

Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 2

25 February 2016

Fishing Tournament



19 March 2016 at Coromandel

Entry Fee: Adult \$40.00 Child \$10.00

**Information and registration
at Rotokauri School Office**

Prizes:

Adults' Section:

Snapper 1 st prize	\$300.00
Snapper 2 nd prize	\$150.00
Snapper 3 rd prize	\$100.00
Largest other species	\$150.00

(excluding sharks, rays and eels)

Children's Section:

Snapper 1 st prize	\$100.00
Snapper 2 nd prize	\$ 60.00
Snapper 3 rd prize	\$ 40.00
Average snapper	\$ 50.00
Largest other species	\$ 50.00

(excluding sharks, rays and eels)

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.

MEET THE TEACHER

Thank you to all the parents that made themselves available to come along to Meet the Teacher Evening. Research shows that when parents and teachers form strong relationships student's achievement levels go up. I suppose it really comes down to common sense and human nature - if the parent is interested in what is going on in school then the child becomes more interested.

Once teachers have a good understanding of the needs of all the children in their class through observations and testing they will have work available to share on the school website www.rotokauri.school.nz

Education is a real TEAM effort in modern schools. Your child's teacher during the Meet the Teacher Evening may have discussed what you can do to support your child's learning at home. Sometimes this can take just 5 or 10 minutes a day.

KEEPING OUR KIDS SAFE

There's been a lot of talk lately in the media about stranger danger. At school we are always reviewing safety measures. For years we have allowed people to come on-site without having to sign in. In the last couple of years we have noticed that more people are coming on-site that we do not know. Often these are friends of the family or grandparents sent up to run various errands. The problem is that we don't know these people and often they head directly to the classroom while the teacher and students are involved in learning.

From now on anybody who comes on-site between 9am to 3pm for a variety of reasons e.g. appointments, bringing equipment your child has left behind in the morning, helping in classrooms, picking up students early - please go directly to the office. At that point you will be asked to explain and then sign in the visitor's book (as most schools and businesses already do). When you leave you will need to sign out.

The advantages of these changes are:

1. We know who is on-site if we have a fire or an emergency lockdown.
2. Students and teachers will not be distracted from their learning.
3. We will have a better understanding of where our students are when taken off-site.

Parents who come in and wait in the seated areas for their child to finish school do not need to sign in and out.

**ALL VISITORS AND CONTRACTORS REPORT TO THE OFFICE PLEASE
ALL PARENTS PLEASE DO NOT GO TO CLASSROOMS BETWEEN 9.00AM AND
2.45PM. PLEASE STATE YOUR BUSINESS AT THE OFFICE.**

What's an allowable interruption once parents have reported to the office?

1. Medical / Doctors appointment.
2. Dentist appointment.
3. Teachers have invited parents in for a class performance.
4. Designated parent helpers.
5. PTA supporting the school with an event.
6. Organised school cultural events.
7. Funerals.
8. Where a parent has informed us of a family trip.
9. Where students are having an exam i.e. dance.
10. Where students are visiting High Schools.

What's NOT classified as an allowable interruption of learning?

1. Wanting to take lunches to children and / or presents.
2. Taking money to children.
3. Taking permission slips in that are late.
4. Just wanting to make sure that their children are settled.
5. Going to watch the teacher teach without being invited.
6. Wanting a meeting with teachers.
7. Wanting to see other people's children.
8. Wanting to sort out an incident.
9. Where a parent has had a court order.
10. Dropping off homework, togs, lunches and library books.

BUDGET 2016

A school's budget is based around the number of students a school has and the decile rating of the school. Schools are classed as businesses these days but the problem is they don't have a product they can sell and the service they offer is subsidized by the government at a set rate. This is why it's really important that parents support the school through school donations and helping on the PTA.

Thank you to all the parents that have already made their school donation as it is gratefully appreciated.

If you want to know how the school spends its money the school budget will be on display outside Sharon's office from 1st March. I think once you see the running costs of the school you will be quite surprised how little a school is given to implement high quality learning programmes and resources.

NATIONAL STANDARDS DATA

Many of you will know that I'm not a big National Standards fan. There are some issues in relation to standardization of schools results that still need to be ironed out. That being the case our staff work extremely hard to make sure our students make progress in each of the reported areas – Maths, Reading and Writing. All successes no matter how small should be celebrated by parents /staff and students.

