

Rotokauri School

Newsletter



Issue No: 1

11 February 2016

MEET THE TEACHER INFORMATION EVENING

MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2016

Teachers will be in their classroom during the following times to outline their programmes of work, explain their expectations and answer any questions. These are 15 minute time slots, per class, per teacher.

7.00 pm	Mary Evans - Room 1
7.00 pm	Desiree Smith - Room 2
7.15 pm	Ashlie Kempthorne - Room 3
7.30 pm	Kylie Christian - Room 4
7.45 pm	Mike Watkins - Room 5
8.00 pm	Tasha Murtagh - Room 6
8.15 pm	Helena Kirkham - Room 7

Karen Hollingsworth, our Special Needs Teacher will be available in her office, from 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

The swimming pool will be supervised by staff from 7.00 pm to 8.00pm.

ROKOKAURI SCHOOL
462 Rotokauri Road
R D 9
HAMILTON 3289

Telephone (07) 849 5068
Fax (07) 849 4371
Email: office@rotokauri.school.nz
www.rotokauri.school.nz

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.

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to our new families who have joined us over the Christmas holiday period. We hope that you and your children enjoy Rotokauri School and the special caring environment that we as a learning community provide. As always the first term is always busy as we make use of the long summer days. Please view our upcoming events at the end of this newsletter. These dates are also available on our website www.rotokauri.school.nz.

The first few weeks focus on building our school culture, through our school values and beliefs. Some times after a long holiday children need reminding about how we do things at Rotokauri and what is expected of them.

Over the coming weeks students may do various assessments so that we decide on their learning requirements for the year. As a school we always try and support the students so that they can reach their full potential. Every child has different needs, not all children come into school with same set of skills and experiences and that is what makes teaching so exciting. It's about appreciating and respecting the differences.

Our teachers will also be covering Information Technology Safety. The general concepts covered are based around digital citizenship and cyber-safety. Coverage of these topics is obviously based on the age of the children. Numerous community consultations have shown that Information Technology is high on the learning agendas of many parents. It's great to have discussions at home around cyber safety as well as at school.

Teachers have been working hard over the holidays putting together exciting programmes that will bond their class and create positive, caring environments.

Your children may come home and talk about the concept of TEAM. This means - Together Everyone Achieves More. When everyone follows this one belief it's amazing the culture that can be created in a small semi-rural school.

In Term One our teachers will be promoting the values of Respect and Responsibility. Discussions will occur both formally and informally in the class about students respecting themselves, respecting others and respecting the school environment. They will also be

encouraged to be responsible for their own belongings, to be responsible for their own behaviour and to be responsible for their own work.

BIG CHANGES

The upper area of the school has been re-concreted to allow better use of the space available. The next step as part of this redevelopment is to have various games stencilled onto the concrete so that children can play. Such environmental transformations do not come cheap. Our PTA and Board have combined their financial resources to create a beautiful environment for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you to the PTA and Board of Trustees

THANK YOU

Recent changes to the upper area of the school would not have been possible without the vision and planning expertise of Nick Spiers, our Board of Trustees Property Manager. Nick works tirelessly to make sure that this is a better place for our students and staff. Nick is also one of the major reasons that our school pool remains open for the enjoyment of our community.

Thank you Nick for all that you have accomplished over the Christmas holiday period.



BUILDING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

We are in our third year of the Cool Schools programme. This is a programme where students help to solve solutions to problems occurring in the playground at interval and lunchtime. There is a process that students can follow if they have a problem that they would like solved. Senior students are trained to help parties reach amicable solutions. Students are successful at resolving issues 98% of the times and this gives them necessary skills that they can use for the rest of their lives.

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

We say a big hello to Miss Tasha Murtagh who will be teaching in Room 6. With her vast teaching experiences Tasha will be a fantastic asset to our senior syndicate. We are certain everyone will make her feel welcome at our school.

We also welcome back Mrs Linda Marsh to Rotokauri School. Linda has been employed for two days per week to provide support for classroom programmes throughout the school.

CHARTERS

Each year schools put together a Charter. The Charter defines the school's strategic plan for the year.

