



# School Newsletter

[www.rotokauri.school.nz](http://www.rotokauri.school.nz)

Issue: 3 - 5 March 2026

**Rotokauri**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our positive environment will actively engage us all in learning.



## VALUES

Unity (Kotahitanga)  
Inclusive (Manaakitanga)  
Guardianship (Kaitiakitanga)  
Innovative (Auahatanga)  
Happy (Uruhau)  
Responsible (Tuutika)

## REACH

### Respect - Whakaute

We show that we value ourselves, value others, our school and our environment.

### Empathy - Ngākau Aroha

We are able to step into the shoes of another person and try to understand their thoughts and feelings.

### Active Learning - Mātātoa

We don't give up, even when we are challenged.

### Courage - Mārohirohi

We are brave as we face new experiences and difficult situations.

### Honesty - Ngākau Pono

Speaking and acting truthfully.



## PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

### WELCOME

**Nau mai, haere mai ki te kura o Rotokauri. Welcome to the new students that have started at Rotokauri School recently**

**Room 6** - Anaiyah-Lee Kelemete-Vaniqi

**Room 10** - Bella Kelemete-Vaniqi

Kia ora koutou

We are officially half way through our shortest term.

Well done to the 5 and 6 year olds that demonstrated their swimming skills to their parents/caregivers this week, despite the sudden drop in temperature.

Good luck to the 7 - 12 year olds that are travelling to Ngaruawahia Pools today to compete in their swimming events.

It has been fantastic to see the enthusiasm of our students as they join Kapa Haka and Jump Jam opportunities which are being provided at the school. We look forward to having them perform for us later in the year.

It was pleasing to see the Year 6 - 8 students actively participating in the team bonding activities provided by Youth Town last week. Great team work and problem solving strategies were displayed.

What a fantastic day at our annual bi/triathlon last Friday. It was great to see so many students participating. There were some very fast races and it was pleasing to hear the cheerleading from the houses, as well as watching the students supporting each other in the races. Thank you to Whaea Ariana, Miss Baker and Mr Brinkworth for all their organisation. Certificates will be presented as part of our Friday assembly tomorrow.

Congratulations to the senior school for stepping up into leadership roles this year. Here are our leaders for 2026;

#### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Scarlett Swain, Kaylee Quinlan, Jasmine Lee, Esme Gyde, Hugo Hodgson, Koby Rose

#### **CULTURAL AMBASSADORS**

Cultural Promotion led by Mannat Waraich

Ella Wen, Billie-May Murphy, Ariesha Nand, Tarkshi Chand, Ivy Lu

Cultural Events led by Hannah-Leah Warbrick

Heidi Viljoen, Keani Kingi, Talia Hefferon, Mya Allen

## HOUSE CAPTAINS

### Whero

Carter Moka, Rangjot Dhaliwal, Archer McFall

### Kakariki

Mackenzie O'Rourke, Harry Gyde, Paige Robinson-Hastings, Ashleigh McLaren

### Kikorangi

Miley Fraser, Inshirah Hussain, Indi Payne, Riley Glover, Luke Vann

### Kowhai

Cameron Emslie, Aston Burt, Bivansh Chand, Ellie-Rose Anderson

## PEER MEDIATORS

Sophie Quinlan, Druvi Patel, Mahi Sharma, Mackenzie O'Rourke, Ivy Lu, Ariesha Nand, Mannat Waraich, Billie-May Murphy, Paige Robinson-Hastings, Keani Kingi, Scarlett Swain, Hannah-Leah Warbrick, Heidi Viljoen, Talia Hefferon, Evie Bourne, Alice McGowan, Isla Cowley, Chloe Moka, Te Aria Kingi, Ruby Wilson, Kayla van Rooij

## ROAD PATROLLERS

Charlotte Land, Carys Land, Kayla van Rooij, Evie Bourne, Ella Wen, Alice McGowan, Kyla Martin, Shepard Cairns-Eade, Liam Harrison, Cohen O'Brien, Van MacDonald-Hooper, Theo Winikerei, Taj Judge, Khloe Bennett, Teagan Mancer, Casey Mancer, Heidi Viljoen, Keani Kingi, Layla Day, Ada Westgate, Alex Oldham, Druvi Patel, Georgia Esselbrugge, Evie Hippolite, Chloe Moka, Harper Moka, Ruchika Minhas, Hannah-Leah Warbrick, Theo Cowley, Talia Hefferon.

