

# Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 13

29 August 2013

## **ROTOKAURI TUIS**

The annual Rotokauri Tuis concert is on its way! The whole school community is invited to this special evening where the children will showcase the songs they have learned this year and perform special group parts and solos. It's a great night out; even if your child is not performing, come along and enjoy watching your child's classmates. Check out our invitation for details!

### Land Down Under



### and upside down

**Giddy Mate!**

**Shall we go on a Tiki tour  
across the ditch and upside down?  
Let the Rotokauri Tuis take you  
on a fun-filled ride to explore some  
culture and very memorable  
songs from over the years.**

**At the Te Kowhai Hall, Horotiu Rd  
Friday 13th September, 2013**

**At 6.30pm**

**Entry by Donation**

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

**Telephone (07) 849 5068**  
**Fax (07) 849 4371**

**Email: sverstraten@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.

## **BALLOT FOR 2014**

To help with future planning the Board has decided that 20 places will be available for students turning 5 between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013 and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014.

If you have friends / family that would like to join us then they need to get a ballot application form from Sharon (from the 9<sup>th</sup> September). All ballot forms need to be back to the office by 3.15pm, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

## **ROKOKAURI SPEECH COMPETITION**

Our School Vision talks about our students being responsible, confident learners and communicators. Our students over the last couple of weeks in the lead up to the speech competition have shown that they can excel in speech writing and delivery. We have tried to set a culture at this school whereby public speaking in front of audiences is a very natural thing to do. Our students admire and support those who are willing to get up in front of an audience.

Each year the standard of speeches seems to rise as students build on their previous years learning. It is a wonderful thing to watch as students grow in maturity and confidence to become very articulate individuals, who we know will succeed whatever they choose to do in life.

Parents sometimes want to know how we mark our speech competitions. To be fair and consistent we use the same marking key that will be used should a child make it into the inter school speech finals.

All students are marked on a 1-5 key across 7 areas. Marking keys are comprised of the following – topic, introduction, body, voice, language, gestures and conclusion.

This year the speeches had the added requirement of having visual slides in their presentation.

I congratulate all the students for their efforts, in not only performing within the classroom environment but also during the speech finals held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.

Year 2	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Jessica Munro
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Cooper Miller
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cole Thomson
Year 3	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Isaac Collinson
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jakin Warnock
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ella Kells
Year 4	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Eden Miller
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Noah Owsley
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Harrison Wells
4 <sup>th</sup>	Renee West
Year 5	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Devon Collinson
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Natalia Coppins
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Maggie Patterson
4 <sup>th</sup>	Zahra Warnock

Year 6	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Hayley Monaghan
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Thomas Perham
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Jaimee Carlson
4 <sup>th</sup>	Tayne Matheson
Year 7	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Paris Miller
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Gemma Yorke
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Alex Dashfield
4 <sup>th</sup>	Sarah Miller
Year 8	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Simeon Kahuroa
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Paige McCollum
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Hannah Miller
4 <sup>th</sup>	Sarah Baker

## BREAKING NEWS

### Te Uku Results

Well done to the students who represented Rotokauri at the Te Uku speech finals last night. Fantastic news, Devon Collinson won the Yr 5 / Yr 6 competition and Simeon Kahuroa won the open competition.

**Junior Speech Trophy – Isaac Collinson**  
**Senior Speech Trophy – Simeon Kahuroa**

## BOT REPORT TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The Board of Trustees for Rotokauri School met on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July. It was reported that attendance rates have been very good overall, and detention rates have come down, which is great to see. Lunchtime sports have been a great success with many students taking advantage of this in the lunch-break. Parents / caregivers of children receiving Reading Recovery tuition are encouraged to attend a meeting and observe their child reading with their tutor. This will be a great way of informing and involving parents/caregivers of how their child is learning in this area.

In relation to special needs/gifted and talented students, there is a 'needs-based' approach, where instead of students being taken out of their class, special needs teachers will be moving into the classroom. This allows for less disruption for the student and more inclusive learning. The school is in the process of getting a new, more interactive website which will serve the whole school community with up-to-date information.

Mathletics will be incorporated into the school-wide maths programme next year, due to its great success this year. It has proven to be a very successful tool for engaging and assisting students in maths.

