

Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 11

14 August 2014

*Autumn, Winter, Spring
& Summer*

*Come and join the Rotokauri Tui
Soloists and Choir Concert*

as we explore

“The Seasons of our Lives”



*At the Te Kowhai Community Hall,
Horotiu Road*

Friday 29th August, 2014

At 6.30 pm

Entry by donation

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL
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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.

AMBASSADORS FROM CHINA

On Thursday 6th August we had 35 students from various Chinese Schools visit Rotokauri School as part of a special good will tour. Our senior students made personalised Kiwiana welcoming cards which I'm sure our visitors enjoyed. We are lucky that we live in such a wonderful country and it made us all feel very proud that we show them a couple of things that Hamiltonians are proud of (e.g. free flight aviary at Hamilton Zoo). We hope that this is just the start of a special rapport that we can have with a Chinese School. A special thank you to Mr Chai Zhikun who made this all possible. Thank you to our senior councillors and senior students who made themselves available to work with the ambassadors.

SENIOR COUNCILLORS – FANTASTIC AGAIN

Well done Crystal, Gemma, Taine and Te Waiti for the way you worked with our visitors. The Chinese visitors were impressed with the friendliness and maturity of our councillors.

Thank you to the parents who allowed their children to do a little over time.

THE STORK IS GOING TO BE BUSY!

There are exciting times ahead for Rotokauri School staff and their families. We are expecting double trouble in January. Jason and Victoria Ford are expecting their first child, while Paul and Linda Marsh are extending their family with a sibling for their 2 year old son Kyle.

There may be a race to the hospital for the ladies as they are due to have their babies a week apart, maybe it's time for another "Guess the Date" (times 2).

NIGEL LATTA

Many of you would have seen his latest series of programmes on TV. One of these was on education. Education has changed a lot recently and has to adapt to a very quick changing world. Students need a new series of skills to not only cope but flourish in this ever changing world. Teachers no longer control information and decide how this will be disseminated. Students are asked to think for themselves and problem solve. Teachers are far more skilled at giving students thinking strategies and questioning techniques. These are exciting times in education because students are now given more options as to the way they learn. Technology has meant everybody has the means to engage and learn at their own pace and in their own way. Students have become more proficient at explaining how they are learning. In a word, education has become more **relevant** to the learner. While some people may feel this disempowers the teacher it actually opens up so many more learning opportunities for a teacher to get alongside the students and learn with them.

One of the only problems in the education system at the moment is National Standards because it is so counterproductive to true/real learning.

Nigel Latta cleverly articulated the current changes in the New Zealand education system. The documentary can be found online at tvnz.co.nz (go to TVNZ on demand).

Quote from Nigel Latta

"It seemed to me that parents are really worried about what goes on in schools but I'm completely sold. Because you go into schools and you watch kids learning and they're actually learning and what's more they're actually enjoying it. So I think we can actually relax. Education is not just in safe hands but really passionate hands. People are really interested in helping our kids in preparing for a world that we don't even know what will be like yet".

SCIENCE SAYS YOU HAVE TIME FOR HAPPINESS

Smile - A 2011 study showed that thinking about something positive that makes you smile can actually make you happier. People that smile and are positive are known to live between 4-6 years longer.

Exercise - Physical activity boosts the brains release of endorphins (feel good neurotransmitters) that can improve mood and well-being.

Laugh - In addition to relieving stress, laughter can boost mood and reduce anxiety.

Perform an act of kindness - Do something nice for someone else today. Research shows that doing something for someone else makes you feel better.

Listen to happy music - Students who listen to happy music have elevated happiness moods.

Walk tall - People who walk tall and stride longer said they felt more upbeat compared to people that shuffled with their heads down.

All of the above has been well researched.

SUPPORTIVE PARENTS

Thanks to all the parents who support our school in a myriad of ways. Last week there were parents in supporting PMP, we had parents in helping to mark books and of course, helping with our sports teams and class trips.

EMAILING OF NEWSLETTERS

Next term we are going to email our newsletters to parents. This will hopefully enhance communication and save time and paper resources. Thank you to all the parents who have so far given their email addresses to Sharon. If you do not have access to a computer please let us know and we can continue with paper format in individual cases.

