



School Newsletter

www.rotokauri.school.nz

Issue: 17 - 27 November 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

The end of the school year is creeping up on us and there is still so much to accomplish. Congratulations to the students that represented Rotokauri School at the Cluster Athletics competition last Friday at Bremworth Park. I had the privilege of attending and I was so impressed with the behaviour and efforts of our students. Results are below. Thank you to the parents that assisted with transport and supervision on this day.

It was so good to join the Year 7 & 8 students at their camp in Raglan last week. They showed fantastic leadership skills, problem solving and collaboration skills, alongside our Rotokauri School values. Thank you also to the parents that provided transport, attended for some days or stayed overnight.

We really do appreciate parents/caregivers updating us promptly with information regarding their child's enrolment at Rotokauri School for 2026. Those students leaving us for intermediate or other primary schools, I would like to wish you all the best for your new educational adventure. The class lists have now been completed and the following classrooms will be operating next year.

Room 1	Teacher TBC	Year 1
Room 2	Mrs Andrea O'Rourke	Year 1 & 2
Room 3	Miss Anna Baker	Year 2 & 3
Room 4	Currently being advertised for permanent position	Year 3
Room 6	Mrs Diana Donovan	Year 3 & 4
Room 8	Whaea Julie	Year 4 & 5
Room 7	Mrs Claire Walker	Year 5 & 6
Room 9	Mr Sam Brinkworth	Year 6 & 7
Room 10	Currently being advertised for fixed term position	Year 7 & 8

Term dates for 2026

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

This allows for one Teacher Only Day to be planned for during the year.

What's coming up before the end of term?

Monday 1st December	Final Tech day for Years 7 & 8
Saturday 6th December	PTA Twilight Gala and Market
Monday 8th December	Teacher Only Day
Wednesday 10th December	Parent Helpers Morning Tea 11 a.m. Sports Prizegiving 2.30 p.m. - hockey and netball
Thursday 11th December	PTA disco
Friday 12th December	Leaders of the school celebration - Pool and Pizza Party
Monday 15th December	School end of year prizegiving
Tuesday 16th December	Meet The New Teacher 10.30 - 11.00 a.m. End of year reports come home BOT meeting 5.30 p.m.
Wednesday 17th December	Last day of school - students to be picked up at 12.30 p.m. please

Have a great fortnight everyone. I look forward to catching up with lots of our families at our Twilight Gala and Market on Saturday 6th December from 4 - 7 p.m.

Ngaa mihi

Desiree Smith
Principal

BOT NOTICES

Tēnā koutou katoa,

The Rotokauri School Board acknowledges with concern the recent decision of the Government to remove the explicit requirement for school boards to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi within the Education and Training Act 2020.

As a school community deeply rooted in the land of Rotokauri, our identity is shaped by our whakapapa, our connection to tangata whenua, and our shared responsibility as kaitiaki of this place. It is our firm commitment that Te Tiriti o Waitangi will continue to be embedded in our governance, decision-making and daily actions at Rotokauri School.

Our position is supported by a substantial body of educational research demonstrating that culturally sustaining practice, strong partnerships with whānau, and learning environments that recognise identity and belonging improve educational engagement, wellbeing and achievement for **all learners**. National analyses from the Education Review Office (ERO) and the New Zealand Council for Educational Research (NZCER), together with international evidence from UNESCO and other governing educational institutions, consistently demonstrate that inclusive and culturally responsive schooling leads to stronger academic outcomes, better participation and attendance, reduced disparities and safer school cultures across diverse education systems.

Our vision at Rotokauri School is:

Together We Grow: Unity (Kotahitanga): Inclusive (Manaakitanga): Guardianship (Kaitiakitanga);

Together We Learn: Innovative (Auahatanga): Happy (Uruhau): Responsible (Tūtika).

Despite legislative change, our Board remains steadfast in our commitment to:

- Ensuring that every learner and whānau at our kura experience learning environments which honour their identity, culture and place of belonging;
- Ensuring all tamariki are supported to achieve equitable outcomes through rich, culturally sustaining programmes and meaningful inclusion in every aspect of school life;
- Upholding the partnership between mana whenua and the Crown, and recognising the vital role our school plays within our local community.

