

Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 8

6 June 2013

Rotokauri School Cross Country 2013



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.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following parents who have made it onto the Board of Trustees. These parents, through the election process have a mandate by the people to give ALL our students at Rotokauri School the best education possible.

Rotokauri School Board of Trustees Election Declaration of Parent and Staff Election Results

Parent Representative votes:

Collinson, Miranda	72	Spiers, Nick	68
Pritchard, Rosemary	47	Teale, Jarrod	33
Rawiri, Eryca	9	Tunnell, Helenne	40
Snelgrove, Matthew	71	Webber, Fiona	50
Invalid votes	3		

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Miranda Collinson	Fiona Webber
Matthew Snelgrove	Rosemary Pritchard
Nick Spiers	

Staff Representative vote:

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received I hereby declare:
Desiree Smith duly elected.

Signed
Sharon Verstraten, Returning Officer

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Today was the last day for handing back your forms in relation to the 2013 Community Consultation Package. We appreciate the time and effort it took to fill these forms out. As promised all students of the parents who filled the forms will be given a healthy drink tomorrow (free).

Parts of the consultation process will be published in the newsletter over the coming weeks.

In the next newsletter we will publish the winner of the draw for the \$100 dinner voucher. All the people who filled in the Consultation Package will have their names put into a hat with the lucky name being drawn out by one of our senior students.

STUDENT CONSULTATION

Last week we consulted with all of our student population. It's vitally important to have a student voice heard in schools these days. All of our decisions and actions are based around the needs of our students so we need to listen to their views.

Here are the questions we asked our students last week:

1. What things do you like about our school?
2. Do you feel Rotokauri School provides a positive learning environment for you to learn in?
3. Are you actively engaged in your learning?
4. How do you know if you are learning / achieving at school?
5. Do you think the school supports you to become a responsible, confident learner?
6. Do you think we promote the following values – responsibility, excellence, persistence, honesty and respect?
7. Do you think the school has high expectations for you to be the best you can be?
8. Do you feel Rotokauri School is a safe environment to learn in?
9. Do you think we try and cater for all of your needs?
10. Do you think we give your parents enough information to help you engage in your learning?
11. Are we an inclusive school? Do we try and treat everyone the same?
12. Do you feel the students co-operate well with one another in the classroom and out on the sports field? In other words do we follow the concept of TEAM = Together Everyone Achieves More.
13. Do you feel confident to ask a teacher if needed?
14. As a member of Rotokauri School can you rate your happiness at being at this school?
15. What is the one thing this school could do for you that would make a difference to learning?

COLLEGE TEACHER IN OUR SCHOOL

This week we welcomed Mr Franklin to our school. Mr Franklin will be in Mr Watkins class this term. I'm sure both Mr Watkins and the rest of the school will enjoy Mr Franklin's vast array of musical and sporting talents. It's great to see a young male role model coming through the system, as the primary sector often finds it hard to recruit and retain young male teachers.

INTERNET SAFETY

As mentioned in an earlier newsletter we are talking to all of our students in the school as to the key ideas about internet safety. We published some of the material in the last newsletter and I think that parents may want more hints to share with their children at home. Everybody worries about cyberbullying and there is interesting research around to suggest that those that do this sort of thing have problems making normal real life relationships and the net just becomes an outlet for their poor social skills.

If your child becomes the receiver of material that they find distasteful or disrespectful you need to try and make them understand that it is not them who have the problem, it is in fact the sender.

As parents and caregivers we need to give them a simple set of instructions as to how this should be dealt with:

1. Don't respond.
2. Save it.
3. Block it.
4. Report it.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This year we are working on a Ministry contract in relation to Maths. One of the things we were asked to do was to think about what we would expect to see in a class. Here are the ideas shared by staff:

- Children sharing ideas.
- Students engaged in their learning.
- The use of a variety of equipment.
- A variety of teaching styles to cater for the student's needs.
- Respectful relationships between students and teacher.
- A time where students can reflect on their learning.
- High expectations and learning goals.
- Teacher being the facilitator and posing questions.
- Students understanding clearly being shown.
- Celebration of successes.

This sounds far more enjoyable and interactive compared to the learning I received when I was at school.

