

School Newsletter

www.rotokauri.school.nz

Issue: 14 - 17 October 2025

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.



WELCOME

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

Room 5 - Roman Cronin Boyle, Aiofe Parkes and Reid Langeveld

Room 6 - Alice McGowan

PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

Welcome back to the final term of 2025. My apologies for the newsletter being a day late but it has been an extremely busy week with two big events for the school, the Kapa Haka Festival and Agricultural Day and for myself two days of professional development. I hope that the students enjoyed their holidays. They have come back excited about the busy term ahead.

Firstly, a number of thank yous.

Thank you to all the families that attended the Student Led Conferences last week. This is a great opportunity for the students to share their successes with the parents and show them what they have been doing in their classes and in their books. Teachers are happy to reschedule times for any parents that were unable to attend last week. By attending you are showing your children that you support and value their learning journey.

Thank you to the families that attended the Kapa Haka Festival on Tuesday at Horotiu. The students really did appreciate your presence in the audience on a very wet day. To Rachel Warbrick and Kohine a special thank you for all your assistance supporting Whaea Julie and the children throughout the year and at the festival.

Thank you to Sarah-Lee Crellin, Debbie Harrison and Kerri Tipene for the incredible amount of work that they have put in this year organising the Agricultural Day. What an amazing event - there was a lovely community spirit present throughout the day and it was great to see so many students awarded prizes for their efforts, both inside the classroom and in the rings. Group Day is this Monday 20th October at Gordonton School. I look forward to seeing Rotokauri students competing on the day.

Secondly, next week we have the Bookfair at school, Book Character Day, Grandparents Day and the Teachers Strike. The Bookfair will be in the MPR and is open daily at these times - Monday, Tuesday and Friday 8.30 am - 9.00 am and 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm, Wednesday 8.30 am to 3.30 pm. Eftpos facilities are available. Students will be visiting the Bookfair with their classes and will come home with their wishlists. On Friday 24th October we will have a Book Character Day where staff and students can dress up as their favourite book character. There will be prizes for each class for the best dressed, so get creative.

We also have Grandparents Day on Wednesday 22nd October. This will start at 9.15 a.m with the grandparents visiting the classrooms and spending time with their grandchildren. They might play a game with the children or be interviewed about their school days. At 10.30 am we will have a combined morning tea for children and adults. Could each family please provide a plate for morning tea. This can be brought to the MPR from 8.30 - 9.00 am After morning tea we will have a short assembly. Once the assembly is over families are welcome to take the children home to spend quality time with the grandparents.

On Thursday 23rd October Rotokauri School will be CLOSED for instruction due to the teachers and support staff strike. This decision was made as there is not enough non-striking staff members to safely open the school. The reason for the strike is the lack of progress with the collective agreement negotiations.

We have a full term ahead of us so please keep checking the school calendar and pencil in your diaries the following dates -

| , | _ |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Monday 20th October | Tech - Year 7 & 8 Group Day at Gordonton School |
| Monday 20th - Friday 24th October | Bookfair |
| Wednesday 22nd October | Year 8 Vaccinations Grandparents Day |
| Thursday 23rd October | Strike Action - School Closed |
| Friday 24th October | Book Character Dress Up Day |
| Monday 27th October | Labour Day - School Closed |
| Tuesday 28th October | PTA meeting - 6 p.m |
| Friday 31st October | Junior Tabloids (Year 1 & 2) at Te Uku School Senior Athletics |
| Monday 3rd November | Tech - Year 7 & 8 |
| Thursday 6th November | Junior Athletics |
| Friday 7th November | Gumboot Friday |
| Monday 10th November | Year 5 & 6 leave for camp at Raglan |
| Wednesday 12th November | Year 5 & 6 return from camp at Raglan |
| Monday 17th November | Tech - Year 7 & 8 |
| Tuesday 18th November | Year 7 & 8 leave for camp at Raglan BOT meeting 5.30 p.m |
| Friday 21st November | Year 7 & 8 return from camp at Raglan Cluster Athletics at Bremworth (8+ years) |
| Monday 24th November | Tech - Year 7 & 8 |

| Monday 1st December | Tech - Year 7 & 8 |
|-------------------------|--|
| Saturday 6th December | PTA Twilight Gala & Market(4 - 7 pm) |
| Monday 8th December | Teacher Only Day - school closed |
| Tuesday 9th December | PTA meeting 6 p.m |
| Thursday 11th December | PTA Disco - Christmas theme |
| Monday 15th December | Prizegiving 6 pm on the school field |
| Tuesday 16th December | Meet the new teachers/classes (2026) BOT meeting 5.30 p.m |
| Wednesday 17th December | Last day for the year - finish at 12.30 pm |
| Monday 2 February 2026 | First day of 2026 |

Ngaa mihi Desiree Smith Principal

BOT NEWS

Presiding Member

At the first meeting of our newly elected School Board there was an election held for the Presiding Member position and Mr Brad Kells was successful.

