

Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 18

4 December 2014

DRIVE IN MOVIE – POSTPONED

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Edge Protection Ltd Rotokauri School Drive In Movie

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors for their support of the Rotokauri School drive in movie night, unfortunately due to the weather forecast for this Saturday night and the feedback we have received in regards to this time of year we have made the decision today to postpone this event until early 2015.

Our committee is working hard to make this a successful event and we believe that postponing it is the best decision for all involved and we hope to lock in a new date as soon as we are able. Once we have new dates arranged we will be in touch to let everyone know. We will continue to run advertising in our school newsletter and around town on posters and flyers (once we have reprinted with new details).

If you have purchased tickets to the drive in movie then please contact Marie Carlson directly on marie.carlson@outlook.co.nz or call 027 4303 844

Again we thank everyone for their support

Kind regards

Marie Carlson
Chairperson
Rotokauri school PTA

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL
462 Rotokauri Road
R D 9
HAMILTON 3289

Telephone (07) 849 5068
Fax (07) 849 4371
Email: office@rotokauri.school.nz
www.rotokauri.school.nz

Dear Parents

Nga mihi o te wa kia koe me to whanau.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Our positive environment will actively engage our students in learning.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VISION

We are responsible, confident learners and communicators.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL VALUES

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Persistence and Excellence.

DOESN'T TIME FLY

Christmas and the holidays are almost upon us. It only seems like yesterday that we were welcoming our students back for the start of 2014, maybe time speeds up as you get older. The end of year for many is a time of reflection and planning for the future. With all of 2014 National Standard data entered into our computer system we are currently looking at the areas in which we believe our students need support. Education in the last 10 years has become much more targeted at supporting the students who have the most learning needs. Each and every child's case is supported by data and a series of testing procedures. The same can be said for our students who are involved in our gifted and talented programmes. It would be fair to say that education has become more individualised and is tailored towards the needs of the children and not a one size fits all, as had previously occurred throughout the world.

Next year as a school we look forward to revisiting our curriculum. We want to give our students an advantage over other students around the world because this generation will be competing for jobs with people from around the globe. Our ability to be mobile and connected (Third World countries included) means that employment markets are continuously changing, along with skill requirements.

Students from Rotokauri need to have a point of difference. They need to be able to think outside the square and be flexible in their problem solving strategies. They need to be resilient and be able to confidently communicate using a number of mediums and for a variety of audiences. They need to be forward thinking and strategic in making decisions, while still understanding and appreciating the importance of human relationships and values as the core for a successful life. We look forward to working with our students and community next year as we undertake a series of trials, in a number of areas.

While reflecting I'd just like to thank the community for the support they have given the school over the last 12 months. There is a strong core of parents who get in behind all of our major events and help our incredible staff to support the students.

I would also like to thank our senior students who have undertaken a couple of reviews themselves this year and have been a part of our digital classroom trial in term 4 of 2014. Your concept of team and the strong rapport you have with one another always gave myself and other staff members the confidence to try new things with you. In some ways this group of students have become trail blazers for the many students to come. This group of students were always confident to give new things a go and definitely always looked to the positive. I wish them all the best in the future, especially those that will leave us to carry on their learning at various high schools next year.

With the end of the year approaching we say goodbye to some long standing members of the Rotokauri School community. Between Antonia Withey, Hayley Yorke and Karen Dashfield they must have a combined time of over 25 years on the PTA. In that time they have raised tens of thousands of dollars in fundraising and just as important have organised many social activities over the last decade. The ladies were well supported by their husbands who also immersed themselves in our school. Shane Withey helped develop the beautification plan and was always available to give advice on building, while both Tim Dashfield and Darryl Yorke took on governance rolls on the Board. Darryl taught me, from a business perspective, that if something wasn't written down then it wasn't said. While Tim often encouraged the Board to see things through a left field perspective. Thank you for your commitment to our school over a very long period of time.

MEETING WITH THE MINISTRY

Many of you would have read the article in the Waikato Times earlier this month regarding Rotokauri Rise, a subdivision planned by Tainui in our local area. We met with a Ministry representative last week and just to confirm what they said - there is no new high school planned by the Ministry over the next few areas in this region and the Ministry will not be changing our zone to accommodate the sections which you currently see being prepared for development on Rotokauri Road. To keep you informed we are going to meet with the Ministry more often.

ROOM 4 UPDATE

Janice Skiffington is currently on leave to care for her terminally ill mother and will not return this term. Suzanne Welch, a very experienced teacher is working with our students in Room 4. Welcome and thank you Suzanne – we hope you enjoy your experience at Rotokauri School.

DECILE RATING

People have in the past asked how the decile rating system works. The Ministry published an article in the Education Gazette this week which covers some of the questions that you may have raised.

