

# Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 9

11 June 2015

## Autumn Art by Room 4



*View this and many more interesting items  
in the classroom blogs on  
the Rotokauri School website  
[www.rotokauri.school.nz](http://www.rotokauri.school.nz)*

**ROKOKAURI SCHOOL**  
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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.

## **READING IS VITAL**

In the age of technology the ability to read has become more important than ever. From a school perspective it's never too late to support students who have reading difficulties. As parents we are often unsure how to best help our children. In the last twenty years much has been researched and written about how parents can best help their children.

Useful tips -

1. Provide a good role model. Read often in front of your children.
2. Make sure quality reading material is available, especially material that relates to your child's interests or hobbies.
3. Encourage activities that require reading e.g. cooking requires the following of a recipe.
4. Establish a reading time each night where you can listen to your child read, even if it's only for 5 minutes.

## **POLICE PRESENCE AROUND OUR ROADS**

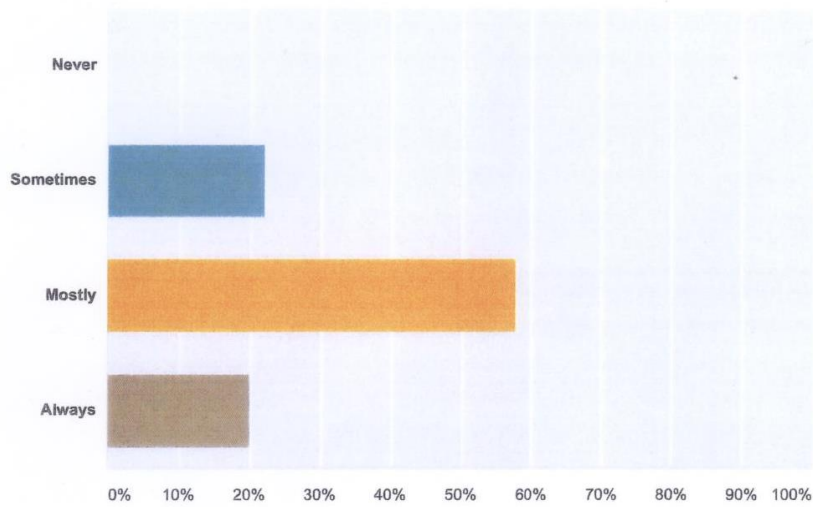
You will have noticed an increased Police presence in our district over the last couple of weeks. I'm sure that you share our concern that not all traffic using Rotokauri Road are abiding by the 40 km speed limit outside our school. We try to keep road safety at the forefront of our students thinking when they arrive and depart from school. Unfortunately it's the road users who really have the biggest impact on our student's health and safety. The police are there to ensure that our students remain safe.

## **STUDENTS ONLINE REVIEW**

Thank you to the Year 4 - 8 students who filled in the online student review recently. We have discussed some of the results at a special Year 4 - 8 assembly last week. This information is passed on to the Board and can help with future strategic plans. It can also inform our teachers of what students may think is best teaching practice for their learning needs.

