



School Newsletter

www.rotokauri.school.nz

Issue: 8 - 11 June 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 1 - Raaya Sami

Kia ora koutou

I hope that everyone enjoyed their extra long King's Birthday weekend. We are now beginning the colder months of the school year. Please ensure that children are wearing appropriate clothing for the weather conditions and also appropriate for school.

Good luck to our Year 7 & 8 EPRO8 team (Kaylee, Hugo, Cameron, Koby) for next week when they are competing in the North Island final in Rotorua. We know that you will try your best and do our school proud.

- **Rotokauri School policy for cellphone and digital devices**

This follows the mandated guidelines from the Ministry of Education (effective from April 2024) which states that students do not use or access a mobile phone, SmartWatch etc while they are attending school or visiting outside the school grounds but on a school event or excursion.

There will be some circumstances where a mobile phone is required. The 'Away For The Day' rules allow students to use or access a mobile phone in certain circumstances -

a phone is needed for health reasons

a phone is needed to help a student with a disability or learning support need

a phone is needed for another acceptable reason

The Principal may give an exemption if the parents/caregivers have provided a satisfactory explanation for the phone to be at school - the phone must be handed in first thing in class and then brought to the office every time it is at school.

- **Attendance**

This week I was fortunate enough to meet with an advisor from the Ministry of Education regarding Rotokauri School's Attendance Management Plan. They wanted to emphasize the importance of regular attendance. If your child has been absent for extended periods of time during a term (10 days, 15 days or more than 15 days) you will receive an email from the school and this information is shared with the Ministry of Education. Once again, along with the Ministry of Education we strongly encourage time away from school, other than sickness, to be minimal if possible.

If you are removing your child for tutoring, counselling or going on holidays/excursions during school time then the appropriate paperwork (Request for leave) must be completed. Unfortunately if this paperwork is not completed then your child will be recorded as unjustified, unexplained or truant. Thank you to those parents that have emailed the paperwork for signing off or have popped in to the office to explain these circumstances.

Regular ongoing lateness will also be addressed with an email from the school.

- **Update from Ministry of Education regarding free period products**

Our school is part of the Ministry of Education's nationwide Ikura initiative, which provides free period products for students.

This programme makes sure that no young person has to miss learning, sport, cultural activities or feel uncomfortable at school because they don't have access to the products they need. Ikura provide a range of liners, pads and tampons to the school to distribute.

Students are encouraged to take as much as they need, including during holidays.

Products can be ordered via Kindo at any time during the year and the products will be discreetly supplied to the student.

Any questions please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Sharon in the office.

- **Some exciting news** - the school has been successful in securing an eye-opening, hard-hitting and often hilarious in-person 'Parent Cyber Safety Evening presented by filmmaker, author and speaker Rob Cope. The "Parent Cyber Safety Evening" covers the following:
 - **Cyberbullying** - How bullies can reach our kids 24/7
 - **Social media** - How social media is affecting the mental health of 3 out of 5 children. FOMO, depression, anxiety
 - **Gaming and the developing brain** – An oversupply of dopamine leading to dopamine deficiency, synaptic pruning, and the underdevelopment of social skills and empathy
 - **Naked Selfies** - The pressure to send nudes from intermediate up through high school
 - **Online predators** - The methods they use, and how to spot them
 - **Online porn vs healthy sexuality** - How consuming online pornography as a child or teen can create a sexual template where violence, aggression, and dominance are seen as normal and consent can become very blurry.
 - **AI** - Growing concerns around Companion bots, Deepfakes, Voice Cloning, Algorithmic Radicalisation

Solutions

- **Filters** - Which filters are best and how to install them
- **Smartphones** - How to lock down a smartphone to make it a safe phone
- **Boundaries** - How to put good boundaries in place around device use
- **3 golden rules** - The 3 golden rules that will keep your kids safe
- **Talking to your kids** - How to have difficult conversations with your kids
- **Challenging our own phone and device usage** - Reconnecting as a family.

When will this be? Put it in your diary - Monday 27th July at 6.30 pm

Who is it for? Anybody with children

Venue: still to be confirmed

Further information regarding ticket purchasing will be available soon.

Have fun at the disco tonight and keep warm everyone.

