

# Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 10

25 June 2015

## HARDCOURT DAY 2015



*Thank you to all the parents who supported  
the senior students that attended  
Hardcourt Day at Minogue Park  
on Friday, 19 June.*

**ROKOKAURI SCHOOL**  
462 Rotokauri Road  
R D 9  
HAMILTON 3289

Telephone (07) 849 5068  
Fax (07) 849 4371  
Email: [office@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:office@rotokauri.school.nz)  
[www.rotokauri.school.nz](http://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.

## **NEWSLETTERS**

This is the last of the major newsletters this term. We may put out some reminders next week if required. We wish our students and families a happy and safe break and look forward to communicating with you via newsletter in the second week of Term 3.

## **ALL THE BEST MRS SANDERS**

Casey Sanders leaves us at the end of this term to have her first child. The staff and community thank her for all her efforts with our students. We look forward to catching up with Casey in Term 3 when she brings her new born in for show and tell.

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED**

We run programmes for students who have skills in certain areas. These students then participate in the international ICAS competitions. Over the last few weeks I have dropped in on a couple of these preparation lessons with the students that had been selected to participate. What I find fascinating is their inquiring minds. Students just naturally love to learn new things, especially when they can see the relevance to how this might help them in their future. There's something very special about watching a student's eyes light up when they acquire a new skill.

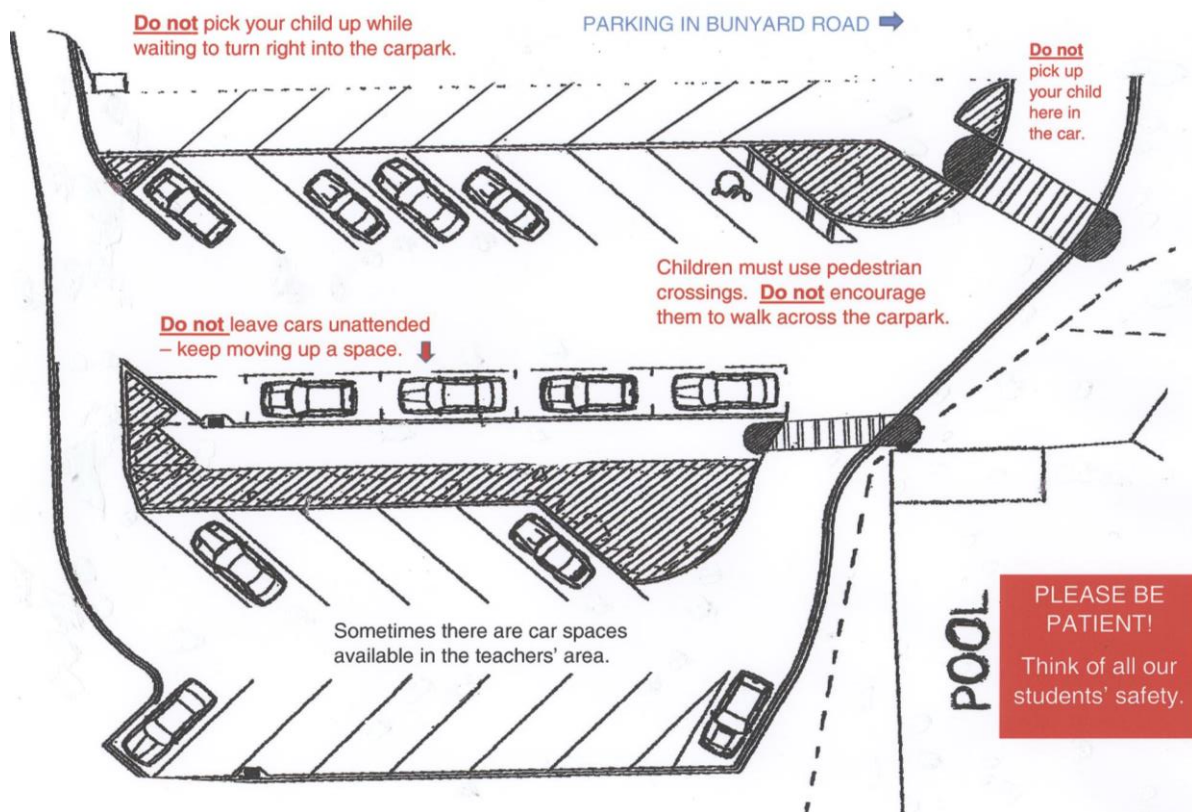
## **NEW CURRICULUM**

We are entering an exciting stage of Rotokauri School history, as we are always looking after the best interests of students socially, emotionally and educationally. Educationally it is our job to make sure that our students are prepared for the jobs that will exist when they start joining the workforce. As suggested in a previous newsletter, some people say you can't prepare them for a work environment that does not yet exist. Through attending future education courses and tapping into some of the world's most forward thinking people we have begun to revise our curriculum in an exciting way, which

