Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 2 28 February 2013

Writing from Room 5

LARRY O'LOAD

The funniest kid in our whole road
Is the boy next door, Larry O'Load.
He always wears big muddy shoes
And his favourite hobby is to snooze.
But there's something special about Larry O'Load
When it comes to shooting he's no toad.
With his hat and clothes and strange hairstyle
He beats us lot by a country mile.

By Julius Spiers - Room 5

A DAY AT THE BEACH

I can see the big bright sun shining over the blue waters. The sand is sparkling like lights on Christmas Day. The soft frothy waves crash down on my feet as I walk along the shore line. The seagulls are diving and splashing as they try to catch their breakfast in the hot summer sun. I can see the mountains in the distance standing tall and proud as the sun beats down.

By Daniela Henderson - Room 5

Bob McYoad

The funniest kid in our whole road
Is the boy next door, Bob McYoad.
He always wears funky sunglasses
And his favourite hobby is taste testing pastas.
But there's something special about Bob McYoad
When it comes to mysteries he can crack the code.
With his rainbow hat and strange hairstyle
He beats us lot by a country mile!

By Zahra Warnock - Room 5

ROTOKAURI SCHOOL 462 Rotokauri Road R D 9 HAMILTON 3289 Telephone (07) 849 5068 Fax (07) 849 4371

Email: office@rotokauri.schoolzone.net.nz

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.

SCHOOL COUNCILLORS ELECTED

On Friday, the 15th of February a group of 15 confident, proactive senior students presented speeches to the Senior School, Year 4-8 students. The speeches were persuasive as the students wanted to sell themselves so that they would get voted in.

Congratulations to all of these students for having the courage to try out for the Student Council.

The four students who received the most votes were:

- Simeon Kahuroa
- Paige McCollum
- Robbie Potter
- Te Waiti Rawiri

These four students are our Student Council for 2013. Their job is to work in the interests of all students at Rotokauri School. In the next few weeks they will design and present a questionnaire to the students to gather information about what the students would like to happen or change in 2013.



IT'S COOL TO BE KIND SHOW - (Anti-Bullying Show)

On 13th February, Marty captivated our children with his stories and antics. He used humour to cleverly illustrate how to respect others and treat them with kindness. He involved children in the show. The audience were delighted when he sprayed the children with a water gun.

Marty's personal bullying stories clearly illustrated that bullies are not cool and get a bad reputation that sticks.

This show really reinforced our value of RESPECT and our school procedure for dealing with bullies. He told the children it was important to tell a teacher first and then tell your

parents.



PONDER ON THIS LIST OF "MOST" AND "GREATEST"

The greatest joygiving.

The most satisfying work....helping others.

The most effective sleeping pill....peace of mind.

The greatest "shot in the arm"....encouragement.

The most powerful force in life...love.

The two most power-filled words...I can.

The greatest asset...faith.

The most beautiful attire...a smile.

The world's most incredible computer...the brain.

The most endangered species...dedicated leaders.

Our greatest natural resource...our youth.

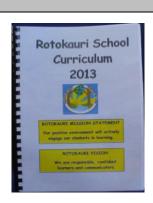
The most valuable example...integrity.

(STA News January/February 2013)

ROTOKAURI CURRICULUM 2013

We are very pleased to have revised and published this year's Rotokauri Curriculum.

It is a working document and is based on The New Zealand Curriculum 2007. It is a resource for teachers to use and contains information such as how the school operates, what is taught, policies, planning templates etc. If you are interested in reading the Rotokauri Curriculum, a copy is on display in the office foyer.



SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

It has come to our attention that there have been incidents this year when our swimming pool rules have not been followed. Please carefully read these responsibilities if you are a key holder.

As a key holder you will need to show some personal responsibility when using the pool.

If you feel you cannot fulfill all of the following, please do not ask for a key.

Key Holder's Responsibilities:

- 1. No persons under the age of 18 are allowed to be a key holder.
- 2. No glassware is allowed to be in the pool complex. Alcohol is banned.
- 3. Never leave children unattended in the pool for any reason.
- 4. No items in the pool are allowed that will damage the pump system.
- 5. Do not dive in the pool. The depth is not sufficient to allow for safe diving especially for adults.
- 6. No running around the school pool complex.
- 7. Make sure you lock the pool gate when you have finished.
- 8. Do not pass your key on for others to use.
- 9. Do you know resuscitation techniques?
- 10. Do you have a current first aid certificate?