The strategic plan is based on data collected by teachers and management throughout the preceding year. The Charter is based around the needs of the students, as well as ensuring that finance and personnel are aligned to those needs. Targets are set in terms of student achievement.

If you would like to see this document please feel free to look at our website from Tuesday 15th March. If you have any comments or questions about our Charter please send to mgoodson@rotokauri.school.nz

DONATIONS

Since 2000 parents in New Zealand have contributed close to 1 billion dollars (20/1/16 Network One News) towards their children's education through school donations. School donations are vital if we want to cover all of our student's educational and social needs.

As a high decile school we are not funded to the same extent as other schools with lower decile rating. Our PTA works tirelessly to help fund various school projects and our Board are very astute about how money should be spent.

Our school donation has not risen in 10 years. The school donation is \$100 per child, with no family paying more than \$250. Some parents prefer to donate per term or on a weekly basis, which is fine.

We appreciate all the donations made and please feel free to contact Sharon if you want to arrange a payment plan.

PTA

I don't know where New Zealand Schools would be without their PTA. Parent Teacher Association committees are very specific to New Zealand schools. We have had many new families join us over the last two years and joining the PTA is a great way of meeting people. **The PTA's next meeting will be held in the staffroom 2nd March 2016. The AGM is at 7.00 pm and the monthly meeting starts at 7.30. All parents are welcome.**

MEET THE TEACHER

We have a tradition of trying to meet our parents as soon as possible. The Meet The Teacher notice that is displayed on the front page of the newsletter sets out the times that the teachers will be available to speak to parents as a group. Our teachers will talk about classroom routines and expectations.

POOL HELPERS

Thank you to all our wonderful helpers who did a tremendous job keeping our pool clean over the summer break. It's no longer a right to have a school pool, as many are closed due to cost of the upkeep and policy implications.

We hope that by having our pool open we are providing a safe option for children to swim in, rather than risking the use of the local lake or river.

SWIMMING

It's vital that you make sure that your child brings their togs to school on a daily basis so that they can participate in swimming. Even learning to float or not panic when hitting the water may save your child's life.

We have the highest drowning rate in the world and a country that is surrounded by water should make sure all its citizens can swim.

Our pool will be open until Easter. For our new parents you may be unaware that our pool is heated, so even though outside temperatures may fall in March our pool can remain at 24°C.

If your child is not swimming a note to the teacher is required. The school expectation is that all children will participate in swimming lessons unless they are sick.

GOAL SETTING

How's your New Year's resolution going? You may be in the 99% majority who have already faltered since New Year.

How about having a chat with your child and setting a goal together for their 2016 year. Goals need to have substance – be manageable, be trackable and be celebrated at the end.

MAORI CONSULTATION

Our Maori Consultation will be on Thursday, 25th February at 7.00 pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome to attend.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

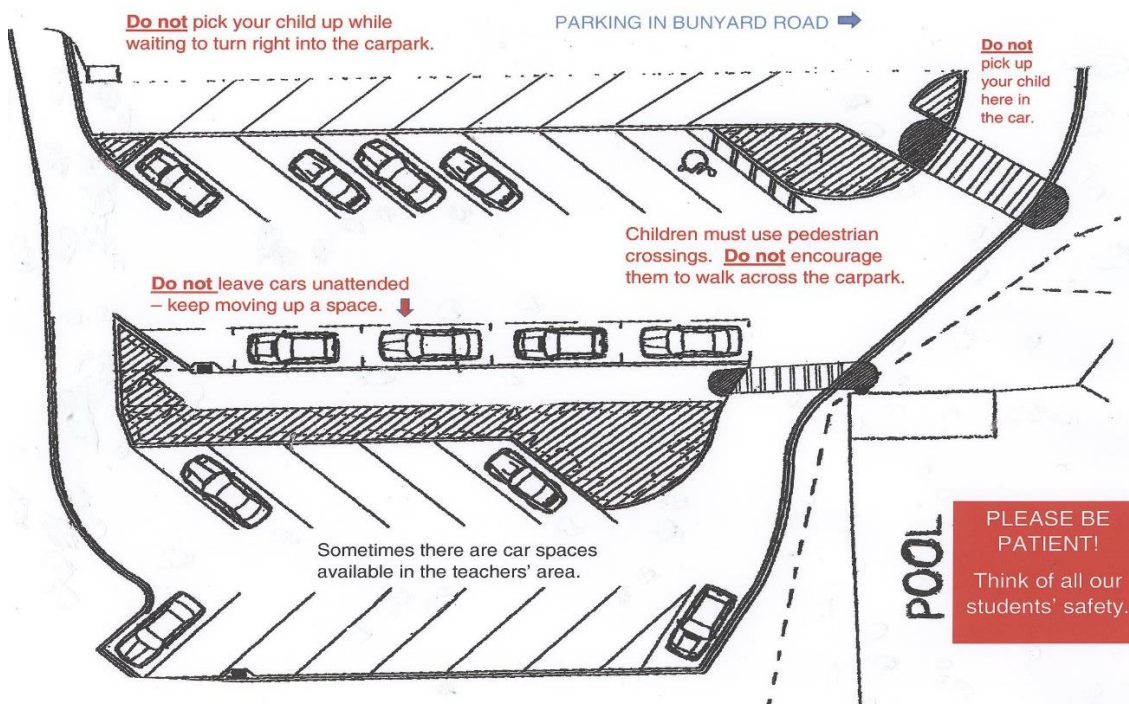
Our community has signalled through last year's community consulting that they still would like Religious Instruction for our students.