Ngaa mihi

Desiree Smith

Principal

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

5th March	Senior Swimming Sports (7 year +)
9th March	Tech (Year 7 & 8)
	Kapa Haka (3.15 - 4.30 p.m)
16th March	Tech (Year 7 & 8)
	Kapa Haka (3.15 - 4.30 p.m)
17th March	BOT meeting (5.30 p.m in staffroom)
19th March	Kapa Haka Noho @ school
23rd March	Tech (Year 7 & 8)
	Kapa Haka (3.15 - 4.30 pm)
24th March	Cluster Swimming Sports (8 years +)
30th March	Tech (Year 7 & 8)
	Kapa Haka (3.15 - 4.30 p.m)
2nd April	Last day of school
3rd April	Good Friday

# Hot Cross Buns and Easter Raffle Information

## EASTER FUNDRAISERS

We are bringing back our Easter raffle for 2026!!

WE WOULD LOVE FOR EVERY FAMILY TO PLEASE  
DONATE AN EASTER TREAT TO GO INTO OUR  
AMAZING EASTER BASKETS .

Please encourage your children to sell as many  
raffles as they can. The child who sells the most  
raffles will win a prize.

Please return the cards to school and pay via  
Kindo by the 26th of March.

All cards need to be returned regardless of  
whether they are sold or not.

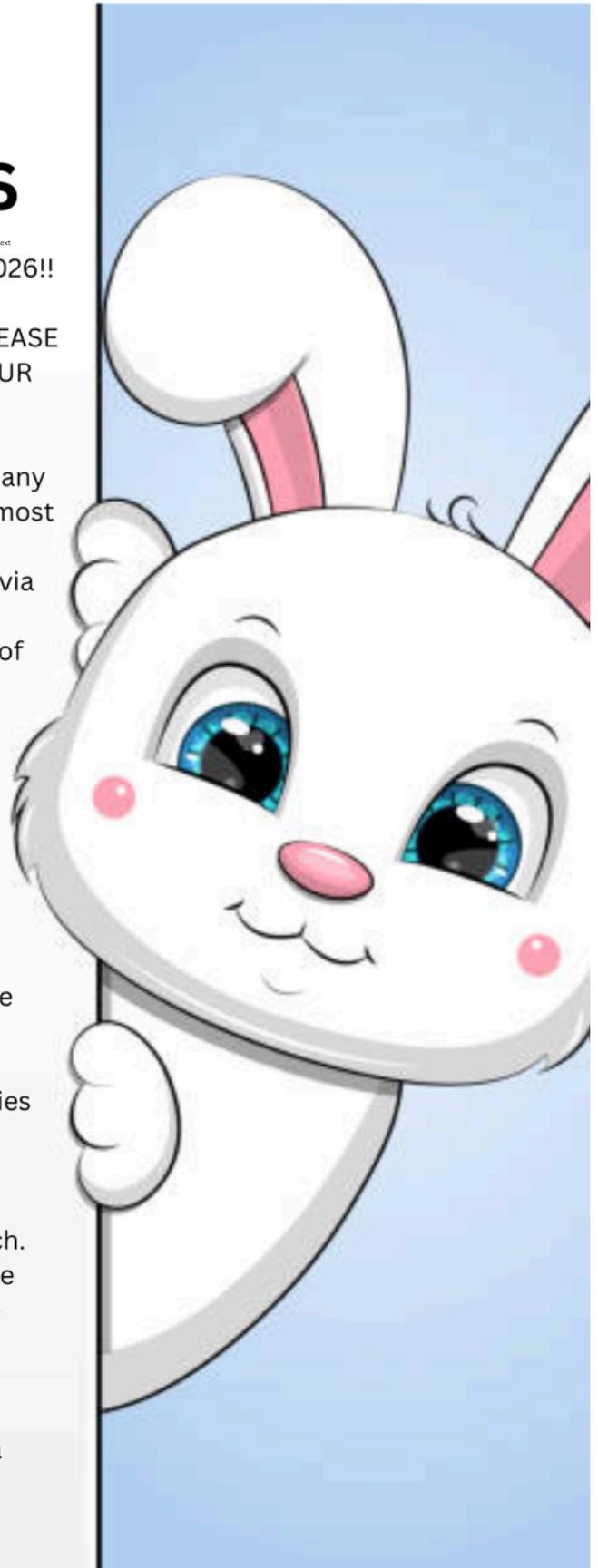
This year, along with our easter raffle,  
we are running a fundraiser for hot  
cross buns.