will further engage our students. Only a couple of weeks ago the staff spent five hours with Trevor Bond, a facilitator who specialises in getting teachers to think about future teaching practice. We have asked students, staff and teachers about what they see as important about learning and crafted this into the Rotokauri Curriculum. We know from various researched educational material that for our students to be successful and full participants of not only New Zealand society but also world citizens they will need to be risk takers, collaborators, problem solvers, creators, questioners and communicators. These are going to require our students to have key skills and attitudes which we are currently developing. We are also developing a four level rubric for all of these skills which show a level of development and expectation as we would for other subjects e.g. maths. These skills and attributes would also be used as part of our reporting to parents.

## CAR PARK SAFETY

We have discussed this on a number of occasions but unfortunately a few people are not showing the common sense required to keep our students safe. We realise the car park is under extra pressure during the wet winter months but nothing can warrant some of the risks parents are taking when collecting their children. They say a picture can say a thousand words. Have a look and see where you could make a difference.

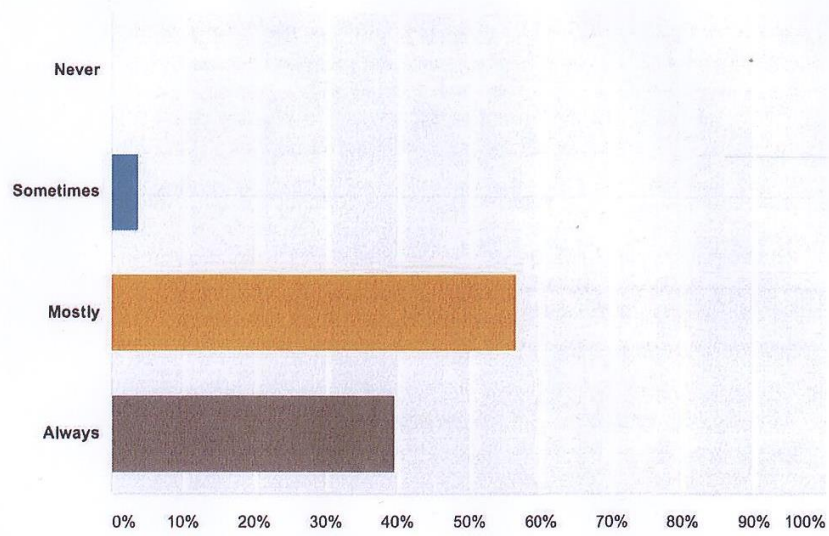


## PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE REVIEW

Here are the results of the recent online questionnaire for our parent community. Thank you once again for making your views known. While the graphs are here we could not fit all parental statements into the newsletter. They are available as a package at the front of the school. Information was analysed and sent to the Board.

### Q1 In your opinion is your child/children currently engaged in learning

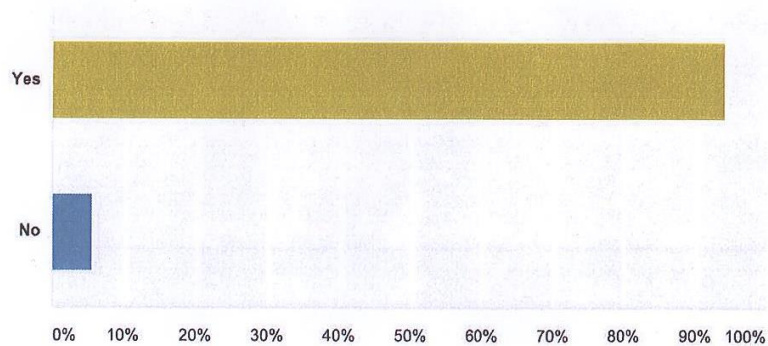
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Never	0.00%	0
Sometimes	3.77%	2
Mostly	56.60%	30
Always	39.62%	21
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>

