



School Newsletter

www.rotokauri.school.nz

Issue: 5 - 2 April 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 - Amara-Jayde Kelemete-Vaniqi

Kia ora koutou

We have done it - we have completed Term 1 for 2026. It has been a busy and productive start to the school year. There is much that we can be proud of -

- School Picnic at school
- Meet 'n' Greet
- Life Education
- Get Set Go Day at Horotiu
- Kapa Haka practices and noho
- YouthTown
- School bi/triathlon
- Tech (Year 7 & 8)
- Swimming sports - junior & senior, then cluster
- PAT testing

There has also been great progress with the BOT property projects and this will continue over the holiday period.

Thank you to everyone that has supported the PTA and senior school with their fundraising attempts this term.

Enjoy your Easter break and two week holiday. School starts again on Monday 20th April - Year 7 & 8 you have Tech on this day.

Ngaa mihi
Desiree Smith
Principal

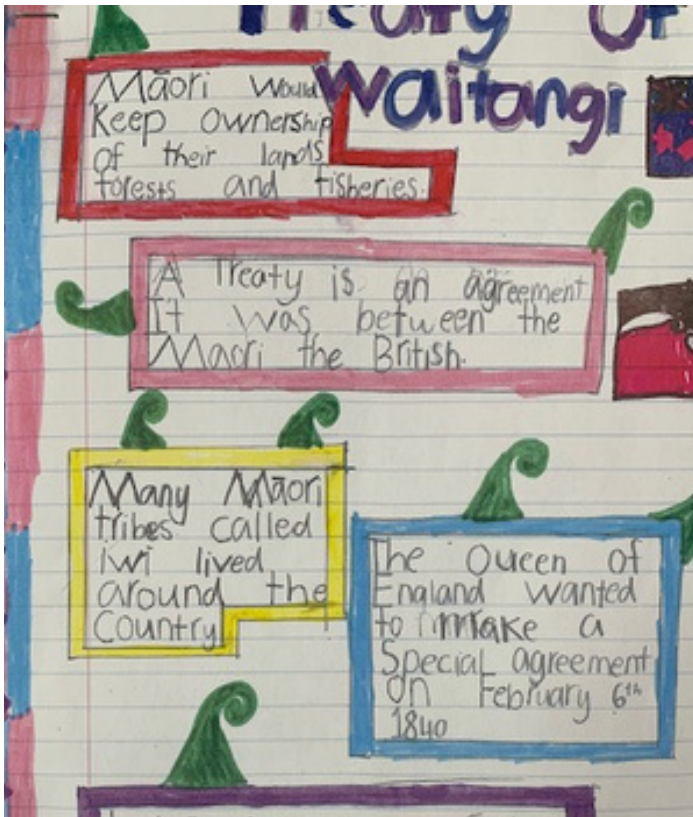
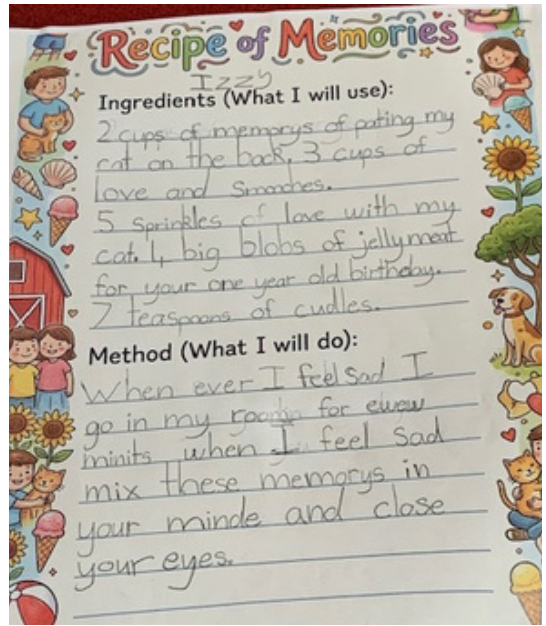
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