MAYBE COMPUTER GAMING ISNT SO BAD AFTER ALL

Last week I went to a course run by David Kinane who promotes the use of Information Technology in schools. According to Mr Kinane computer games do have their place when it is an appropriate game because:

- Gaming is interactive.
- Gaming is based on learning strategies.
- Gaming is based on challenges and is rewarded with points or levels.
- Gaming involves risk taking.
- Gaming makes students prioritize their moves and decisions.
- Gaming often involves working together to find a solution.

LIGHTWIRE

We are now on high speed broadband with Lightwire as our provider. No longer will we have to wait to download material.

MORE DRAINAGE INSTALLED

Our school, perched grandly on an almost terraced hill side, gives us wonderful views but does come with its own drainage complexities. You will have noticed that we have put more drainage along the front of Rooms 6 and 7 to combat the amount of water that comes down the hill.

TEACHER ATTESTATION

As with any job our teachers are attested every year. The areas of attestation are as follows: Teaching Techniques, Professional Knowledge, Motivation of students, Classroom Management, Communication, Contribution to School and Contribution to Wider School Activities.

What has really impressed me about our teachers is how well they know the learning needs of the students within the class and how they will then try and cater for students within the classroom programme. There is great teaching going on right across our school.

SPORT COACHES AND MANAGERS

A special thank you to all those parents who have gifted their time and expertise to coach and manage our sports teams. It is because of your kindness that we have managed to field teams for this year's competitions. I'm sure the parents of those students also must be thankful for the effort you have put in.

CROSS COUNTRY SHOWS THE TRUE VALUES OF OUR SCHOOL

I have always said the best advertisement for any school is the actions and attitudes of the students. I thought the Cross Country allowed students to show not only athletic prowess but also the strength of our school culture. Some of our students ran with injuries but were determined to give it a go (their choice but supported by parents) that to me showed persistence. Then there was all the senior students who helped make sure their little buddies made it around the course. That to me showed responsibility and leadership.

I was also impressed with the way staff and parents helped to make sure the whole programme flowed. I look forward to seeing how our students compete in the interschool event on the 14 June.

SENIOR STUDENTS CANTEEN

The canteen, under the stewardship of the seniors, is still running smoothly although demand maybe starting to drop with the colder weather creeping in. The students are definitely learning valuable life lessons in relation to demand / supply and pricing.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

We recently held an emergency evacuation session at our school. Our students can get down the hill to the tennis court meeting area within three minutes. That's because they are aware of what action needs to be taken when the continuous bell rings. With so many fatalities occurring in domestic house fires over the last couple of years it got me thinking - do all households have a plan?

PREPARATION IS EVERYTHING

It's great to see the students filing into class when they hear the 2 minutes to 9 bell sound. This gives them time to get all their equipment sorted for their first lesson.

HEADLICE

It's that time of year when you should check your child for head lice. With the colder weather our juniors especially get closer on the mat which is perfect for the transmission of these hitchhikers.

INTERESTING RESEARCH

We really try hard at this school to promote relationships between students and teachers. John Smith, a research professor of education, made an interesting comment. Creating trusting and respectful relationships in schools and classrooms is indispensable and single most crucial element to learning.

When young people cannot, or do not, form a relationship with at least one adult or with peers, then they disconnect, disengage or drop out of school.

QUIZ NIGHT – FOUNDATION BAR

The PTA are holding another night of fun, trivia, rivalry and prizes. This year's Quiz night will be held at the Foundation Bar – Te Awa on Saturday, 29 June at 7.30pm.

Get your family, friends and neighbours together.

Tickets \$20 single and \$35 double – complimentary nibbles included.

Tickets are on sale now at the school office.