### Q3 Do you find various forms of technology that we have at school useful to your child's learning?

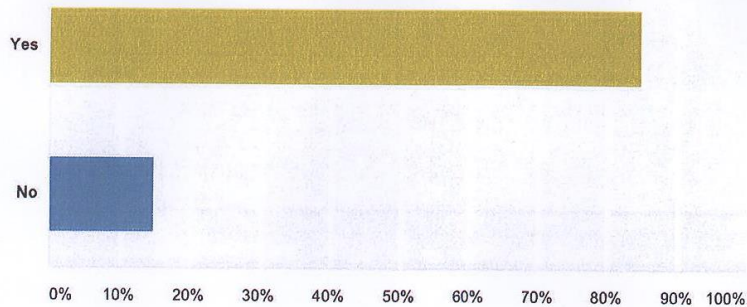
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	94.34%	50
No	5.66%	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>

#### Q4 Do you feel that technology is an important component of a modern education programme?

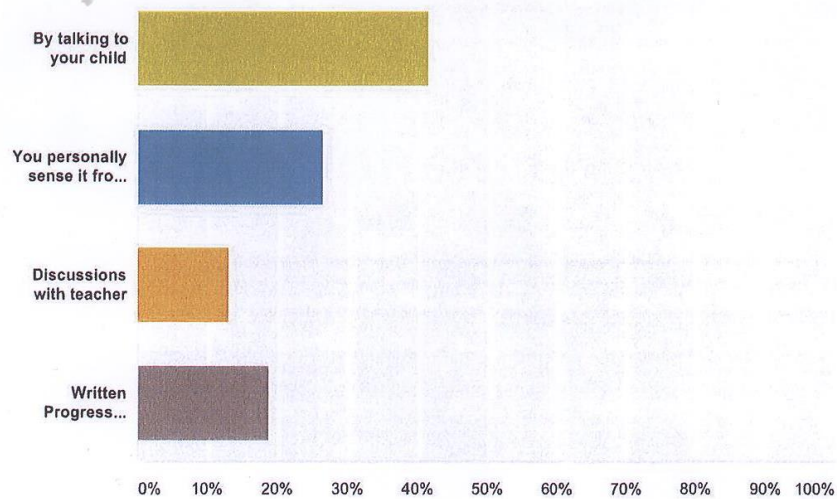
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	84.91%	45
No	15.09%	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>

#### Q5 How do you know if your child is progressing in learning?

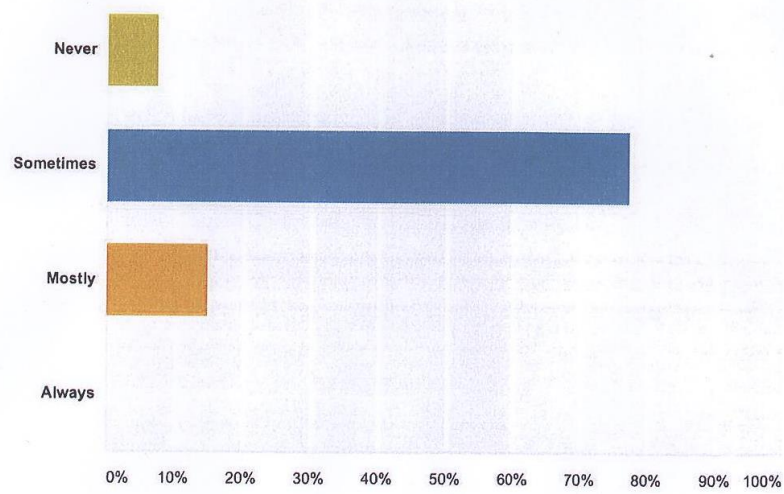
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
By talking to your child	41.51%	22
You personally sense it from what you have seen	26.42%	14
Discussions with teacher	13.21%	7
Written Progress Reports.	18.87%	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>

