Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 2

27 February 2014



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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 our students in learning.

ROTOKAURI SCHOOL VISION

We are responsible, confident learners and communicators.

ROTOKAURI SCHOOL VALUES

Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Persistence and Excellence.

MATHLETICS

After 6 months of informing the community and trialing the Mathletics programme with the students we are now underway in the classrooms. Well done to all the parents who decided that an investment of \$20 would pay dividends in terms of supporting your child's learning at home. With Maths being Rotokauri Schools focus for 2014 this programme will support our Maths teaching and learning. For new parents and those that may have missed previous newsletters there is still an opportunity for you to support what is happening inside the class by paying \$20 per student at the office.

COOL SCHOOLS

During the holidays the staff had an in-service day in which we underwent an intensive tuition programme for Cool Schools. It was one of the most enjoyable courses that I have ever attended because I could see that empowering students in the art of dialogue and communication is something they can use for the rest of their lives. A couple of people have asked what Cool Schools is. Cool Schools is a peer mediation programme that encourages peaceful conflict resolution in schools throughout New Zealand. The initial idea for Cool Schools started back in the 1980s. The programme was developed with collaboration between the Peace Foundation, students and Teachers Education for Peace and the Mobile Peace Van. The idea of using a simple mediation process to solve problem was sparked by the popular book 'The Peace Foundation'. It was children themselves who saw the wider vision and were responsible for introducing the concept into the classrooms. Thirty years later there are over 420 schools involved in Cool Schools. Our school will be searching for senior mediators over the coming weeks. Being a mediator is an absolute privilege because it is the mediators who hold the destiny of the programme in their hands. Students that are selected for the role of mediator will receive special training from Christina Barruel. Christina will also run a parent meeting on Thursday, 13th March from 7 - 9 pm. This mediation approach can also be used within the family unit as an effective way to solve disagreements amongst siblings.

EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE

We had the pleasure of having the Education Review Office in our school last week. I had the opportunity to join them in the classrooms and observe lessons. The thing that really struck me was how engaged our students were in relation to their learning. We are lucky at our school that we spend time on teaching, not managing students. This all has to do with our school values and promoting a positive learning environment. We expect to get the ERO report in March and then we will proudly publish the findings in full to you. A special thank you to the parents who spent time talking to the review officers while they were on site.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

We have expressed the importance of Parent Teacher relationships on a number of occasions. When students see parents taking an active interest in their education they statistically do better. We are lucky that we always get a good response to parent teacher evenings and this in turn impacts positively on student's attitudes and performance. Thank you for taking the time out to see our teachers last Tuesday.

GIFTED AND TALENTED QUESTIONNAIRE

A big thank you to all the parents that took the time to fill in the Gifted and Talented parent questionnaire. The information from these questionnaires provides our teaching staff with valuable insights about your children. Our school defines gifted and talented students as those learners who have the potential for outstanding performance and achievements in a wide range of areas including - general intellectual ability, creative thinking, social leadership skills, visual and performing arts, physical and sporting ability, social and emotional, spiritual, cultural knowledge and skills of manaakitanga (hospitality), wairuatanga (spirituality), kaitiatanga (guardianship of knowledge), mataauranga (knowledge), tohungatanga (expertise in curriculum and non-curriculum areas), tikanga (behaviour through protocols, customs and rituals that demonstrate values). By the end of term one staff will have worked through the guestionnaires from parents and supporting school data to identify those students who will be included in our Gifted and Talented school register. Teachers will then plan and implement programmes to support and extend these students. In many cases, this will take the form of differentiated/extension learning opportunities within the classroom. There may be other times when these students are able to access options for extension outside the classroom, or inclusion into another classroom for a specific extension. We will also continue to give these students the opportunity to participate in ICAS competitions as we have done in the past. Parents will be contacted by letter for permission to be included in any additional programmes outside of their regular class programme.

Parents are encouraged to complete a Gifted and Talented questionnaire at any time during the school year, should they feel their child fits our school Gifted and Talented definition. These can be accessed on the school website or from Mrs Hollingsworth and should be returned to the classroom teacher.

If you require any further information about the Gifted and Talented programmes at Rotokauri School, do not hesitate to contact either Mrs Skiffington or Mrs Hollingsworth.

WEBSITE

Our website has been overhauled over the holidays to make it a more user friendly way of communicating with our community. Some of you may have had difficulty in searching for the website in the past but this issue also has now been resolved. To find our website just go to <u>www.rotokauri.school.nz</u>. You find that we have broken the website down into the following categories - About us, classrooms, general information, welcome, newsletters, how to contact us, Reading Recovery, Gifted and Talented Parent Questionnaire, school calendar.

This website will continually evolve over the next month with new areas coming online. Don't forget that we are also on Facebook.