The carpark exit upgrade, which now caters for buses to exit, has now been completed. At the next board meeting, student reps will provide feedback on what they like about Rotokauri School and what could be improved, from their viewpoint. We look forward to their constructive feedback.

*Report compiled by Rosemary Pritchard, Personnel Officer on the BOT.*

## MUSIC NEWS

Recently, parents / caregivers were given the opportunity to fill in a music survey to gauge interest in music lessons for students at the school. Results were as follows: Piano / keyboard:17, Drums:2, Violin:1 and Guitar:18. This is a great level of interest, and we now have a fantastic **guitar / ukelele tutor** (John Maydon) available for lessons after school, starting the first Monday back of Term 4 (14th of October). He is offering group lessons (4-5 students in a group) for 30 mins. The time slots will be 3.00-3.30pm, 3.30-4.00pm, 4.00-4.30pm and 4.30-5.00pm. Preference is considered, but not guaranteed. Cost per student: \$10 per lesson. Parents/caregivers will need to pay up-front for a terms tuition (\$100 for Term 4), on the day of the first lesson. Cheque or cash is fine. The tuition contract is between the family of the student and the tutor - the school office will not be processing payments. Lessons are also open to parents / caregivers if they would like learn too (at the same cost as school students).

Lessons will take place in the school library. Students aged 5 and up may learn ukelele, and those 8-12 may learn guitar. There are sign-up forms with additional information available at the school office for you to pick up (including info on purchasing instruments, the tutor's profile etc.) Forms need to be returned to the office by Thursday, 19th September. For all those who expressed an interest in learning guitar/ukelele in the recent music survey, forms will be given to you automatically to take home for consideration. This is a great opportunity to learn to play and read music - a skill that can give you life-long enjoyment.

Piano/Keyboard lessons will be offered either from Term 4, or Term 1 of next year, in the school library. Watch for an update on this in a future newsletter.

## BOT PROPERTY REPORT

Hi all. Some folk have noticed the white markings around the Multipurpose Room exterior cladding with accompanying numbers. These are the result of a survey conducted into weather-tightness that the Ministry of Education has undertaken on all school properties. Unfortunately, schools have been a victim of the same practices that have caught so many folk out. The good news is although the Multipurpose Room does have some issues with water ingress the report was able to confirm that there is no risk to the health and welfare of the children and staff. So theories around cave sketches can be ignored! Regards, Nick Spiers, (BOT property rep)

