Rotokauri School

Newsletter

Issue No: 10



24 June 2021

Rotokauri School Tough Guys and Gals ready for their mud runs today. Have fun...



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Dear Parents

Nga mihi o te wa kia koe me to whanau.

ROTOKAURI SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Our positive environment will actively engage us all in learning.

ROTOKAURI SCHOOL VISION

Together We Grow

- Unity (Kotahitanga)
- Inclusive (Manaakitanga)
- Guardianship (Kaitiakitanga)

Together We Learn

- Innovative (Auahatanga)
- Happy (Uruhau)
- Responsible (Tuutika)

ROTOKAURI SCHOOL VALUES

Respect Empathy Active Learning Courage Honesty

PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

Kia Ora Parents and Whānau.

It is hard to believe that the end of the second term is almost upon us – two weeks to go!!

Congratulations to Miss Swindells on the birth of her beautiful daughter, born on 15th June. Mum and baby are both doing well.

Roll Growth

Due to the number of enrolments that we have coming in to Rotokauri School during Terms 3 & 4 we will be opening a 9th classroom. However, we do not have our new classrooms yet so we will be opening Room 9 in the school library. This class will be taught by Ms Carter.

Now you are wondering if the library will be open???? Yes, we will have a library but in a smaller capacity. Sarah (our librarian and teacher aide) is storing the least issued books at the back of Room 6 and we will be moving books and shelves into the back end of the MPR. So don't despair library books can still be issued.

School Entrance

Due to the amount of wet weather we are experiencing we have had to permanently close the second entrance to Rotokauri School. Thank you to the parents/families that have been regularly using this entrance, it has certainly eased some of the pressure on the top gate.

Mid-Year Reports/Parent Interviews

Mid-year reports and parent interviews at the end of Term 2 are intended as an opportunity for the teacher to report orally to the parents/caregivers on student's progress to date. They will also include Matariki goal setting for the student (one goal designed by the student, one goal designed by the teacher and one goal designed by the parent). The parent interviews are 15 minutes in duration and are being held on Wednesday, 30th June and Thursday, 1st July. School will not be finishing early on either of these days. A formal written report is issued at these interviews. Thank you to the parents that have already booked interview times. Please check your emails for more information or contact your child's classroom teacher.

Whole School Sleepover

Thank you to the 78 families that responded to the Google Doc survey that was sent home via email. This means that over 100 students will be staying at school overnight on Thursday, 8th June. Planning and preparation is now underway. A separate newsletter will be sent out early next week with information about this exciting event.

Beanies

Thank you to everyone that supported the Student Council with purchasing Rotokauri School beanies. We have seen a number of students wearing these proudly around the school and we are assured that they are nice and warm. Beanies are still available from the school office for \$15.00.

Curriculum Focus

Maths and Spelling are our two curriculum areas that we are focussing on for this year.

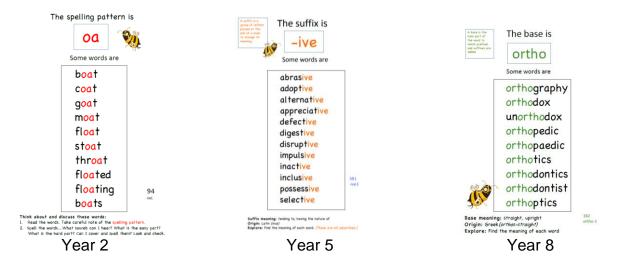
Maths – In Mathematics, the teachers and children have been learning mathematics skills in mixed ability/flexible groupings. The advantage of this is that children are working like mathematicians who learn from each other and are encouraged to agree and disagree with the opinions/thinking of others. Children are asked to prove their thinking and show the steps they took to solve a problem.

Most recently, children have enjoyed the hands on activities using materials like counters, cubes, water containers or making boxes to develop their number sense addition, subtraction, multiplication and division and through measurement (volume and capacity). Ask your children to tell you what they have been learning in the classroom, look at some of the activities posted on Seesaw or pop in to their classroom to see their mathematic learning in action.