YOU'VE GOT THE POWER SHOW

We had Elgregoe the Magician visit the school two weeks ago. He cleverly interwove magic tricks with beliefs on how we should treat one another. The main theme was about bullying and how students can empower themselves by following a simple strategy he called WITS:

- Walk away
- Ignore
- Talk to someone
- Stop I don't like this.

He also talked about students being careful about what they say about others. This show would not have been possible without the financial support of the PTA. Thank you PTA.

PTA

We have a very strong PTA that has worked tirelessly for years in its endeavor to support our school. The core of our PTA have children in the upper areas of the school and therefore they will not be with us next year. With this in mind PTA members are willing to help new members in a transition period leading up to their departure. This is a wonderful offer which people wanting to join the PTA should take up.

EFTPOS

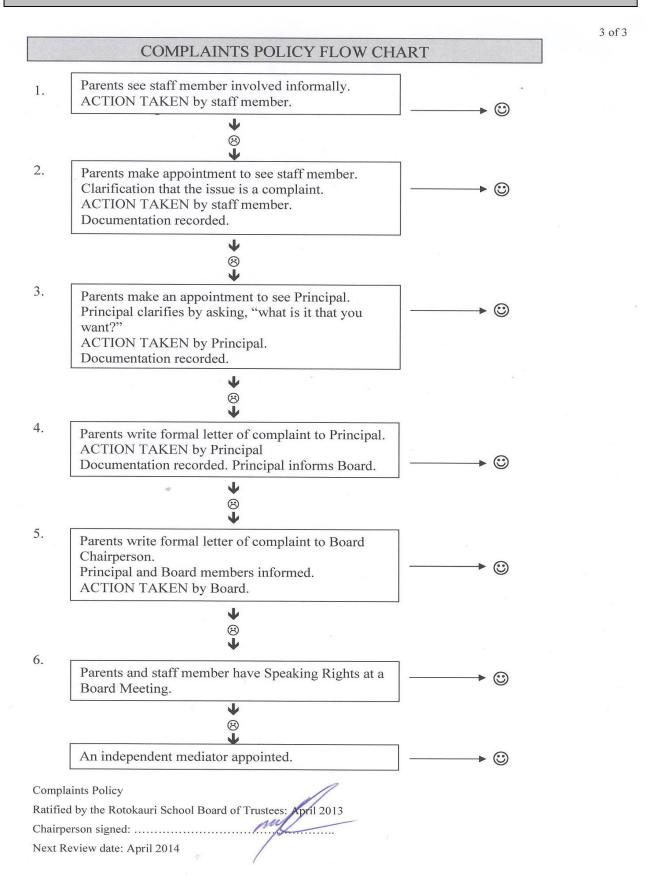
We have noticed an increase in people inquiring about eftpos at our school. This will be available from the office soon once the machine is installed and training undertaken. This will help parents to make the school donation of \$100 per child, plus all the financial transactions that take place during the year.

Thank you to all the parents who have already paid the school donation. Being a high decile school we do not receive the same amount of funding from the Ministry as low decile schools this means that we have to be prudent with how we spend each and every dollar.

CELLPHONES

A number of years back we asked our students to write a cellphone policy for the school. The seniors at the time were in agreement that cellphones were not required at Rotokauri School. This policy is still in place at our school.

COMPLAINTS POLICY



SUPPORTNET

Last year the Board made a decision to contract Supportnet as our IT provider. With their help we have established a really robust network that no longer has breakdowns. The students have appreciated this, as have the staff. We now have 95 IT devices in our school, which works out as a 1:2 ratio.

USE OF GROUNDS

We are a community school and therefore want people to feel they can use our grounds. Can we just ask that if you using the grounds that you don't put stakes into the ground, especially around the pool area. Recently somebody put a stake into the ground which ruptured a water pipe.

CLASS AND PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHS – 18 MARCH

Class photograph forms should have come home on Tuesday, 25 February. If you did not receive a form please contact the school office. If you would like to purchase photographs please have the completed form and payment to the office by 18 March. You can still place an order for a class photo after this date but the envelope and payment will need to be sent directly to Photolife Studios – the address is on the envelope. Portrait and sibling photographs must be paid before or on the morning of 18 March (while the photographer is here otherwise they do not know that a photograph is wanted). If you would like your school age children photographed together, please request a sibling envelope from the office.

HEADLICE / NITS

We have had notification from parents that their children are once again being affected by these pesky critters. Please make sure that you check your children's hair regularly and treat if required.

SCHOLASTIC LUCKY BOOKS

Lucky Book orders are due in on Friday, 7th March. Please return to the school office. Thanks.

INTERESTING QUOTES

How can you know where you are going if you don't know where you have been.