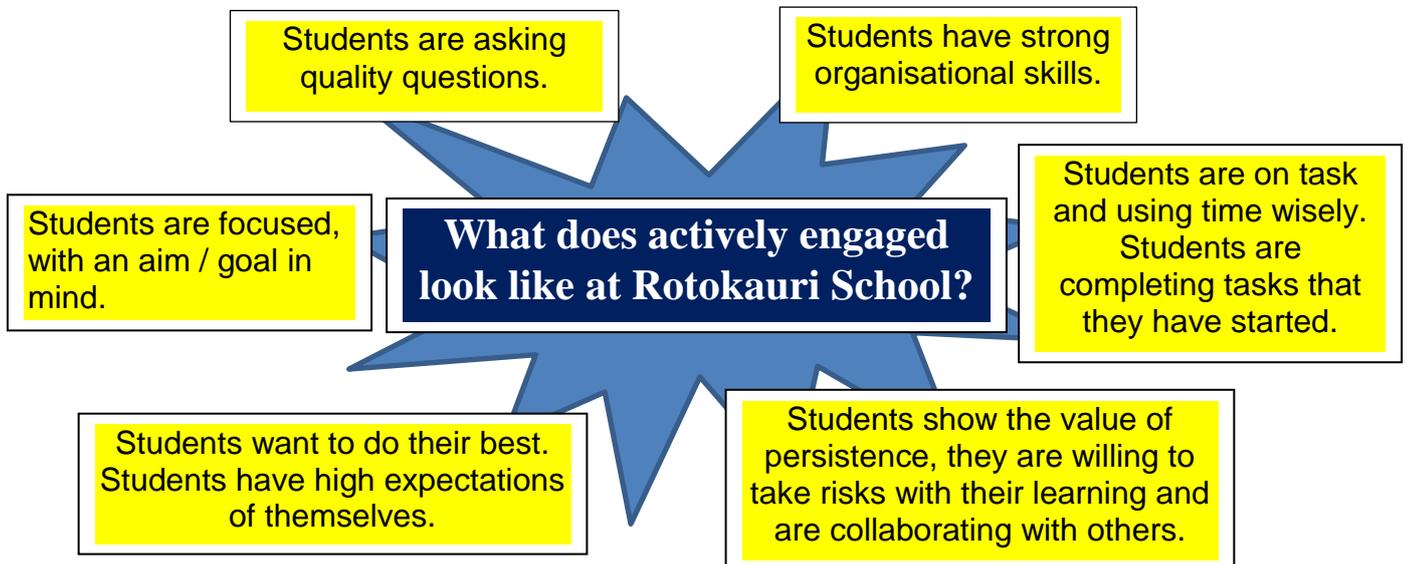
## SWIM SAFE

Swim Safe is a programme that has been around for a number of years and has been successfully used by schools throughout New Zealand. There is no real way of finding out how many children this may have saved over the years but I would make an educated guess that it would be quite a few.

Our entire school will be working with the Swim Safe instructors in Week 7 of this term. It is imperative that every child goes on this course as this is an opportunity that the school and you as parents can ill afford to miss out on. As I said to the students at the assembly the other day a maths lesson may never save your life but one of these lessons may. Thank you to all the parents who have already paid the \$20 course fee, which also covers transportation, pool entry and tuition.

## FOLLOW UP FROM STUDENT REVIEW

In the last newsletter we showed you in diagram form what a positive learning environment looked like at Rotokauri School. Diagram form seems to be an easy way for adults and students to understand concepts. This week we would like to share with you what the students think engaged looks like at Rotokauri School. We would also like to share with you the sort of feedback that works with students.



## DOES ATTENDANCE MATTER?

Well done to the 40 students who have not had a day off sick this year. You must be super healthy individuals. There is an achievement pay off for students with high attendance rates.

A study in Philadelphia covering more than 200 schools and 86,000 students found that students with high attendances had higher standardised test scores and this was actually noticeable from a very early age. (American Educational Journal vol 47 June 2010).

## GETTING PARENTS INVOLVED IN SCHOOLS

All the evidence suggests that when you have parents fully involved in their child's education achievement levels start to rise. At Rotokauri School we have tried to provide opportunities for parents to be an integral part of the learning partnership. One of our newest innovations is to get the email addresses of our parents so that we can communicate on an individual and class level. Those parents that responded recently by giving their email addresses to the homeroom teacher have probably found that they are more in the loop with their child's learning and progress.

## STUDENT SURVEY

Our Student Council spent time with our Board of Trustees on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> August. They gave them feedback in relation to some of the things the students wanted for our school. More IT equipment and sports equipment were discussed. They also gave us ideas that we could use to make lunchtimes more enjoyable and productive for everyone. We will be following up on their ideas.

## CAR SHOW

Over the next couple of weeks the homeroom teachers will be asking whether parents can help at the Car Show. They need a couple of parent helpers from each homeroom to help them with their classroom stalls.

We also need parent helpers to take gold coin donations from the public at the 3 entry points to our school. This is as simple as standing at one of the gates for an hour. If you can help can you please contact me [mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz).

This year the Car Show will be cash and eftpos. We tried using our own special currency last year but with outside groups supplying goods and services it will be far simpler to deal in cash / eftpos.

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

If you live within our school zone many of you will have appreciated the community newsletter that Desiree puts together each term. The feedback has been very positive and has allowed many past families to keep in touch with what has been going on in our school this year. Thank you Desiree.

## NEW EMAILS

Yes, many of you will have noticed that we have changed from schoolzone to g-mail. Teacher's emails will have the initial of their christian name, followed by surname, followed by rotokauri.school.nz

An example [mwatkins@rotokauri.school.nz](mailto:mwatkins@rotokauri.school.nz)

## THANK YOU

Thank you to Karlene Owsley who managed to get 5 laptops for our school from New Zealand Trade and Enterprise.

## CARDBOARD BOXES

The paper recycling monitors are in desperate need of large cardboard boxes to load the paper recycling into. If you are able to supply them with any, could you please drop them into the school office - it would really be appreciated.