Most importantly, please note that the Board of Trustees reserves the right to close the pool at any time, or to recall any keys at any time.

CAMP FIRE NIGHT AT THE SCHOOL - 15 MARCH

Last year we had our first camp fire night at school. It was an enjoyable, fun evening. Sleeping at school in a tent is an exciting experience.

If you have a tent, and are willing to supervise your own children and take responsibility for them, this is an ideal opportunity to camp out and spend time with friends. The other option, if you do not own a tent, is to attend for the camp fire / barbeque.

The overnight camp on the school grounds will take place on Friday the 15th of March. Please inform the office of your intention to come with your tent before Friday, the 8th of March.

Basic Progi	ramme
5.30 pm	Set up tents on the school field.
6.30 pm	People to bring their own barbeques/or bring things to put on school
	barbeque.
7.30 pm	Play a few sports and games. Take the children for a swim.
8.30 pm	Build a big group camp fire—Toast a few marshmallows—get a guitar, sing a few songs.
9.30 pm	Put the children to bed and then a bit of quality parent time around the camp fire.

MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

Thank you to all parents who were able to attend the Meet the Teacher Evening on Monday, 25 February. If you were not able to attend and require information about the way that your child's class operates, please approach the classroom teacher.

BASIC FACT-A-THON

Each year we do a fundraiser that involves the students doing or learning something. This year our main school focus is maths so we will be doing a Basic Fact-a-thon. This is a worthwhile fundraiser as the students are challenged to learn their basic

facts and are tested at the end of the timeframe to see the progress that they have made.

Knowledge of basic facts is essential to success in maths.

Sponsorship forms and the list of facts to learn were sent home on Wednesday, the 27th of February.

Please support and encourage your child to learn the basic facts and seek sponsorship to fundraise for the library.

WHOLE SCHOOL FITNESS TEST

All students will be fitness tested by Mr Goodson on Thursday, 28 February and Friday, 1 March.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTIONS 2013

We are seeking people to stand for the Board of Trustees election 2013. We are looking for people who can:

- Be learner focussed
- Ask questions
- · Be a part of a team
- Think creatively
- Crunch numbers
- Run a business
- Step forward!

Could all parents please ensure that contact addresses are correct for the office as we need to send nomination forms out to all caregivers. This is particularly relevant for separated parents or for those of you who have moved houses recently.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOT

We are all looking forward to 2013 and have lots of things happening around the school. We would like to wish Janice Skiffington all the best in her role as Acting Principal. Laser Plumbing have addressed the drainage issues at the school and we have also had the school buildings painted. The school is using the new computers and the children are learning a lot of new skills.

The term of a board of trustees (BOT) member is 3 years so elections are occurring this year. We require new board members, so if you think you are interested please approach a current BOT member or Sharon Verstraten. The board meets once a month at the school and also fulfills other roles outside this time. The current board members are: Darryl Yorke, Fiona Webber, Miranda Collinson, Janice Skiffington, Desiree Smith, Nick Spiers and Tim Dashfield.

We also require the services of a new minute secretary. The person is required to attend the monthly meetings and take and prepare minutes. We need someone that is from outside the school community and a person who has experience with Microsoft Word or similar software.

MĀORI CONSULTATION

Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting on the 19th of February. It was a very proactive meeting and we came away with some good ideas for our strategic goals. We have got a strong group of parents that are very helpful and have some great ideas that we can implement in the school. We have decided to set up an informal committee, so we can ask our parents for their thoughts, advice, ideas or help. In turn they can make suggestions and keep in touch with what is happening in the school. If you would like to receive these emails and you could not attend the meeting, e-mail me and I will put you on the list.

michael@rotokauri.schoolzone.net.nz

CLASS AND PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHS – 12 MARCH

Class photograph forms should have come home on Wednesday, 27 February. If you did not receive a form please contact your child's teacher. If they do not have the pre-printed form please call the office for a blank copy to be sent home. If you would like to purchase photographs please have the completed form and payment to the office by 12 March. You can still place an order after this date but the envelope and payment will need to be sent directly to Photolife Studios – the address is on the envelope. If you would like your school age children photographed together, please request a sibling envelope from the office.

HEARING AND VISION TESTING

Testing will take place on 22 March. Please read the information sheet at the end of this newsletter and on the notice board if you would like more information about the testing. If you do not want your child tested, please contact the school office.

