# Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 9 16 June 2022

# Congratulations

Our peer mediators were recently presented with their peer mediator badges which they are wearing with pride.



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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

#### **WELCOME**

Nau mai, haere mai ki te kura o Rotokauri. Welcome to the new students that have started at Rotokauri School recently: Isla Cowley – Room 1.

We hope you and your whaanau/family enjoy your learning journey at Rotokauri School.

Ngaa mihi nui.

# PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

#### **Support Staff Appreciation**

Last week we acknowledged the important contribution that our support staff make to our learners, our school and the wider community. We really appreciate Mrs Sharon Verstraten (Office Administrator), our teacher aides Mrs Raewyn O'Brien, Mrs Rhianna Moka, Ms Sarah Dyer and Mrs Cherie Moroney, and our caretaker Mr Hans Verberne. We are very privileged to have these people on our staff. We held a special morning tea to show our appreciation, gave them some special treats to enjoy, as well as classes creating thank you card. Thank you for going the extra mile to support the wonderful things we do in our school.

# **COVID Update**

Please continue to email me (<u>dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz</u>) as the first contact if your child is at home isolating or has tested positive. There are tracking and reporting procedures that are in place. Thank you for your support with this matter.

#### Matariki

In 2022, the Government has created a new public holiday for Aotearoa. The first public holiday to celebrate Matariki will be on Friday 24 June, therefore there will be no school this day.

As a school we will be participating in workshops based on Matariki on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Over the course of the two days classes will rotate around 4 activities each. We will share photos in our next newsletter.

Matariki is a special occasion as it is a time to reflect on the past year, celebrate the present and plan for the year ahead. We hope that this year's Matariki will lead us all towards new beginnings, good health and wellness.

#### **PUMs (Paid Union Meetings)**

Teachers in our school have been attending paid union meetings this week in the run-up to the re-negotiation of their collective agreement.

The teacher's union NZEI scheduled online meetings to minimize disruption to teaching and learning – thank you to our support staff and relievers for helping with supervision. Our school was able to achieve very little disruption while upholding the right of teachers to participate in their union meetings.

The meetings discussed their campaign, which aims to win smaller class sizes, more support for high needs students, better recognition of cultural skills, greater job security for our essential relievers and to fairly value and recognize teachers work.

#### IT Issues

It has come to our attention that there are a number of issues with the use of digital devices at school and at home that are of concern. The Board of Trustees have invested in devices at Rotokauri School and have put in place safety measures to protect our students. At the beginning of every school year students sign a Digital Citizenship contract, which they have discussed with their teachers. In school, technology violations have consequences whereby students are not to use digital devices for a period of time.

However, we have also noticed and heard stories about the students' use of technology at home. Of concern are the students coming to school tired due to the fact that they are on devices late at night, students bringing online discussions into the playground, students using racist language and discussing inappropriate topics. This is impacting some students' behaviour and learning.

We strongly encourage you as parents to spend some time talking to your children about safety on digital devices (phones, Smart watches, iPads etc), check what your children are doing and maybe put some boundaries in place.

Attached to this email is the NetSafe Parent Toolbox which has some brilliant ideas about how to keep your child safe and below there are some contacts which may be helpful.

#### **Contact Netsafe**

If you're concerned about the immediate safety of you or someone else, please call 111. If you want help or expert incident advice, you can contact us. Our service is free, non-judgemental and available seven days a week.

- Email <a href="mailto:help@netsafe.org.nz">help@netsafe.org.nz</a>
- Call toll free on 0508 NETSAFE (0508 638 723)
- Online report at <a href="netsafe.org.nz/report">netsafe.org.nz/report</a>
- Text 'Netsafe' to 4282

Thank you for supporting the school and your children to be safe.

Ngaa mihi

Desiree Smith

#### **BOT NEWS**

#### **Teacher Only Day**

The staff will be holding a Teacher Only Day on Monday 25 July. This is for professional development on the Pause Breathe Smile programme. Children will not attend school on this day, therefore Term 3 will begin on Tuesday 26 July.



Board of Trustees elections are coming up in September 2022 and we wanted to give everyone plenty of opportunity to think about standing for the Board.