TERM 1	
Thursday 2 April	Last day of school for Term 1
Friday 3 April	Good Friday

TERM 2	
Monday 20 April	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 21 April	5.30 p.m BOT meeting 6.30 p.m PTA meeting
Monday 27 April	Anzac Day observed - no school
Monday 4 May	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Monday 11 May	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 12 May	6.30 p.m PTA meeting
Thursday 14 May	6.30 p.m Lit Quiz @ Berkeley Intermediate
Monday 18 May	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 19 May	5.30 p.m BOT meeting
Monday 25 May	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 26 May	Class Photos
Monday 1 June	King's Birthday - no school
Monday 8 May	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 9 May	6.30 p.m PTA meeting
Thursday 11 May	PTA Disco - PJ party
Monday 15 May	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Tuesday 16 May	5.30 p.m PTA meeting
Friday 19 May	Tough Guy/Tough Gal
Monday 22 May	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Friday 26 May	Ki-o-rahi Tournament
Monday 29 May	Tech - Year 7 & 8
Friday 3 July	Last day of Term 2

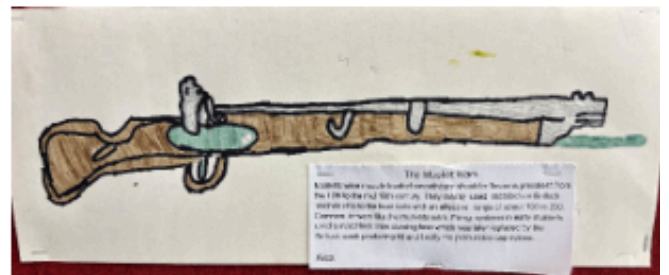
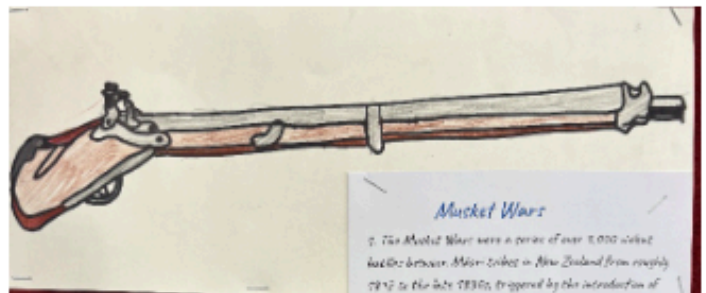
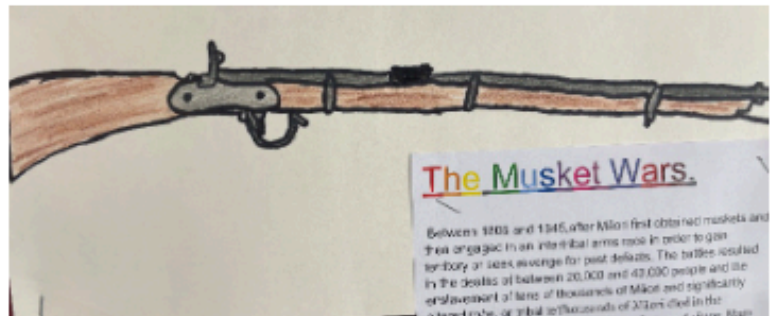
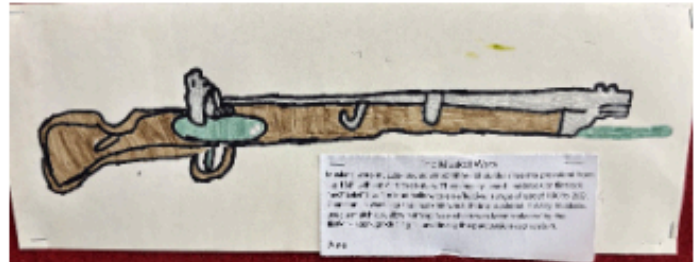
CLASS SHARING