TERM ONE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

27 February	Basic Factathon starts		
28 February	School Fitness Testing		
1 March	School Fitness Testing		
6 March	School Biathlon and Triathlon		
11 March	School Swimming Sports		
12 March	Class Photos		
13 March	Junior School Interviews		
15 March	Camp Fire Night Inter-school Swimming Sports at Ngaruawahia		
20 March	Union Meeting for Teachers 1.30 – 3.30 pm		
22 March	Hearing and Vision Testing		
23 March	Fishing Trip		
29 March	Good Friday – school closed		
April 1	Easter Monday – school closed		
April 2	Easter holiday – school closed		
April 15	Book fair this week Senior School Parent Interviews		
April 16	Senior School Parent Interviews		
April 17	Junior School Interviews		
April 19	Last day of Term 1		

MEDICATION POLICY

RATIONALE

Procedures are necessary to administer or supervise medication for students when it is impossible for the parent or caregiver to do so.

PURPOSES

To administer or supervise medication to students prescribed by a GP or Specialist – the first dose not to be given at school during school hours.

GUIDELINES

- 1. To ensure that all parents / caregivers and staff are aware of this policy by notification in school newsletter. (Send out after each review). Put in school brochure.
- 2. All requests will be on the "Parent / Caregivers Request for School to Administer /Supervise Medication" form and addressed to the Principal. Prior approval must be sought / given before any medication is administered / supervised. The Medication Agreement to be signed by the parent / caregiver.
- A register is maintained and will be signed each time medication is administered. It
 will be the parent / caregiver's responsibility to inform the school of any change in the
 student's medication and the previous agreement will need to be amended and then
 signed.
- 4. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that medication to be used at school is not past its use by date.
- 5. The medical practitioner's directions, included on the label of all medicines and on the Medication Agreement, will be followed.
- 6. Other treatment / medication given on an irregular needs basis are to have details entered in the Register when administered.
- 7. Senior students may keep their asthma inhalers and self-administer when necessary.
- 8. Medication of the type referred to in this policy will be stored in the fridge or in a locked cupboard. The key to which will be behind the door. The Medication Agreement will state that the amount of medication to be held at the school is one day / week's supply and it is the parent / caregiver's responsibility to supply the school, on a weekly basis, with the required medication.
- 9. Students requiring medication will obtain this from Sharon Verstraten at the time required in the first instance. However, if Sharon Verstraten is absent from school, the medication will be administered by the second person nominated by the school currently Raewyn O'Brien.
- 10. Medication will be administered / supervised by the delegated person / persons and witnessed by another adult.
- 11. The person giving the medication will note the time, date and quantity given, and sign in the Medicines Register.
- 12. If the medication is refused, or not taken this will be noted in the Register and the parent / caregiver contacted.
- 13. The school reserves the right to ask the parent to administer the medication.

CONCLUSION

Following these guidelines will increase parents' and staff members' awareness of their responsibilities to care appropriately for students needing medication at school.

COACHES NEEDED

We have got our netball team coaches all sorted. Once again netball is strong in our school thanks to a handful of committed parents. However, we have no football coaches yet. After one more week I will put club information in the newsletter as musters will be starting soon. Please email me if you can help: michael@rotokauri.schoolzone.net.nz

P.T.A NEWS

Did you know that every year the P.T.A gives \$200.00 to each classroom teacher to spend on equipment in their room (like indoor games) for the students'.

On Monday's the P.T.A. organises the bought lunches.

The P.T.A is not only about Fundraising to enhance our school but also about organizing social events like the school disco. We have some really exciting things organized for this year but we need a hand. We would like to have a few more fresh new members this year. We are a friendly team who work well together. Please come to our next meeting if this sounds like you, 27th March at 7.30pm.

EASTER BASKET RAFFLE

Thank you for the goodies that have already come in. We are however on the hunt for a few more to make it an exciting raffle. Big or small bring your goodies into the office, anything will be appreciated. Raffle cards will be sent home on the 8th of March.

AGM OF THE ROTOKAURI SCHOOL P.T.A

Our AGM will be held in the school staff room at 7pm on Wednesday 27th March 2013 with the PTA meeting following on at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

NO BOUGHT LUNCHES ON MONDAY, 11 MARCH

Please note that there will not be any bought lunches available on Monday the 11th of March due to the swimming sports being on that date.