#### What is a school Board of Trustees?

Almost all state and state integrated schools in New Zealand have a Board of Trustees. School board membership includes parent representatives, a staff representative and the Principal.

Who can become a trustee?

Parents, caregivers and people from the wider community can put their name forward to be on a school board during the Board of Trustees elections.

What do Trustees do?

The Board is accountable to its parents and community and for student progress and achievement.

Here are some specific things a board does:

- Sets the strategic direction and plans for the school and monitors the school's progress towards them.
- Monitors and evaluates student progress.
- Oversees the management of staff, property, finances, curriculum and administration.
- Ensures that the educational needs and aspirations of Maori learners, Pasifika learners and learners with special learning and behaviour needs are identified, planned for and met.
- Fulfils the intent of the Treaty of Waitangi by valuing and reflecting New Zealand's dual cultural heritage.
- Appoints and supports the Principal and assesses their performance.

#### What skills do trustees need?

Trustees are active leaders in their schools and need to work well in a team, ask challenging questions and have good communication skills. Boards need a balance of skills and experiences around the table to ensure effective processes for planning, monitoring, reporting and reviewing of the school's performances are in place.

#### What help do school trustees get?

New Zealand School Trustees Association provides free advice around employment and governance, support and resources. NZSTA also provides a variety of professional development opportunities for trustees.

#### How can I find out more?

- Attend a Board meeting. Contact Desiree to find out when these meetings are on.
- Ask a current Board member. Contact Desiree and she will pass your email on to one of the Board members – Paul Burt, Brad Kells, Ioana Manu, Rebecca Jackson.
- The below link provides further information as to what being a school Board member entails:
  - Community Member Guide to the Role of the School Board of Trustees

Attached to this newsletter is a guide to being a member of the Board.

In preparation for the BOT online elections, the Principal will be sending out an information gathering sheet for each caregiver/parent that is on file – the information that needs to be gathered is – name, email address and phone number. Please complete these and return to the school office promptly.

#### **Carpark**

Yesterday the local council were at Rotokauri School monitoring the pick up and exit procedure of our school. We await some feedback from them.

Thank you to those families and whanau that are ensuring that our students are safe at all times.

#### So what can you do?

- Cross at the patrolled crossing with your child, NOT further up or down the street
   be a good role model.
- If asked by a staff member or road patroller to move your car, please do so immediately.
- Be patient and be kind towards one another.
- Consider where you are parking think am I blocking students and parents from getting to their vehicle in a safe manner.
- Obey the road rules and consider what your behaviour is modelling to others, especially the students.
- Sadly, the staff have observed an increase in parents using their mobile phones while driving. Distracted drivers are a serious risk.
- An ongoing reminder to parents, grandparents and anyone else who is authorised
  to pick up your children not to get out of your car in the pick up and drop off zone.
   If you have to leave your car to collect or drop off your children, you are required
  to park your car in the visitor car park.
- In the pick up and drop off zones, children should exit the car to the left of the vehicle and have their bags close at hand. This is a quick stop area so that the vehicles flow smoothly through.

As a school we are **absolutely committed** to keeping all pedestrians, *especially children*, safe.

As an adult and / or the driver of a vehicle, we ask that you stop and take responsibility for your actions.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **Great News**

It gives me great pleasure to announce to our school community that Whaea Ariana and her partner Amoni have a beautiful little girl.

Kora Stacey Pali Maile was born on 10<sup>th</sup> June, weighing 6lb 11oz. Congratulations to the family.



# **Reading Logs**

Congratulations to the 108 students that have made it onto our Reading Celebration Wall in the student foyer. Keep up the great work.

We have read 25 nights = 30 students We have read 50 nights = 24 students We have read 75 nights = 18 students We have read 100 nights = 21 students We have read 125 nights = 12 students We have read 150 nights = 2 students I have read 175 nights = 1 students

Our goal is to get ALL students at Rotokauri School on our Reading celebration wall – please help us to achieve our goal.