### Q1 In your opinion are you currently engaged (interested on task) in learning?

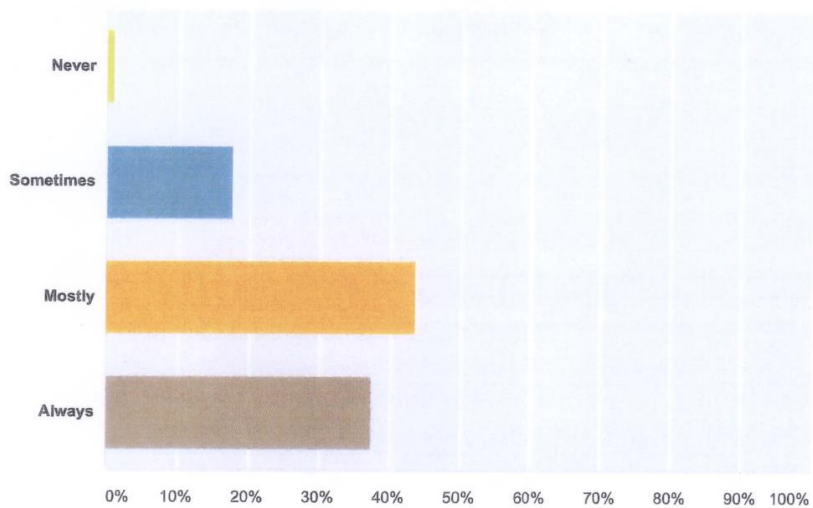
Answered: 95 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	0.00%	0
Sometimes	22.11%	21
Mostly	57.89%	55
Always	20.00%	19
<b>Total</b>		<b>95</b>

### Q3 Do you find various forms of technology useful for your learning?

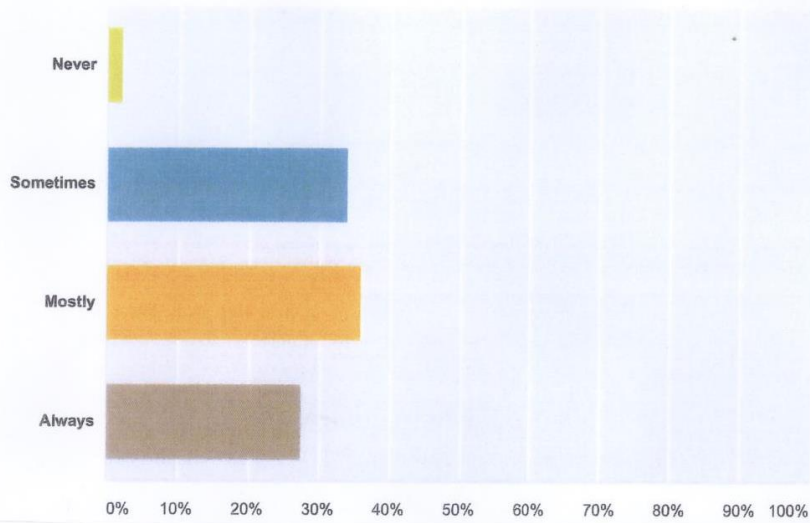
Answered: 96 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	1.04%	1
Sometimes	17.71%	17
Mostly	43.75%	42
Always	37.50%	36
<b>Total</b>		<b>96</b>

**Q4 When you hand work into the teacher for marking are you aware of the marking/assessment criteria**

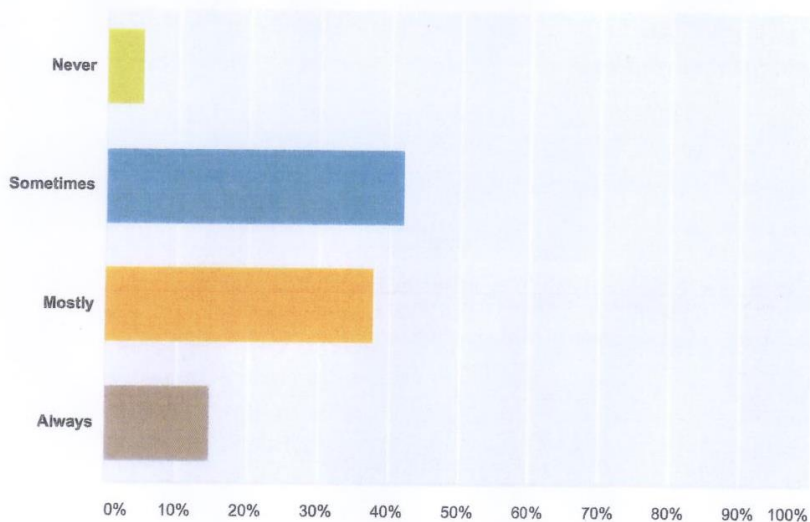
Answered: 94 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	2.13%	2
Sometimes	34.04%	32
Mostly	36.17%	34
Always	27.66%	26
<b>Total</b>		<b>94</b>