Thank you from The PTA

FEES OWING

Thank you to the parents who have paid their fees so far. 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
- Rooms 2 & 3 only Newspaper in Education fee \$3.00 Room 2 / \$3.75 Room 3
- Year 7 & 8 students only Technology Fee \$100.00 per student per year

PARENT FITNESS SURVEY

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to fill in the Parent Fitness Survey. The winners of the \$75.00 Savage Rock voucher were Christine Nicholson and Dean Cuff.

APPS FOR LEARNING

I have been asked by parents for good ideas of apps for learning on ipads for their children. Below is a good range of ideas to choose from. Please select the apps that are age and level appropriate. Have fun learning!

Lisa Mitchell

Lieu villonon				
Purpose	Level			
Mail, docs	All			
Sequencing, brainstorming				
Make and personalise a book				
Purpose	Level			
Shared book, individual ipads	Yr 0-2 plus Spec Needs			
Shared book, individual ipads	Yr 0-3 plus Spec Needs			
Shared book, individual ipads	Yr 0-3 plus Spec Needs			
Shared book, individual ipads	Yr 0-3 plus Spec Needs			
Shared book, individual ipads	Yr 3-6			
Traditional tales - shared book, individual ipads (each story to be purchased (\$2.59 each)	All			
Purpose	Level			
Rhyming words, word families, spelling - focused on sounds of rhyming words,	All levels from Yr 2 as it is graded			
& words are written	- io gradod			
,	Year 1 and 2			
& words are written Rhyming words, word families, spelling				
& words are written Rhyming words, word families, spelling - focused on sounds of rhyming words	Year 1 and 2 All levels. Juniors - teacher directed up to Seniors - student			
& words are written Rhyming words, word families, spelling - focused on sounds of rhyming words Writing - publishing of text Letter and Number Identification -	Year 1 and 2 All levels. Juniors - teacher directed up to Seniors - student directed Juniors particularly N.E.			
& words are written Rhyming words, word families, spelling - focused on sounds of rhyming words Writing - publishing of text Letter and Number Identification - excellent printing support	Year 1 and 2 All levels. Juniors - teacher directed up to Seniors - student directed Juniors particularly N.E. Year 1 and 2 and ESOL Juniors particularly N.E.			
	Mail, docs Sequencing, brainstorming Make and personalise a book Purpose Shared book, individual ipads Traditional tales - shared book, individual ipads (each story to be purchased (\$2.59 each) Purpose Rhyming words, word families, spelling			

Maths Apps	Purpose	Level
Rover	Get onto Mathletics	All
Jungle Maths	Adding and Subtracting	Stage 1+
Maths, age 3-5	Sorting and Matching Counting Lines and Patterns Comparing Add and take away	Stage 0
Dottodot Numbers and Letters lite	Counting Forwards	Stage 1-2
Counting 1,2,3	Counting to 10	Stage 1-2
Math is fun: Age 3-4	All Strands	Stage 1-2+
Maths Frogs	Addition and Subtraction	Stages 1-4
Ladybird Maths	All	Stages 1-4
Motion Maths Zoom	Counting - Forward and Backward up to 50	Stage high 3-4+
Addition & Subtraction for Kids	Addition and Subtraction	Stages 3+
Measurement HD	Time Months Measures Scales Time - Analogue Clock	Stages 3+
School of Maths HD	Basic Facts	Stage 4+
PopMath Maths Plus	Basic Facts	Stage 4+
Traffic Lights	Place Value	Stage 4+
Splash Math-free version	Place Value	Stage 4+
Maths Martians HD: Times Tables	Times Tables	Stage 4+
Geometry 4 Kids	2D shapes 3D shapes Faces and sides Corners & Angles Symmetry	Level 2-4

Banana Math	Addition Subtraction Algebra Geometry Time ***Don't pay for the Money app - it is American	Levels 2-4
Maths Trainer	Basic Facts	Stage 6+
Chicken Coop Fractions Game	Fractions - converting fractions to a decimal on a number line	Stage 6+
Other		
'Te Reo Maori'	Maori Dictionary and Other resources linked to Te Whanake animations, Podcasts, T.V. etc - Use as a Shared teaching resource and individual Ipads	All Levels
NZSL Dictionary (New Zealand Sign Language Dictionary	You can type in a word - a dictionary comes up with the sign as a picture and also video of a person signing the word	All levels
'NZ Fauna"	Amazing App of New Zealand Animals, including birds, insects, shellfish etc. Includes information, videos, animal sounds etc	All levels

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.