Wordlab - Our Whole School Spelling Approach

This year we have implemented a whole school spelling programme called Wordlab which is a research-based approach. Classes engage in daily lessons investigating new spelling patterns and mastering high frequency words. The structured learning is different from the more traditional methods of learning a list of random spelling words. So rather than simply instructing a student to memorise a word, we make the word and all of its tricky features memorable through explicit teaching. This approach helps to build spelling skill, vocabulary knowledge and a much deeper understanding of how our language works.

Here are some examples of the charts used in different year levels:



Homework

Reading on a daily basis is a compulsory component of homework at Rotokauri School, regardless of the year level. There is also an expectation that there will be tracking of this reading, therefore the student reading log books are expected to be completed appropriately (date, title of book, comment by parent or student) and the reading log returned to school every day. Congratulations to the students that have achieved over 100 nights of reading, as this means you have been reading every school night and possibly the weekends as well.

Below is our school's homework statement -

Homework is an opportunity to develop and consolidate: sound work habits, a positive work ethic, self-management skills and to make links between home and school life.

Homework also encourages parents and children to work together on motivating tasks that add an extra component to the classroom programme.

There is a school expectation that homework will be completed and handed in on time. Completed homework will be marked and acknowledged.

This means that the home-school partnership is very important and we encourage you to support your child/children to develop a sound work ethic and positive attitude towards doing homework.

Attendance

Schools (boards, principals, and individual teachers), along with parents and guardians, are responsible for making sure students attend school regularly. Schools must –

- Have an attendance procedure (Rotokauri School's procedure is available if requested)
- Follow up on absences
- Record and monitor attendance and absence data

On your child's mid-year report there will be an attendance statement (either Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory). The Ministry of Education expect that students are attending 90% of the time that schools are open for instruction. If your child has fallen below this level then it will be noted as Unsatisfactory on their report. Please talk to the classroom teachers if you have any concerns about your child's attendance.

Headlice

The school has recently been notified of cases of head lice in some of our classes and we wanted to keep you informed. It is important that children are checked on a weekly basis so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly and before they are allowed to spread to other students. As there has been a reported case we suggest that you check your child's head as soon as possible. Follow the simple CHECK, TREAT, COMPLETE routine below to ensure you are doing your bit to keep head lice outbreaks to a minimum.

CHECK:

- Check your child's hair once a week.
- What to look for:
 - Small light or dark brown insects without wings
 - Tiny whitish eggs like grains of salt attached to hair shafts
 - There may be unusual itching on the head or neck and small red marks on the neck or behind the ears.
- Use a proper detection comb. A comb that has teeth no more than 0.3mm apart to trap head lice, and white in colour so they can easily be seen.
- If you find live head lice, consult a pharmacy for treatment advice.
- If head lice are spotted, take a look at all the family.

TREAT:

- Treat with a clinically proven treatment.
- Leave the treatment on for the recommended time for maximum effect.
- Extra precautions may include washing all bed linen, pillowcases and towels in hot water and tumble drying for 20 minutes on high. Other items that have come in contact with heads should also be thoroughly cleaned.
- Soak hairbrushes and combs in hot water for at least 10 minutes.

COMPLETE:

- Repeat the treatment for a second time seven days after the first treatment to kill any lice that may hatch during that time.
- Check that all head lice have gone within 2 3 days of the final application of head lice treatment.

Please ensure that you continue to check every few days as no single treatment is 100% effective and follow up treatment and checking is essential to break the cycle. Head lice can spread easily and treatment can be costly and time consuming for all concerned so your prompt attention to this issue is appreciated.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please contact the school for further information or to report a case of head lice.

Past Students

Whilst it is lovely to reconnect with our past students we request that permission is sought about them attending/on school grounds during school hours. It can be distracting for the younger students and they are unsupervised as staff are working with their classes.

Enjoy your fortnight. Ngaa mihi Desiree Smith

BOT NEWS

Resignation

At our recent BOT meeting held last Wednesday the BOT accepted Mrs Emma Vile's resignation. Mrs Vile and her family will be moving to the South Island. We would like to thank Mrs Vile for being part of Rotokauri School and wish her the very best of luck on her new adventure. Mrs Vile's last day at Rotokauri will be on Friday, 9th July.