**Q5 Do you take risks when learning something new?**

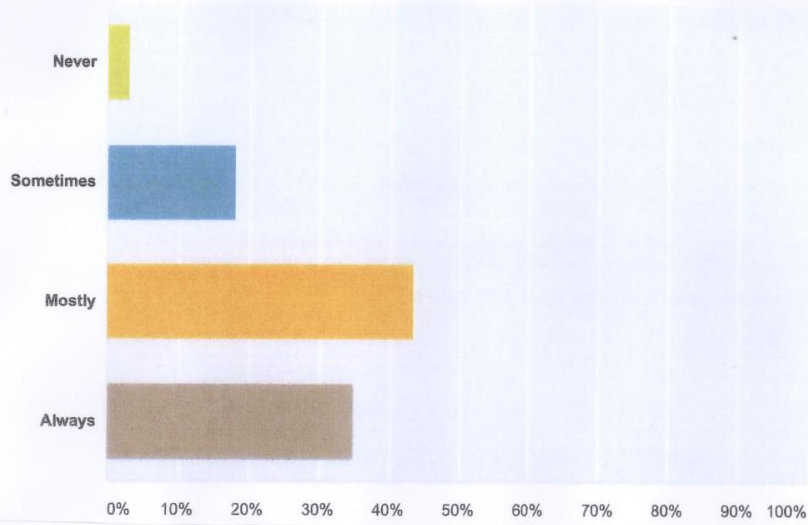
Answered: 95 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	5.26%	5
Sometimes	42.11%	40
Mostly	37.89%	36
Always	14.74%	14
<b>Total</b>		<b>95</b>

**Q6 Do you think you are a resilient learner?  
(able to make a few mistakes and give it another go-don't give up easily)**

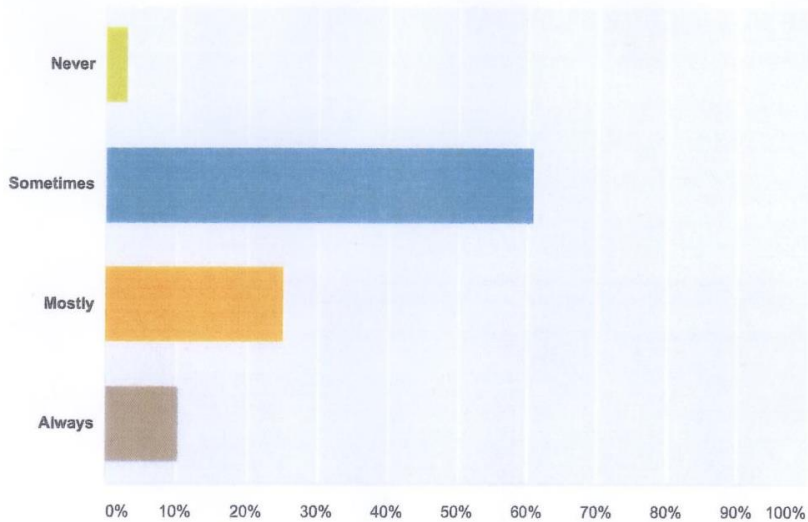
Answered: 94 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	3.19%	3
Sometimes	18.09%	17
Mostly	43.62%	41
Always	35.11%	33
<b>Total</b>		<b>94</b>