Ngaa mihi

Desiree Smith

Principal

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

TERM 2	
Thursday 11 June	PTA Disco - PJ party
Monday 15 June	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 16 June	5.30 p.m PTA meeting
Friday 19 June	Tough Guy/Tough Gal
Monday 22 June	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Friday 26 June	Ki-o-rahi Tournament
Monday 29 June	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Wednesday 1 July	Parent Interviews
Thursday 2 July	Parent Interviews
Friday 3 July	Last day of Term 2

PTA NEWS

Thanks for all the support for our recent Dominos dough fundraiser, which raised over \$300 towards our pump track.

Treat yourself and support our school!

Enjoy meals out, family adventures, shopping and more with an Entertainment Membership! With **up to 50% off thousands of offers across New Zealand**, including many local Waikato businesses, the savings can quickly add up.

A 12-month membership costs **\$75**, making it a wonderful gift for grandparents, friends, or family members too.

Every membership purchased helps support our school, so if you decide to join, please remember to select **Rotokauri School** as your fundraiser.

Find out more and join today at Entertainment NZ:

<https://www.entertainmentnz.com/>

Upcoming events:

Don't forget - there will be two school discos tonight. Students are encouraged to wear their PJs!

- Junior Disco: 5.45–6.45pm (Years 1 - 4)
- Senior Disco: 7.00–8.30pm (Years 5 - 8)

Please note that students can only attend with a signed permission slip, which was sent home yesterday. For food prices, please see the list attached to the newsletter email.

Students are invited to wear their own pyjamas to school on Friday (tomorrow) and bring a gold coin **koha**. We will donate all these funds to the Kindness Collective's PJ Project, which helps Kiwi kids to stay warm throughout winter. If you would rather donate a pair of new pyjamas that would be appreciated as well. For every \$10 the school raises it goes towards providing a child in need with their special pyjamas.

EXCITING NEWS!

Save the date: our much-loved **car show and gala** is making a return on the **14th November**. Start saving your empty jars now for the popular jar toss! We would really love some more support on our car show team; if you can lend a hand with planning, we would love to hear from you.

Please join the **Rotokauri School PTA Facebook** page for updates on fundraisers and events.

The next PTA meeting will take place at school on 11th August at 6.30pm. We always welcome new members.

For more information you can contact us at pta@rotokauri.school.nz

GENERAL INFORMATION

Junior Tough Guy and Gal Challenge - 19 June 2026

We are 8 sleeps away from New Zealand's biggest mud run series The Junior Tough Guy and Gal Challenge. Information about the event was sent via email on Monday evening. Please email Ms Jaimee Carter jaimee.carter@rotokauri.school.nz if you did not receive the email information regarding travel arrangements.

Please note that there is a new timetable of the day for the 2026 series

9.30 – 10.30am: Registration and late entries

11.00am: Wave starts of approx 80 children to spread everyone out (Years 7-8, Years 5-6, Years 3-4)

12.45pm: Prize-giving

A reminder that if your child is travelling with another parent, to pack a black sack to keep all their wet muddy clothes in.

What to wear

It is compulsory to wear covered in shoes during the event. You will get wet and muddy. A dry set of clothing, beanie and jacket is highly recommended following your event. Football or Rugby boots with moulded studs are acceptable, running spikes or boots with aluminium studs are not permitted.

We will once again try to take out brightest school (we were the winners in 2024). Your child is welcome to dress up in a bright coloured outfit for the day.

Preordered Merchandise

Any merchandise that has been preordered will be collected by me when I collect the race numbers. If you have not ordered any merchandise, there are cash sales on the day.

Kauri Room 9

WAR! - By Ruby Wilson

Claps of thunder touched the ground. Boom! A person drops like a fly. Crash! Another drops like an ant. Bang! A third obliterated. The ground hard as rock. I didn't know if I'd make it, war was tough. The guns, fear and bullets scared me.

I looked around and saw the Russians glaring at us. Their eyes were as black as ash. My throat hurt as I thought of home. It's spring now the lambs would be born and flowers would be blossoming. All of a sudden, I heard screaming. I turned and saw my friend on the ground. Red blood spewing everywhere. She's hit. I was the only one left...

Suddenly, I heard my name and turned my head. Bang! I felt as if a sword had pierced my skin. I'd been hit. I stumbled to the ground, until I lay motionless...