Our 2014/15 comparisons which are taken on end of year teacher data is as follows. This information is based on the % of children that are AT or ABOVE the level

	2014	2015	Change
Reading	69.6%	69.6%	0%
Writing	67.3%	76.6%	+9.3%
Maths	70.2%	76.1%	+5.9%

One must remember that all children are different and understand things at different stages of their lives. For those that are not involved in education may feel that a rise of 5.9% or 9.3% is not very significant. It actually represents hundreds of hours of work by staff, students and parents.

HEAD LICE / NITS

These critters never go away. Please regularly check your children's hair and treat and retreat as necessary. If you would like any information please contact the school office as the Public Health Nurse has given us information for school families.

PAST PUPILS COMING IN

It's lovely to see past pupils coming to see us after they go to high school. We never forget our students and hope that we forge long term relationships with them.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Board elections take place triennially. The role of the Board is one of Governance. Legislation sets the parameters for the Board to set Policy to allow the school to work effectively from a student health and safety perspective and of course academic achievement among other things.

Dates are as follows

Select returning officer by	Wednesday, 27 th April....Sharon Verstraten
Close main roll noon	Wednesday, 4 th May
Call for nominations by	Friday, 6 th May
Close supplementary roll	Wednesday, 18 th May
Nominations close noon	Friday, 20 th May
Voting papers sent by	Wednesday, 25 May
Close poll noon - Election Day	Friday, 3 rd June
Count votes	Thursday, 9 th June
Board takes office	Friday, 10 th June 2016

IN CLASS SUPPORT 2016

This year we are continuing to place our valuable teacher aide time within the classrooms to support children (directly and indirectly) who are part of our school learning targets for 2016. Our philosophy that children learn best when supported with their peers within their normal classroom environment is backed up by current educational research.

Our school targets for 2016 encompass Literacy and Oral Language in the Junior/Middle area of the school and Mathematics in the Senior area of the school. Targets are set by the governance of the school based around the data gained from last year's assessment. Mrs O'Brien will be working in Rooms 1 and 2 during Literacy learning times. Mrs Marsh will be in our school on a Monday and Thursday working in Rooms 3 and 4 supporting the Literacy programmes, and Mrs Rae will be supporting students in Rooms 4 - 7 during their Mathematics learning times.

Should you wish more information regarding any of these programmes please do not hesitate to discuss this with the classroom teacher or myself.

Karen Hollingsworth (Senco)

CHARTER GOALS

The Charter which is the school's work plan for the year will be available on line for all to see on 15th March.

The Charter contains over 30 pages. Here is are just two of the overviews that the Charter contains:

ROKOKAURI PRIMARY SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2018

1. All students are successfully able to access the New Zealand Curriculum as shown by progress and achievement in relation to the National Standards.
2. Improve Maori/Pasifika student engagement and achievement through valuing the language and culture, by providing authentic learning experiences for all students.
3. Students with special education needs are supported in their learning through full participation in an inclusive environment, progressing in relation to the New Zealand Curriculum. Special programmes are provided to improve student outcomes.
4. To equip students as 21st century learners by improving achievement through e-learning tools and strategies.
5. To develop a philosophy of caring for the environment.
6. To provide opportunities for students to participate and excel in a variety of sports and physical activities.
7. To facilitate planned year of professional development encompassing Rotokauri School Curriculum, Assessment Folders and Teaching Operational Manual.
8. To provide all learners the opportunity to learn Te Reo Maori and learn about the Maori culture.
9. To enhance and maintain system, processes and resources to support teaching and learning in a safe and positive environment.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL 2016 ANNUAL PLAN

Aim 1 - Student Achievement

All students are successfully able to access the New Zealand Curriculum as shown by progress and achievement in relation to the National Standards.

- Emphasis on literacy and numeracy
- Major Focus (Target) - Junior School Reading, Senior School Maths
- Minor Focus - Oral Language, Maori progressions
- Unit Allocation - I.T., Environment, Sport, The Arts, Curriculum, Special Education
- Continue with Maths Whizz programme
- Learning Support Teacher for Maths (Seniors)
- Learning Support Teacher for Reading (Juniors)
- Incredible Years for junior classes
- Rotokauri School Curriculum - Science

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL Focus on Raising Standards

- Literacy - Reading (Year 1 & 3)
- Maths (Years 4-8)



Aim 4 - E- Learning

To equip students as 21st century learners by improving achievement through e-learning tools and strategies.