### Q6 Do you think your child takes risks with their learning?

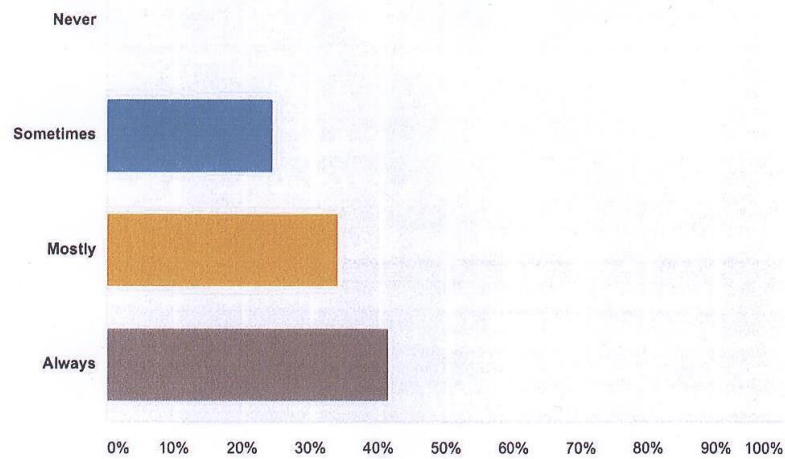
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	7.55%	4
Sometimes	77.36%	41
Mostly	15.09%	8
Always	0.00%	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>

### Q7 Does your child ask questions at home?

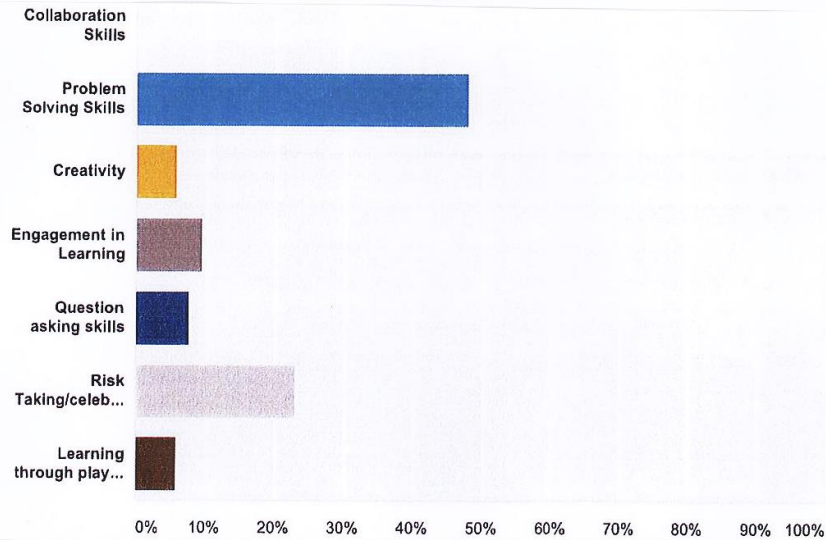
Answered: 53 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	0.00%	0
Sometimes	24.53%	13
Mostly	33.96%	18
Always	41.51%	22
<b>Total</b>		<b>53</b>

**Q8 We are currently looking at the following skills/attributes that will make our students 21 st Century Learners. Please tick the boxes that you feel will have the biggest impact on their future.**

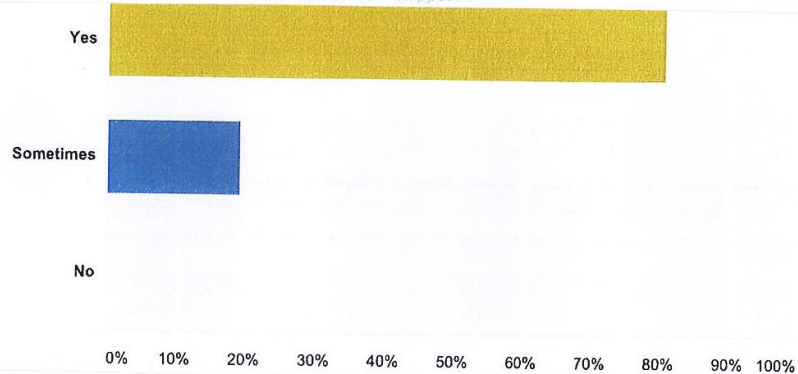
Answered: 52 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Collaboration Skills	0.00%	0
Problem Solving Skills	48.08%	25
Creativity	5.77%	3
Engagement in Learning	9.62%	5
Question asking skills	7.69%	4
Risk Taking/celebrating attempts( even if not successful)	23.08%	12
Learning through play and exploration.	5.77%	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>52</b>

**Q9 Do you think we are providing a positive environment for learning for your child at Rotokauri School? Also feel free to comment.**

Answered: 52 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	80.77%	42
Sometimes	19.23%	10
No	0.00%	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>52</b>

## TRIP TO TECHNICRAFT

Our year 7 and 8 students attend Hamilton Junior High School every week to do Technicraft. Their facilities are some of the most modern in the country. Many of you would not have had the chance to experience seeing what our students achieve at tech.

On Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> August we are inviting all of our Years 5 / 6 / 7 and 8 parents to come and visit the tech department. We will provide a bus so that we can all attend together. More information will be included early next term. If you are interested can you please inform the office so that place can be reserved for you on the bus.

[office@rotokauri.school.net.nz](mailto:office@rotokauri.school.net.nz)

## TERM 3 CALENDAR

Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Term 3 starts
Monday – Friday 20 – 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Zero Waste Education
Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> August	Year 5/6/7/8 Parents invited to Technicraft
Thursday, 20 <sup>th</sup> August	Senior Speech Competition
Tuesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Team Sports photos
Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Room 7 open to parents. (Morning)
Monday – Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Art Week
Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Last day of Term 3

## FRIENDS OF ROTOKAURI SCHOOL

Our school now gets many views from all sorts of people interested in following our school community. We would like to give businesses, who are friends of our school, the opportunity to promote themselves to our ever growing audience.

If you would like us to host your business card online please advise Sharon.

[office@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:office@rotokauri.school.nz)

To host the advert until the end of the year will only cost \$50.

## CLASSROOM RELEASE

We have a number of new parents in the school who may not be aware of Classroom Release Time for teachers. This has been a part of the Secondary Teachers Collective contract for many years and has been a part of the NZEI for approximately 7 years. This allows all teachers who are contracted for at least 4 days a week to receive 2 non contact days per term. Classroom Release Time means that teachers are doing one of the following things to support the learning of the students:

Professional Development  
Conferencing of students  
Individual testing of students  
Assessment and evaluation  
Reporting to management

Reporting to parents  
Observing of other teachers  
Planning and preparation  
Record keeping

During this time you will find that teachers are on site working with students e.g. testing and evaluating in one of our release areas.



## SPORTING STARS FROM ROTOKAURI

The current New Zealand one day cricket side contains two past Rotokauri pupils, Andrew Mathieson and Mitchell Santner. Both of these students played Cricket out on our fields from an early age. At the time we had 170 students at Rotokauri School. We keep discussing with our students that anything is possible if you have a dream and a plan and are willing to take a few knock backs (resilience and persistence).

Both these boys were great Rotokauri citizens who had supportive parents. The same could be said for Sam Rapira who came from Rotokauri School and went on to represent New Zealand in league.

What do you want to be when you get older?



Mitchell  
Santner

2004



Andrew  
Mathieson

1999



Sam  
Rapira

1999

## TOUGHLOVE WAIKATO

On the 26<sup>th</sup> May I was fortunate to attend a promotional presentation for schools designed to demonstrate how the principles and practices of the 'Toughlove' program can assist parents who are experiencing unacceptable behavior in their homes.

From the 'Toughlove' brochure:

*"You have done your best. Some boundaries and consequences haven't worked as well as you would have liked. You want cooperation and respect and you want your kids to learn to be responsible for their own actions. You may feel that you are being manipulated, but you are having trouble with the manipulation."*

The 'Toughlove' philosophy encourages a self-help approach to solving family issues. 'Toughlove' offers families supportive parent meetings as a way of showing parents how they can help one another. This helps parents and kids gain confidence. 'Toughlove' does not aim to punish kids, but shows parents how to come up with loving solutions to help with family problems by teaching self-responsibility.

If parents are interested in reading about this group I have brochures available or **to find out about the organization and/or where your nearest Parent Support Group meets: Phone 078565999 or 0800868445.**

Karen Hollingsworth (Special Needs Co-ordinator)

## DISCO

The Junior Disco finishes at 7.30 pm on Friday. All parents need to pick the junior students up from the western end of the Multipurpose Room (Raglan side). This allows parents to find their children easier and stops congestion when the seniors try to enter. Much appreciated. (See more about the disco later in the newsletter).