END OF TERM SHOW

We are lucky to have so many talented students at our school that just love getting up in front of an audience. Our classes have the opportunity to perform for an audience on Thursday, 25th September. The show will involve us transporting our students to Fraser High School for a practise session on the morning of the 25th September. **The cost per child is \$2.50 for the bus.**

TICKETS FOR END OF TERM SHOW

Fraser High School have told us that they have enough seating for 300 people in their hall on the evening of the 25th September. This year we are selling tickets to this event as a way of tracking numbers and to help cover expenses. The cost of tickets are: Adults \$5.00 and school age children / pre-schoolers \$2.00. **Students of Rotokauri School will be free.** Tickets can be purchased from the office from Monday, 1st September. We urge you to buy your ticket as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

CARSHOW

We are about to start the organisation for our 2014 car show on Sunday, 16th November. To make sure that we are up and ready to go we need to have a few co-ordination meetings. The first of these meetings will take place on Thursday, 28th August at 7pm in the school staffroom.

In the past we have found that handing out flyers (by placing them under the windscreen wipers of interesting cars) has proved to be a very useful advertising technique. If you see a car that is interesting e.g. vintage, sports car, race car, stock car, exotic, please put one of the enclosed flyers carefully underneath the windscreen wiper.

The other method of successful advertising is by word of mouth. Tell all your friends as this is a wonderful day out that helps to financially support the school.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP CAMP

The Board have given their permission for the Year 8 senior leadership camp to take place in the town of Coromandel from 16th – 18th February 2015. The camp will involve – canoeing, bush craft, fishing, mud walk and a number of other activities that will bring leadership qualities out of our students. Leadership is a skill that this school financially invests in yearly. This year the Board have agreed to put \$1,000 into this project.

WEBSITE

There's some pretty interesting material on our website. Click on Room 5 and see how students are using technology to support other student's learning.

Although we do a lot of consulting at this school there is still room for us to answer your questions on a more regular basis. Have a look at the question tab on the website.

FAMILY BIKE RIDE

Many of our families enjoy bike riding and have taken advantage of the many new bike trails that have been popping up around the central North Island. With this in mind we thought it may be nice to have a group ride on the new Rail Trail track between Waihi and Paeroa. I have completed this trail on a couple of occasions and the scenery is magnificent. The 21km track is suitable for riders of all ages, as it is mainly downhill. The idea is that we meet at the Waihi town train station on Saturday, 13th September at 11.00 am and ride back to Paeroa. There are a number of stops that can be made including cafes, wineries, historical gold mining sites etc. All you have to do is provide your own transport.

ABSENTEEISM

The Ministry of Education really pushes school attendance as a way of lifting achievement. There is a very strong correlation between attendance and academic achievement. Another school in Hamilton came up with some interesting statistics which we would like to share –

- A child who misses one day each week of school will have missed over one and a half years by the end of Year 8.
- A child who misses 6 days each term will have missed almost a year of schooling by Year 8.
- If a child is 10 minutes late every day, they will have missed 1 term by the end of Year 8.

LUCKY BOOKS

Orders with payment are due back at school by 22nd August.

AGRICULTURAL DEMONSTRATION DAY

Remember to come along to school this Sunday, 17 August at 1.00 pm if you are interested in finding out more about raising a lamb, kid goat or calf ready to show at Agricultural Day. Unfortunately, Avril will not be here as previously advertised but Brett Dyson (calf judge) and Linda Gorlicki (lamb judge who will also talk about kid goats) will be here in her place. Between them they will be able to answer any questions you may have. Please make the effort to attend as Brett and Linda are taking time out of their busy schedules to help you. Please call Sharon in the school office if you are going to attend the demonstration day - phone 8495 068 on Friday, 15 August.

AGRICULTURAL DAY ENTRIES

A notice and entry form was sent home last week. If you did not receive one please contact the school office. **Entries close on Thursday, 25 September** as we have to give our school's entry numbers to our co-ordinator on this day and paper work for the event is processed in the school holidays. **No late entries will be accepted.**

STORIES FROM ROOM 2

During last term Room 2 learned about fairy tales. The children wrote their own fairy tales and here are three of them:

Once upon a time there lived 3 little wolves. They built a home to live together. But a pig came along and blew the home down. They ran back to their mum and they lived happily ever after.

Kora

Once upon a time there lived three little sparrows. The sparrows lived in a nest in a tree. A strong gust of wind blew the nest down, down, down. The sparrows felt dizzy. A cat was wandering nearby. The cat sniffed. He ran and he saw the sparrows. They saw a tree and flew up into the tree. The cat climbed up the tree. So the sparrows flew up high away from the cat. The sparrows made a new nest and the sparrows lived happily ever after.

Ella S

Once upon a time there was three little goats. They lived on a farm. They went out the gate. They ran into the forest. They got lost. The farmer found them and took them home. They lived happily ever after.

Marama

MATHLETICS

What is your child doing and learning on Mathletics?

If parents go onto www.mathletics.co.nz/parents you will be able to get a weekly report that summarises your child's weekly Mathletics use and results.

