

Rotokauri School

Newsletter



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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.

THANK YOU

There is something special about being part of a small semi-rural school. The number of children is smaller and we therefore know not only our students but also our parents better. Because there is a closer rapport and the students have a stronger sense of belonging, more progress can be made socially and academically. I'd just like to thank our whole community, Board of Trustees and PTA for the support we have received during 2014 to make this a great place for our students to not only learn within but grow up in. I hope that our departing Year 8's (and what a great group they are!) have happy memories of our school and are proud to say they went to Rotokauri School. Currently we have 5 parents who were educated at our school and have now sent their children to us. While our curriculum changes we still keep values and how we treat people at the forefront of our learning.

Have a great holiday everyone. We are lucky to live in a country that allows us a lifestyle where we can spend so much time with our children.

REPORTING

In February/March we will be sharing with our community the 2014 National Standards results. Our target for 2014 involved 51 students in the curriculum area of maths. These students have done really well in 2014 and should be congratulated. What parents need to understand is that National Standards reporting is not a fair or transparent way of reporting, in that it doesn't show progress within a standard band. The way the Ministry asks schools to report gives parents the negative assumption that the child has not improved unless they have gone to another National Standard level and this is not true. This can be both frustrating and demoralizing for both students and staff.

All of our students have made progress in one way or another and our students, staff and parents should be commended for their combined (team) effort.

When looking at your child's report (Senior School) look at the comments and effort ratings because that will tell you more than a prescribed rating. Hopefully, within the comments you will see parts of your child's personality that you can relate to.

Celebrate your child's efforts and successes no matter how small they may seem. I get more of a kick out of reading my own children's reports when they talk about them as a person rather than a result.

STAFF AND STUDENTS

Our staff in 2014 have been absolutely brilliant in trying to support our student's individual and collective needs. They are so professional and yet have a great sense of fun. They are always open to new ideas and are continually trying new things with our students to get the best out of them. They are the culture of our school and lead by example by 'walking the talk'.

Our students are thoughtful and caring, reflecting the strong culture of our school. They are a joy to take out of the school because you just know they will not let you down. The students speak highly of their friends and staff.

Thank you staff and students for a great year.

TEACHERS ON MATERNITY LEAVE

Linda and Victoria have been absolutely tremendous for our school and we look forward to their special arrivals in January. We will keep you posted. All the best ladies.

END OF SCHOOL

Our school will be closing on Friday, 19th December at 12.30pm. All students need to be picked up from the gate before 12.45pm as staff will NOT BE on school premises from 12.50pm.

Students are not to be waiting for parents on the playgrounds. Please also remember that there is no After School Care on that day.

SCHOOL OPENING IN 2015

All schools have different opening dates in 2015. We always try to close and open as late as possible, according to the Ministry of Education's regulations. We do this because it suits our parents in terms of work commitments and child care.

In 2015 our school will be open on Thursday, 5th February.

We are looking forward to the start of a busy and exciting year.

SCHOOL CAMP PHOTOS





POOL USERS

The Board of Trustees do their best to provide a safe environment at Rotokauri School. All pool users during the holiday break have their part to play. Please ensure that when you leave the pool area you lock the gate, even if people are still using the pool. Please do not give your child permission to swim unattended or give your key to other family members who do not attend our school.

Marrzipan Drama

Will be starting up lessons again on Mondays after school in Term 1, 2015. Classes have a maximum of 12 Rotokauri School students and aim to increase confidence and public speaking ability in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Each group performs *every term!* To secure your child's space or for more info, please email amelia@marrzipandrama.co.nz call 0278183722 or visit the website marrzipandrama.co.nz



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EASY LOW COST RECIPE

FESTIVE FRUITS



1. Cut an apple in half and make a hole on the top to insert carrot 'trunk'
2. Push toothpicks into carrot to create 'branches'
3. Slice a selection of fruit and arrange onto toothpick branches
 - Strawberries
 - Grapes
 - Pineapple
 - Banana
 - Melon
 - Apple
 - Orange
4. Enjoy as a festival fruit platter



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our community**

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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
12th Jan – 16th 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
19th Jan – 23rd 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

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