If you don't know where you are going, any road will take you there. Abraham Lincoln George Harrison

Rotokauri School Library Newsletter

Hi Parents/Caregivers

This year our library has some wonderful new additions:-

9 Student Librarians: Tommi Rae, Te Waiti Rawiri, Amber Belle, Thomas Perham, Hannah Hall, Zahra Warnock, Julius Spiers, Vanessa Campbell, Liam McLaughlin

Lunch hour openings – (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)

DVDs for the children to take home,

CDs for children to take home – this will happen later in the term

BUT with the additions comes rules and responsibilities that we would like the parents and students to understand.

1. If DVDs or CDs are damaged – it is full replacement

2. The DVDs or CDs must be returned the next class library

time, or at a lunch time (Wednesday, Thursday or Friday)

3. Any problems please discuss with Toni Rae

All DVDs and CDs will be checked before being able to go out for reissue.

If you would not like your child to be able to take DVDs or CDs out please let <u>Toni Rae know in writing</u>.



Afterschool at Rotokauri



Hi my name is Jordan Forlong. I went to Rotokauri School and now I am in Year 12 at Fraser High School. SInce I started Muay Thai Kickboxing 2 years ago I have become a regular competitor at events around NZ. I recently qualified to represent New Zealand at the World Championships to be held in Malaysia this May this year.

Through a **Muay Thai styled class** I would like to pass on to others the skills and discipline I have learnt. It will provide an opportunity to improve your fitness, increase your self-discipline and grow in confidence. All student will be asked to sign a participation agreement which includes a committment to use Muay Thai within the class and recognised competitions only and not for violence.

This class will be open to both Rotokauri students and parents. Classes will run **once a week** during school term on a weeknight at 6pm and cost **\$5 per lesson** payable each week. If there is enough interest we hope to start classes in March, **beginning with a free introductory class.**

INTERESTED IN KICKBOXING CLASS?

Text me on 0275482572 or email me at bagustboy@icloud.com

VOCAL TUTOR

Zoe Termaat - Private, one on one vocal tutor Contactable by phone: 022 165 8468 or email: <u>zviolet.termaat@gmail.com</u> Teaching from: Claudelands Anyone interested, please contact me and I will send through a copy of my portfolio, available hours and pricing details.



Every week you save, you could win

your share of \$10,000.

We want to help teach kids the value of saving each week. Every week that they deposit from as little as \$1 into their ASB Headstart account they'll go in the draw to win a \$20, \$50 or \$100 cash prize. This is sure to fast track their savings and get them closer to their goals. Whatever they may be.

The competition runs from 27 January to 14 April, then again from 5 May to 25 June. Deposits can be made through ASB's school savings programme, internet banking (or other electronic method) or at your local ASB branch.

To find out more, contact your school office.

Terms and conditions apply. See asb.co.nz/schoolbanking for details

ASB Bank Limited 56280 12939 0114



Knowing how make better f					19.1
Breakfast Ce	ereals	WEETBIX	NUTRIGRAIN		(entre
	Per serve	Per 100g	Per 100g		
Energy (kj)	444	1480	1600		
Protein (g)	3.6	12.0	21.9		
Fat					Loughbor 10m of
- Total (g)	0.4	1.3	0.6		Less than 10g of total fat per 100g
- Saturated	0.1	0.3	0.1		
Carbohydrate - Total (g)	20	67	69.4	~	
- Sugars (g)	0.8	2.8	32		Less than 15g of sugar per 100g
Dietary Fibre (g)	3.3	11.0	2.7		
Sodium (mg)	84	280	600		More than 5g of fibre per 100g
Potassium (mg)	102	340	147		Hore ber 100P
1 07	3.0	10.0	10.0		44





Te Kowhai Junior Rugby

ATTENTION ALL PLAYERS, PRESENT AND NEW COMERS Junior Rugby Muster Grades 6-13

You don't have to be a Te Kowhai student to play, just aged between 4-12 years. ALL WELCOME!!!

2014 JUNIOR WEIGH IN

- Venue: Te Kowhai Primary School Pavilion
- Date: Sunday 2nd March 2014
- Time: 10am Weigh-in
 - 11.15am Draft Team's Announced

New players: Please bring a copy of your birth certificate or passport for your player registration.

Uniform:

- Your child will need boots and a mouth guard.
- Rugby Shorts, Shirt, Training Jacket (junior teams) and Socks will be provided.

If you have any questions or are unable to make the above weigh in and would still like to play for our club please phone or email your interest. We will be able to reserve your place in a team and advise additional open weigh in times if necessary.

Please also let us know if you are able to assist with Coaching or Managing.

Kerry Watkins	Amanda Geddes		
Code Convener			
0274 928 546	021 038 9877		
linda.kerry@xtra.co.nz	thegeddesfamily@xtra.co.nz		

Sponsors of the

Rotokauri School Coromandel Fishing Tournament



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