For information email Antonia chevvi@xtra.co.nz

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS 2013

Age group	Girls	Boys
5 year olds	1 st Darian Templeton 2 nd Ella Caulfield 3 rd Ella Burt	1 st Lamayne Clark 2 nd Oliver Campbell 3 rd Euan Aitchison
6 year olds	1 st Tyla Brooks 2 nd Jessica Cuff 3 rd G'arni-Lee Clark	1 st Kian McNamara 2 nd Cole Thomson 3 rd Liam Parry
7 year olds	1 st Tegan Barham 2 nd Georgia Westgate 3 rd Sophie Barris	1 st Daniel Cameron 2 nd Cooper White 3 rd Isaac Collinson
8 year olds	1 st Renee West 2 nd Petrice Vincent 3 rd Tahlia Farrell	1 st Jacob Parry 2 nd Nicholas Westgate 3 rd Dylan Westgate
9 year olds	1 st Nikita Goodwin 2 nd Georgia Snelgrove 3 rd Brianna Parry	1 st Devon Collinson 2 nd Julius Spiers 3 rd Callum Cameron
10 year olds	1 st Mieke Brand 2 nd Freya Sirl 3 rd Kayla Ludlow	1 st Dylan Quay 2 nd Ethan King 3 rd Tayne Matheson
11 year olds	1 st Sarah Miller 2 nd Safia Gordon 3 rd Caylee Farrell	1 st Tommi Rae 2 nd Isaac West 3 rd Cole Warren
12 year olds	1 st Alex Dashfield 2 nd Hannah Miller 3 rd Paige McCollum	1 st Scott Ludlow 2 nd Barrie Patterson 3 rd Dylan Farrell

House Points

1st Kakariki = 331 points
 2nd Whero = 259 points
 3rd Kikorangi = 231 points
 4th Kowhai = 211 points

Māori Education at Rotokauri School

Last term we held a meeting regarding Māori education at Rotokauri School. The parents that attended gave feedback and ideas to what they would like to be our strategic goal for Māori education for 2013. As a Ministry of Education requirement, every School in New Zealand has to have a strategic goal for Māori education and we thought it was a fantastic opportunity for our Māori community to have their say in what they want for their children at Rotokauri School. Some great ideas were shared and recorded. From this meeting an email committee group has been set up to share further thoughts, ideas, and to keep communication flowing for the remainder of the year. Below is the strategic goal we developed with the help of our committee. If you haven't been getting emails or would like to be on this e-mail list, please let me know by emailing the link below.

michael@rotokauri.schoolzone.net.nz

ANNUAL PLAN

AIM 2

To further incorporate the Te Aho Arataki Marau mā te Ako i Te Reo Māori (curriculum guidelines).					
Duration: 2013					
Intentions	Actions	Desired Outcomes	Who	Budget	Achievements
Supporting Māori students to develop leadership skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage Maori students to be leaders within the school e.g. Student Council, Student Support Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maori students being role models and so using their knowledge and experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maori students Teachers in charge of Curriculum Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maori students will feel confident and supported in their leadership roles.

<p>Correct pronunciation of Maori language modelled by Principal/teachers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal and teachers will pronounce Te Reo Māori correctly in daily school life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will pronounce Te Reo Māori correctly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal and teachers will develop confidence by using Te Reo Maori. All students will improve their ability and confidence in Te Reo Māori.
<p>A whole school plan for Te Reo and Tikanga will be developed that caters for progression through the levels of Te Aho Arataki Marau mō to Ako I Te Reo Māori.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A plan for Year 1-8 Te Reo and Tikanga Maori will be developed and trialled in 2013. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are learning a progression of Maori Te Reo and Tikanga Māori. Students are being exposed to all the language modes (Ngā Ara Reo). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are achieving curriculum expectations.
<p>To raise Maori achievement in writing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify Maori students who are achieving Below or Well Below in Writing. Withdraw students for small group writing tuition based on their needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will make progress towards the National Standard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SENCO Maori students Teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational grant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students' needs will be catered for and progress made.

May 2013

To all schools, early child care services and Kohanga reo

Re: Whooping cough and Other Winter illnesses including: Gastroenteritis, Influenza-like illnesses, Sore throats - Group A Streptococcal infection, Meningococcal disease

Pertussis

New Zealand and Waikato are continuing to experience an increase in Whooping cough (pertussis) cases.

Whooping cough can be really bad in infants and young children and can be very dangerous in young babies. Keeping cases away from school may be required to prevent ongoing spread.

Symptoms

Whooping cough is not always easy to recognise, and symptoms can vary according to the age of the person affected. Usually in the early stages symptoms can be similar to a common cold and include a runny nose, sneezing, low-grade fever, and a mild cough.