## ART WEEK

One of our main focuses this year as a school is an art week. As you can imagine organizing 210 students for an art week takes a bit of doing. The art week will take place in Week 9 of Term 3, 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> September.

We would also like to make a fundraiser of this event, whilst giving art a higher profile in the school. Our idea is to get a number of artists to paint a picture for us that we can auction off. This may be a silent or a live auction. Many of you will know artists. The idea is that we try and sell the piece of work and we share the proceeds 50/50. If you know someone who might be interested in this concept please let us know. It may be someone who is just starting out in the art world and wants to have an audience. We are also showcasing photography as another art form. Once again we would offer the same opportunity for those works to be sold.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in this event please get them to contact [mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz)

## MUSIC ASSEMBLY

Earlier this term some senior students said they would like a music assembly near the end of the term. A number of our students will entertain us on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> June. The assembly will start at 1.30 p.m. This is not a rehearsed show, it's just our students having the confidence to get up and entertain their peers.

## BLOGS

I'm sure that parents have taken the opportunity to view the classroom blogs and they will have been impressed with what the students have been doing at school. Parents and students according to our surveys understand the value technology has in engaging and supporting student learning. It never ceases to amaze me how quickly students can pick up new skills on the computer.

## ACTS OF KINDNESS

It's important that we celebrate and acknowledge acts of kindness by our students. An act of kindness is whereby a student sees another in need and acts without expecting something back in return. Please inform any of our staff if you see something special which needs celebrating.

## BEFORE YOU SPEAK

- T Is it true?
- H Is it helpful?
- I Is it inspiring?
- N Is it necessary?
- K Is it kind?

**WINTER WARMERS**

## One Pot Wonder

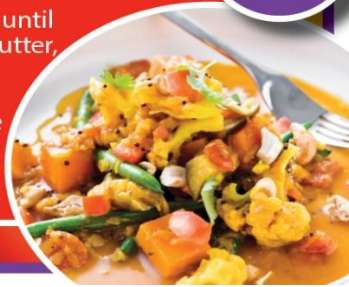


400g thinly sliced chicken (skin & bones removed)  
1 diced onion  
1 can chopped tomatoes  
¼C peanut butter

1 Tbsp curry powder  
2C finely diced vegetables  
3C chicken stock  
1½C rice

Feeds a family of FIVE!

In a large pan, cook onion and chicken until just browned. Add tomatoes, peanut butter, curry powder and vegetables and mix. Stir in rice and slowly add stock, stirring continuously as it boils. Reduce heat and simmer for 20-25 minutes or until rice cooked and liquid absorbed.



Developed by Sport Waikato 2015

**WINTER WARMERS**

## Mac & Cheese

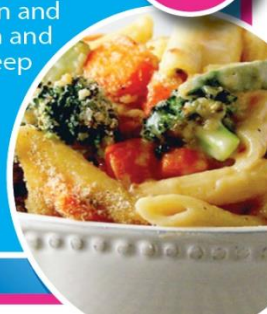


400g macaroni  
1½ tsp margarine  
3Tbsp flour  
700ml low-fat milk

½C breadcrumbs  
2C chopped vegetables  
½C grated edam cheese  
3 tomatoes, thinly

Feeds a family of FIVE!

Preheat an oven to 190°C. Cook macaroni, drain and set aside. On a low heat, melt margarine in pan and whisk in flour. Gradually add milk, stirring to keep sauce smooth. Add vegetables and half the cheese, allow sauce to thicken. Combine with pasta and pour into an ovenproof dish. Sprinkle with remaining cheese, breadcrumbs and top with tomato slices. Bake for 20 minutes or until golden.



Developed by Sport Waikato 2015

## Marrzipan Drama Classes

*Is your child shy? Do they feel intimidated by the idea of public speaking and performance? Do they sometimes find it difficult to make eye contact? Do they just need 45 minutes a week to take part in organised craziness?! Come and join **Marrzipan!** We run awesome drama classes which focus on key life skills in the library before school on Fridays! We play fun engaging games and perform at the end of term once to parents and once to the school. All scripts are original, engaging, educational and HILARIOUS. All children receive an end of term progress report too, along with a certificate to remind them they are awesome! Give me a call to come along for a free trial, or just a chat to discuss how our classes can benefit your child's development. **Contact Amelia on 0278183722 or email [amelia@marrzipandrama.co.nz](mailto:amelia@marrzipandrama.co.nz)***

# PTA NEWS



Welcome to the PTA's news section, we will be keeping you up to date with fundraisers we are running, upcoming events and where the funds are being spent.