Appointment

Mrs Mary Evans has been appointed as the new teacher for Room 1 for the remainder of the year. We thank Mrs Evans for taking on this role and look forward to welcoming her back to our Rotokauri School community.

ITM Sponsorship

The BOT would like to thank all the families that have signed up and participate in the Thomsons ITM Priority Partners Program. This program is their way of saying thanks for your business and supporting our local community. We have received a donation of \$2,010.00 so thank you to everyone that has nominated Rotokauri School as their partner in this scheme.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Enviro News

Penny the Postbox

Thank you to the students, staff, parents and community members that continue to support the school with putting pens etc in Penny the Postbox. Keep up the good work.

Food Bins

The food scrap bins have been re-installed at Rotokauri School. These can be found in the MPR, outside Room 3 and outside Rooms 7 & 8. We encourage students, staff and visitors to the school to use these so that our worms can be kept healthy. However, there are certain foods that cannot go into the food bins due to them not being good for the worms – oranges, lemons, limes, onions, garlic, chilli, dairy products such as cheese, fish, meat and bread.

Recycling / Reusing Plastic Bags

Food Frenzy Fridays, school lunches and class trips generate a lot of small plastic bags coming to school with money in. Please feel free to recycle / reuse these. Help yourselves from the containers in the student foyer.

Spare Clothes

We would encourage families to send children to school with a spare change of clothes in their school bag as we are finding students getting very muddy. Whilst it is fun and bound to happen with all the rain we have experienced recently it makes working in a classroom uncomfortable for the children and is difficult to keep the carpet areas clean.

Lost Property

As we head into the last few weeks of school please ensure that you are checking the Lost Property bin in the student foyer for missing clothing, shoes, lunchboxes, drink bottles etc. At the end of the term what is left in the Lost Property box will be given to charity. If the clothing has been named it will be given back to its rightful owner – so **please** name your child's clothing.

Collections

Staff are always on the lookout for equipment that will help in their lessons. We would like to collect washing powder scoops, yoghurt squeezy pouch lids and milk bottle tops. These can be left in the container in the student foyer.

Don't forget to keep bringing in your bread tag labels and giving these to Mr Robertson in Room 6. Mr Robertson thinks that we have collected enough bread tag labels to sponsor eleven wheelchairs. Amazing – keep it up.

ICAS Exams

ICAS exams will be held in Term 3. Exams offered this year are in Science, Digital Technologies, English, Spelling, Writing and Mathematics.

These **ONLINE** assessments are available for children in **Years 4 – 8** and are aimed at students who are **ABOVE** in these areas or demonstrate ability.

This year, parents are able to register and pay for their child's assessments online through the Parent Portal. Please email Jaimee Carter if you would like further information about the ICAS exams, sitting dates and information on how to register your child. **REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 9 JULY.**

Junior Tough Guy and Gal Challenge

The conditions are perfect for a very muddy Junior Tough Guy and Gal competition today. Rotokauri School has 51 students competing in this popular event. A big thank you to our parent helpers today. Good luck everyone and have fun getting dirty!!

Agricultural Day

We have decided to go ahead with this event to be held at Rotokauri School as in the past. More details will follow next term but for now so you can mark your calendars, Ag Day - Wednesday, 20 October, Group Day – Tuesday, 26 October and Show Day – Thursday, 28 October.

Term Dates

Term 2 finishes on Friday, 9 July 2021

Term 3 starts on Monday, 26 July and finishes on Friday, 1 October 2021

Term 4 starts on Monday, 18 October and finishes on Wednesday, 15 December 2021

CELEBRATIONS

At our Week 6 & 7 assemblies the following children received certificates.