The most common symptom is continuous, rapid coughing often with a high pitched whoop sound. However, the whoop sound is not often seen in infants or adults. Young babies often do not have the "whoop", but may stop breathing during coughing. The cough may last for up to three months.

Prevention

Immunisation is the best protection against whooping cough. We recommend that children's immunisation should be up to date. Just a reminder, it is recommended that all children should receive their pertussis booster at 4 years old through their GP and 11 years via school programme. Pregnant women can now receive the immunisation for whooping cough FREE. Please see your GP or midwife for further information.

Children and staff with symptoms of whooping cough should be encouraged to visit their doctor and may require antibiotics. Antibiotics are used to prevent the spread of the disease, but do not stop the coughing unless given when symptoms first start.

Keeping staff and children at home is important for the prevention of the spread of whooping cough. Those staff and children diagnosed with whooping cough should stay away from school and early child care services for the first five days of the course of antibiotics, or for three weeks from the start of the symptoms if antibiotics are not used. No exclusion is required if it has been longer than three weeks since the onset of symptoms, as they can no longer spread the disease (not infectious).

Winter illnesses

Winter is the season for many cold and flu-like illnesses, stomach bugs (gastroenteritis), in particular Norovirus.

All these illnesses are spread in similar ways and the prevention messages are the same

- Wash your hands
- Cover your mouth when you cough (cough and sneeze etiquette)
- Carry out regular cleaning of all surfaces.

Stomach bugs (Gastro-intestinal illnesses)

Winter sees a large number of stomach bugs; especially those caused by viruses.

Symptoms

Symptoms include sore tummies, nausea (feeling sick), vomiting and diarrhoea.

Prevention

Children should be kept from school and early childhood services if they have vomiting and/or diarrhoea and should not return until they are well and have had at least 24 hours of no diarrhoea and/or vomiting. These bugs are spread via hands to mouths. They can remain on surfaces such as door handles and thus regular cleaning is encouraged. Please encourage hand washing before preparing food, eating meals and after visiting the toilet.

If the school/early childhood service has two or more cases associated with a specific room or year group, they are encouraged to discuss this with Population Health, who has guidelines available to assist with the management of outbreaks of gastro-intestinal illnesses, and to prevent further illness within the school community.

Influenza-like illness

Winter is the time for coughs, colds and influenza like illnesses.

Symptoms

Symptoms may include fever, aches and pains, coughs, sore throats, and headaches.

Prevention

Most of these are caused by viruses or bacteria which are spread via droplets by someone coughing and sneezing into their hand not washing it and passing it to someone else's hand or a surface which then becomes contaminated. Those individuals who now have the virus on their hands can easily rub their eyes or put their hand in their mouths, without thinking, and thus transfer the virus to themselves. Therefore regular cleaning in schools/early childhood services is encouraged at this time. It is also recommended that children practice good cough and sneeze etiquette and hand hygiene.

Sore throats

Sore throats can be caused by a number of bacteria or viruses. When a sore throat is caused by *Group A Streptococcal* bacteria, if untreated, it can cause Rheumatic Fever – a serious disease that attacks the heart. All sore throats need to be seen by a doctor or nurse, and particularly if the child is in a high risk group for rheumatic fever, swabbed. If the swab comes back positive for Group A Strep, the child needs to be treated with a ten day course of antibiotics. If this is done, Rheumatic Fever can be prevented.

Prevention

Group A Strep is spread by droplets from someone coughing and sneezing. Good hand hygiene and covering ones mouth when coughing and sneezing is important to prevent the spread of Group A Strep.

Sore throats matter – get them checked!

Free throat swabbing can be accessed:

- Tokoroa with South Waikato Pacific Island Community Services – 07 8860010
- Areas of Hamilton City with K'aute Pasifika Services – 07 8341482; and Raukura Hauora O Tainui -0800 4 RAUKURA
- Huntly and Ngaruawahia with Raukura Hauora O Tainui -0800 4 RAUKURA.

Please ring these services to find a swabbing clinic near you.

Meningococcal disease

Meningitis and septicaemia (blood poisoning) are not always easy to recognise, and symptoms can appear in any order. Some may not appear at all. In the early stages, the signs and symptoms can be similar to many other more common illnesses, for example flu.

