# Rotokauri School Newsletter



Issue No: 14



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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.

#### **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

So far we have had 17 families give us feedback in relation to our 2015 Community Consultation Survey. We would love more parents to go to our website <u>www.rotokauri.school.nz</u> and fill out the short survey. The information we receive is very useful for guiding further school strategic planning. Thank you to the parents who have already filled out the review. For those wanting to add their thoughts you have until Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September.

### TEACHER ONLY DAY

As always we like to give our parents plenty of notice before an event. On Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> November the teachers will be having a Teacher Only day. This will follow a very busy weekend in which we will have completed the Drive in Movie on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> November and the Car Show / Gala on Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> November. On Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> November it is expected that all students will be off site by 12.45 pm so that teachers can work with our facilitator on our new curriculum.

#### **ROOM 7 OPEN DAY**

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to spend the morning in Room 7 recently. As you will be well aware the school is using Information Technology as a way to support the students learning. Our students are very comfortable in a digital environment and are learning a number of skills in communication and problem solving that will make them a true asset in a number of employment areas.

If you would like to give us feedback in regards to what you saw please feel free to email me on mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz

#### **GREAT STUDENTS**

Our staff are always proud of the achievements of our students. Our students display a number of positive traits when representing Rotokauri School off site. Recently we had the pleasure of watching our students play in the junior interschool football tournament held at Bremworth Park.

Our students showed great respect for the referees and the opposing teams. We played hard and within the rules. We were able to take winning with dignity and losses with humility. Our students enjoyed the company of their school mates and appreciated that our teachers had organised the tournament with great professionalism. Our seniors rallied around to help feed the masses and make additional money for their school camp. A number of our parents ably supported the senior students when it came to food preparation and cooking.

Thank you parents, staff and students. You really demonstrated what TEAM means at this school -TOGETHER EVERYBODY ACHIEVES MORE.

#### **INTER-SCHOOL SPEECH COMPETITION**

The Western Waikato Rural Cluster Speech Contest was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September at Te Uku School where five Rotokauri students proudly represented our school: Eden Miller, Harry Wells, Hayley Monaghan, Tayne Matheson and Rihai Kahuroa all presented their speeches with such confidence and pride. Their hard work and persistent effort allowed them to perform at a level of excellence. We are truly proud of each and every one of these students. Eden Miller received a second placing in



the Year 5 & 6 category and Hayley Monaghan received a third placing in the Year 7 & 8 category. Thank you to those parents who supported their child in this event. Rotokauri School is so very proud of the achievements of these students.

#### **SUNHATS FOR TERM 4**

A number of years ago it came through our Community Consultation that parents wanted sunhats to be worn at our school during the hottest terms of the year. We have a sunhat procedure in place which has recently been recognised by the Cancer Society. All students need to wear a Rotokauri sunhat, which is available from the school office -\$15.00 each. These hats are not to be individualized (no graffiti or accessories added) by the students and must be worn in Term 4 and Term 1. Failure to have a hat means the child has to sit in a shaded area.

#### AGRICULTURAL DAY

I always look forward to Agricultural Day as you get to see another side to students. Many schools are stopping their Agricultural Days because they are no longer supported by their community or the community and surrounding land use has changed over the years. Agricultural Day in this region has been going for over 75 years and it is part of our Rotokauri heritage. I actually think there are many benefits and lessons that students learn through taking care of an animal. The animal is totally dependent on the student's caring nature. Students are less sedentary because they have to continually move with the animal. Students get a sense of responsibility and empathy for the animal which has been proven to increase their self-esteem. Self-esteem leads to students becoming more confident. Having an animal to care for stimulates the child to ask and answer questions to ensure the animal is well taken care of.

Many organisations are seeing the value of children and adults working with animals. These organisations include prisons, rest homes, hospitals, physical rehabilitation centres, special need centres and early childhood centres.

There is still something very special about seeing a wonderful bond between a child and animal.

#### AGRICULTURAL DAY – ENTRY FORMS

Entries for calves, lambs and kid goats close on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> 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. Sorry, no late entries will be accepted. Chicken entry forms were sent home this week. If you did not receive one please contact the school office.

### AGRICULTURAL DAY – TROPHY RETURN

If you were awarded a trophy at last year's Agricultural Day, please return it to school as soon as possible ready for this year's prize giving.