Assembly Awards

Week 6

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment	
Room 1	Taj Judge	For showing the value of active learning. You love to learn and will always try to do better.	
Room 1	Eason Lu	For showing our school value of courage. You are always willing to try new experiences even if they are difficult or scary.	
Room 2	Druvi Patel	For consistently trying her very best in everything she does at school. Keep it up Druvi.	
Room 2	Teagan Mancer	For consistently trying her very best in everything she does at school. Keep it up Teagan.	
Room 3	Ella Wen	For consistently showing the value of active learning. You always put in a great effort, ka pai Ella!	
Room 3	Hannah-Leah Warbrick	For consistent effort in everything you do, you are an amazing role model!	
Room 4	Mackenzie Moroney-Pearson	For being a great member of Room 4 and working hard in all areas.	
Room 4	Nicky-Rose Hoebe	For being a great member of Room 4 and working hard in all areas.	
Room 5	Jiya Prajapati	For demonstrating active learning in Maths using confident strategies and winning the class competition.	
Room 5	Carlos Marks	For the positive approach to his learning and achieving wonderful outcomes. Be proud Carlos.	
Room 6	Nirav Maharaj	For consistently using our class talk moves during all learning times.	
Room 6	Maddix Anniss	For your quiet and focused approach to learning this week.	
Room 7	Jett McFall	For being an active learner and getting involved in all his learning. You have written an excellent information report on Earth. Well done!!	
Room 7	Jay Williams	You have shown a great effort to complete all set work. Your work ethic has been amazing and you should be proud of the work you are presenting.	
Room 8	Bella Wilson	For fantastic writing this week - brilliant use of emotive language.	
Room 8	Ciaran Williams- Thomas	For outstanding work in your space inquiry and writing - congratulations!	

Week 7

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment	
Room 1	Beauden Whittle	For the positive way he approaches all his learning activities. Awesome!	
Room 1	Violet Short	For listening so carefully and taking such pride in her learning tasks.	
Room 2	Paige Robinson Hastings	For your learning in maths this week about the teen numbers. It is great to see you having fun while you learn.	
Room 2	Ruby Wilson	For your awesome progress in reading. You are working hard.	
Room 3	Kayden John	For amazing progress with your reading, you are a superstar!	
Room 3	Hugo Hodgson	For great self-management, you certainly are an active learner!	
Room 4	Leelyn Clark	For fantastic reading every day this week. Keep it up!	
Room 4	Kade Calnan	For your efforts in reading this week. Keep it up!	
Room 5	Ryan Russell	The extra effort you are putting into your work, great active learning.	
Room 5	Reece Calnan	A great improvement in your attitude towards learning and demonstrating the Rotokauri value of active learning.	
Room 6	Regan Bennett	For achieving 100 days consecutive reading. Well done!	
Room 6	Acacia Barham	For achieving 100 days consecutive reading. Well done!	
Room 7	Timothy Sumner	For showing great empathy and asking someone to be your buddy. You have been focused this week on all your learning.	
Room 7	Charlie Jones	You showed great resilience during our volume and capacity unit and worked well with your buddy. You made some awesome noticings, wonderings and understandings.	
Room 8	Aditya Raju	Being an active learner and developing your animal and food sources for your planet.	
Room 8	Bridgette Donny	Doing a fantastic job of looking after our classroom - thank you so much.	

Values Awards

Week 6

Elsie van Rooij	Room 4	For showing the school value of Active Learning.
Olivia Thorpe	Room 4	For showing the school value of Active Learning.
Holly Hoebergen	Room 6	For showing the school value of Active Learning.
Nirav Maharaj	Room 6	For showing the school value of Active Learning.

Week 7

Van MacDonald-Hooper	Room 2	For showing the school value of Active Learning.
Ada Westgate	Room 1	For showing the school value of Courage.
Lewis Surgenor	Room 8	For showing the school value of Active Learning.
Bianca Wallis	Room 7	For showing the school value of Active Learning.

Class Sharing Room 5

Anzac parade.

Shadows of marching shoulders down the street.

Medals of gold and silver shining in the rising sun,

in the night sky with the Scottish bagpipe blowing.

It was beautiful.

Then we did some praying to god.

Chloe G

Cat

Rat killer

Couch scratcher

Skull crusher

Bird eater

Dog runner

Flea bag

Food hogger

Cute attracter

High jumper

Flea catcher

Fur dropper

AND NEVER MESS WITH THE

CLAWS!!!!!