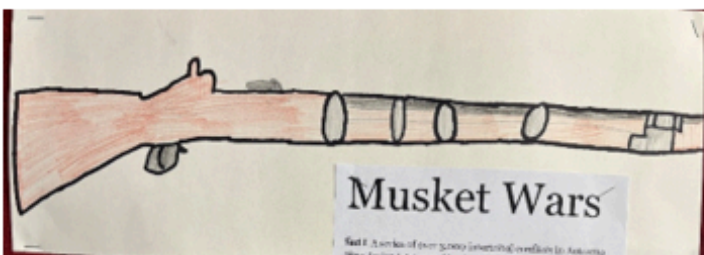
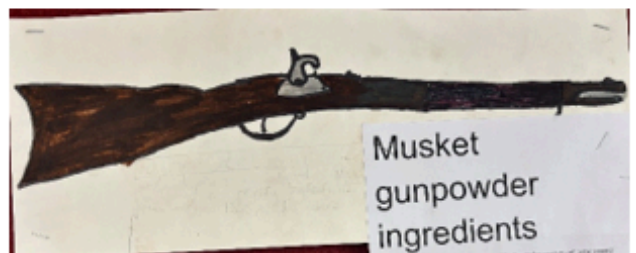
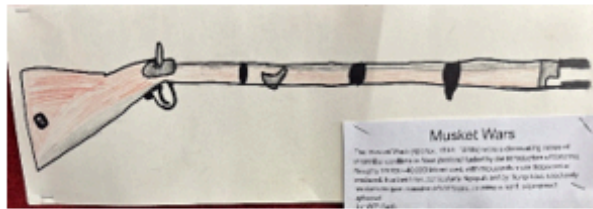
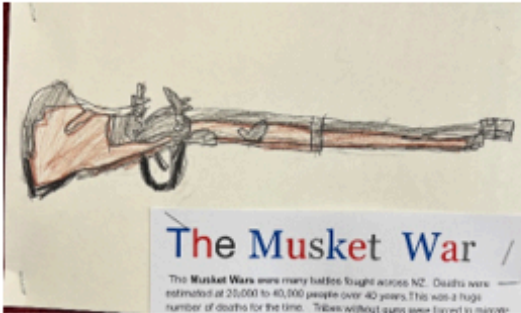
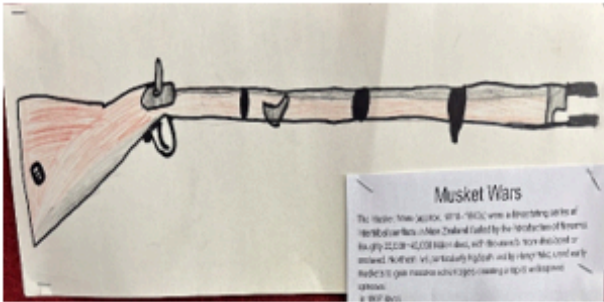
Pūriri Room 6



Matai Room 7

In Room 7 we have been learning about the Musket War as part of our NZ History topic. Here are some of our drawings.





Nikau Room 8

The Astro Turf

We are really excited to play hockey on the new astro turf they are making outside Rooms 7 and 8.

They have been a bit loud but interesting to watch. The men are nice and give us our balls if they go over the fence. But they did take the water fountain which we are a bit sad about. It looks cool. It took a long time to make but it's nearly finished. I'm happy there is a shade shelter over it and I hope we get to eat under it. It's going to be fun to play under.

Kyla, Te Aria and Room 8



Kauri Room 9

Rainbows End - by Harry Gyde

My eyes exploded like popcorn in a microwave as Corban's [my friend] dad parked the car in the boiling parking lot of Rainbows End! The path to the door was a snake slowly slithering around the faded parking lot. As my dull shoes stepped through the pale white door I felt a sense of a magnificent day ahead. Happiness was radiating off people like fireworks in a midnight sky. Excitement was exploding in every atom of my body. It was a remarkable yet dangerous sight. The very millisecond the day pass touched my wrist I was gone.