We will have 3 options for sale:  
traditional, chocolate  
and cranberry hot cross buns.

The cost for each 6 pack is \$6 and can be  
purchased  
through our kindo app under the shop.  
This is not limited to just our school families  
but will require you to  
pay/order/collect/ deliver to any one  
you wish to sell to.

Orders close at 9am Friday the 13th March.  
Collection date will be after school on the  
31st of March and 1st of April from the  
School MPR.

Thank you for supporting our PTA in  
the fundraising efforts to get our kura a  
Pump Track.



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Rotokauri School Hoodies

Rotokauri School hoodies are now available to order online for a limited time! These high quality navy Cloke hoodies are perfect for school sports events or everyday wear and come in a full range of sizes from kids through to adults. A sizing chart is available to help you get the right fit. **Orders will close on 2<sup>nd</sup> April (last day of Term 1)**, so don't miss out! We will not be doing a second order as we did last year.

All hoodies will be delivered to school for easy collection at the start of Term 2. Please note there is a minimum order of 20 hoodies required. If this isn't reached, all payments will be fully refunded. Get your order in today and show your Rotokauri pride in style!

<https://loqou2.com/product/rotokauri-school-hoodie/>



## Rata Room 1 visited Harold the Giraffe and Abby

Rata Room 1 had learned all about food from Harold and Abby. They have learned how to pack healthy food in a trolley.



**Let's see what some of Room 1's children have to say.**



Zoey says we have to eat a variety of foods.

Mackenzie knows where all the different foods came from - animals, ground, and factories.



Koa liked the trolleys with the healthy food in.

Reid liked cuddling Harold the Giraffe.



## A Day in the Life of Room 2



The leader of the day starts the day with calendar maths.

Once a week during maths, we complete a rich collaborative task. Today, we worked together to build a numberline. Our numbers are on t-shirts hanging on the washing line.



For spelling, we build words with magnetic letters and read them by making the sounds.



In the pool we work on our confidence in and under the water.



We do lots of learning together through games and playing and love to relax with a book.



# Totara Room 3

## Life Education

During the first few weeks of school, Totara had the exciting opportunity to visit the Life Education classroom and meet Harold for the very first time. We learned about nutrition and the different types of food our bodies need to stay healthy and full of energy. We were given shopping trolleys and worked together to sort foods into the correct food groups, such as protein, fruit and vegetables, milk and milk products, grains, and sometimes foods. We also discovered where our food comes from, some foods are made in factories, some grow on, above or under the ground, and others come from animals. Totara would like to say a big thank you to Abby, Harold, and Life Education for teaching us in such a fun and interactive way. We are already looking forward to our next visit!



## Classroom Culture



This term, we have been focusing on teamwork and what it truly means to work together. We explored the idea of being in a waka and imagined what would happen if everyone paddled in different directions. We quickly discovered that the waka would not move forward! To succeed, we need to paddle together and understand that we each have an important role to play. This learning connects to one of our whakataukī for the year: He waka eke noa - we are all in this together.