On behalf of our school community, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Paul Burt for his many years of dedicated service on our Board of Trustees. Paul's thoughtful leadership, commitment to our tamariki and steady contribution to the governance of our school have made a lasting impression. We are grateful for the many hours he has given to ensure that Rotokauri School continues to grow and thrive.

Thank you Paul for your hard work, integrity and experience that you brought to our Board table.

GENERAL INFORMATION

New Books

We are thrilled with this latest purchase of brand new decodable texts. These books are specially designed to support early readers as they develop decoding skills.

At \$8 a book and several copies of each book needed for group teaching, it can be a costly exercise. But as a school, we believe our children deserve high quality material.

This purchase was made possible thanks to the generosity of one of our families, whose donation has allowed us to provide more books for our students. A huge thank you to the family for their support. We are truly grateful.



Calendars

It's Calendar Art time again!

The students have been busy creating artwork that can be made into affordable Calendars, Cards, Diaries, Mouse Mats and Sketch Pads.

Each product is made from your own child's art.

These make unique Christmas gifts for family and friends and are perfect for posting overseas.

Follow these instructions to view your child's art and/or place an order online:

1/. Go to www.kidsartworks.com

2/. Use the Entrance Code: KZ1385

3/. Enter your child's room & name when prompted

The order is open from Monday 13 October until Friday 31 October

Payment can be made over the Kids Artworks website via credit card or account2account. (not via our school Kindo system)

Keep an eye out shortly for a flyer coming home.

Got a family photo or other artwork you would like to use instead?? No worries - follow the prompts on the website for uploading your own artworks.

If you have any questions please contact Jaimee Carter - jcarter@rotokauri.school.nz

Medications

Please ensure that you come to the school office to fill out a medical form if your child requires medication during school hours. Please do not bring 3 times a day antibiotics to school to be administered - this dose is manageable at home. Only 4 times a day antibiotics will be given at school if needed. If your child needs to use an inhaler please ensure that they are brought to school, named and in a sealed plastic bag. No medications can be administered without written permission.

If medication is held at school please take the time to check expiry dates and how much medication is available throughout the year, so that if needed the medication will work correctly when administered.

If your child has an allergy, is asthmatic or has other medical conditions that require a health plan please let the school office know so that these plans can be completed or updated (as per the Ministry of Health regulations).

CELEBRATIONS

Agricultural Day Results 2025 Lamb

Lamb Points Trophy – Scarlett Swain - 42 Points Most Obvious Pet Trophy – Arlo Hewitt Lamb Leading Trophy – Edie Crellin Lamb Rearing Shield – Edie Crellin



Goat

Doug McFarlane Shield – Point Trophy – Alex Oldham - 38 points Goat Most Obvious Pet Trophy – Liam Harrison Goat Leading Trophy – Alex Oldham Goat Rearing Trophy – Alex Oldham

Calf

Calf Points Trophy – Rebecca Cameron – 42 points Calf Leading Trophy – Rebecca Cameron Calf Rearing Shield – Rebecca Cameron Dairy Type Trophy – Rebecca Cameron



Rearing Champion - Ava Esselbrugge Rearing Reserve Champion - Chloe Gyde

Most Obvious Pet Champion - Jameson Walker
Most Obvious Pet Reserve Champion - Ava Esselbrugge

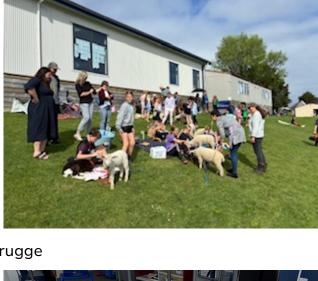
Sub Junior Champion - Jordy McKinnon Sub Junior Reserve Champion - Jameson Walker

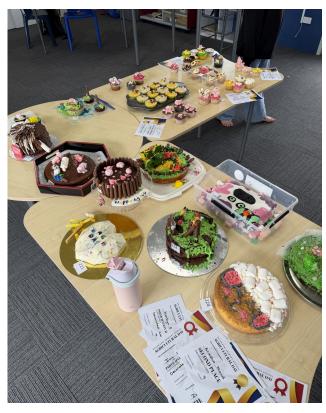
Junior Champion - Maia Langdon Junior Reserve Champion - Sean Parkes