AND NEVER LISTEN TO THE CAT CALLS.!!!!!!!!



By Leon

Dragon

Fire breather Princess stealer Scaly skin Dangerous flyer Loud roarer Noisy flapper Grumpy hazard Gloomy and risky Bright red Lotion user Valley rat Disliked creature





TURTLE

BY CHLOE G

Green hard shell Crawls very slowly Through the deep dark sea Mouth shuts and opens

Webbed feet Many patterns Night crawler Bottom feeder



Remember Summer?

Remember summer? The summer sun shone and sparkled on the pavement.

Shells shone superb strips and shapes in the sand.

Sausages sizzled, causing me to salivate and search for the sauce.

The sun set softly on the seaside.

We searched for shellfish while we sat on a sandy bench.

We stopped to snack on sandwiches on the shore.

Shivering seagulls swooped side to side.

That was summer

We used the umbrella until we stopped the uv rays. Unusable umbrella unfortunately unfolds upside down.

Many magical memories were made melting marshmallows on the muggy fire.

I excitedly entered the water for an energising swim.

Writing really revolting rhymes.

Running really rapidly around the rugged rig.

That was summer.

Ryan K

Room 6

Alien Invasion by Nalei

Pew pew! Ready set attack, they're coming. The planet lit up like a gigantic ball of flaming acid. The dragon has awoken. We must be ready to fly through the galaxy as colourful as a shimmering rainbow, just about to explode into a million pieces. We are ready to invade this planet. The dragon sprung out like a huge spring. It was half water half fire. It was like a 3d movie but 100 times. It was horrifying.

The war had begun dun, dun, dun, dun! The invasion starts now ... we must watch out for the flying balls of acid! Spaceships 6, 9, 14,17 and 4 held back to fight the baby dragons. Half take the water dragons and half take the fire dragons and they left the rest up to me! I will be the one to save our planet. I will be known as the best amazing terrific hero.

The dragons kept spitting out flaming balls of acid. Me on the other hand was thinking of a master plan to save our planet. As I am telling everyone my amazing terrific master plan the others were fighting the water dragon. They are at the weakest point so now was the perfect time to knock them out.

Lasers were shooting out from the spaceships like shooting stars going at their fastest. We are also at our weakest point and they want to surrender, but no we must call the MOTHERSHIP!!!! Yes they will not be able to stop the gigantic ship that has millions of baby ships. They will finish up the invasion once and for all.

Oh no, what is happening? All ships are exploding into millions of pieces. We have no choice but to surrender. Our planet is about to be destroyed Our planet is so easy to destroy that I was amazed that I could destroy it with just a snap of my fingers.

The MOTHERSHIP has arrived ready to end this! This is our only hope, all the other ships have exploded into a million pieces. Chick chick boom is the sound they made when they exploded. Me and the commander of the MOTHERSHIP were the only ones left alive. We must end this war!

We will fire in 3, 2, 1 and fire, ka boom, crash, clatter, that's the sound of victory. We had ended it. The dragons exploded into heaps of tiny little specks that shone like a shining star shimmering brightly in the sky. This was the end and I mean the very end of the 2021 invasion. Now I am the best, best, best, best I think you get what I am trying to say I am the very best hero EVER!!!!!



The Not So Black Hole!!! By Holly

"Aaaaaaaa!" shouted Jack, the leader of the space team in his dented spaceship. He and 50 other people just got sucked into a not so black hole while exploring a new galaxy. What I mean by a not so black hole is that it was like a black hole, but when you looked at it your eyes glistened like pearls and the colours were like a neon rainbow.

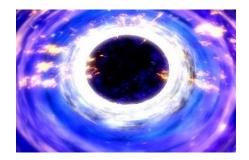
"WOW! What is that thing?" asked one of Jack's space members. Jack looked over in excitement, it was a human!!! "I wonder how they got here." Wait, so we weren't the first ones in this galaxy?" said another space member. "I guess not" said Jack. The floating figures crossed eyes were pitch black and terrifying to look at, plus a reminder to be very cautious.