Room 7

Zooming around. We were wild animals looking for a ride to prey on. My friends had to make it a political event to have to decide with everyone the first breathtaking ride to go on. My ears started ringing louder as the heated discussion continued. Until finally after 5 minutes of banging my head to the wall Thunk! Thunk! Thunk! And a lifetime worth of confused and disgusted looks such as them wondering: Why is he doing that? How is he bored at Rainbow's end? Is he mentally disabled or something? The undecided hooligans finally decided on something. The invader. The predator of the amusement park rides. The lion. My mouth dropped, my teeth tightened, and my gut started falling out but I sucked the unforgettable feeling in and started walking. Petrified.

The long line slowly snaked silently along the pale parched path to the ride. My body was aching as the suspense was building, the easiness to run away and never come back began climbing the options list. But I couldn't, the exit was blocked and now we had to walk onto the ride. "It was painted to perfection and was an amazing ride" everyone kept saying. But I was a gazelle who couldn't run. So my feet started trembling as I walked slowly, cautiously to my seat. Everything went silent as the strap came over my back.

Clink! . . . Clink! . . . Clink! The belt echoed. Before I could run it started. Actually, it started slowly, carefully, nicely like it was a death trap. Then it sped up faster. And faster. And faster. I felt that I was a king at the top of the world flying up but then getting pulled back down to reality. The wind at my feet, the clouds in my hair, it was life changing. Suddenly as the ride slowed down, I felt an ocean of emotions but most powerful was relief. As I got off, I thought that was the scariest ride we would do today but boy was I wrong.

A Recount About Recount Writing – By Teagan Mancer

"What else does a roller coaster feel like?" said Mr.B. I'm getting a headache from Mr.B talking, talking and talking! This stupid recount is so dumb! You expect us to remember what we did in the past?! I look at the board and then I look at Mr.B. I put my hand to my head and squint. I couldn't see the board properly. I then gasped and remembered that I needed my glasses. I ran to my tote tray and dug through, hoping to find my glasses case. Finally, I found them! I opened my case precisely and put my glasses on and then slammed my case shut.

I ran back to the mat and sat down. Of course, Mr.B is still talking, and then he tells us to go for three laps of the court. Really Mr.B? Really? And I go for three laps. And my leg starts to feel numb because of sitting on it in class while Mr.B is talking about this stupid recount thingamajig.

I ran back to the mat and plopped myself down. Guess what?! Mr.B is still talking! 5 minutes later I'm about to fall asleep because all the boys are yelling and all the girls are laughing. Plus, Mr.B is talking nonsense about learning how to write a recount. My head is pounding, my mind is getting sleepy and I start to fidget.

So, when Mr.B finally says we can start doing our work I get excited. I wait to see if he is going to ask someone to hand out the books, but he doesn't. So, I ran to get my book and grab my pencil case and set it down on the table. I ran back to fetch a chair and I sat down. I open my book and start planning.

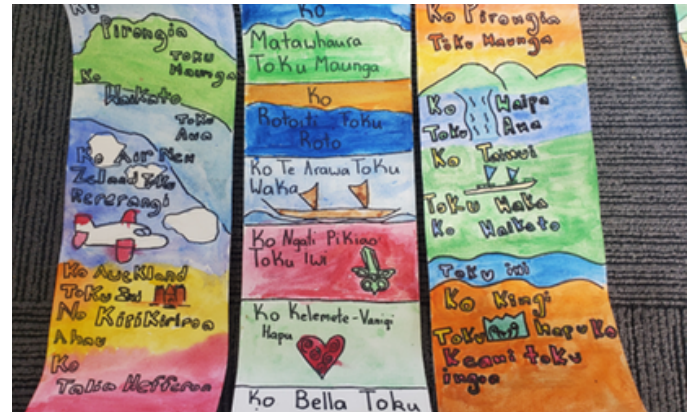
Kahikatea Room 10

What an amazing start to the year for Kahikatea – Rm 10!