## **CELEBRATIONS**

### **Assembly Certificates**

#### Week 5

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Room 1	Wilson Fisher-Murray	For making great efforts to be an active learner.
Room 1	Chloe Moka	For working hard to learn her sounds in class.
Room 2	Arlo Clarke-Gray	For showing the school values. You should be very proud of all your efforts this week.
Room 2	Ryan Bhagat	For your progress in maths. You're being an active learner.
Room 3	Van Macdonald-Hooper	For taking on feedback positively and making improvements in your letter formation.
Room 3	Anthony Williams	For your great enthusiasm towards your learning. You are an active learner and listener.
Room 4	Mahi Sharma	For working hard in writing. Well done.
Room 4	Turner Wallace	For working hard in writing. Well done.
Room 5	Jaide Zillwood	For your active learning with your basic facts, well done.
Room 5	Mackenzie Moroney Pearson	Great active learning this week, particularly in your writing.
Room 6	Ernie Young	For being an active learner by sharing your excellent prefix and suffix words with the class.
Room 6	Nature Aitchison	For being a leader by working hard on your group choreography for our Samoan dance.

Room 7	Regan Bennett	For creating an amazing piece of persuasive writing and using your talk moves during class discussions.
Room 7	Guy Johnstone	For being an active learner by sharing ideas with others and working independently.
Room 8	Addison Jennings	For showing courage and sharing your ideas in our class discussions.
Room 8	Lachlan Emslie	For your excellent scientific explanation of how nuclear bombs work.

# Week 6

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Room 1	Cooper Wiseman	For showing great focus when working at his group table.
Room 1	Harper Moka	For sharing her sounds knowledge in class.
Room 2	Kayla Van Rooij	For your effort in writing and beginning to use adjectives.
Room 2	Casey Mancer	For your progress in spelling and writing. Keep up the hard work.
Room 3	Rydge Shortland	For having an amazing week adapting to new classroom routines.
Room 3	Talia Hefferon	For asking a range of questions during shared reading.
Room 4	Kaylee Quinlan	For understanding improper fractions. Well done.
Room 4	Maddox Stratford	For being a superstar and bringing his reading log, home learning book and book bag to school every day. Well done.
Room 5	Shaan Judge	For your great attitude to learning, well done.
Room 5	Hugo Spencer	For providing great explicit instructions for making an ice cream sundae, you achieved what you wanted.
Room 7	Acacia Barham	For creating an amazing piece of persuasive writing and showing kindness towards others.
Room 7	Caleb Jacobs	For showing courage to work through tough fraction problems and using onomatopoeia in his writing.
Room 8	Zephyr Rhind	For being an active learner and completing your 'would you rather' writing to a high standard.
Room 8	Madson Garden	For showing excellent leadership and encouragement to others during our gymnastics lessons.

#### **Values Vouchers**

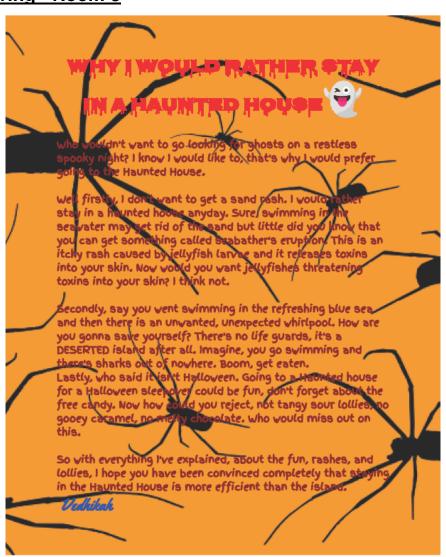
#### Week 5

Violet Short	Room 2	For showing the school value of active learning.
Casey Mancer	Room 2	For showing the school value of active learning.
Annalise Briggs	Room 5	For showing the school value of active learning.
Charlie Jones	Room 7	For showing the school value of active learning.

#### Week 6

Kaylee Quinlan	Room 4	For showing the school value of respect.
Anna Haldane	Room 4	For showing the school value of active learning.
Ava Viljoen-Thomson	Room 8	For showing the school value of active learning.
Riley Boswell	Room 8	For showing the school value of active learning.