**Q7 How often do you ask questions in class ?**

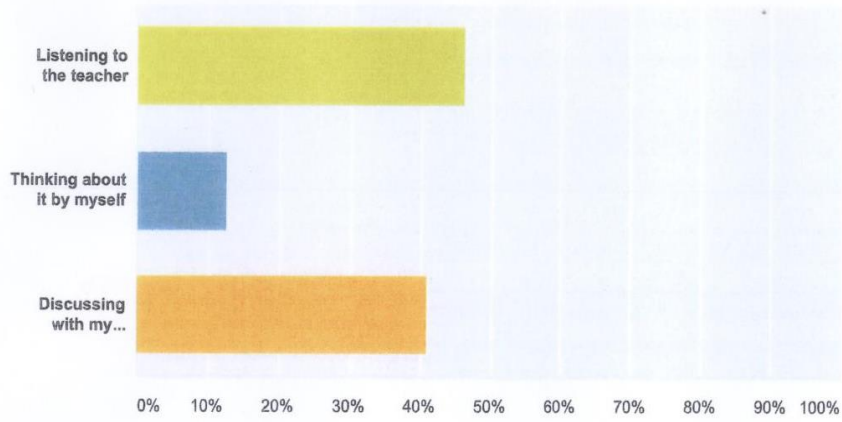
Answered: 95 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	3.16%	3
Sometimes	61.05%	58
Mostly	25.26%	24
Always	10.53%	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>95</b>

### Q8 When I try to learn something new. I learn best by

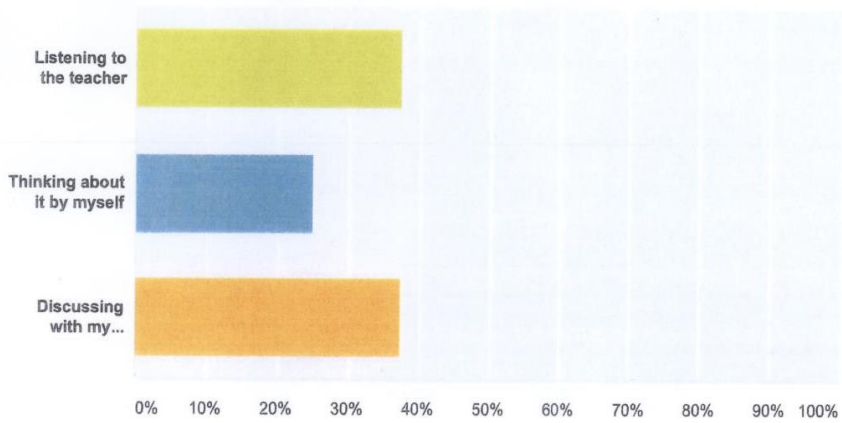
Answered: 95 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Listening to the teacher	46.32%	44
Thinking about it by myself	12.63%	12
Discussing with my friends/classmates	41.05%	39
<b>Total</b>		<b>95</b>

### Q9 How do you best solve new learning problems?

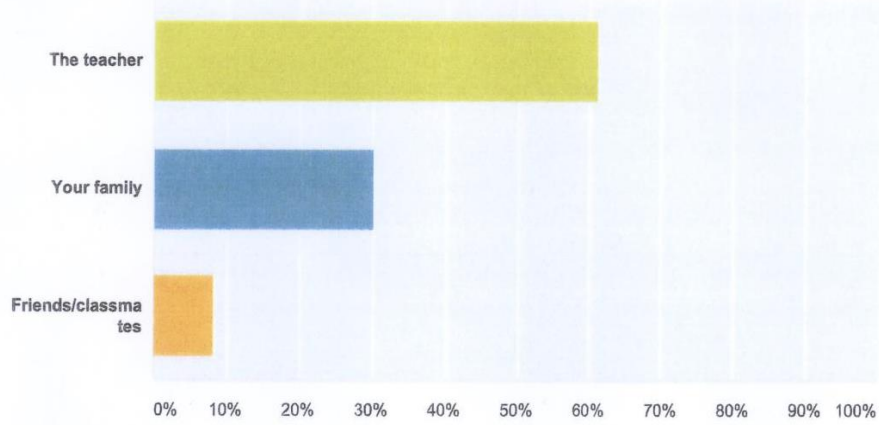
Answered: 96 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Listening to the teacher	37.50%	36
Thinking about it by myself	25.00%	24
Discussing with my friends/classmates	37.50%	36
<b>Total</b>		<b>96</b>