Totara was asked to complete a Culture Box as part of a special homework project. The box includes photos and meaningful items that represent their culture, family traditions, rituals, and routines. Some of these treasures are very special and precious to their whānau. Our tamariki have shown wonderful courage and pride while sharing their Culture Boxes with the class, it has been so special to see. This has been a fantastic way for us to learn more about the unique traditions and cultures within our classroom and to celebrate the diversity that makes Totara so special.

# PONGA RM 4



## TERM 1 UPDATE

### HAROLD THE GIRAFFE

Ponga was fortunate to be allocated two sessions visiting Harold the Giraffe in Weeks 2 and 3. The children learned about different types of food and gained an understanding of the importance of having a good variety of foods to support healthy eating. The tamariki were provided with their very own mini shopping trolleys to sort foods into the correct food groups.

They were over the moon to see and meet Harold again and for some, it was their very first time. We all had a blast learning about nutrition with Harold and Abby in a fun and interactive way. Thank you, Life Education!





## 2026 Bi/Triathlon

On Friday, 27th February, our whole school participated in our annual bi/triathlon. Our students showed a lot of grit and resilience in completing the challenging course. Seeing our senior students step up and run with their younger buddies was amazing.

Thank you to all of the parents who came and watched the event. A big thank you to the staff for helping run the event. Below is a list of results from the day.

### 5 Year Old Boys

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Sione Maile	Hudson Gibbison	Finn Nicol
<b>Triathlon</b>	Conrad Ryan	Reid Langeveld	Gurjazz Singh

### 5 Year Old Girls

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Nivaaz Badesha	Zoey DeZoete	Aoife Parkes
<b>Triathlon</b>	Mackenzie Russell	Myla-Rose Joyce	

### 6 Year Old Boys

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Maninder Pannu	Yuvaan Narayan	Reign Makuch
<b>Triathlon</b>	Ryan Mackrell	Coby Harker-Ferguson	Jordi Ngatai

### 6 Year Old Girls

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Lexi Viljoen	Brielle Cowley	Dil Judge
<b>Triathlon</b>	Addison Harris	Pippa Cloete	Claire Smith

### 7 Year Old Boys

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Shay Gill	Karlo Devicich	Caleb Hippolite
<b>Triathlon</b>	Harry Martin	Kit DeZoete	James Davison

### 7 Year Old Girls

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Lotti Phillips	Kaylee Wen	Lisa Jiang
<b>Triathlon</b>	Teagan Russell	Maia Langdon	Mia-Rose Storer

### 8 Year Old Boys

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Tyler Lester	Vivaan Patel	Shia Paterson
<b>Triathlon</b>	Archer Crellin	Danilo Standing	Nirmaan Pannu

### 8 Year Old Girls

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Georgia Esselbrugge	Murphy Cairns-Eade	Isla Cowley
<b>Triathlon</b>			

### 9 Year Old Boys

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Theo Cowley	Louie Baker	Theo Winikerei
<b>Triathlon</b>	Vincent Warner	Wyatt Harker-Ferguson	Liam Harrison

### 9 Year Old Girls

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Ada Westgate	Harper Moka	Dot Warbrick
<b>Triathlon</b>	Te Aria Kingi	Alice McGowan	Cleo Mackrell

### 10 Year Old Boys

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Luke Vann	Carter Cowley	Carter Turner-Thompson
<b>Triathlon</b>	Zac Hoebergen	Van Macdonald-Hooper	

### 10 Year Old Girls

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Ruby Wilson	Paige Robinson-Hastings	Mya Allen
<b>Triathlon</b>	Kayla van Rooij		

### 11 Year Old Boys

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Noxx Rogers	Kayden John	
<b>Triathlon</b>	Thomas Warner	Aston Burt	Harry Gyde