Trust your instincts. If you suspect meningitis or blood poisoning, get medical help immediately.

Symptoms

Early symptoms can include fever, headache, photophobia (not able to look at light), nausea (feeling sick), vomiting (being sick), a rash and muscle pain, with cold hands and feet.

A rash that does not fade when pressed can be a sign of meningococcal blood poisoning. This rash may begin as a few small spots anywhere on the body and can spread quickly to look like fresh bruises. The spots or rash are caused by blood leaking into the tissues under the skin. They are more difficult to see on darker skin, so look on paler areas of the skin and inside the lower eyelid. The rash may fade at first, so keep checking. If someone is ill or is obviously getting worse, do not wait for spots or a rash to appear. They may appear late or may not appear at all. If your child is unwell and you are in doubt please seek medical advice.

If you require any further information regarding the above, please either contact your Public Health Nurse or Population Health. Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,



Dr Anita Bell
Medical Officer of Health
Population Health, Waikato DHB

PIE SWAP

Instead of having a high fat pastry pie crust, try a savoury bread case. Here's how:

Press wholemeal bread into a greased muffin tin. Add your filling (spaghetti, corn, mushroom, tomato, etc), sprinkle with a small amount of cheese and bake at 180c for 10-15 minutes.



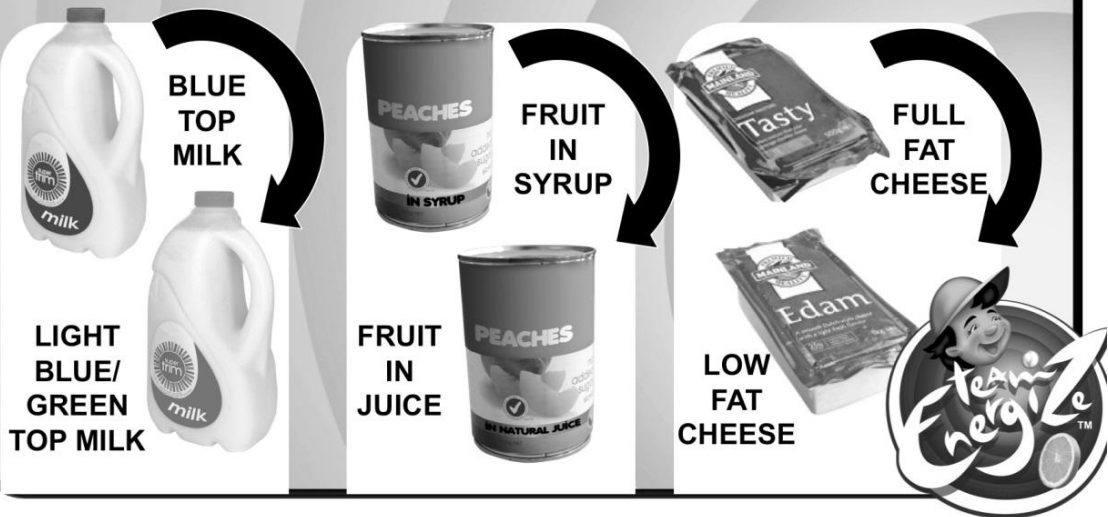
DESSERT SWAP

Instead of having icecream that is generally high in sugar and fat, swap it for low fat yoghurt and add some fruit.



SUPER SWAPS

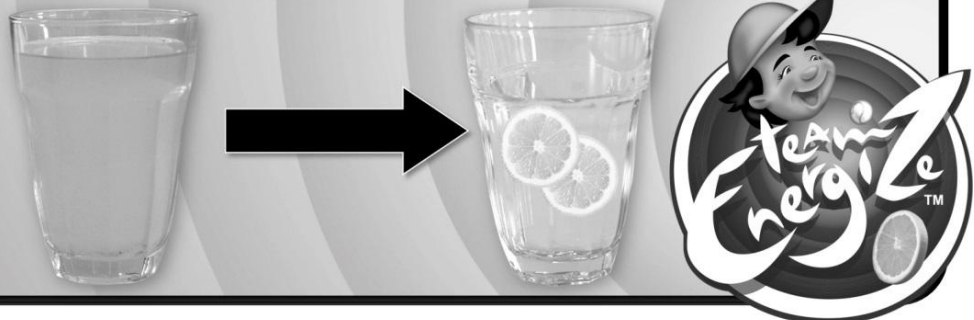
Here are 3 easy, healthy swaps to make:



DRINK SWAPS

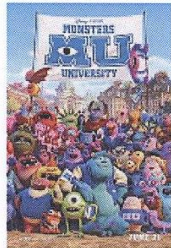
Fruit juice and cordial contain a lot of sugar. Try swapping this for water flavoured with fruit.