**Q10 In your opinion who gives you the most important feedback in terms of learning?**

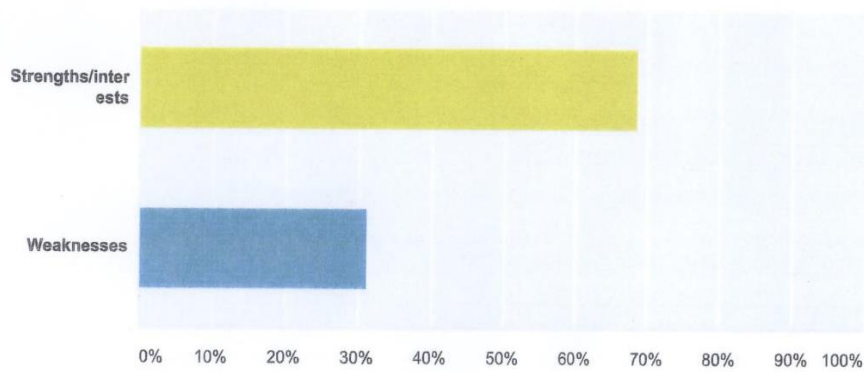
Answered: 96 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
The teacher	61.46%	59
Your family	30.21%	29
Friends/classmates	8.33%	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>96</b>

**Q11 Do you prefer to work on your weakness or strengths/ interests?**

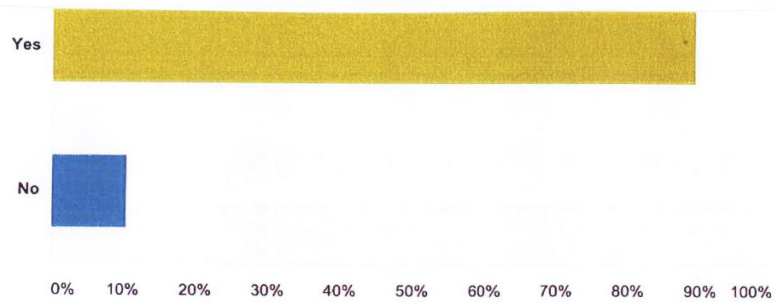
Answered: 96 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strengths/interests	68.75%	66
Weaknesses	31.25%	30
<b>Total</b>		<b>96</b>

**Q12 If the teacher used your strengths, previous knowledge and experiences would it improve your learning?**

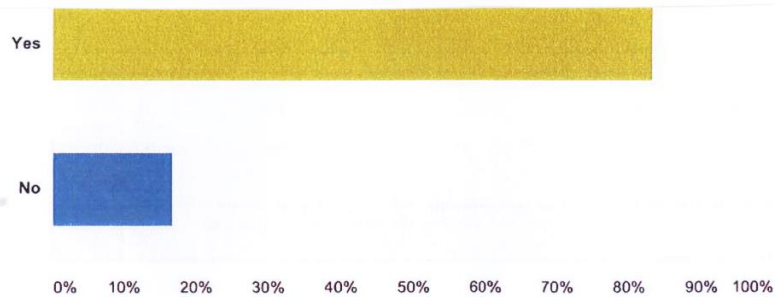
Answered: 95 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	89.47%	85
No	10.53%	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>95</b>