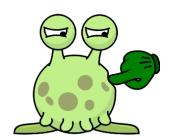
They carried on whizzing through the air to get far enough away so that they didn't get sucked back into the not so black hole again and go to another unknown galaxy. Will we be stuck here forever and ever and ever? All of the space crew started to look very nervous and concerned. No one had any idea what to do!!!

Everyone started to panic. Jack started to think, then he went to check the fuel. Oh no they were also running out of fuel!!! What else could go wrong now? He started to panic, but then things started to go uphill. They had emergency fuel and they had some old parts off of a broken rusty brown robot they retrieved last trip, so he had an idea. He found the parts and got to work.

A few days later they were running out of food and they were losing oxygen and water. They weren't going to last much longer, but there was still a little bit of hope. Jack was almost finished, he had built a time traveling machine. So he gathered everyone up, but they did not look hopeful one bit, their eyes were as dry as a desert and they were just skin and bone.

So they gathered together hoping it would work and send them back in time and it did!!! After a few tries they were so happy, but it took some time to recover for some.





Room 7 Inquiry on Space

In Room 7 this term we have been researching space and beyond. We have covered Galileo, the planets and creating our own planet. Here is an information report that Jay Williams has written on Saturn.

Saturnus the God of Sowing (seed)

Saturn is the most distant planet that can be seen with the naked eye. It is the fifth brightest object in the solar system. It is also easily studied through binoculars or a small telescope. All right if that was interesting you should read the rest of this report you might find other cool or interesting facts.



The Rings of Saturn

Saturn's rings are made out of billions of particles that are actually made from ice and rock and the particles are the size of a grain of sugar. The rings are said to be the carcasses of dwarf planets. Did you know that other planets have rings but they are much fainter they are Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune? It might be true but native could have seen the rings of Saturn like the Māori.

When Was Saturn Discovered?

Galileo Galilei discovered Saturn. He was the first to see Saturn in 1610 in Italy. He thought that there were two giant moons on either side of Saturn and two years later he viewed Saturn again and the moons disappeared. The moons disappeared because he was viewing the rings' edge so that they were invisible, but at the time, it was confusing to Galileo Galilei.

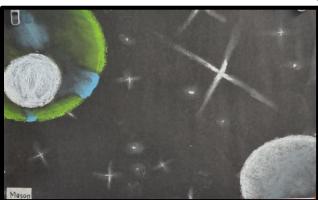
Another two years later he viewed it one more time and the moons were back he concluded that they were arms of some sort.

In conclusion, did you know that the rings of Saturn could be easily studied through binoculars or a small telescope I chose Saturn because of its interesting rings around it. I hope you enjoyed reading these interesting facts. I also hope that you learnt about the rings of Saturn and when Saturn was discovered. I wonder if we could ever walk on Saturn's rings.

Space and Beyond Art – Room 7









This week in Room 8.....

In Room 8 we have been thinking about what we would like our school to be like for children in 30 years. Here are some of our thoughts...

Huge pools and trees covering the sky. Bright grass and horses everywhere - Olly New classrooms, turf on the tennis courts, flowers and a bigger pool. Veggie patches, a greenhouse, solar panels and a path around the field. It feels safe and the air is fresh -

Mya A

A field of trees, with classrooms that are higher and can see above the tree tops - McKay



An eco-friendly school with solar panels and 2 layer classrooms - Bridgette Luscious trees, an extended carpark, a campfire, science classrooms, tech hubs, wind farm and solar panels - Jesse

New entrance that has a roof, new gates, more space, a bigger swimming pool that has heating, astro turf court and gymnasium, more modern classrooms - Matthew More trees, classrooms painted in bright colours, veggie gardens, flowers, bees, a sheltered area, a bigger swimming pool, another carpark - Hannah Bright colours, bigger buildings, more students. Birds chirping and students giggling. The smell of food coming from the school café - Levi

What do you think you would see, hear, feel, smell at our school in 30 years?

Looking to build new? Please contact your local Waikato Specialist

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