These lessons will take place from 23rd February. The lessons only last for 30 minutes per week and are based around values.

If you do not want your child to attend please supply a note before the 23rd February. A child saying they are not attending is not sufficient.

CARPARK SAFETY

Each year we remind our parents about car park safety. The Board have maintained and improved the carpark over the years, however this does not alleviate all of the problems. It's the parents that make the carpark safe for our children. Please view the diagram below and if you are getting a friend or grandparent to pick up your child please make sure they are aware of the rules.



ATTENDANCE

It's imperative that you contact the office if your child is going to be away from school. If we believe the child is supposed to be at school and doesn't arrive it then becomes a safety issue and time and energy is spent tracking down the whereabouts of the child. Please feel free to call the school from 7.45 am onwards. Just give us the child's name, the classroom and the reason why the child is away. That way we can enter the information into our computer system.

In Term 4 of 2015, we had an average of 94% attendance by our students.

There is a close correlation between attendance rates and achievement of students.

Makes sense really doesn't it, how can they learn if they are not here?

BEING ON TIME

Children that are late often find that they have missed vital instructions. They also miss the socialisation of meeting and greeting their mates.

A bell rings at 8.58 a.m. and this is the time when students need to prepare for the days learning. For some classes this means sitting on the mat, for others it means sitting at their table ready.

When parents hear the 2 minute bell can they please leave the classroom. This is all part of being responsible and independent.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

We have a number of our students who have personal health and safety plans in our school.

If a new child to our school has health issues this requires a note from the doctor supporting the requirement for a plan.

Some students have medications held and administered at school. Please check any medicines (i.e. asthma inhalers, tablets etc) for their expiry date and hand in to Sharon packaged safely, with clear instructions for administration.

You are also required to sign a form giving the school permission to administer medication on your behalf. No medication will be administered at school unless this form is filled in.

This form is available from Sharon at the front desk.

NEW WORLD VOUCHERS FOR SALE AT SCHOOL

New World Te Rapa have been absolutely brilliant with supporting our school over the years. We have just received another lot of vouchers to sell to our community. These are available at the school office if you would like to purchase any (spend \$50.00 and get a \$55.00 voucher). These vouchers can only be used at Te Rapa New World.



NEW WORLD
Te Rapa



TERM ONE IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 12 th February	Life Education Trust in School
Friday 19 th February	Biathlon and Triathlon
Monday 22 nd February	Meet the Teacher
23 rd and 24 th February	Year 8 Leadership Camp
Friday 4 th March	School Swimming Sports
Monday 14 th March	Class photos and portraits
Friday 18 th March	Inter School Swimming
Saturday 19 th March	Fishing Tournament at Coromandel
Friday 25 th March	Good Friday.
Monday 28 th March	Easter Monday
Tuesday 29 th March	Easter Tuesday
Friday 8 th April	Year 5-8 Softball
Friday 15 th April	Last day of Term 1
Monday 2 nd May	First day of Term 2

YEAR 8 LEADERSHIP CAMP

Our Year 8 Camp this year will be held on **Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th February** at Narrows Park situated on Airport Road, Tamahere. The main focus of this camp is to coach and foster leadership skills in our Year 8 students. Our Year 8 students play an integral role in leading others in a variety of settings and take on many responsibilities that help with the smooth running of our school. This camp will prepare them for this role within the school and in the many leadership opportunities that they will come across as they go through life.