Decile funding

All state and state-integrated schools up and down the country will have been contacted by Thursday this week with a new decile rating.

As with previous decile recalculations, around a third of schools will stay the same while a third will increase decile and a third will go down.

The current decile system was introduced in the mid-1990s as a way to target funding to schools with the most students from low socio economic circumstances.

It is calculated by using Census data and student address information provided by schools.

The Ministry then applies five indicators of socio-economic status for a community:

- Percentage of households with income in the lowest 20 percent nationally.
- Percentage of employed parents in lowest occupational groups
- Household crowding.
- Percentage of parents with no educational qualifications.
- Percentage of parents receiving income support benefits.

“Decile funding is essentially about fairness. We want to ensure extra funding goes to support those students who need it most.”

These are equally weighted in the calculations. Schools are ranked nationally into 10 deciles, with about 10 per cent of schools in each decile. Deciles are therefore a relative, rather than an absolute, measure of the socio-economic circumstances of its students.

“Decile funding is essentially about fairness. We want to ensure extra funding goes to support those students who need it most,” says Dr Graham Stoop, Deputy Secretary for Student Achievement at the Ministry of Education.

“Essentially the decile system is a way to make sure that those schools that have a higher proportion of students who face barriers to learning due to their socio-economic circumstances, have extra funding to help support the children and the communities they come from.”

Because 10 per cent of schools fall into each decile, if a school loses funding when its decile changes, another school that has a greater percentage of its students from disadvantaged communities gains funding.

“Both the Minister and the Ministry of Education acknowledge that decile funding is not perfect when it comes to allocating funding for students in need of extra support.

“Consequently we know that some schools may feel the decile rating doesn't accurately reflect its students or community, which is why they can seek a review of their new decile rating if it believes the rating doesn't accurately reflect its situation.”

The Ministry has also allowed time for schools whose decile has increased to adjust to lower funding levels.

“Schools that move to a lower decile rating will have an increase in funding, while those going to a higher decile rating will have a reduction in funding over 18 months.

“For most schools, the changes in funding will be a small percentage of their operational grant. But we recognise that any reduction in funding will be an adjustment, which is why this time the government has introduced an 18 month transition period for any schools with a reduction in funding. Increases in funding will, however, take effect much sooner, in January 2015.

“We will be working closely with schools to give them any support they need to adjust to changes. It's important to remember a school's decile rating does not reflect the quality of education a school provides. The quality of teaching and leadership at a school are the most important in-school factors in lifting student achievement,” says Dr Stoop.

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Three components of schools' operational grant funding depend on decile ratings: Targeted Funding for Educational Achievement, the Special Education Grant, and the Careers Information Grant.

BIG EVENTS NEXT YEAR

Next year Hamilton will play host to the Under-20 World Cup Soccer Tournament and the World Cup Cricket Tournament. These events for Hamilton are few and far between, especially at this level of competition. It's important that the whole of Hamilton gets in behind these events as it a win/win for everyone. As a school we will be involved in the selling of soccer packages which you may have viewed in our last newsletter.

CLASS MAKE UP FOR 2015

Everything revolves around numbers and in terms of local demographics that is a little out of a schools control. Next year the numbers are far more balanced and can be accommodated into our current structure more readily. From Room 2 up, children will transfer straight into the next class up. With the juniors there may be a couple of students who miss a teacher in their movement through the school but as our classes are composite/blended they DO NOT miss a teaching level.

Teachers and classes for 2015:

Room 1 - Year 1 Mrs Evans
Room 2 - Year 1 / 2 Miss Smith
Room 3 - Year 2 / 3 Miss Kempthorne
Room 4 - Year 3 / 4 Mrs Skiffington
Room 5 - Year 4 / 5 Miss Cooper
Room 6 - Year 5 / 6 Mr Watkins
Room 7 - Year 7 / 8 Mrs Sanders

PRIZEGIVING

Remember, we have a backup for our prizegiving should the weather not be appropriate for holding our event outdoors. The Fraser High School Assembly Hall will be our backup venue. We are hopeful that the weather plays the game and that you can bring your picnic rugs and join us on the field.

A reminder this is not a show - it's an award ceremony celebrating the successes of our students who have achieved to a high standard this year in a number of academic and social fields.

SENIOR CAMP

What an amazing experience to be able to go away with your friends and teachers to a new environment and enjoy each other's company for a few days. This creates close bonds, lifelong friendships and memories that we can get to revisit.

Many schools no longer run camps which is a bit of a shame. As from 1st December many outdoor adventure contractors will no longer be able to offer their service as they don't make enough money to pay for the proposed annual audit.

Thank you to our staff for continuing to offer these outdoor experiences.

EMERGENCY EVACUATIONS

We run these all the time at school. All students know what to do when they hear the alarm. With a number of deaths recently in Hamilton the question we need to ask is do they know what to do at home?