### 11 Year Old Girls

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Heidi Viljoen	Ashleigh McLaren	Hannah-Leah Warbrick
<b>Triathlon</b>	Indi Payne	Keana Kingi	

## 12 Year Old Boys

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Carter Moka	Koby Rose	Cameron Emslie
<b>Triathlon</b>	Riley Glover	Hugo Hodgson	

## 12 Year Old Girls

	<b>1st Place</b>	<b>2nd Place</b>	<b>3rd Place</b>
<b>Biathlon</b>	Kaylee Quinlan	Jasmine Lee	Anna Haldene
<b>Triathlon</b>	Miley Fraser		

## Values Vouchers 2026

<b>Week 2</b>		
	Rātā Room 1	
Claire Smith	Mānuka Room 2	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Edith Crellin	Tōtara Room 3	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Lexi Viljoen	Ponga Room 4	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Atlas Williams	Pūriri Room 6	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Violet Short	Mataī Room 7	For demonstrating the value of <b>empathy</b> .
Harper Moka	Nīkau Room 8	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Thomas Warner	Kauri Room 9	For demonstrating the value of <b>courage</b> .
Miley Fraser	Kahikatea Room 10	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .

<b>Week 3</b>		
Aria Augustus	Rātā Room 1	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
Roman Cronin-Boyle	Mānuka Room 2	For demonstrating the value of <b>courage</b>
Avitaj Sagar	Tōtara Room 3	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
Harry Martin	Ponga Room 4	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Isabelle Ryan	Pūriri Room 6	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
Taj Judge	Mataī Room 7	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
Link Doody	Nīkau Room 8	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Teagan Mancer	Kauri Room 9	For demonstrating the value of <b>courage</b> .
Talia Hefferon	Kahikatea Room 10	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .

<b>Week 4</b>		
Finn Nicol	Rātā Room 1	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
Lily Swain	Mānuka Room 2	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Eva Lu	Tōtara Room 3	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
James Davison	Ponga Room 4	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
Devyn Sharma	Pūriri Room 6	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
Carys Land	Mataī Room 7	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect</b> .
Shia Paterson	Nīkau Room 8	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
Evie Hodgson	Kauri Room 9	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning</b> .
	Kahikatea Room 10	

# Class Certificates

Week 3 - Term 1

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Zoey DeZoete	For being an active learner and showing a positive attitude towards her learning.
Rātā Room 1	Eknoor Kaur	For being respectful and showing great mat manners.
Mānuka Room 2	Olivia Etheridge	For learning lots of information about food with Harold the Giraffe.
Mānuka Room 2	Ryker Wenzlick	For being an active learner with a great attitude and giving your best effort.
Tōtara Room 3	Jordy McKinnon	For being such an active learner and helpful Room 3 class member.
Tōtara Room 3	Pippa Cloete	For being such an active learner and helpful Room 3 class member.
Ponga Room 4	Caleb Hippolite	For being an excellent leader and making good choices in class. Keep it up!
Ponga Room 4	Saydee Winikerei	For being an active learner and making good choices in class. Keep it up !
Mataī Room 7	Ruchika Minhas	For working hard in all areas of her learning.
Mataī Room 7	Wyatt Harker-Ferguson	For working hard in all areas of his learning.
Nīkau Room 8	Evie Hippolite	For her active learning in literacy and being a great role model for others.
Nīkau Room 8	Arlo Clarke-Gray	For his enthusiastic attitude to all things maths!
Kauri Room 9	Harry Gyde	For consistently showing our school values in all areas of his learning.
Kauri Room 9	Indiana Payne	For consistently showing our school values in all areas of her learning.
Kahikatea Room 10	Ivy Lu	For your positive attitude and hard work in all that you do.
Kahikatea Room 10	Koby Rose	For your hard work and focus in writing today.

## Community Notices and Advertising

Gumboots & Grasshoppers



Childcare & Learning Centre

**ENROL NOW**

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