The cost of this camp is **\$75** per student. Please hand in the completed form, given to your child, with the payment to the office by **Friday 19th February**.

WEET-BIX TRYATHLON

This exciting event takes place at the University of Waikato on Sunday the 14th February. Well done to those who have already entered this exciting event. Students can still register by following the links on their website try.weetbix.co.nz. Give It a Try!

BI/TRIATHLON

This year the **Rotokauri School Bi/Triathlon will be held on Friday 19th February**. Your child can do either the Biathlon (swimming and running) or the Triathlon (swimming, running, and cycling). If your child is partaking in the Triathlon, they will need to bring their bike and put it in the appropriate age group section on the bottom field by 8:30 am. Could you please ensure that the brakes on their bike are working and that they bring along a helmet to wear on the day, thank you.

The first race will begin at 9:30am. This is an opportunity for students to earn house points. Parents are encouraged to come along to support our children in this great event. We hope to see you there!

YEARS 5 – 8 WEST WAIKATO CRICKET FESTIVAL

The West Waikato Cricket Festival is to be held at **Raglan Area School on the 26th February**. We will be putting in two teams to represent Rotokauri School: a Year 5&6 team and a Year 7&8 team. We are needing 8 players for each team. A meeting will be held for interested students, please encourage your child to give something like this a go. We will also require parents to help out with transport, a notice will go home with students who are interested in attending this event.

SWIMMING SPORTS

This year Rotokauri's Swimming Sports for students 8 years old and above will be held on **Friday 4th March at Te Rapa Waterworld**. Swimming Sports for the junior students will be held at a later date, more information will be given closer to the time.

The children will choose what events they will partake in so please talk to them about what they want to do. We will require at least 8-10 parent helpers for this day. If you are able to help, please contact Helena via email at hkirkham@rotokauri.school.nz. There will be a fee of \$5 per child to pay for the buses and to hire the pool. Please send this money to the office in a named envelope. Parents are encouraged to come down to support their children, there is a spectator's fee of \$2. Please bring this money on the day and pay as you enter Waterworld.

TOP SCHOOLS GAMES 2016

This will take place on **Sunday the 3rd April at Te Kowhai School**. As we do each year, we'll be putting in a Year 7/8 team. Students will be asked to attend a meeting of interest and teams will be made from this. We will require parental support on this day as well. Please encourage your child to give this a go, if you feel they'll enjoy this event.

Rotokauri School

FISHING **CAMPING**

Open to anyone and everyone!



Come fishing or camping or both on the 19th March 2016

This year we will tie in the fishing competition with a family camping weekend at Shelly Bay in Coromandel. You can go just fishing or just camping or both. Either way it will be a great weekend. Shelly Bay is where we do the weigh in for the competition and families that have stayed there in the past have had a great time. See below for details on both events.

Fishing:

The competition is a one day event on Saturday 19th March. You can fish anywhere in Coromandel as long as you are at Shelly Bay for weigh in between 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm.

Entries at the office for \$40 adult \$10 children.

Adult Prizes	Children Prizes
1 st Snapper \$300	1 st Snapper \$100
2 nd Snapper \$150	2 nd Snapper \$60
3 rd Snapper \$100	3 rd Snapper \$40
Biggest other species \$150	Average size Snapper \$50
	Biggest other species \$50

Don't let the teachers win the prizes again this year!

Camping:

This is in place of our camp fire night we had at school for the last few years. Shelly Bay is a great location for a camping weekend. We have had families stay there on fishing competition weekends have a great time. It is a short way out of Coromandel itself and has a safe beach and bay to play in. There are tent sites, powered sites and cabins available.