A loud air raid siren almost made me deaf. It was over, I put my gun down and walked to the gate. I felt ashamed that my team had lost. All I heard was the enemy team cheering and only saw the pink paint on my chest. Paint ball was fun but being in war wasn't.

Toyota Corolla - By Zac Hoebergen

It was the 1920s. Two elderly people bought me. They looked weird but normal. They took me home and put me under a tarp. The tarp crackled as they walked away.

Later that day, I could hear the rustle of clothes getting shoved under me. I can hear someone in a car. "Zzzz! Vroom!" The sound of a fast car emerged from depths of the garage. I could hear the elderly people confidently driving out of the tunnel, roaring like a tiger as they exited, leaving me behind.

All I could hear for two hours, was cars beeping and kids shouting.

The couple returned home. Through a hole near my headlight I could see two black duffle bags. I could not see what was in them...

The next morning, I woke up in an underground tunnel leading to an insane asylum. In a room beside me, I could see the two duffle bags full of money and gold. Something didn't feel right. I felt someone tweaking my motor. They took me out and returned me home under the crusty, dusty tarp.

Five years later, they finally sold the house but they didn't take me...

The new owners drove me down the block.

BANG!

Me and my passenger were never to be seen again.

Turns out, it was not a weird couple's house. It was the bank manager's beach house. They had scammed the bank for years. I am still here but watching... from the sky.

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

Values

Week 6		
Mackenzie Russell	Rātā Room 1	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Conrad Ryan	Mānuka Room 2	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Ivey Griffin	Tōtara Room 3	For demonstrating the value of honesty .
Ben Fyers	Ponga Room 4	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Colette Griffin	Mataī Room 7	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Grayson Ireton	Nīkau Room 8	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Theo Winikerei	Kauri Room 9	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Kaylee Quinlan	Kahikatea Room 10	For demonstrating the value of respect .

Week 7		
Finn Nicol	Rātā Room 1	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Asees Kaur	Mānuka Room 2	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Kabir Hari	Tōtara Room 3	For demonstrating the value of courage .
Psalm Rhind	Ponga Room 4	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Charlotte Land	Mataī Room 7	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Nirmaan Pannu	Pūriri Room 6	For demonstrating the value of honesty .
Georgia Esselbrugge	Nīkau Room 8	For demonstrating the value of honesty .
Ellie-Rose Anderson	Kauri Room 9	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Mackenzie O'Rourke	Kahikatea Room 10	For demonstrating the value of respect .

Class Certificates - Week 6 - Term 2

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Reid Langeveld	For showing a big improvement with his handwriting!
Rātā Room 1	Zoey DeZoete	For doing a fantastic job with her independant writing!
Mānuka Room 2	Aoife Parkes	For your fantastic story writing with the teacher and independently.
Mānuka Room 2	Abby Hippolite	For your improvement in your handwriting. Ka pai!
Tōtara Room 3	Layla Tremayne	You have been working so hard in your math work. Keep it up!
Tōtara Room 3	Maninder Pannu	You have been so focused in your learning. Keep it up!
Ponga Room 4	CJ McNabb	For being an encouraging and supportive classmate. You help create a safe and positive learning environment.
Ponga Room 4	Kash Wiseman	For always lending a helping hand. It is much appreciated.
Pūriri Room 6	Everly Baker	For focusing and completing your tasks on time.
Pūriri Room 6	Manraj Paanu	For practicing your independence.
Mataī Room 7	Charlotte Land	For doing really well with her poems.
Mataī Room 7	Evie Bourne	For working hard in maths and showing empathy.
Nīkau Room 8	Ayaan Kotte Godage	For some very creative thinking and art design making a crown.
Nīkau Room 8	Cooper Wiseman	For some very creative thinking and art design making a crown.
Kauri Room 9	Sophie Quinlan	For thinking carefully about her use of language features in her writing.
Kauri Room 9	Theo Winikerei	For thinking carefully about his use of language features in his writing.
Kahikatea Room 10	Scarlett Swain	For showing courage and leading our school assembly today.
Kahikatea Room 10	Mackenzie O'Rourke	For working hard and being an active learner in class this week.

