



# School Newsletter

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

Issue: 18 - 12 December 2025

**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)



### 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

Kia ora Rotokauri School whaanau

Welcome to the last newsletter for 2025. The year has gone so quickly and we have achieved so much! Reflecting on the year we are proud to have provided so many extra opportunities for our students to grow.

Rotokauri Primary School - together we grow, together we learn. Experiences from 2025	
Whole school picnic (Mangakara Nature Walk)	Get Set Go Day at Horotiu
Visit from motorcyclist Josh Coppins	School biathlon/triathlon
Swimming Sports (seniors) at St Pauls	Cricket sessions
Tech	EPRO8
Lit Quiz	Junior Football Tournament
PTA discos	Junior Tough Guy Tough Gal
Ki-o-rahi Tournament	Matariki - Observatory visit and rotations
Senior Market Day	School Cross Country
Positive Puberty lessons	Whole school speeches
Visit by Olympian	AIMS Games
Kapa Haka noho	Waikato Full Primary Cross Country at Rotokauri
Whole school production	Student Led Conferences
Kapa Haka Festival at Horotiu	Agricultural Day
Keeping Ourselves Safe lessons (Police)	Group Day
Bookfair	Grandparents Day
Junior Tabloids (Te Uku)	Athletics
Camp for Year 5 - 8 students	PTA Twilight Gala

On Tuesday 9th December we held a thank you morning tea for all the volunteers that have supported the school over the year. We are grateful for the way that they give their time to support our students and the staff recognised their contributions. Without their support many of the above experiences would not be able to take place. We are grateful for the parents, grandparents, community members that help us with -

<b>Supporters of Rotokauri 2025</b>	
Agricultural Day help and organisation	Team coaches or managers
Camp volunteers	Trip transport
Homework helpers	Classroom helper
AIMS manager & supporters (fundraising)	PMP helper
Kapa Haka tutors	Production assistance

### **Farewell to our Year 8 learners**

On Thursday 11th December, the Year 8 students celebrated their graduation from Rotokauri School by sharing a lunch together and enjoying Ten Pin Bowling. Thank you to the staff and parents that were available to transport these students. Many of the students have been with us since they turned 5. We will miss our Year 8 cohort and wish them well. We hope that they leave with fond memories of their time at Rotokauri and they remember the values of REACH as they venture on to high school. Good luck to Chloe Gyde, Bella Gyde, Liam Surgenor, Ava Esselbrugge, Luca Rogers, Rebecca Cameron, Mya Hoebergen, Aniket Raju, Kade Calnan, Nihil Maharaj, Jaxson Williams, Elsie van Rooij, Shaan Judge, Cooper-Love Buckle, Isaac Steger, Cavalier Kingi, Cody Wade, Koby Payne and Peyton Martin.

### **Farewell**

We would like to wish other students leaving the school the best of luck for their new educational journey - Jayden Day, Tyler Akania, Lucas Birchall, Corban Stratford, Maddox Stratford (Maeroa), Elijah Sinclair (Leamington), Stefan Booyens (HCS), Blake Oulton-Hewitt (Ngatea) and Malachi Buckle (Aberdeen).

### **Staff**

We farewell Mrs Raewyn O'Brien at the end of this year as she embarks on new retirement challenges. Thank you for the heart, care and dedication you have shown towards our tamariki and the Rotokauri TEAM. You leave with our gratitude and our very best wishes. We are going to miss you very much.

### **Celebrating our student leaders**

Today, Friday 12th December, we thank our student leaders with a fun day and pizza. It has been an honour to be surrounded by a great bunch of leaders who have contributed in many different ways to our kura - Student Councillors, Cultural Ambassadors, Road Patrollers, House Captains and Peer Mediators.

## Amnesty

A big thank you to everyone who has returned their library books and school readers, we appreciate your help in keeping our school collection in great shape. There are still a number of books missing from our shelves. If you have anything belonging to the school at home please return it as soon as possible.

## School Stationery 2026

Stationery information will be with your child's school report given out on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**Last day of school for 2025 is Wednesday 17th December. School finishes early on this day at 12.30 p.m.**

## What's Coming Up?

<b>Monday 15th December</b>	Prizegiving 6.00 p.m on the school field
<b>Tuesday 16th December</b>	Reports come home Meet the new teacher 10.30 a.m
<b>Wednesday 17th December</b>	Term 4 finishes - 12.30 p.m

## Term dates for 2026

<b>Term 1</b>	2nd February - 2nd April	6th February - Waitangi Day
<b>Term 2</b>	20th April - 3rd July	27th April - Anzac Day Observance 1st June - King's Birthday
<b>Term 3</b>	20th July - 25th September	
<b>Term 4</b>	12th October - 11th December	26th October - Labour Day

Enjoy the week ahead and I hope to see lots of you at our prizegiving on Monday evening.