LAST DAY OF TERM

We finish on Friday 19th December at 12.30 pm. All students need to be collected by 12.45 pm. Staff will not be on site from 12.50 pm.

MESSAGE FROM ATMOSPHERE

Dear Rotokauri Parents

School is closing early on Friday, 19 December so there will be **no** after school care on the last day of term. Please arrange alternative care for your children so they can be picked up at 12.30 pm.

We hope you have a fantastic summer holiday and a very Merry Christmas.

Kind regards
Anna Bjerring
Rotokauri Before and After School Care Manager

GOOD LUCK LADIES

Both Linda and Victoria are due to give birth at the end of January. We wish them all the best and look forward to catching up with them once their new arrivals are here.

2015 OPENING DATE

School will reopen for instruction on Thursday 5th February. Enjoy your time off with family and friends and we will catch up with you next year.

NEW WORLD VOUCHERS FOR SALE

New World vouchers are on sale at the school office. \$50.00 buys you a \$55.00 voucher. They can only be redeemed at New World Te Rapa and are valid until 30 March 2015.

POOL KEYS

We still have a small number of keys available to purchase. The cost for the season is \$75.00 with \$10.00 returned at the end of the season when your key is returned. If you would like a key please call into the school office to sign a form. First in first served.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

If you know of a company that is going to turn its computers over in the next 6 months can you please notify the school.

JUNIOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS RESULTS

SPRINTS

| Gender | Age | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|--------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Boys | 5 yr olds | Angus Elliott | Asher Hapi | Alex Porter |
| Girls | 5 yr olds | Bella'Capri Nelson | Hannah Hobbs | Nadia Peng |
| Boys | 6 yr olds | Lamayne Clark | Elias Barber | Marama Tangiora |
| Girls | 6 yr olds | Paige Moka | Ella Prangnell | Lily Allen |
| Boys | 7 yr olds | Ethan Phillip | Oscar Stratford | Riley Cornelissen |
| Girls | 7 yr olds | Anaiya Nelson | Jessica Cuff | Kayla Westgate |

SHOTPUT

| Gender | Age | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|--------|-----------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Boys | 5 yr olds | Alex Porter | Cooper McLean | Caleb Jacobs |
| Girls | 5 yr olds | Bridgette Donny | Bella'Capri Nelson | Tamsin Rose |
| Boys | 6 yr olds | Lamayne Clark | Elias Barber | Seth Westgate |
| Girls | 6 yr olds | Ella Prangnell | Lily Allen | Isla Kahaki |
| Boys | 7 yr olds | Ethan Phillip | Cooper Miller | Oscar Stratford |
| Girls | 7 yr olds | G'arni-Lee Clark | Baylee Montgomery | Anaiya Nelson |

DISCUS

| Gender | Age | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|--------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Boys | 5 yr olds | Jesse Zillwood | Caleb Jacobs | Cooper McLean |
| Girls | 5 yr olds | Tamsin Rose | Bella'Capri Nelson | Bridgette Donny |
| Boys | 6 yr olds | Akira Clifton | Lamayne Clark | Jayden Ward |
| Girls | 6 yr olds | Bailey Brooks | Jessica Tunnell / Lily Allen | Ella Prangnell |
| Boys | 7 yr olds | Brooklyn Snelgrove | Ethan Phillip | Carter Jackways |
| Girls | 7 yr olds | Jessica Cuff | Jessica Munro | G'arni-Lee Clark |

HIGH JUMP

| Gender | Age | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|--------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Boys | 5 yr olds | Angus Elliott | Asher Hapi | Ciaran Williams-Thomas |
| Girls | 5 yr olds | Bella'Capri Nelson | Keira Cowley | Bella Wilson |
| Boys | 6 yr olds | Lamayne Clark | Marama Tangiora | Jayden Ward |
| Girls | 6 yr olds | Natal Birks | Aidah Ali | Lily Allen |
| Boys | 7 yr olds | Riley Cornelissen | Ethan Phillip | Cooper Miller |
| Girls | 7 yr olds | Anaiya Nelson | Kayla Westgate | Jessica Cuff / G'arni-Lee Clark |

LONG JUMP

| Gender | Age | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|--------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Boys | 5 yr olds | Asher Hapi | Alex Porter | Jesse Zillwood |
| Girls | 5 yr olds | Bella'Capri Nelson | Keira Cowley | Nadia Peng |
| Boys | 6 yr olds | Elias Barber | Lamayne Clark | Marama Tangiora |
| Girls | 6 yr olds | Jessica Tunnell | Ella Prangnell | Isla Kahaki |
| Boys | 7 yr olds | Ethan Phillip | Oscar Stratford | Cooper Miller |
| Girls | 7 yr olds | Anaiya Nelson | Jessica Cuff | G'arni-Lee Clark |