**Q13 If play and creativity were introduced more often within lessons would it help your learning?**

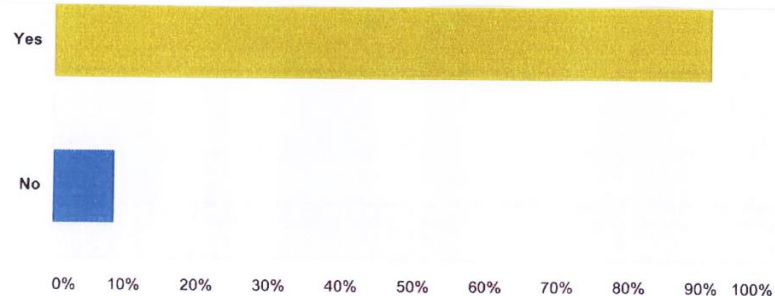
Answered: 96 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	83.33%	80
No	16.67%	16
<b>Total</b>		<b>96</b>

**Q14 Do you think you are learning skills, attitudes and values that will prepare you for your future?**

Answered: 94 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	91.49%	86
No	8.51%	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>94</b>



## WORLD CUP SOCCER TICKETS

Wasn't it a lovely thought of the owner of Te Rapa New World to supply our community with 42 free soccer tickets? Don't forget if you fill out the appropriate forms and shop at Te Rapa New World our school benefits financially.

## COMMUNICATION

You have told us that you prefer emailed information. With so much information needing to be sent out (for events, for sports, for fundraising etc) we will be emailing these notices on the weeks when a school newsletter will not be published. If you have changed your email address please make sure the office is aware of this.

## RECENT BUDGET

New Zealand students received nothing in the recent budget to support their learning, unless you call an increase of 1% in the operational budget a win. This means that school donations have become even more vital for the running of schools and necessary to give New Zealand children the learning opportunities to be the best they can be. Thank you to all the parents who have donated this year.

## MATHS-WHIZZ PROGRESS

The students in Rooms 2 - 7 have been using Maths-Whizz for 13 weeks now and many of them have made great progress within this time. As a group, they have completed over 1,200 hours of maths exercises. Some students have made outstanding progress, with a group of about 10 students having made close to or over a year's worth of progress in this time. The Top 3 classes were awarded certificates at assembly and this will continue as an inter-class competition each week in terms of improvement.

The winning classes so far this year for improvement are:

- 1st** - ROOM 5 - Average improvement = 27 weeks.
- 2nd** - ROOM 7 - Average improvement = 21 weeks.
- 3rd** - ROOM 4 - Average improvement = 15 weeks.

Regular time spent on Maths-Whizz has been proven to improve student progress considerably. Encouraging your child to spend time on the program at home when they can, will be beneficial for their learning as it is set right at their level. *Casey Sanders*

It's just so encouraging to see students making gains in maths. Maths-Whizz definitely engages our students and this then cultivates a real interest in maths learning. While Maths-Whizz has supported individual class programmes this year it's not our sole maths resource and nothing will ever be as powerful as a teacher who really understands the way students learn as individuals.

## HEADLICE

These pesky critters are always present somewhere in the school. Please check your children's hair regularly and treat and retreat as necessary.

## STAFF ATTESTATIONS

As with any job teachers go through a yearly attestation as part of our performance management system. I have spent a couple of weeks in classes and am truly in awe of what our students and teachers are accomplishing together. Teaching is indeed a partnership between teachers, students and parents. Parents have a huge part to play in this partnership because it is they who often set a culture within the household of what is important. Years of experience has shown that parents who value education will be more likely to support their child and school and therefore get better educational outcomes from their children. Something as simple as asking your child what they did at school that day can open up all sorts of conversations. Because you have asked the question on a daily basis your child immediately believes that school/education must be pretty important and valued.

So what have I viewed over the last weeks across our classes that we collectively should be proud of and celebrate?

1. Students are engaged in classroom activities. A mixture of independent and collaborative skills are very evident.
2. An inquiry approach to learning can be viewed, with students questioning sometimes helping to lead the area of learning. Technology use is supporting the inquiry approach. When students are finding the answers to their own questions this really becomes very powerful.
3. Staff are always trying to upskill themselves in a number of curriculum areas so that they are using the latest teaching philosophy, along with a good helping of common sense.
4. There is a mutual respect between staff and students. Teachers show an empathy for all the students and try to cater for their needs, not only academically but also socially.
5. Rotokauri School planning sheets are being used across the school. Teachers are very reflective about student data and achievement. Data is being used to support students that have special needs across the school, including gifted and talented.
6. The amount of communication with parents with blogs and emails has increased.