Ph 07 866 8980 Fax 07 866 8988 E: shelly@world-net.co.nz

To Enter

Come into the Rotokauri School office for a package and to sign up or email

mwatkins@rotokauri.school.nz



RURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

School immunisations 2016

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Public health nurses will be delivering two school-based immunisation programmes at your school this year.

Year seven students

These students will be offered the Boostrix vaccine which is a booster for their early childhood immunisations of tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (whooping cough).

Information about the year seven programme will be given to students at school and this session may include watching the Ministry of Health DVD *Year Seven Immunisations*.

This DVD presentation is designed specifically for this age group.

At this information session, your child will be given a consent form to bring home for you to read and choose whether or not to have your child immunised by the public health nurses at school. Whether you choose to immunise or not, the form needs to be returned to school.

- **Please check with your doctor or practice nurse if you are unsure if your child has had a tetanus injection in the last two years.**

Year eight female students

These students will be offered the HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine, which is available to girls and young women aged 12-18 years. The vaccine helps protect women against infection from four types of human papillomavirus that can lead to most cervical cancers and genital warts. Three doses of the vaccine are given over six months at school, commencing in March. It is offered to year 8 girls as it is recommended to be given long before girls become sexually active, and some studies have shown a more effective immune response in girls aged 9-15 years, when compared with girls over 16.

Information will be given to the students about the HPV vaccination programme at school. This may include viewing the Ministry of Health DVD *HPV Vaccine Information – a vaccine to help prevent cervical cancer*. This DVD presentation is designed specifically for this age group.

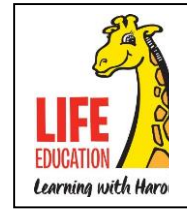
Your child will be given a consent form to bring home for you to choose whether or not to have your child immunised by the public health nurses at school.

- Information on the immunisations is included on the consent form which will be given to your son / daughter at the information session.
- Please complete the consent form and answer all the questions and return the form to school.
- If your child is not being vaccinated at school you still need to fill in the section with your child's name and details on it.

For information on these vaccines visit www.immune.org.nz or phone **0800 IMMUNE (466 863)**

If you have questions about the school based programme, please call our public health nurse, 838 3565

Dear Parents / Caregivers,
Nicky and Harold (Waipa King Country Life Education) will be visiting
Rotokauri School from Friday 12th – Wednesday 17th February 2016.



Year 7/8 Students and Teachers will be participating in the substance
strand, *From the Shadows*.

This module focuses on drug use and the impact of various substances on individuals,
friends and families. A DVD titled 'Web of Addiction' is used, telling real life stories, from
New Zealander's about their experiences in the drug world. A major part of this module
relates to the effects of drugs on the teenage brain. Discussion and teaching are outlined
as follows:

- Puberty and the teenage brain.
- Consequences of early and prolonged drug use, and how addiction affects the human body.
- Understanding how substances interfere, and change the way the brain functions
- The difference between Adult use and Teenage use of Alcohol (metabolically)
- Consideration of the social effects, drugs and alcohol have during adolescence.
- Decision making and Peer Pressure

The key messages during this module are:

- Drug use has an impact on the user themselves and other people around them
- We need to be kind to others particularly as we cope with our changing bodies and feelings.
- We are better able to make decisions for ourselves when we have reliable information and consequences of our decisions both positive and negative

We also suggest throughout this module, that should the occasion arrive to 'delay your decision'.

If you would like to discuss this module further or have any questions, please feel free to contact the school office for my phone number.

Kind Regards Nicky Wise, Educator - Waipa King Country Life Education



Young Engineers – Starting Term 1 2016

Young Engineers is an after-school programme that is a fun and engaging. Young Engineers teaches children about the basic principles of engineering and physics using motorised Lego! Children from Year 2-Year 8 will enjoy the practical hands-on learning environment which lasts for 75mins. Young Engineers is held during the week (one session per week). Our locations are in Huntly Church Hall, Gordonton School, Hukanui School, Claudelands Migrant Centre, Waterworld Te Rapa, Hillcrest Chapel, Hautapu School and Cambridge Community Centre. To register or find out more – go online to www.youngengineers.nz or contact Ariana on 021-2424567 or ariana@youngengineers.nz



