



School Newsletter

www.rotokauri.school.nz

Issue: 14 - 17 October 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.



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.

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



Chicken

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

Photography Competition - sponsored by Kerri & Koa Tipene

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)



 	Lugtons #1 2021-2025 Brooke Devcich Residential Salesperson with Jack Ramasamy 027 307 8880 brooke.devcich@lugtons.co.nz	
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Class Certificates

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
Matai 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.
Nikau Room 8	Cohen O'Brien	For being an active learner in your reading
Nikau 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

Soul Sista's Circle

Evening class with Suz from Nurturance Wellbeing Studio

Come and join the fun on Wednesday's from 7-8pm
in the Rotokauri School Multi-Purpose Room (opposite office)
for strength work, self-care and empowerment.

Active wear, yoga mat and water bottle recommended.

Cost: \$10 a session or \$90 for 10 sessions
(cash or internet banking)

Try out your first class for free!!

You are welcome to hang around
for a cup of tea and chat afterwards



Contact Suz for more details:

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