All of the above is fantastic and this can only make Rotokauri School a positive place to learn in. Not only is it enjoyable for the students but it's also enjoyable for the staff.

## INTERESTING

- The average American teenager spends forty seven minutes a day taking selfies.
- The quieter you become the more you can hear.
- Children do not care how much you know until they know how much you care.  
(Teddy Roosevelt)

## MISSING SPADE FROM ARBOR DAY

Ella Caulfield from Room 4 has lost the half spade that she took to Arbor Day last week. If you are able to help locate it please let the school office know.

## WORM JUICE FOR SALE

\$1.00 per litre. Please order and pay at the school office.

## INTER-SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

On Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> May Rotokauri School students participated in the Interschool Cross Country at Waitetuna. The weather was perfect and our 28 students who represented our school raced hard. Well done to all of our runners, we did extremely well as a team with four 1<sup>st</sup> place and three 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers. A very big thank you to our parent helpers for providing transport and to those who were marshals throughout the day. A special mention to Erana Tangiora, who by the end of the day looked like she had run the track as she had mud up to the top of her legs! Thank you for supporting the students. Well done to all our students for trying their hardest and representing our school with pride and responsibility.

1 <sup>st</sup> Place Runners	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Runners
Sari Tangiora - 5 year old girls	Paige Moka - 6 year old girls
Marama Tangiora - 6 year old boys	Isaac Collinson - 8 year old boys
Cole Viljoen-Thomson - 8 year old boys	Cooper White - 9 year old boys
Daniel Cameron - 9 year old boys	



### BEDTIME STORIES

Come dressed as your favourite bedtime story character or in your best bedtime attire.

**Date:** 26th June

**Time:** Juniors 6-730pm Seniors 730-9pm

**Entry fee:** \$2.00

Permission slips will come home the week of the Disco, no permission slip no disco.

Food items will be available for purchase ranging from .50 cents to \$2.00

Drinks: Hot chips: Chocolates and more.

**COME AND DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!!**

## STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS FROM ROOM 1

*I am going to planets in space with aliens! The aliens have six eyes and green tails. I am in the rocket ship with them and we are going fast.*

*Blake Robinson Hastings*

As part of Room One's Flight unit they made some kites. They enjoyed flying them on the field.



## ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

A big thank-you to all the families and school staff who purchased and also sold extra books to friends and family. We managed to sell 100 books and apps - an outstanding effort.

The book and app are available throughout the year if anyone would like to purchase.

The winner of the prize draw for the bottle of wine, glasses and chocolates is Lyrae Wood.

## BATTERY FUND RAISER

Great effort from one family in Room 1 who dropped off 16 batteries!!!! Thank you to Rooms 1,2,5,6 and 7 who have collected batteries and are in the running for the Class Reward. This runs until the end of the term so please ask around.

The PTA is more than happy to pick up any batteries you may have:

Email: [pta@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:pta@rotokauri.school.nz)

Ph: 021 581 446

Drop off point: **Mega Fluid Solutions, 29 West St, Frankton, Hamilton**



### KELLY SPORTS – JULY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Our programme is full of exciting activities and trips that will guarantee children, aged 5-13 years, have a great time!  
OSCAR/WINZ Approved

Te Totara School, Southwell School  
Hamilton Girls High School & Bankwood School.  
Also Leamington School, Cambridge  
8am – 6pm

### ALSO – RUGBY CLINIC & NETBALL CLINIC

Held at Hamilton Girls High School

For more information or to **BOOK ONLINE**  
go to [www.kellysports.co.nz](http://www.kellysports.co.nz)

Email: [waikato@kellysports.co.nz](mailto:waikato@kellysports.co.nz) Tel: 07 839 9017

**COMING SOON**



## **ROKOKAURI SCHOOL BOOK FAIR**

A school book fair will be held at the school gala / car show on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> November. We are looking for the donation of good quality books - sorry, but no magazines, encyclopaedia, compendiums or readers digests please. If you are planning to clean out your cupboards could you please put the books aside as collection will start next term.