- Technology integration into programmes
- Increased devices across the school
- Digital citizenship
- Google drive, website, blogs
- Communication with parents
- Increase teacher resources
- Maths Whizz
- New server/phone system
- Contract with SupportNet

Aim 2 - Maori /Pasifika Achievement

Improve Maori student engagement and achievement in Maths, through valuing the language and culture, by providing authentic learning experiences for all students.

- Reading, Writing and Maths Achievement
- Te Reo & Tikanga progressions
- School hangi
- Reviewing and updating resources
- Student and parent voice surveys
- 2016 Maths target (Years 2 - 4)

Refer to Aim 9

Aim 3 - Students with special education needs

Students with special education needs are supported in their learning through full participation in an inclusive environment, progressing in relation to the New Zealand Curriculum. Special programmes are provided to improve student outcomes.

- Gifted and Talented Register
- Teacher Aide
- Support Register
- Medical Action Plans
- IEPs
- Reading Recovery
- Learning Support teachers
- Standardised testing analysed
- ICAS
- EPro8 Challenge (Yrs 5 - 8)

Aim 5 - Environment

To develop a philosophy of caring for the environment.

- Participate in national initiatives, e.g. Keep NZ Beautiful.
- Garden group - Planting and harvesting
- Recycling and Worm farm
- Educational facilitators, e.g. Zero Waste
- Keep Rotokauri School Beautiful Award each week to develop sense of pride.
- Beautification Plan
- Outdoor Art

Aim 6 - Sport

To provide opportunities for students to participate and excel in a variety of sports and physical activities.

- Student Voice
- Parental encouragement
- Interschool activities
- Participation and attitudes
- Project Energize and other outside agencies
- Senior Student involvement
- Sports Committee/leadership
- Providing resources and professional development
- Stocktake of resources
- House culture and fairplay

Aim 7 - Professional Development

To facilitate planned year of professional development encompassing Rotokauri School Curriculum, Assessment Folders and Teaching Operational Manual.

- Systematic one year plan for Professional Development (balance)
- Standardised documentation for classes
- Timetabling - unit holders, curriculum, moderation
- Agendas, minutes, follow up, documentation
- Target students (sharing of good practice)
- Health and Safety
- Focus on Communication (whole school), to be assessed against rubrics.

Aim 8 - Te Reo and Tikanga

To provide all learners the opportunity to learn Te Reo Maori and learn about the Maori culture.

- Te Reo and Tikanga progressions
- Facilitator to work with staff
- Opportunities to develop waiata and kapa haka
- Build up bank of resources
- Cultural experiences - hangi, Matariki

Aim 9 - Governance

To enhance and maintain system, processes and resources to support teaching and learning in a safe and positive environment.

School Review

- Self-review schedule
- Rotokauri School Curriculum review
- Strategic plan, action plans
- Community and student self-review
- Staff self-review

Property

- Maintenance contracts - refer to policies
- 5 and 10 year property plan
- Monthly property report
- Pool maintenance
- Property budgets
- Beautification plans
- Maintain systems, e.g. sewage
- Liaise with Ministry re cladding of MPR

Health and Safety

- Health and Safety procedures
- Maintain hazard register
- Maintain accident register and sick bay log
- Warrant of Fitness
- Health action plans
- Water quality checks
- See health and safety policies, e.g. Sunsmart
- New regulations (April 2016)

Finance

- Budget 2016 (216 students)
- Monthly meeting with the accountant
- Property plan
- Assets register
- Finance Policy
- Monthly report

SWIMMING POOL

It's always a crucial decision each August/September for the Board to decide whether they are going to keep the pool open or not. Much of the decision is taken care of by the responses given back to us as part of the Community Consulting that we undertake. What can tip the scales is risk. Risk is usually associated with people who don't follow the contract they signed when asking for the pool key.

Sending a past student to look after younger siblings who is not at least 18 years old is an action we will discourage by asking for the key to be returned.

Keeping the pool open and maintaining it to a high standard is based on trust. You trust that the pool is being well serviced and we trust that you will use the pool as set out by the contract you signed.

SCHOOL LUNCHES – HELP REQUIRED - FROM PTA

Hi Rotokauri Parents

The Lunch Ladies need your help!! We are going to have to stop lunch orders next term if we can't get a couple more parents to help.