Intermediate Champion - Ada Westgate Intermediate Reserve Champion - Harry Gyde

Senior Champion - Ava Esselbrugge Senior Reserve Champion - Chloe Gyde

Champion Chicken - Ava Esselbrugge Reserve Champion - Chloe Gyde





Indoor exhibits

Class Awards

Room 5 - Lily Swain

Room 1 - Zack O'Brien

Room 2 - Pippa Cloete

Room 3 - Lexi Viljoen

Room 4 - Isabelle Ryan

Room 6 - Zaylee van den Heever

Room 7 - Ashleigh McLaren

Room 8 - Khloe Bennett

Room 9 - Heidi Viljoen & Miley Fraser

Room 10 - Ava Esselbrugge

Junior Champion - Lexi Viljoen

Junior Reserve Champion - Zaylee van den Heever

Senior Champion - Ava Esselbrugge

Senior Reserve Champion - Elsie van Rooij



Room 10 - Elsie van Rooij

Room 9 - Mackenzie O'Rourke

Room 8 - Vincent Warner

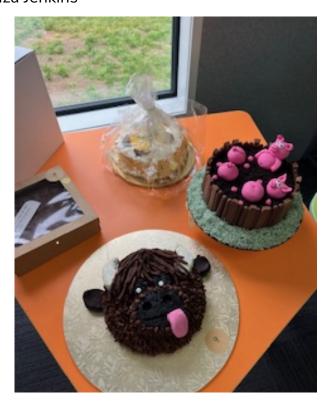
Room 7 - Ruby Wilson

Recycled Creations - sponsored by Hamilton Zoo

Shepard Cairns-Eade

Zaylee van den Heever

Eliza Jenkins









The 2025 Rotokauri Agricultural day is proudly sponsored by:





Greater Waikato Veterinary Services (Inc)







Dairy for life









Class Certifficates

Week 10 - Term 3

| Class | Student's Name | Certificate Comment |
|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| Rātā Room 1 | Delilah Andrew | For being an active learner in reading and blending sounds to read words. Keep it up! |
| Rātā Room 1 | Asees Kaur | For her awesome work in our Jump Jam performance at the production. Well done Asees! |
| Mānuka Room 2 | Mānuka Room 2 | For your outstanding performance of Jump Jam on the stage and showing all the values. |
| Mānuka Room 2 | Jameson Walker | For your efforts in writing independently. Super learning. |
| Ponga Room 4 | Calista Baker Smith | For your awesome courage and the energy you brought to the stage. |
| Ponga Room 4 | Amaia Matenga | For your great acting skills. You did an incredible job on that stage! |
| Rimu Room 5 | Room 5 | For being fantastic during the Jump Jam production. |
| Rimu Room 5 | Reign Rakena | For showing great effort in his production dance. |
| Pūriri Room 6 | Casey Mancer | Great dancing effort, you got the rhythm and beat! |
| Pūriri Room 6 | Ryan Bhagat | Nailing the jump in your dance!!!! Great Active learning |
| Mataī Room 7 | Room 7 | For being absolutely fantastic during the production. Be super proud of yourselves. |
| Nīkau Room 8 | Vincent Warner | For being a fabulous dancer in our production. |
| Nīkau Room 8 | Paige Davison | For being a fabulous dancer in our production. |
| Kahikatea Room 10 | Kade Calnan | For working hard and making good progress with your maths this year. |
| Kahikatea Room 10 | Room 10 | For your incredible hard work and courage when learning and performing our production dances. |

Week 1 - Term 4

| Class | Student's Name | Certificate Comment |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Rātā Room 1 | Claire Smith | For working hard to use the correct technique for long jump. Great effort Claire! |
| Rātā Room 1 | Flynn Smith- Thorpe | For showing empathy to his classmates when they are feeling sad. Keep it up Flynn! |
| Mānuka Room 2 | Jordi Ngatai | For your excellent behaviour and positive attitude this week. You're a role model on the mat. |
| Mānuka Room 2 | Jordy McKinnon | For your positive attitude this week and your enthusiasm during your student led conference. |
| Tōtara Room 3 | Arlo Hewitt | For an awesome start to the term and showing great focus in your learning. Keep it up! |
| Tōtara Room 3 | Kash Wiseman | For working hard in your math and always trying your best. |
| Ponga Room 4 | Penny Clarke Gray | For your honesty towards your personal goals during student led conferences. |
| Ponga Room 4 | Tyler Lester | For being a good friend by always wanting to help and share with your peers. |
| Rimu Room 5 | Roman Cronin Boyle | For trying hard with his school work. Roman has been very brave with his first week at school. |
| Rimu Room 5 | Harasses Kaur | For being an active learner. Well done Harasses. |
| Pūriri Room 6 | Isla Cowley | Showing so much empathy in class and respect for others. You are a great role model for others. |
| Pūriri Room 6 | Alice McGowan | Settling in so well into your new class and school. |
| Mataī Room 7 | Blake Oulton- Hewitt | For working hard on his Ag Day activities. |
| Mataī Room 7 | Druvi Patel | For always being there and helping in the classroom. |
| Nīkau Room 8 | Cohen O'Brien | For being an active learner in your reading |
| Nīkau Room 8 | Shepard Cairns- Eade | For being an active learner in your reading |
| Kahikatea Room 10 | Mya Hoebergen | For being an active learner in your fake and real news reading. |
| Kahikatea Room 10 | Cameron Emerslie | For being an active learner in long jump. |

Community Notices and Advertising









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