## DAFFODIL DAY – 30 AUGUST 2013

Daffodil Day is the Cancer Society's annual appeal and one of the most important fundraising campaigns across New Zealand. We would like to encourage students to bring along a gold coin donation on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August. We will hold a special assembly so that classes can add their contribution to our coin trail. This has been an appeal that the school has supported for a number of years. Please give generously.

## AGRICULTURAL DAY – 23 OCTOBER 2013

Our annual Agricultural Day is coming up quickly. If you are entering an animal please bring your entry forms to the school office. **The final close off for entries will be the last day of Term 3, Friday, 27 September. Chicken entries are due back by Monday, 23 September.**

## AGRICULTURAL DAY – HELPERS NEEDED...PLEASE

To make this day run smoothly we are totally reliant on volunteers. Below is a list of jobs we need help with. If you can spare a few hours of your time it would be really appreciated. Please see Sharon in the school office if you can help.

**Stewards x 3** - to assist the calf, kid and lamb judges by organising the children with their animals, writing down the judges results and tying ribbons on the animals.

**Flower Show Scribe x 1** – to assist the judges by writing the certificates once judging is complete.

## AGRICULTURAL DAY – TROPHY RETURN

If you were awarded a trophy at last year's Agricultural Day, please return it to school as soon as possible ready for this year's prize giving.

## WEARABLE ARTS

As you know our Wearable Arts Show is coming up. Have you got your tickets yet? It will be a great show. We have been given many exciting items to raffle. They are:

- A 68cm suitcase valued at \$300, from Crystal Hilton @ Calder & Lawson House of Travel
- A beautiful handmade quilt from Jane Hurford
- A \$100.00 Pumice meal voucher from the Ladbrook family
- Body Shop products
- Contour Gym Voucher from the Vincents
- Fake eyelashes and two bracelets from Okareka Dance Company.
- Angel hair products and Travel Pack from Nigel Smith at Professional Hair Brands.

Tickets will be sent home during week six for the raffle, with a picture of the items. We encourage each family to try to sell the tickets as this is one of our fundraisers for the evening.

We have an oil painting that we will be having a silent auction for, from week six as well. It is an extremely beautiful oil painting of Lake Rotokauri by Heather Perring.

We have also been given some wonderful spot prizes for both shows.

More details will come out soon.

## CAR SHOW ADVERTISEMENT COMPETITION

We had over 50 entries for the student car show poster competition. The students had a very good understanding of the marking criteria and so this made judging very difficult.

Congratulations to the following students:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place – Dylan Quay \$30.00**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Gemma Yorke \$20.00**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Robbie Potter \$10.00**

## CONFIDENT COMMUNICATORS

On Friday, 23 August I took 4 Year 6's, Jaimee, JP, Davin and Brianna around to the major shopping centres in Hamilton. These students managed to get 80 car show posters into various shops. The key to their success was their wonderful manners, big smiles and of course confidence. Well done.

## FEES OWING

Please remember to pay the following to the school office:

- Religious Instruction fee per year - \$5.00 per child
- Photocopying fee per year - \$4.00 per child
- Room 2 – Newspaper in Education fee - \$3.00
- Year 7 & 8 students only – Technology Fee \$100.00 per student per year.

Thank you to the parents who have paid their fees already. ☺

## WHAT CHILDREN LEARN . . .

Children learn from those they live with, and from those they trust. Our staff at Rotokauri strives to behave in a way that we want children to learn and assimilate – calmness, a respectful manner, honesty, hard-work, openness to new ideas and new learning, friendliness. We get it right most of the time.

Parents have the same opportunity and the same responsibility to model the behaviour and values they want their children to learn and live. We reap what we sew... and many, many of our parents at Rotokauri are doing a fantastic job.

“If a child lives with criticism, he learns to condemn . . .

If a child lives with hostility, he learns to fight . . .

If a child lives with fear, he learns to be apprehensive . . .

If a child lives with pity, he learns to feel sorry for himself . . .

If a child lives with ridicule, he learns to be shy . . .

If a child lives with jealousy, he learns to feel envy . . .

If a child lives with shame, he learns to feel guilty . . .

**BUT**

If a child lives with tolerance, he learns to be patient . . .

If a child lives with encouragement, he learns to be confident . . .