### **Class Sharing - Room 8**



# HAUNTED HOUSE

doors slamming, wind howling, thunder and lightning crashing and lighting <u>UP THE SKY, WHO WOUL</u>DN'T WANT TO SPEND A NIGHT AT A HAUNTED HOUSE?

FIRSTLY, WHO WOULD WANT TO BE STRANDED ON A DESERTED ISLAND FOR A WHOLE WEEK? THERE WOULD BE NO FRESH WATER, NO FOOD AND NO FRIENDS AND THINK IF THERE WAS FOOD, THINK HOW WOULD YOU GET IT? A HAUNTED HOUSE WOULD BE WAY BETTER. BESIDES, YOU WOULD BE SLEEPING FOR MOST OF IT ANYWAY.

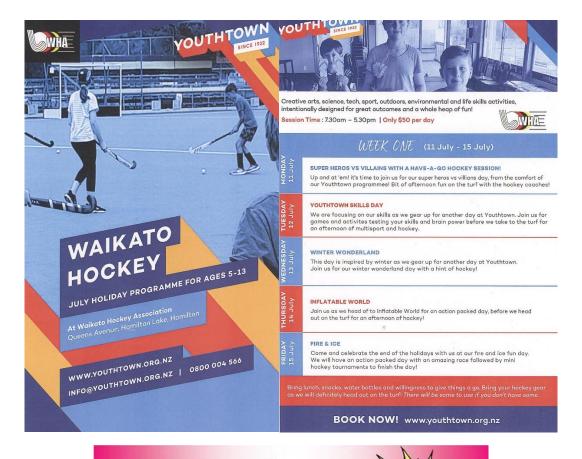
SECONDLY, IN A HAUNTED HOUSE YOU'LL HAVE A COZY BED AND A ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD, NONE OF THAT WOULD BE ON A DESERTED ISLAND. IT WOULD BE SWELTERING AND YOU WOULD GET AN EXTREMELY BAD SUNBURN. IF YOU TRIED TO COOL OFF IN THE OCEAN, JUST IMAGINE SALT WATER BURNING IN YOUR EYES LIKE HOT SAUCE, JELLYFISH STINGING YOU AND CRABS SLICING AT YOUR FEET LIKE WOOD CHIPPERS MAKING LOGS MULCH AS YOU SPRINT AWAY FROM THE DEADLY WATER.

LASTLY, IMAGINE THUNDER AND LIGHTNING ECHOING THROUGH THE LEAFLESS TREES, FLOOR BOARDS CREAKING AS GHOSTS ROAM THROUGH THE HALLS AND PLAYING HIDE AND SEEK WITH CASPER. HOW FUN WOULD THAT BE? BUT AT A DESERTED ISLAND THERE WOULD BE POISONOUS SNAKES, VENOMOUS SPIDERS AND DEADLY BERRIES THAT CAN KILL YOU WITHIN MINUTES OF EATING THEM AND WHO WOULD RESCUE YOU FROM THAT SLOW, PAINFUL DEATH?

SO AFTER ALL THIS, I AM SURE YOU WOULD RATHER SPEND A NIGHT AT A HAUNTED HOUSE WITH SCOOBY DOO THAN A WHOLE WEEK AT A DESERTED ISLAND.

YOURS SINCERELY

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Offering

The PARENT SURVIVAL KIT

# PARENTING COURSE

- Do you find yourself yelling at your child more often than laughing with your child
- Do you feel you have lost touch with your child
- Do you feel frustrated and find yourself saying the same things over and over again with no result

#### **TOPICS COVERED**

COMMUNICATION CHOICES/CONSEQUENCES COMPLIANCE
EMPATHY SIBLING RIVALRY TEENAGERS AND BOUNDARIES
SETTING LIMITS TEMPERAMENTS ARE YOU DOING TOO MUCH
PERSONALITY TYPES PRAISE VS ENCOURAGEMENT QUALITY TIME

IDEAL FOR GROUPS INDIVIDUALS OR A BUNCH OF FRIENDS



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WINZ ASSISTANCE WHERE APPLICABLE









We build quality custom fiberglass pools, water features and spas on site to any size and shape. We also refurbish pools. Other services we offer include concrete, retaining walls, pipe testing, block walls, fencing, decks and tiles.