#### AGRICULTURAL DAY – AGRISEA AVAILABLE - FREE

If you would like a free bottle (or 2) of Agrisea animal supplement, please come to the school office.

#### PTA WINE AND CHEESE EVENING

The PTA are always looking for new members to join their TEAM. Joining the PTA is a great way to become a part of the Rotokauri Community especially if you are new to our school. Feel free to come and see what the PTA does for our school and at the same time meet other parents, while having a few refreshments.

Date: Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September Time: 7.30 pm Venue: Staffroom

Please contact Sharon to reserve a place office@rotokauri.school.nz

#### PARENTING

Parenting is the most important job of all. Our students go out into the world with all the values and beliefs that we instil in them. As parents we instantly try and protect them from every situation, even if the situation is one that will not come to fruition. Often by standing in front of our children we take away their ability to make well thought out decisions, to be resilient and to be persistent.

Over the years we have published a number of segments from Nigel Latta's books. The following may be hard to believe but they are things that parents have actually done. When you read these ask yourself – what is this type of role modelling saying to the child and what will the values be that the child will hold as they go out into the big world:

- A mother in tears because her 6 year old daughter has not made the advanced maths class.
- A parent asks a Principal for the curriculum so that her child can work through the holidays and get a head start.
- A father was outraged because his son was made to sit outside the staffroom because he told a teacher to shut up.
- A parent who engaged a lawyer to appeal a decision of a school talent contest which went against his daughter.

Nigel Latta has a huge compilation of these, all based on New Zealand schools. He goes on further to give parents some basic common sense advice:

- Don't make a fuss about every little thing.
- Take responsibility for the problem.

As parents we are always learning and with that in mind a parent information evening has been organised. The evening will provide parents with practical parenting tips.

### Free Parenting Seminar

Learn some simple tips to help raise your children from terrible two's through their troublesome teens and beyond... ~~SPOT PRIZES~~ ~~SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS~~

Date: 17 September 2015 Time: 7pm - 9pm Venue: Rotokauri Multi Purpose Room

#### RSVP with numbers attending to: <u>hmray13@gmail.com</u>

We gratefully acknowledge Grassroots Trust for making this presentation possible

#### **OPENING OF NEW ROOM**

We have an enrolment policy in place which gives us an opportunity to manage our school numbers and make the best of the classes and facilities we have at Rotokauri School. In Term 4 we will be using half of the MPR as a classroom. Seven children will start in this class with their own teacher. This will improve our teacher student ratios in another junior room, with positive outcomes for all.

The room will be known as Room 9. Parents who have been at our school for a while will realise that we been through this before and the positives are many.

#### OUR ZONE

As an addition to the above, a lot of people are moving down from Auckland for the good life of the Waikato. Some have bought thinking they have got automatic entry to our school. If you have friends that want to come to our school please get them to call us or look at the Ministry website for enrolment zone information.

#### PAST PUPIL'S SUCCESS

We like to share past pupils successes in all sort of fields and endeavours. When they succeed we celebrate with them, no matter what their achievement may be.

Recently Zara Gilbert won Miss New Zealand Teen Super Model. She will represent New Zealand in South Africa next year. Zara was a quietly confident student who always gave 100% in everything she did.

At our school we try and open the student's eyes to all sorts of lifetime dreams and aspirations. We try to invoke a sense of self belief that anything is possible.

I loved Zara's quote to the press on winning the pageant. "A lot of people speak quite lowly of Hamilton, they don't think any potential can come from Hamilton, but I have proven we can produce some good people".

It brings us to an interesting point - it's not where you come from, it's more about who you are.