If a child lives with praise, he learns to be appreciative . . .

If a child lives with acceptance, he learns to love . . .

If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves. . .

If a child lives with honesty, he learns what truth is . . .

If a child lives with fairness, he learns justice . . .

If children live with recognition, they learn to have a goal. . .

If children live with sharing, they learn to be generous. . .

If a child lives with security, he learns to have faith in himself and those about him . . .

If a child lives with friendliness, he learns the world is a nice place in which to live . . .”

*Dorothy Law Nolte*

**REWARD A  
SPORT MAKER**  
by nominating them now!

From the coaches and officials, to the uniform washers and administrators, a Sport Maker is someone who volunteers their time and effort for sport in the Waikato region.

Nominate the Sport Maker that makes a difference in your sport. All nominees go in the draw for the chance to receive some awesome sporting gear!

Take the time to nominate and reward a local Sport Maker who helps you and your sport.

[www.sportwaikato.org.nz](http://www.sportwaikato.org.nz)

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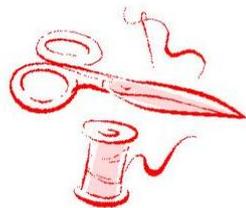
TICKETS ARE ON SALE FROM THE OFFICE NOW

*Rotokauri School*  
**Wearable Arts Shows**  
*Friday 20th September 2013*

*Join our students for an evening of inspirational designs with the theme*



*"this is me"*



*\* Drinks and snacks on sale \*  
\* Raffles, Silent Auctions & Spot prizes \**

*Show Times: 6.30pm-7.30pm Juniors (Rooms 1,2,3,8)*

*7.45pm-9.00pm Seniors (Rooms 4,5,6,7)*

*Admission Prices: Adults: \$3 for 1 show or \$5 for both shows.*

*Children (15 and under): Gold coin.*

*Tickets on sale from 2nd September 2013 at the school office*

*Shows kindly sponsored by:*



**Kip McGrath Professional Teaching for  
Yr1-13 in maths and English. Ph 8482262**

*Pacesetter (Cuff family) Pumice (Ladbrook family)*

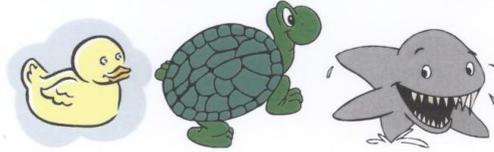
*Prizes kindly donated by:*

*Quilt Raffle - Jane Hurford \* Rotokauri Lake Artwork - Heather Perring*

*\*Would you like your name or business name here too?*

*Please contact Jo Campbell to discuss how you can help - [paintcampbell@xtra.co.nz](mailto:paintcampbell@xtra.co.nz) or phone 8499193.*

# Water Wonder



**Come and enjoy some  
great entertainment  
at Rotokauri School  
Where our very own  
dance group will perform  
“Water Wonder?”**

**Place: Rotokauri  
School MDR  
Time: 5:30  
Date: 06/09/13**



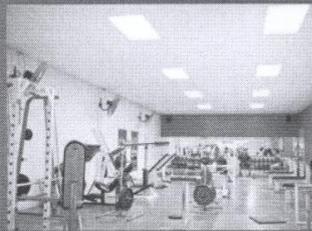
**Entry by Donation -  
All proceeds go to Starship Childrens Hospital  
Thanks for your Support  
Fiona, Libby & Safia**

**“CARROTS HELP YOU TO  
SEE BETTER IN THE DARK”**

**True! Carrots are an excellent source of  
Vitamin A (retinol), which has many helpful  
functions in the body. One of Vitamin A's  
great jobs is to help keep our eyes healthy so  
that we can see better in the dark!**



# Discounted Gym Memberships available to ROKOKAURI SCHOOL PARENTS & STAFF



**\$14.80 per week**  
Normally \$17.80pw

- Over 160 free carparks
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- 24 hour use
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- Discounted membership
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07 849 6775 or 027 504 2070  
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**Magnolia wanted**

I am looking for magnolia for my shop, if anyone has a tree and wouldn't mind me giving it a good trim could you please let me know on  
0274 303 844

Thanks  
Marie Carlson

Don't forget we offer a 10% discount to the  
Rotokauri community