At Rotokauri School this means we will continue to:

- Embed Te Tiriti o Waitangi through our strategic planning and priorities;
- Engage in meaningful partnerships with our Māori whānau, hapū and iwi and acknowledging our connection with Ngāti Maahanga and the wider Waikato-Tainui, to listen, learn and co-create the future of our kura together;
- Foster development in te reo Māori, tikanga Māori, mātauranga Māori and cultural competency across all classes;
- Maintain a culturally responsive and inclusive learning environment where every tamariki can learn and thrive;
- Sustain a school culture of safe belonging and positive identity for Māori and non-Māori learners alike.

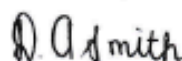
Kia manaaki, kia whakatupu, kia whakatutuki.

Ngā manaakitanga,



Brad Kells

Chair, Rotokauri School Board



Desiree Smith

Principal, Rotokauri School

PTA NOTICES

We are still seeking....

Jars/bottles of Goodies



**Christmas
hamper items!**



Pre-loved soft toys!



Second hand books and games!

Unused, unwanted gifts or donations for prizes!

If you are a business and would love to support our school
by being a sponsor for this event, please email us!
pta@rotokauri.school.nz



Seedling/plants and home baking will be requested the
day prior to the gala.
Any and all contributions are very gratefully received -
we can't do this without you!
Thankyou all so much!



CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

Cheerleading

Paige Robinson-Hastings recently travelled to Melbourne, Australia to compete at the AASCF Cheerleading Nationals to represent NZ! This event was the biggest yet, featuring more than 2500+ teams!

A huge congratulations to Paige and her team, Shimmer, on becoming Junior Level 2 AASCF International Champions, what an incredible way to end the season representing NZ and bringing home the gold! The team have worked incredibly hard, never gave up and the support they have for each other is inspiring.

They have had an amazing season and remain undefeated in their division across both NZ and Australia.

What wonderful news Paige, no wonder your family are so proud of all that you have achieved in cheerleading - we at Rotokauri School are incredibly proud of you too.



Cluster Athletics Results

100m	8 year old boys	Cohen O'Brien	2nd
	8 year old girls	Te Aria Kingi	1st
	9 year old girls	Alice McGowan	2nd
	10 year old boys	Zac Hoebergen	3rd
	13 year old girls	Rebecca Cameron	2nd
200m	9 year old girls	Alice McGowan	3rd
800m	10 year old boys	Thomas Warner	1st
Relay	Junior Boys	Corban Stratford Jayden Day Zac Hoebergen Milos Standing	1st

Discus	9 year old boys	Louie Baker	3rd
Shotput	8 year old girls	Te Aria Kingi	2nd
	10 year old boys	Corban Stratford	3rd
	11 year old girls	Hannah-Leah Warbrick	1st
High Jump	10 year old boys	Milos Standing	3rd
	10 year old girls	Heidi Viljoen	2nd
	13 year old girls	Rebecca Cameron	1st
	13 year old girls	Ava Esselbrugge	2nd

Values Vouchers

Week 6		
Mika Knight	Room 1	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Mehreen Kaur	Room 2	For demonstrating the value of active learning.
Eliza Jenkins	Room 3	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Maddy Pitts	Room 4	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Reign Rakena	Room 5	For demonstrating the value of active learning.
Poppy Sadler-Singh	Room 6	For demonstrating the value of empathy.
Evie Bourne	Room 7	For demonstrating the value of courage.
Ada Westgate	Room 8	For demonstrating the value of courage.
Ivy Lu	Room 9	For demonstrating the value of respect.

Week 7		
Thomas Playford	Room 1	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Brielle Cowley	Room 2	For demonstrating the value of active learning.
Shay Gill	Room 3	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Nirmann Pannu	Room 4	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Thiya Patel	Room 5	For demonstrating the value of courage.
Jeffery Lee	Room 6	For demonstrating the value of honesty.
Kairo Sharma	Room 7	For demonstrating the value of honesty.
Avneet Sagar	Room 8	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Hannah-Leah Warbrick	Room 9	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Luca Rogers	Room 10	For demonstrating the value of active learning.