Class Certificates - Week 7 - Term 2

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Neeshay Mani	For always being a respectful and polite member of Room 1.
Rātā Room 1	Vansh Prajapati	For becoming more confident and independent at school.
Mānuka Room 2	Roman Cronin-Boyle	For being an active learner and working so hard with your writing.
Mānuka Room 2	Conrad Ryan	For your active learning in reading. Be proud of your effort and keep it up.
Tōtara Room 3	Avitaj Singh	For your awesome efforts you have been putting into your writing. Keep it up.
Tōtara Room 3	Flynn Smith - Thorpe	For your fantastic efforts you put into your reading. You are working so hard.
Ponga Room 4	Ameera Stevenson	For being an active learner. You showed readiness to learn and respect on the mat this week.
Ponga Room 4	Yuvaan Narayan	For being an active learner. You showed readiness to learn and respect on the mat this week.
Pūriri Room 6	Karlo Devcich	For working hard to improve his writing.
Pūriri Room 6	Calista Baker Smith	For demonstrating being an active learner through listening and responding.
Mataī Room 7	Cohen O'Brien	For working hard on his space research.
Mataī Room 7	Alex Oldham	For working hard in his maths. Well done.
Nīkau Room 8	Piper McNabb	For being an active learner and working so hard with your handwriting.
Nīkau Room 8	Murphy Cairns-Eade	For being an active learner and working so hard with your writing.
Kauri Room 9	Luke Vann	For staying on task and completing work independently.
Kauri Room 9	Milos Standring	For persevering when faced with challenges.
Kahikatea Room 10	Esme Gyde	For being an active learner and taking pride in your work. You always complete work to a high standard.
Kahikatea Room 10	Hugo Hodgson	For your great imagination in our narrative writing.

Community Notices and Advertising


Gumboots & Grasshoppers



Childcare & Learning Centre

ENROL NOW

Ph: 07 595 0514

info@gumbootsandgrasshoppers.co.nz 
www.gumbootsandgrasshoppers.co.nz

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New Shoots Rotokauri Open Day

New Shoots Rotokauri is getting ready to open on Rotokauri Road, right next to the school, and we're excited to be joining the local community.

With light-filled rooms, natural play spaces, and a rural outlook across the surrounding paddocks, the centre has been designed as a place where pēpi, toddlers and preschoolers can learn, explore and grow.

YOUR INVITED JOIN US AT OUR OPEN DAY

Date: Saturday 20 June

Time: From 10am to 2pm

Families are warmly invited to come along to our Open Day before we officially open. Bring the family, pop in for a coffee, enjoy an ice cream, meet the team, and explore our beautiful new space. No RSVP required, please just drop in.

New Shoots Rotokauri will officially open Monday 22 June. To enquire or book a centre tour, please visit newshoots.co.nz/rotokauri or email rotokauri@newshoots.co.nz.



new shoots
CHILDREN'S CENTRE

**Rotokauri
Open Day**

**SATURDAY
20th JUNE
10am - 2pm**

Corner of Rotokauri Road
and Bagust Road - Rotokauri,
Hamilton

Come and grab a coffee / Ice cream, get your face painted and celebrate the opening of New Shoots Rotokauri with us!

Bring the whānau for a fun-filled day as you explore our beautiful new centre and meet our team.

WWW.HAMCITYGYM.CO.NZ

HAMILTON CITY GYMNASTICS WINTER

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME



FULL DAY
\$69

8.00am – 5.30pm



SCHOOL DAY
\$52

8.30am – 3.00pm



AGES
5 - 13



EACH DAY INCLUDES –
GYMNASTICS SESSION,
ARTS AND CRAFTS,
TEAM CHALLENGES



OSCAR
ACCREDITED!



SCAN TO
SIGN UP!



**6-17TH
JULY 2026**

CLOSED FOR MATARIKI
– FRIDAY 10TH JULY



07 849 45 46



3 Mainstreet Place
Te Rapa



office@hamcitygym.co.nz



NEW ZEALAND'S OWN

CIRCUS OF ILLUSION

MAGIC SHOW



HAMILTON

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SUNDAY 5TH JULY 2PM

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HOLIDAY PROGRAM

KIDS RUGBY CAMP



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\$60 PER DAY

HAMILTON
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13th & 14th July
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13th & 14th July
Hautapu Sports Club

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5-13 years old
13th & 14th July
Otorohanga Sports Club

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