Mathletics Trophy Winners

Week 1: Lewis Surgenor

Week 2: Isla Kahaki

Week 3: Baylee Montgomery

Mathletics Stars

Here is an update on our wonderful Mathletes who have been working hard on Mathletics and have earned themselves a gold certificate:

Room 4

Jessica Munro

Room 5

Vanessa Campbell

Olivia Woolerton

Sarah Teale

Room 6

Josh McLaughlin

Maia Campbell

Thomas Perham

Room 7

Cole Warren

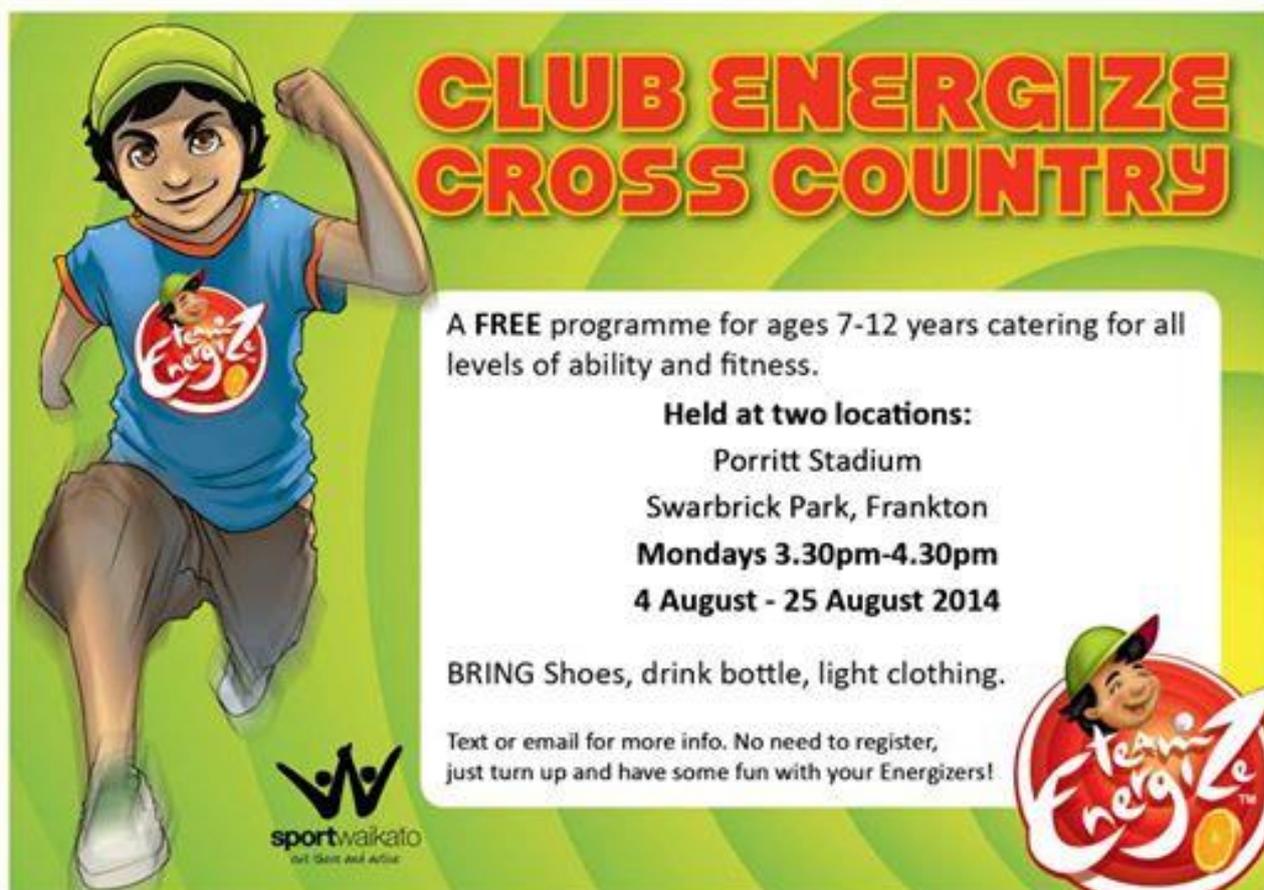
Sarah Miller

YEAR 3 & 6 POSITIONS AVAILABLE IN 2014

We were one of the first schools in Hamilton to set up an enrolment zone. This means we directly cater for our own geographic region. Once we have catered for our own students we can allow other students to come in, if there is space, through a ballot system. We now have space in our school for 3 x Year 3's and 3 x Year 6's. If you have friends with children who would like to join our school, please inform the school.