Take a glass of water and add a slice of lemon, apple or orange.



Pre release showing of Monsters University in 3D

Mike and Sully are back, younger and funnier than ever and we want you to be the first ones to experience them in 3D
(brought to you by Rotokauri School PTA)



When: Sunday 07th July
Where: Hoyts Te Awa
Time: 4pm

Ticket prices

\$20.00 Adults
\$15.00 Children (School age)

Tickets include snack pack, drink, ice cream and 3D glasses

Grab you tickets today from the Rotokauri School Office

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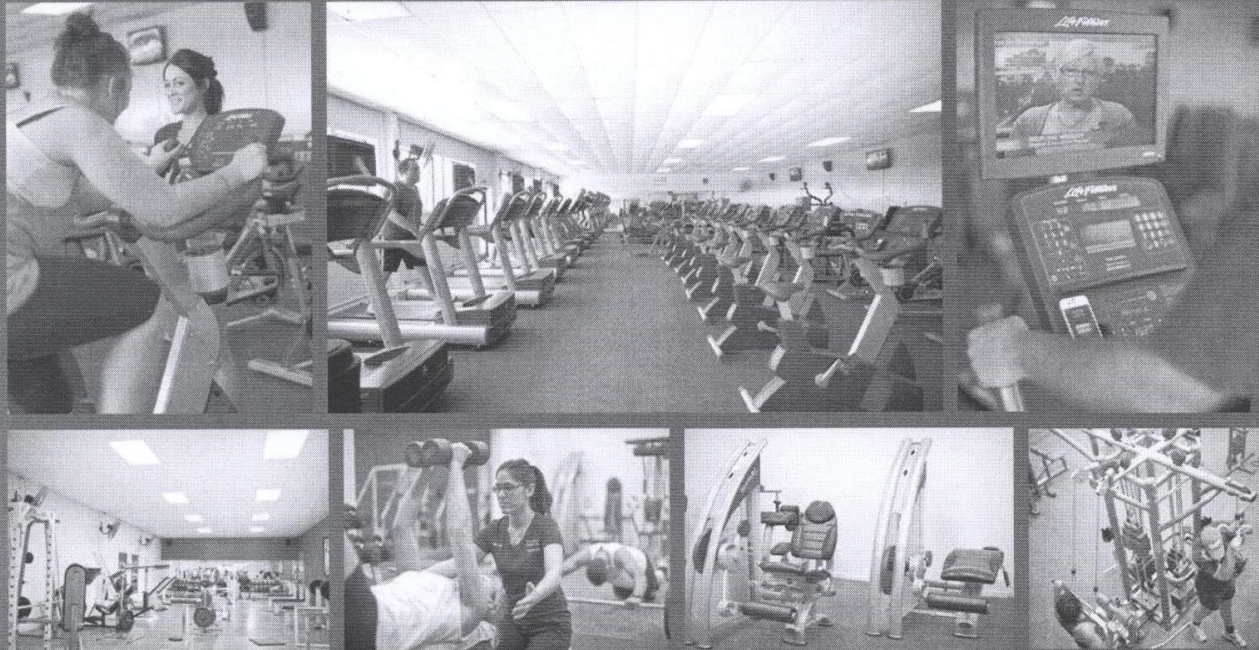
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Florist ilene would like to offer all Rotokauri School community a 10% discount on all flower purchases collected or delivered within Hamilton. Just mention this ad when talking to one of our floral designers.



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\$14.80 per week
Normally \$17.80pw

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07 849 6775 or 027 504 2070
sherryn@firstplacefitness.co.nz

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