Martin Luther King, Jnr.

CYCLE RACE

Hamilton City Cycling Club are holding their Club champs on the 9th March over a new road course that circles Lake Rotokauri and includes Exelby, Te Kowhai, Duck, Burbush and Rotokauri Roads. The races will start at approximately 9.00 am and finish early afternoon. Rotokauri School will be the base for the races.

Please be patient for the cyclists. We aim to cause as little disruption to residents / motorists as possible.

Phone Paul on 0272808205 for information.

INDIVIDUALISED LEARNING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

The University is presenting a twilight course for parents:

Individualised Learning for Boys and Girls 12 March, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

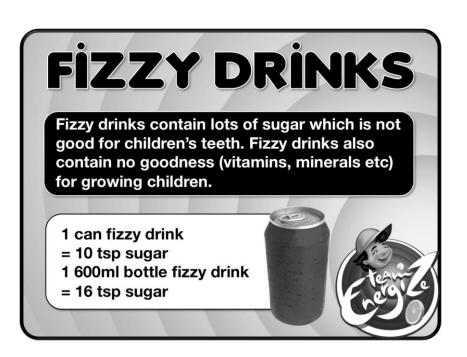
Cost: \$20

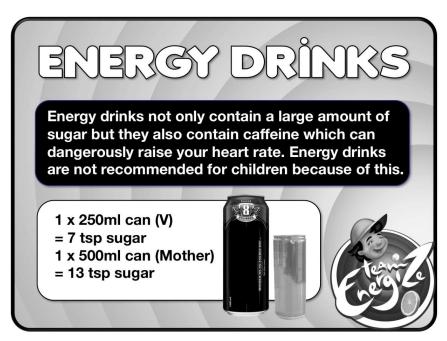
Venue: 144 Knighton Road (behind the Hamilton Education Resource Centre)

Please contact Sharon if you would like more details 07 8384655 or

sharons@waikato.ac.nz

The facilitator is Mike Scadden and I can personally recommend him as I have attended several of his courses. He is very entertaining, knowledgeable and practical.







Information sheet on hearing and vision checks in school

Vision Hearing Technicians from Rural and Community Services will be visiting our school.

The objective of the vision is to identify previously undetected hearing and vision defects.

Which children are routinely checked?

catch up screening for children who have not completed hearing and vision checks as part of their B4 school check children absent from previous visit, require re-tests or follow up in special circumstances, parents, teachers or others may request a hearing or vision check new immigrants

What tests are carried out?

Ears

audiometry – hearing test tympanometry – middle ear function test (only carried out when hearing test is not within a normal range)

Eyes

long distance vision tests – not a complete visual examination, but a simple screening test colour vision tests (Year 7 boys only)

NB All these checks are non-invasive, safe and should cause no discomfort.

The Vision Hearing Technician will:

notify parents of all test results enter results on ministry of education data base (ENROL)

The vision hearing technician will obtain personal details from the school i.e. names, dates of birth, ethnicity.

If the technician needs to contact parents or caregivers following the visit, addresses and phone numbers will also be required.

Community services may share this information with other health professionals involved in the children's care

If any parent or caregiver does not want their child to be checked, or their child is currently under specialist care for a hearing or vision defect, they should let the technician know by leaving a message with the school





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DANCE DANCE DANCE

Jodie Dooley's Dance School. Jazz Ballet and Hip Hop classes

If you have a 5 year old or a child turning 5 this year, come on over to the big Te Kowhai Hall on the Ngaruawahia Road opposite the Te Kowhai school on Wednesday afternoons at 3.30pm and join in with our Jazz Ballet classes.

Our Hip Hop dance class starts from the age of 8 (or tuning 8 by Dec 31st 2013) Hip Hop has become one of the most popular styles of dance since the movie Step Up. Come and join one of our groups and learn the fun and fast steps of Hip Hop.

We also have more Jazz Ballet classes available from the ages of 3 years old right up through high school.

All classes are held at the Te Kowhai Community Hall across the road from the primary school.

> Contact Jodie Dooley 8293299 or 02102560246 or visit the website at iodiedoolevdanceschool.co.nz

Discounted Gym Memberships available to ROTOKAURI SCHOOL PARENTS & STAFF















\$14.80 per week Normally \$17.80pw

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To book a tour contact Sherryn 07 849 6775 or 027 504 2070 sherryn@firstplacefitness.co.nz

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