If you have any queries, please contact  
Book Fair co-ordinator: Miranda Collinson ph 849-7623

### **Squiggle Holiday Programme – Term 2 Break**

Squiggle is an exciting holiday programme that has a variety of fun and educational activities that will keep your children happy during the school holidays. We'll keep active by playing sports and games, we'll be creative by making Matariki arts and crafts, we'll learn about financial literacy and the difference between 'needs and wants', we'll try out a few science experiments as well as make cool Young Engineers motorised models. We'll also learn a bit about first aid with St Johns and head off to Leap and the movies – and that's just to get us started! There's heaps more!

Squiggle is OSCAR approved by Ministry of Social Development. We are in 3 fantastic locations that are perfect for school holiday programmes: **Hamilton Central** (Waikato Table Tennis Club/Waikato Diocesan School), **Hamilton East** (Ruakura Research Centre, Tai Wānanga School – Bisley Rd) and **Hamilton North** (Hamilton Junior High School – Heath Street, Te Rapa).

To enrol now – go online to [www.squiggle.org.nz](http://www.squiggle.org.nz) or call Salina on 027 738 6626. Don't delay as our numbers are limited!

## LOVING HOME NEEDED

Ink and Jet 2 handsome black cats (7-8 years old). Their current owners are shifting into town and leaving the countryside behind 😞 They are great hunters of rabbits and mice. Can you think of someone who would like to provide them with a home? Please phone Ena 0272 702 410



**WINTER WARMERS**

## Minestrone Soup

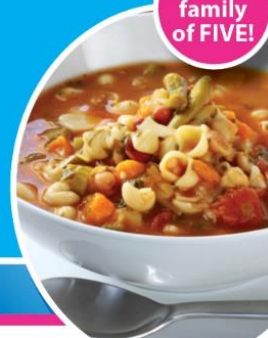


1 tsp oil  
1 finely diced onion  
4C veges eg. corn, carrots, celery  
2x 400g can chopped tomatoes  
4C stock  
1x 400g can cannellini beans (drained)  
½C pasta

Feeds a family of FIVE!

Heat oil in a pot and cook onion, celery and leek until soft. Add diced vegetables and simmer over a low heat. Add tomatoes, stock and simmer for 10 minutes.

Pour in cannellini beans and pasta, stirring occasionally until pasta is cooked. Season if required and serve with wholegrain buns.



Developed by Sport Waikato 2015

**WINTER WARMERS**

## Beef & Vegetable StirFry



1tsp oil  
500g lean beef –schnitzel or thin strips of rump steak  
6 cups of colourful vegetables – baby corn, spinach, capsicum, mushroom, courgette, green beans, silverbeet, onions  
Teriyaki sauce: ¼C soy sauce, 1tsp garlic and 1Tbsp honey

Slice meat into thin strips, marinate in the teriyaki sauce for 20 minutes. Heat the oil in the fry pan and add the meat, reserving the leftover sauce.

Allow the meat to brown then add diced vegetables. Pour over the leftover sauce, cook for 5 minutes. Serve on rice.

Feeds a family of FIVE!



Developed by Sport Waikato 2015

Sponsors of the  
*Rotokauri School Coromandel Fishing Tournament*



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**100% LOCAL**

**Proudly supporting our community**

New World Te Rapa is proud to sponsor your school.  
Every time you shop at New World Te Rapa and swlpe your Fly Buys card you help us give back.