Ngaa mihi nui

Desiree Smith  
Principal

# CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

## Values Vouchers

Week 8		
Asees Kaur	Room 1	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect.</b>
Jordy McKinnon	Room 2	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning.</b>
Kian Chand	Room 3	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect.</b>
Isabelle Ryan	Room 4	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect.</b>
Aoife Parkes	Room 5	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect.</b>
Ryan Bhagat	Room 6	For demonstrating the value of <b>honesty.</b>
Cohen O'Brien	Room 7	For demonstrating the value of <b>honesty.</b>
Dot Warbrick	Room 8	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning.</b>
Heidi Viljoen	Room 9	For demonstrating the value of <b>empathy.</b>

Week 9		
Myla-Rose Joyce	Room 1	For demonstrating the value of <b>honesty.</b>
Ryan Mackrell	Room 2	For demonstrating the value of <b>courage.</b>
Malachi Buckle	Room 3	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect.</b>
Tyler Lester	Room 4	For demonstrating the value of <b>honesty.</b>
Abby Hippolite	Room 5	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect.</b>
Chloe Moka	Room 6	For demonstrating the value of <b>honesty.</b>
Zac Hoebergen	Room 7	For demonstrating the value of <b>honesty.</b>
Eason Lu	Room 8	For demonstrating the value of <b>active learning.</b>
Mackenzie O'Rourke	Room 9	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect.</b>
Ella Wen	Room 10	For demonstrating the value of <b>respect.</b>

## Class Certificates

Week 8 - Term 4

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Hudson Gibbison	For demonstrating our REACH values in all he does at school. Keep it up Hudson!
Rātā Room 1	Isla Hewitt	For always being an Active Learner and making fabulous progress in literacy. Well done Isla!
Mānuka Room 2	Ryan Mackrell	For being a valued member of Room 2. We appreciate you Ryan.
Mānuka Room 2	Eva Lu	For helping us out and contributing to Room 2 in your special way. Thank you Eva.
Tōtara Room 3	Karish Bhagat	For being an awesome Room 3 role model.
Tōtara Room 3	Kian Chand	For being an awesome Room 3 role model.
Ponga Room 4	Calista Baker	For working hard in your reading and learning new spelling patterns.
Ponga Room 4	Manraj Pannu	For working hard in your reading and learning new spelling patterns.
Rimu Room 5	Reid Langeveld	For trying his best to be a good friend.
Rimu Room 5	Sione Maile	For showing improvement in his reading.
Pūriri Room 6	Alice McGowan	For your amazing story this week on Fisherman Fred and Captain Hook
Pūriri Room 6	Poppy Sadler-Singh	For being a quiet achiever, you are noticed and appreciated
Mataī Room 7	Van MacDonald-Hooper	For being very committed to his water science project.
Mataī Room 7	Harry Gyde	For being very committed to his water science project.
Nīkau Room 8	Colette Griffin	For showing courage and active learning in our science experiments.
Nīkau Room 8	Avneet Sangha	For showing courage and active learning in our science experiments.
Kahikatea Room 10	Liam Surgenor	For your excellent Camp Raglan recount writing.
Kahikatea Room 10	Jasmine Lee	For your fantastic writing about Camp Raglan and your overall progress in your writing.

## Week 9 - Term 4

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Flynn Smith-Thorpe	For making fabulous progress in maths. Well done Flynn!
Rātā Room 1	Avyaan Sagar	For being an Active Learner and working hard to do his best. Keep it up Avyaan!
Mānuka Room 2	Summer Martin	For working hard in writing this week, you wrote a great story about a big fire.
Mānuka Room 2	Sienna Bain	For your great effort in maths this week, you worked very hard.
Tōtara Room 3	Karlo Devcich	For showing great effort and improvement in your writing.
Tōtara Room 3	Lisa Jiang	For improving so much in your reading you have made great progress.
Ponga Room 4	Vivaan Patel	For showing honesty in your letter to Santa. I know he would have appreciated it.
Ponga Room 4	Logan and Carter Beer	For being awesome role models during school singing and assemblies.
Rimu Room 5	Sione Maile	For being a good friend and showing the school value Empathy!
Rimu Room 5	Mya McNabb	For a great effort with her daily reading.
Mataī Room 7	Noxx Rogers	For working hard on finding his research information.
Mataī Room 7	Tyler Akania	For working hard on his research.
Nīkau Room 8	Taj Judge	For consistently giving her best effort, showing quiet determination, and being a positive role model every day.
Nīkau Room 8	Liam Harrison	In recognition of your positive attitude and safe play in the playground this week. Awesome effort!



## Community Notices and Advertising

The Waipā King Country Life Education Trust will be visiting our school soon with the mobile classroom.

Abby, a trained teacher, along with Harold the Giraffe, will deliver interactive lessons that support our health curriculum and encourage students to make positive choices.



I'll see you soon  
**Rotokauri  
School**

**11th-19th  
February 2026**



**We have selected the following  
topics to be covered...**

**Years 0-8 - Food and Nutrition**  
Looking at how our bodies need fuel for energy!

**HAROLD  
MERCH**

**ALL PROFITS GO TOWARDS  
WAIPĀ/ KING-COUNTRY  
LIFE EDUCATION TRUST**



**HAROLD  
SHOE  
CHARMS**



**\$5  
EACH**

**HAROLD'S  
SPOTS BOOK**



**\$20  
EACH**

**YOU CAN PURCHASE  
MERCH FROM ABBY AT  
LUNCHTIME TIME ON  
WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY**

**WHILE STOCKS LAST  
CASH ONLY  
PLEASE PLACE IN LABELLED ENVELOPE  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

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