Sarah McLeay
Premium Client-Centred Service

If you are thinking of buying or selling real estate or would like a FREE, no obligation appraisal then get in touch:

 **020 4089 6364**
sarah.mcleay@eves.co.nz


Licensed under the Real Estate Agents Act 2008

Private Piano Tuition after school:

Now is a great time to sign up for piano lessons! 30 minute lessons available from 3.10pm. Cost: \$25 per lesson. Minimum age: 7 years. Location: Perkins Rd, off Laxon Rd. I have taught piano for several years, and hold A.T.C.L in Solo Piano (Trinity College London). I really enjoy seeing students grow their abilities on the piano and develop a love for playing. Contact Rosemary on Home: 829 3088 or Cell:027 358 1552 for more info, or to arrange a visit. Alternatively, email: rosemary.pritchard@gmail.com

Tennis Lessons

When: Wednesday ~ 4.30 pm

Where: Rotokauri School

Tutor: Alby Ellis, PE teacher at Hamilton Boys High School

Cost: ~ \$80 - \$10/one hour lesson to be paid at beginning of Term. We need to know numbers to determine how many weeks the course goes for. The estimate is based on 8 weeks.

Information: Alby has a fun, friendly effective method for teaching the children tennis. He has been successfully teaching tennis at our school for a number of years and also teaches at other schools and St Peters tennis club.

Contact: Miranda at Collinsons@hotmail.com with your child/rens name, age, experience or any questions.

Marrzipan Drama

Is your child shy? Do they feel intimidated by the idea of public speaking and performance? Do they sometimes find it difficult to make eye contact? Do they just need 45 minutes a week to take part in organised craziness?! Come and join Marrzipan! We run awesome drama classes which focus on key life skills in the Library before school on Fridays! We play fun engaging games and perform at the end of term once to parents and once to the school. All scripts are original, engaging, educational and HILARIOUS. All children receive an end of term progress report too, along with a certificate to remind them they are awesome! Give me a call to come along for a free trial, or just a chat to discuss how our classes can benefit your child's development. Contact Jex on 0272170693 or email jex@marrzipandrama.co.nz

excite! Music and Arts Academy
presents their

..... **OPEN DAY!**

Saturday 13th Feb
9am – 4pm

Interactive demo of music lessons
running for 15 minutes on the hour
every hour from 10am – 3 pm

Mahalo, Mikala and Kalani Ukuleles, and
Recorders for sale

Find us at:

www.exciteacademy.co.nz

Or contact us:

admin@exciteacademy.com

and dont forget to look us up on Facebook!



Ukulele Art Competition

*Show us what your ukulele would
look like!*

Design a ukulele in the Art Room
between 9am and 4pm to enter

Winner of the 10 - 13 years
category will have their design
professionally painted on their very
own ukulele to keep

Winner of the Under 9 years
category will win a brand new
Kalani Ukulele

Competitions and Giveaways!



Excite Academy | Building C | 29 Gilchrist Street | Avalon | Hamilton



Sponsors of the
Rotokauri School Coromandel Fishing Tournament

WEST HAMILTON
 AUTO REFINISHERS

JASON CAMPBELL


PANEL & PAINT P. 07 957 2415
 F. 07 957 2416
 127 COLOMBO ST. M. 029 957 2415
 FRANKTON E. whar_dsl@clear.net.nz



THE MEAT WAREHOUSE
Low priced quality meat
... Direct to you!


Ph: (07) 847 3372
 Fax: (07) 847 9333

5 Wickham Street PO Box 15178
 Hamilton Hamilton 3243



This is Property Brokers' Country!

Property Brokers Limited MREINZ
 Licensed under the Real Estate Agents Act 2008
 Cnr Tui & Arawa Streets
 Matamata



John Donderwinkel
 Rural/Lifestyle Consultant

Tel 07 888 6468
 Mobile 027 435 7259
 Fax 07 888 6469
 Email johnd@propertybrokers.co.nz

www.propertybrokers.co.nz



NEW WORLD
 Te Rapa

Proudly supporting our community



100% NZ OWNED
100% LOCAL



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.