boy height only reaches my shoulder already understands to think for others, he already exhibits gentleman mannerism, and how many people around us in China exhibit that lovely selfish mannerism? This really showcase the successfulness of NZ Education in forming the students morals and conducts. I think that China education teaches students how to study, how to achieve high marks. But New Zealand education teaches students how to be a complete person.

At the same time, in MaCleens College, I got to appreciate how complete and free is NZ education. Each of the classroom books are used for more than 10 years, this showcased the students strong support and exercise the environmental friendliness, they also understand that if you want beautiful environment, you must start from yourself, this also marks the big difference between NZ and Chinese education. NZ full and complete education not only helps students to have a kind and beautiful inner heart but also helps students to be more self-confident.

Education, maybe this is an important issue in all over the world. Because if education is not successful, the country’s new generation will not be good force, not full, then this country will be like a heart depleted of life with no energy. In New Zealand, education successfully offers each student a wonderful journey, that allows them to search and reach quality and morality, a seed that sprouts confidence and happiness. They truly feel that the world will be a better place because of my existence. This is the biggest success of education.

Author: Wang YingLun

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL SHIRTS

We know kids grow, so the PTA has set up a register to put those who may have second hand school shirts in good, clean condition that they are wanting to sell in touch with those who are interested in buying them.

There is a folder with Sharon in the school office which holds the register to be completed by the seller – name / contact details / size / condition / price etc. Potential buyers are able to get in touch with whoever has the shirt they are wanting and organise to view / purchase if it is suitable. Please DO NOT take your shirts to Sharon as there is insufficient storage space for her to hold them.

We hope this service will be utilised by school families as a recycling initiative as well as an opportunity to save a little money!

2 FOCUS **Learn to swim**

The 2Focus coaches are returning to Rotokauri School take swimming block courses.

We will be in your school from the 24th November – 28th November 2014.

What we offer

- Block course 5 x 30 minute swimming lessons.
- Coach swimmers to their individual ability.
- Technique coaching in all swimming strokes.
- Supply all equipment needed, kick boards etc.
- We come to you, no down time from the class travelling to lessons.

Cost: \$40.00 for the week, 5x 30 minute sessions.

Lesson times: 12.30 pm - 1.00 pm or 1.00 pm – 1.30pm

To book: email Vicki with your child's/children's full name, age and swimming ability. - v.taylor@windowslive.com

Is anyone selling a toddlers bike seat to attach onto the back of a mountain bike or a “wee child” seat?

Please contact Kylie 021 027 20693 if you can help.

Cricket Hubs

Hamilton Cricket will be running cricket hubs again in term 4 2014 for children in school years 0-6. These cricket hubs focus on participation and skill development.

West Hub Elliott Park Wednesday 5th November – Wednesday 10th December

North Hub Discovery Park Monday 3rd November – Monday 8th December

East Hub Waikato University Wednesday 5th November – Wednesday 10th December

South Hub Melville High School Tuesday 4th November – Tuesday 9th December

Hubs will run from 5:30pm – 7pm and run for 6 weeks.

The cost is \$20 for the 6 weeks or \$45 if you wish to receive cricket prizes at the end of the programme.

Registration can be made online at www.hamiltoncricket.co.nz under the registration tab in quick links.

For further details please contact Janice Fraser – **Phone** 022 0611 660 or **Email** janice@hamiltoncricket.co.nz

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Do you or your child/ren need support with anxiety, grief, anger, depression or other problems? Issues at school or at home getting in the way of school/work/relationships or enjoyment of life? Have you recently separated or entered a new relationship? To have a discussion or to book an appointment please phone or text Rachel McKenna on 0212056950 or see www.rmccounseling.co.nz

KELLY SPORTS

SUMMER SPORTS SLAM!

**ATHLETICS (RUN, JUMP, THROW) – CRICKET – TOUCH RUGBY
Fundamental Skills**

After School Sports Clinic at Rotokauri School – 8 Sessions

YEAR LEVEL: 0 – 8 **COST:** \$75.00

WHEN: Wednesdays 22nd October – 10th December, 3:10 – 4:10pm

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ENROL

– reduced rate of \$70 for 7 sessions if you missed the first session

For more information and to **BOOK ONLINE**

go to www.kellysports.co.nz

Email: waikato@kellysports.co.nz Tel: 07 839 9017

"I WANT TO DO MARRZIPAN DRAMA!"



Rotokauri School are excited to offer **Marrzipan Drama** classes on Mondays after school at 3.15pm in the Library! The lessons promote **self-confidence**, **public-speaking** ability and **social skills** through Drama.



"...his speech was very clear, loud and he made eye contact with the audience..."



"...I was amazed to watch my 6 year old stand up in front of all these unknown guests and have the confidence to perform and then interact with them in this way "



We have heaps of **fun** in class, play silly and **challenging** games and **perform EVERY term** – the best way to build **confidence!** Spaces are limited to just **9 per class**, so your child gets the attention they deserve.

8 lessons + performance for **\$149** incl GST (weekly payment plans available). Contact **Marrzipan Drama** ASAP to secure your space in a free trial lesson!



"...thank you for the weekly notices regarding what is being covered in class - it is really wonderful to be kept informed with such an organised and professional service!"



T: 0278183722
W: MarrzipanDrama.co.nz
E: amelia@marrzipandrama.co.nz



Email us to secure your child's space in our classes!

Classes have started and we are working towards a performance to the school and parents! Spaces are limited, so get in quick to avoid missing out!

Lessons take place at school and are private to Rotokauri School students only.



THAT'S A WRAP

1. Slice and dice your favourite vegetables
 - Lettuce
 - Cucumber
 - Celery
 - Capsicum
 - Tomato
 - Beetroot
 - Carrot
 - Radishes
2. Spread avocado, hummus or salsa on the wrap, top with vegetables, shredded chicken, ham or tuna
3. Wrap it up and enjoy



TIP:
Use
vegetables
and herbs
fresh from
your garden!



GO MAD WITH MINCE

1. Dice 1 onion and a clove of garlic
2. Add 500g of lean mince
3. Add 2C of frozen, diced or grated vegetables
4. Finally add 2 tins of diced tomatoes
5. Simmer and add 2tsp of herbs



TIP:
Try serving
your mince
these two
ways



Shepherd's Pie

Spaghetti Bolognese

Sponsors of the
Rotokauri School Coromandel Fishing Tournament



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