## Battery Fund Raiser – Final weeks

**Please contact us for pickup of any batteries  
you may have:**

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

**ph: 021 581 446**



**Theme:** Bedtime stories (come dressed as you favourite bedtime story character or in your onesies)

**Date:** Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> June

**Time:** Juniors 6.00 – 7.30 pm

Seniors 7.30 – 9.00 pm

**Entry fee:** \$2.00

Food items on sale from 50¢ to \$2.00

The Junior Disco finishes at 7.30 pm on Friday. All parents need to pick the junior students up from the western end of the Multipurpose Room (Raglan side). This allows parents to find their children easier and stops congestion when the seniors try to enter. Much appreciated.

## 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!



### ARTZ ON SHOW. WHERE FAME BEGINS

Artz on Show is a Performing Arts Workshop.  
We run during the school holidays for children aged 5-15.

#### What Sets Us Apart?

- Artz on Show is proven to build confidence & self esteem
- We are focused on developing skills in the Performing Arts
- We have been operating successfully for 12 years
- Our class size is smaller than a regular classroom
- Our tutors are trained professionals
- We are child focused

### ALADDIN AND THE GENIE

#### The July Workshop

Jump on the magic carpet for a fairy-tale journey with Aladdin and Jasmine as they battle Jafar for the Genie in the lamp.

9am - 4pm daily



6 - 10 July

Auckland CBD  
Epsom Girls Grammar

East Auckland  
Howick College

13 - 17 July

Hamilton  
Southwell School

North Shore  
Westlake Boys High



Enrol online NOW at [www.artzonshow.co.nz](http://www.artzonshow.co.nz)



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They gave  
football a go  
and so can you



# Girls Go For Goal!

**July 2015 Girls-Only Holiday**

**Football**

**Ages 6-12 years**

- Taupo • Tauranga • Rotorua • Raglan
- Hamilton • Whakatane

**Register online at [waibopfootball.co.nz](http://waibopfootball.co.nz)**



# SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Monday 13 July until Friday 17 July

9am to 3pm

\$10 per family per day

Registrations Essential

AM & PM Tea provided

Please bring a packed lunch

*Whitiora Bible Church*

24 Abbotsford Street  
Whitiora  
Hamilton

Ph: 07 838-1452

[www.wbchurch.co.nz](http://www.wbchurch.co.nz)

CRAFTS

GAMES

SONGS

BIBLE  
STORIES

## IS YOUR LIFESTYLE PROPERTY FOR SALE?

I have customers interested in buying a lifestyle property in your area.  
Are you looking at selling yours?  
Please contact me so I can discuss this opportunity with you.

John Donderwinkel

Your Local Rural/Lifestyle Sales Consultant Specialist

Ph 0274357259

[john@propertybrokers.co.nz](mailto:john@propertybrokers.co.nz)

Splashy™  
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OWN  
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### Splashy Paint Your Own Ceramics!!

Looking for something fun and new to do these school holidays?  
Then we have just the activity for you!!

Pop on in to see the friendly team and Splashy and create your own  
piece of artwork!

Its great fun for all ages and we have lots of different items to choose  
from! Plates, bowls, mugs and novelty items!

All items are dishwasher and microwave safe, so why not come and  
create your very own special plate, bowl or mug that you can use  
everyday!!

Make sure to book in, as we can get very busy!

Open 7 Days  
Phone 07 289 9780 [mail@splashy.co.nz](mailto:mail@splashy.co.nz) [www.splashy.co.nz](http://www.splashy.co.nz)

Check out our facebook page for more details -  
[www.facebook.com/splashygifts](http://www.facebook.com/splashygifts), and to check out our latest competition.  
We have vouchers to be won during the school holidays!

Sponsors of the  
*Rotokauri School Coromandel Fishing Tournament*

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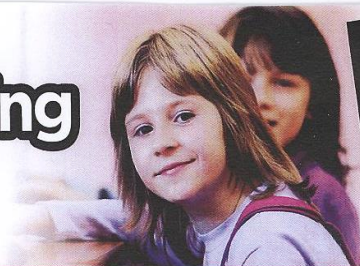
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Te Rapa



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