INTERESTING

Digital technology is central to young people's lives. 93% of 15-24 year olds are regular Internet users. The most prevalent online activity is social media. One study found that children that were bullied offline were 15 times more likely to be bullied online.



**CLUB ENERGIZE
CROSS COUNTRY**

A **FREE** programme for ages 7-12 years catering for all levels of ability and fitness.

Held at two locations:
Porritt Stadium
Swarbrick Park, Frankton
Mondays 3.30pm-4.30pm
4 August - 25 August 2014

BRING Shoes, drink bottle, light clothing.

Text or email for more info. No need to register, just turn up and have some fun with your Energizers!

 sportwaikato
Don't Quit and Active



RUGBY SEVENS – FLOW & FORMATION

Rugby Sevens is a fast and furious contest with high point scoring, hard hits and lung bursting sprints.



Athletes need protein for muscle growth, repair and recovery. Lean meats, chicken and fish are great sources as well as eggs, nuts and beans.



ATHLETICS – DRAMA & SPEED

USAIN BOLT – Jamaica. Triple Olympic Champion and World Record holder. 100m in 9.58s!



A great vegetable and secret weapon for speed is... yams! They're packed with vitamins and natural energy. Other great energy foods: breads, cereals, potatoes, bananas, pasta and rice.



HOME PLAY CHALLENGE IS BACK!

Your school is starting the **2014 Commonwealth Games Home Play Challenge**. Children will bring home a Home Play Challenge booklet which they will have a physical activity challenge and a healthy eating based challenge to complete every day for the next three weeks. This year it's Commonwealth Games themed, so get out there, get active and enjoy the challenges!



COMMONWEALTH GAMES
HOME PLAY
CHALLENGE 2014



NEW WORLD
Te Rapa



**100%
NZ
OWNED**
**100%
LOCAL**

**Proudly supporting
our community**

New World Te Rapa is proud to sponsor your school.
Every time you shop at New World Te Rapa and swipe your Fly Buys card you help us give back.

ABSOLUTELY PRICELESS

An Elementary School Teacher had twenty-six students in her class. She presented each child in her classroom the 1st half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. It's hard to believe these were actually done by first graders. Their insight may surprise you. While reading, keep in mind that these are first-graders, 6-year-olds, because the last one is a classic!

1. Don't change horses - until they stop running.
2. Strike while the - bug is close.
3. It's always darkest before - Daylight Saving Time.
4. Never underestimate the power of - termites.
5. You can lead a horse to water but - how?
6. Don't bite the hand that - looks dirty.
7. No news is - impossible.
8. A miss is as good as a - Mr.
9. You can't teach an old dog new - math.
10. If you lie down with dogs, you'll - stink in the morning.
11. Love all, trust - me.
12. The pen is mightier than the - pigs.
13. An idle mind is - the best way to relax.
14. Where there's smoke there's - pollution.
15. Happy the bride who - gets all the presents.
16. A penny saved is - not much.
17. Two's company, three's - the Musketeers.
18. Don't put off till tomorrow what - you put on to go to bed.
19. Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and - you have to blow your nose.
20. There are none so blind as - Stevie Wonder.
21. Children should be seen and not - spanked or grounded.
22. If at first you don't succeed - get new batteries.
23. You get out of something only what you - see in the picture on the box.
24. When the blind lead the blind - get out of the way.
25. A bird in the hand - is going to poop on you.
And the WINNER and last one!
26. Better late than - pregnant.





On the 7th February 2015 Kiwi adventurer Malcolm Law will be setting out on an epic Challenge of unprecedented proportions. His twin goals: To climb 50 peaks and run the equivalent of 50 off-road marathons in the space of just 50 days and to raise at least \$250,000 for the Mental Health Foundation of NZ.

I'm Mike Keightley and I'm lucky enough to be a support runner on 2 of these "adventures" Mal is running. I will be supporting Mal on the Mt Pirongia and Mt Te Aroha challenges. The support runners have their own challenge to raise \$400 for each leg of the journey they are competing in. I will be joining Mal on Day 42 (20th of March 2015) running Mt Pirongia a total of 42km, a peak height of 959m and a total elevation of 2200m with an estimated finish time of 10-11 hours. I will also be there on Day 45 (23rd of March 2015) of his Challenge running from the Karangahake Gorge and over Mt Te Aroha a total of 38km, a peak height of 953m and a total elevation of 2150m with an estimated finish time of 8-9 hours.

Please go to my fundraising page and make a donation no matter how small to this great cause.

<http://www.fundraiseonline.co.nz/MikeKeightley/>



For more info please visit - <http://www.high50.org.nz/>

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Rotokauri School Coromandel Fishing Tournament



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