We start at 9am on a Monday and are finished by 10am or earlier. We usually have 2 weeks on in a roster, then 1-2 weeks off. One of the days on requires you to go to The Base to pick up the Subway and Sushi and return to school and sort them into classes. Please contact Sharon in the office if you can help, we would hate to see the lunch day lost for the kids of Rotokauri School.

Thanks - The Lunch Ladies

LEADERSHIP CAMP

We have always been proud of the strong leaders that we produce at this school. A part of this is discussing what leadership actually looks like. This week our Year 8 students went on a leadership camp. This helps to bind them as a unit of leaders, who can influence the school in a very positive way. Our senior school help to set the culture of our school. Thank you Mrs Kirkham for organising the camp and thank you to our two parent helpers Mr Nick Spiers and Mr Brad Kells.

THANK YOU – FROM HANNAH & REBECCA

Last year my daughter Hannah organised a school collection for the Salvation Army. She had seen a beggar on the street and was asking me why people had to beg. When I explained that some people don't get as much food or toys to play with as we do she said "we have to do something Mum". So we talked to Miss Kempthorne and she arranged for Hannah to tell her story in assembly and got a school collection going.

We got about 200 items all up (about 150 toys/ books and 50 food items). I collected another 30 or so food items from my work so all in all it was very pleasing.

Here is a photo that I took when we were counting and packing everything up. A Big thank you to everyone who contributed to the collection and Miss Kempthorne who helped Hannah prepare her speech to the school about the collection and for supporting her.





Your PTA need you!!! Did you know that out of approximately 190 children that attend our school we have only 6 active parents on your PTA, (These parents all work and have families outside of the PTA). We need fresh faces, ideas and help. Without your PTA contributing to our school your children would miss out on all the "extras" that your PTA provide.

Your PTA currently fund and have funded the following:

- Subsidised schools shows
- New concrete and structure around room 1 and 8
- Senior playground
- Subsidised class funding so teachers can purchase fun items for your child's class
- Subsidies senior school camp to help bring your cost down.

Your PTA also does the following within your child's school:

- School Lunches
- Disco's twice a year
- Easter Raffle
- Fundraising: Entertainment Book, Oxford Pies, Chocolates
- Car Show & Gala
- Movie afternoons
- Plus other events

We would love to see some new faces on our PTA, it's a fun evening once a month on a Wednesday at 7.30pm in the school staffroom. You can be involved as little or as much as you like.

All Welcome

Next Meeting: Wednesday 2nd March at 7.30pm pta@rotokauri.school.nz

JUNIOR SCHOOL STUDENTS' WORK – ROOM 2

The students in Room 2 have had some exciting experiences in their holidays. Here are their stories.

In the holidays I went to Pauanui and I went down to the beach. I collected lots of crabs.

Timothy

In the holidays I went to the beach and the waves were getting so big they nearly got to our tent.

Ryan

In the holidays I went to Raglan and my brother jumped off the bridge.

Nathaniel

In the holidays I went to the beach and I was trying to make a sandcastle.

Sari

In the holidays I went to the museum. I went downstairs and saw balls floating in the air.

Talei

In the holidays I went to Rainbow Springs and I saw the kiwi at night.

Oliver

In the holidays I went to the beach and I went with my friends. We went fishing.

Caleb



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IT'S NOT TOO LATE! There are still some spaces available in the **Marrzipan Drama** classes at Rotokauri School on Fridays before school in the Library. These aim to increase confidence and public speaking ability in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Each group performs every term!

PARENTS - Marrzipan run an awesome self-confidence course that help your child develop key life skills. We are offering a discount for Term One, with a cost of \$115 for 6 x lessons + performance at the end of term.

KIDS - We are working on a story about how to avoid your bedtime - shhhh, don't tell your parents!!!

To secure your child's space or for more info, please phone or email Jex on 027 217 0693 jex@marrzipandrama.co.nz or visit the website marrzipandrama.co.nz

Weigh In days – FRASER TECH JUNIOR RUGBY @ Clubrooms on Nawton Road

Saturday 19th March 10.00 am to 1.00 pm, and Sunday 20th March 10.00 am to 1.00 pm

Register online @ www.sporty.co.nz/frasertechrugby All Training and Club days are at Elliott Park.