MATHS SUPPORT ONLINE

Next year all of our school, with the exception of the new entrant class (Room 1), will be working online with the math programme Math Whizz. This programme was trialed by some members of Room 5 earlier this year with great success. The Board, as in the previous year, will financially support this programme for all students. **Parents will be asked to fund \$30 through the student's stationery list.**

PHOTO FROM THE SENIOR LEGO OPTION



DANCE CLASSES

From Term One, 2015 Katie Moore a qualified Dance Teacher is offering dance classes at lunch times. Katie is an RAD Ballet Teacher with a Bachelor of Dance from AUT University. A free trial class will be offered in Week 2, 2015. Please express your interest by emailing Katie on

katie-moore@hotmail.com

Cost: \$5.00 per class – \$35 for Term One

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EASY LOW COST RECIPE

EGG-CITING QUICHE

1. Beat 4 eggs with $\frac{3}{4}$ C of low fat milk; mix in $\frac{1}{2}$ C of self raising flour
2. Add 200g of chopped bacon and 3-4 cups of cooked diced vegetables
 - Potato • Onion • Kumara
 - Broccoli • Courgette • Capsicum
 - Spinach • Mushrooms
3. Stir in $\frac{3}{4}$ C of grated cheese; pour into a greased dish and bake for 30 minutes at 180°C



TIP:
Leftovers are great
for lunchboxes the
next day!



EASY LOW COST RECIPE

LITTLE FRITTERS

1. Sift 2½C of self-raising flour and combine with 2 whisked eggs and 2 cans of drained corn kernels
2. Cook spoonfuls in a hot pan till golden, flip and cook on the other side; serve with a green salad



TIP:
If you don't have self raising flour make your own using 1Tsp of baking powder to 1C plain flour



CLUB ENERGIZE

Triathlon Training

for 7-12 year olds

A great opportunity for children to learn the basics of triathlon in preparation for school triathlons and the Weetbix TRYathlon

Registrations open now

Time: 9.30am – 12pm

Cost: \$15 for 3 days

13, 14, 15 January

University of Waikato grounds, Silverdale Rd, Gate 3a

20, 21, 22 January

Te Rapa School, 61 Ashurst Ave, Pukete, Hamilton

For more information and to register contact Energizer:

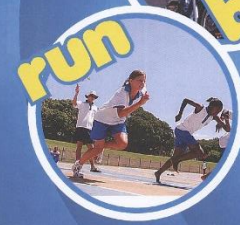
Erin Cooper | 021 624 962 | erinc@sportwaikato.org.nz



swim



bike



run





SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

12-23 January 2015 – (8am – 5.30pm)

Waikato Diocesan School, Hamilton

| Day: Theme: | Mon 12 th Sharing & Caring | Tue 13 th Environment | Wed 14 th Nutrition | Thur 15 th Health & Wellbeing | Fri 16 th Leadership |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| 12 th Jan – 16 th Jan | <i>Fun in the Sun!</i> | <i>Out and About</i> | <i>Leap and Eat</i> | <i>Wheelie Day</i> | <i>In-House Movies</i> |
| Morning | Young Engineers Arts Soccer/Tennis Clinic | Young Engineers Upcycle Art Soccer/Tennis Clinic | Young Engineers Leap Shared Lunch | Young Engineers Races on Wheels | Team Games In-house Movie and Popcorn |
| Afternoon | Whiz Kids Swimming Bring Togs | Swimming Bring Togs | Whiz Kids Swimming Bring Togs | Team Games Swimming Bring Togs, Wheels & Helmets | Swimming Bring Togs |
| Day: Theme: | Mon 19 th Sharing & Caring | Tue 20 th Environment | Wed 21 st Nutrition | Thur 22 nd Health & Wellbeing | Fri 23 rd Leadership |
| 19 th Jan – 23 rd Jan | <i>Fun in the Sun!</i> | <i>Out and About</i> | <i>Great Race and Eat</i> | <i>Wheelie Day</i> | <i>Movies @ The Awa</i> |
| Morning | Young Engineers Arts Soccer/Tennis Clinic | Young Engineers Donny Park – Planting Soccer/Tennis Clinic | Young Engineers Great Race Shared Lunch | Young Engineers Races on Wheels | Team Games Leave Te Awa |
| Afternoon | Whiz Kids Swimming Bring Togs | Hakarimata Rail Trail Swimming Bring Togs | Whiz Kids Swimming Bring Togs | Team Games Swimming Bring Togs, Wheels & Helmets | Swimming Bring Togs |

(NB: The above programme is subject to changes)



Costs: \$195/week

\$39/day

Discount for families with more than one child

Limited Spaces - Register Early!

www.squiggle.org.nz

Ariana | M: 021-2424567 | E: ariana@squiggle.org.nz

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M - 0210582304

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