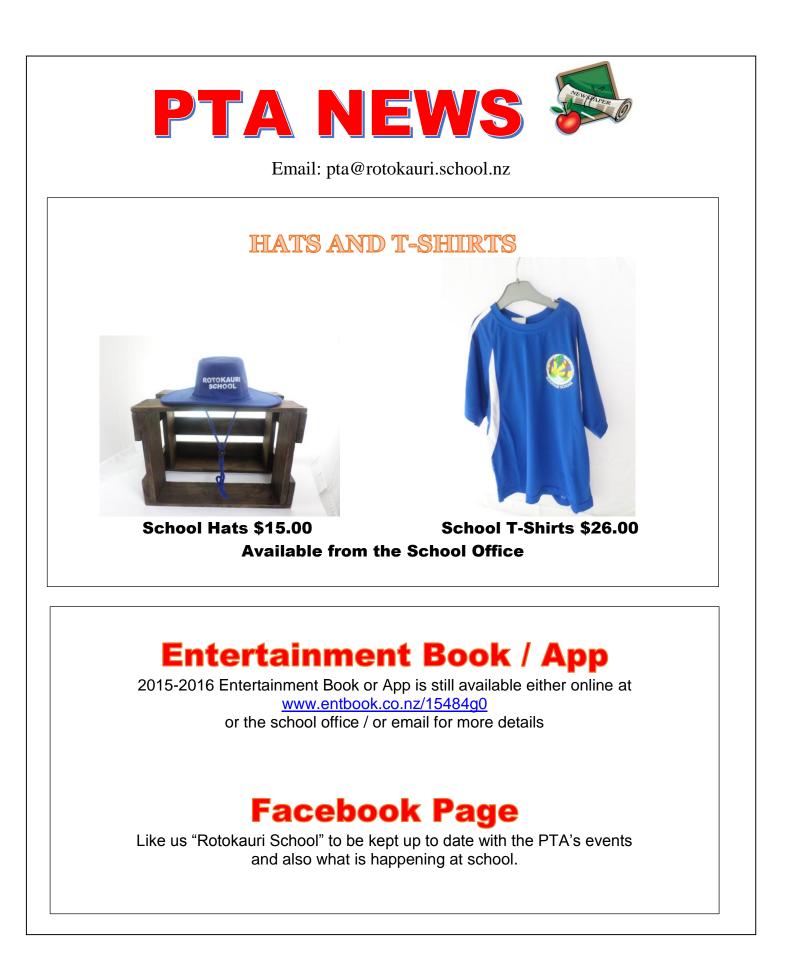


## ROTOKAURI SCHOOL BOOK FAIR COLLECTING NOW



A school book fair will be held at the school gala/car show on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> November. We are looking for good quality books (children and adults), sorry, but no magazines, encyclopaedia, compendiums or readers digests. We would also like clean plastic bags. Books may be dropped off on the **table in the MPR** and plastic bags placed in the box provided or please contact me. Book Fair co-ordinator: Miranda Collinson ph 849-7623. Drive in Movie If you purchased tickets for last year's drive in movie please bring the ticket into the school office to get it exchanged for a current ticket.







#### Kia Ora!

It's September already, the spring blossoms are out and before you know it, it will be summer! If you ask me now is the perfect time to revisit our slip, slop, slap message. From September through to end of April, between 10am to 4pm when the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays are most intense, your SunSmart School will be working very hard to ensure that children under their care are protected from dangerous UV rays. You can support your child/children's school by:



- Providing your child/children with a SunSmart hat that will offer protection to the neck, ears and face to slap on at school when outside between 10am and 4pm. Cancer Society recommends broad brimmed or bucket style hats. Baseball caps/peak style caps are not SunSmart – they have been scientifically proven to not provide adequate sun protection. You can wear a SunSmart hat yourself as children like to copy you.
- Slipping your child/children in cool protective clothing if your school doesn't have a school uniform protective clothing covers as much skin as possible e.g. tops that covers the shoulders, arms and chest, collared shirts and longer style shorts.
- With your permission your child will be encouraged to slop on SPF30+ broad spectrum sunscreen on any skin not covered by clothes. Should you wish, you may opt to supply a labelled bottle with your child/children's name(s) which can be kept at the school.

Remember nearly 80% of lifetime sun exposure happens before the age of 18, so it's important to make sun protection a life-long habit, starting as young as possible. We appreciate your support. Enjoy a safe and happy summer! :)





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### IS YOUR LIFESTYLE PROPERTY FOR SALE?

I have customers interested in buying a lifestyle property in your area. Are you looking at selling yours? Please contact me so I can discuss this opportunity with you.

John Donderwinkel - Your Local Rural/Lifestyle Sales Consultant Specialist Ph 0274357259 johnd@propertybrokers.co.nz Sponsors of the

Rotokauri School Coromandel Fishing Tournament







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