Class Certificates

Week 6 - Term 4

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Holley Emerson	For making good progress in her reading and moving up two levels. Well done Holley!
Rātā Room 1	Asees Kaur	For making good progress in her reading and moving up a group. Week done Asees!
Mānuka Room 2	Sienna Bain	For your super helpfulness in class. We appreciate you.
Mānuka Room 2	Mehreen Kaur	For helping out others and being an outstanding friend.
Ponga Room 4	Amaia Matenga	For your dedication towards Jump Jam and practicing at home. Well done.
Ponga Room 4	Liam Short	For your precision with your turtle. You took great care with drawing it. Amazing!
Rimu Room 5	Thiya Patel	For showing good mat manners and trying her best in everything.
Rimu Room 5	Conrad Ryan	For showing the value of active learner and participating fully in all areas.
Pūriri Room 6	Seán Parkes	Being a great active learner and role model for others.
Pūriri Room 6	Cody Calnan	Much better concentration this week, great Active Learning,
Mataī Room 7	Kayla van Rooij	For showing courage at camp and trying activities that she was unsure of.
Mataī Room 7	Anthony Williams	For showing courage at camp and trying activities that he was very unsure off. Well done and be proud of yourself.
Nīkau Room 8	Eason Lu	For showing enthusiasm, courage and a great attitude during his first school camp.
Nīkau Room 8	Conor Emerson	For an outstanding attitude at his first camp. Trying new things, showing bravery and making the most of it.
Kahikatea Room 10	Jaxson Williams	For your amazing art work on your group's science board - congratulations!
Kahikatea Room 10	Koby Payne	For being an active learner in all areas of your learning - congratulations!

Week 7 - Term 4

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Edie Crellin	For being an Active Learner and making excellent progress in reading. Keep it up!
Rātā Room 1	Eloise King	For being an Active Learner and making excellent progress in reading. Keep it up!
Mānuka Room 2	Brielle Cowley	For working your hardest this week in all areas. Keep up the awesome effort.
Mānuka Room 2	Avitaj Sangha	For working well in reading this week and helping others.
Tōtara Room 3	Kian Chand	For being a respectful learner who puts great effort into your work.
Tōtara Room 3	Lisa Jiang	Your fantastic progress in your reading, you are becoming super confident.
Ponga Room 4	Vivaan Bhagat	For being active and engaged during your lessons with Mrs O'Brien.
Ponga Room 4	Nirmaan Pannu	For being active and engaged during your lessons with Mrs O'Brien.
Rimu Room 5	Aoife Parkes	For being consistent with her reading every night!
Rimu Room 5	Aria Augustus	For trying really hard to follow instructions given to her.
Pūriri Room 6	Shia Paterson	For doing some great work in maths class. Very focused.
Mataī Room 7	Noxx Rogers	For doing really well on his spelling.
Mataī Room 7	Joseph Willis	For doing really well on his spelling.
Nīkau Room 8	Sophie Swain	For some excellent work in maths this week.
Nīkau Room 8	Khloe Bennett	For her responsible attitude to classwork this week.
Kauri Room 9	Billie-May Murphy	For teaching the class a new game for sports.

Community Notices and Advertising

Brenna



RELIABLE & FRIENDLY BABYSITTER

Hello everyone! I'm looking for some babysitting jobs; here is some information about me!

Age: 19 - Bachelor of Primary Teaching (Year 1 completed)

Experienced with children of all ages through university placements and past babysitting.

Happy to do:

Afterschool care ~ Pick ups/drop offs ~ School holiday care

~ Homework help ~ Meals ~ Chores ~ Pets ~ Overnight care

Flexible hours - Full licence with 5-star safety-rated car

Phone: 02108779012

Email: brennakurth@gmail.com

Contact me anytime with questions or jobs. Thank you! :)

THE COLLECTIVE AGENCY

*A full service marketing agency,
designed to deliver results.*

Get in touch

Sue Esselbrugge

sue@thecollectiveagency.co.nz
021 227 4179

www.thecollectiveagency.co.nz



Website Design | Digital Advertising | Brand Development | Social Media | Strategy



Bring your dream pool to life.

Narellanpools[®]

Phone 07 850 1662, waikatosales@narellanpools.co.nz

narellanpools.co.nz



Ph: 07 595 0514

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

A photograph of a DKJ Welding services workshop with several white service vans parked in front. The DKJ logo is prominently displayed on the building and in the foreground.

DKJ

DKJ Welding services provides:

- Certified Welding
- Stainless Steel Fabrication
- Plant Installation & Mechanical fitting
- Onsite Maintenance
- Process Pipework
- Project Management