For more information contact Kerry on 0273254555 or kwilliams@kingstons.co.nz

Football Registrations for 2016 Now Open

Northern United Football Club (NUFC) - a merged club of Hamilton North and Hukanui Rototuna Football Club - is open for registrations for all kids aged 5 and up who want to play football. Registrations are online via their website - www.hrhc.co.nz. Grading, for those interested will be in the first week of March, so enrol now.

If you have any queries or want to know a little more, touch base with them on football.northernunited@gmail.com or 08004SOCCER.

FRANKTON JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB WANTS YOU!

We are looking for new players from 3 – 12 years old

Both Boys and Girls are very welcome.

And Welcome back current players.

Weigh-In Day is Saturday 5th March 2016

8.30am – 11.30am

(New Players need to bring a copy of birth cert or passport)

Contact: Haley Slater on 0210590036 or smitymagirl@hotmail.com

Te Rapa Junior RFC would like to invite all New and present members to our annual weigh in to be held at our Club Rooms, Vickery St, Te Rapa, Friday 11th March, 5pm till 7pm. All new players can you please bring a COPY of birth cert or passport as proof of age and a recent photo. Subs can be paid on night \$40 for first sibling, \$20 for each other. Free Giveaways for early subs (Limited numbers).

Babysitter Available

I am Kate Evans and I am available for babysitting. I am 21 years old with a full license. For further details please contact me on 0278229782 or see Mary Evans in Room 1.

Situations Vacant: Office Administration

Local manufacturer based at Horotiu with diverse position available for a well organised experienced person with relevant tertiary level qualification to cover business accounts, inventory management and customer relations. Hours are flexible with minimum 20 – 24 hrs per week. Please email application & CV to admin@potblack.co.nz

Build a great family team and have fun on the way!



The Early Years

0-6 years These are the most important years in your child's development! Learn how to lay the building blocks for a great future.

The Early Years covers:

- Parent types
- Developmental stages
- Tools for engaging cooperation
- Discipline
- Making memories
- Being the parent your child needs

\$75 per person or \$110 per couple for each six week group.
Subsidies available

- Small group course with a trained facilitator
- Six sessions per course
- Tailored to your needs

Toolbox courses are free to foster carers, whānau caregivers, adopters, grandparents raising grandchildren, and Home for Life parents thanks to government funding. We are also able to offer free training for participants wishing to become Toolbox facilitators.

Tuesday 1st March to Tuesday 5th April 2016
Seventh Day Adventist Church
58 Palmerston Street, Hamilton
To book contact Sharon Crow, ph 027 280 5430
or email hamsdasecretary@gmail.com
THIS COURSE IS FREE – NO CHARGE – SPONSORED BY SDA CHURCH
No online bookings for this course

Build a great family team and have fun on the way!



The Middle Years

6-12 years Make the most of these years while your children still want to be part of your team!

The Middle Years covers:

- Parent types
- Building character and self-esteem
- Emotional resilience
- Discipline
- Creating traditions and memories
- Capitalising on the 'tween-age years'

\$75 per person or \$110 per couple for each six week group.
Subsidies available

- Small group course with a trained facilitator
- Six sessions per course
- Tailored to your needs

Toolbox courses are free to foster carers, whānau caregivers, adopters, grandparents raising grandchildren, and Home for Life parents thanks to government funding. We are also able to offer free training for participants wishing to become Toolbox facilitators.

Tuesday nights 23rd February to 29th March
7.15 pm to 9.30 pm
Venue: 3a Glenview Tce, Hamilton
Contact Ruth Gilling 027 544 8341
Or email: waikato@theparentingplace.com

Build a great family team and have fun on the way!



Tweens and Teens

12 years + We will show you that, although these years may be challenging, they can be some of the best years of your life – and theirs!

Tweens and Teens covers:

- Atmosphere
- Boundaries
- Communication
- Discipline
- Self-esteem
- Future focus

\$75 per person or \$110 per couple for each six week group.
Subsidies available

- Small group course with a trained facilitator
- Six sessions per course
- Tailored to your needs

Toolbox courses are free to foster carers, whānau caregivers, adopters, grandparents raising grandchildren, and Home for Life parents thanks to government funding. We are also able to offer free training for participants wishing to become Toolbox facilitators.

Monday 29th February to Monday 11th April 2016
7.15 pm to 9.30 pm

At Horsham Downs Community Church, 10 Martin Lane,
Horsham Downs

To book: phone Ruth 027 544 8341
email: waikato@theparentingplace.com

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