Kahikatea have had a wonderful start to the year, and I am so proud of the amazing work they have produced. Students have completed information reports on nutrition, with some choosing to present their work as eye-catching posters.

We have also been learning about making connections and have created beautiful, colourful pepeha that reflect each student's identity.

I would love to share two pieces of writing from our recent assessments. These recounts are amazing and showcase the fantastic progress students are making in their writing.



Writing Recount completed by Kaylee Quinlan

In the distance, a dark inky cloud casts a gloomy shadow over the heads of the turfs, moving closer and closer by the second. The atmosphere is covered with a deathly cold that spreads a prominent layer of goosebumps over my white length of arms and legs. The air is thick with the smell of muddy grass and damp sweaty turf. Around me, the sounds of hockey sticks clashing together like two swords of kings colliding grows louder in my ear by the second. Balls skipper left and right over the slick green of turf that lies under my feet, creating a crazy thrill of obstacle.

Dad and I walk in unison, dodging oncoming headstrong hockey players and the sticks that threaten to hit us if we don't duck. Determined coaches and the whistles of referees pierce through the air like it would in a dead silent room. A few metres ahead of me is my team. They're walking in a pin-straight line, avoiding any little rascals that have escaped from their parents. We load onto the hockey turf and create a circle. The surrounding faces are all familiar, and so is this weather. Anyone with common sense would recognise the storm that's about to reign hell down on us. With a heave, I pull my hockey stick from my bag and grip it tightly. I have a strange feeling in my stomach that hasn't differed since I glanced up at the sky. I gulp down the ball of nausea brewing in my stomach. A loud sound weaves through my ears. It's game time. I kneel down, like a worshipper praying to their master, and thread my shoelaces between each other with ease.

From the corner of my eye, I caught a glimpse of my dad, sitting ever so innocently on the bar of the wooden bench, completely unaware of the wreck that's soon to come. My feet move naturally to my position. I press my stick firmly into the ground, leaving a soft reminder of where my stick is embedded. My eyes are glued to the ball as if I were a hawk eyeing its next prey.

With a careful but controlled drag, Luca flicks the ball smoothly across the turf, and it rolls perfectly to the person behind. Without a second thought, my legs power me through the blur of players and into a wide-open space. Perfect for a pass. Exactly across from me is Miley, dribbling effortlessly through the blend of players trying to take away her victory. She flicks her wrist and the ball flies my way, not a thought runs through my brain as I trap the ball, it stops dead on my stick.

The sound of my dad yelling goes barley heard as I block everything out, ready to shoot.

" Shoot the ball!" Echos from the mouth of my dad.

With a final push, I mustered up all my power, sending the ball between the goalies' protective padded legs and straight into the backboard of the goal!

The ref brought the whistle to their chilly lips, and we all reset to our spots, ready for another take down. I glance over at my dad just to see a proud smile plastered over his face, he shoots a thumbs up at me before I turn my brain back into game mode.

Everything seems to be going our way, that's until a loud crack of thunder roars across the blackening sky. The air chills at an instant, sending my already god awful goosebumps into a newly found rage.

Writing Recount completed by Jasmine Lee

As the beach grew closer and closer I could almost see the deep blue sea, and crispy yellow sand. As the car pulled into the closest parking spot, I immediately jumped out and on to the concrete looking fabulous.

I had my togs on, a board in hand, crocs on my feet and pineapple sunglasses. As I raced down the steps down the beach, a voice behind me yelled.

"Stop." I stopped dead in my tracks. I turned slowly to see my mom, holding a tube of sunscreen and my pink hat.

This time, however, me and my family and my Mum's two friends' families walked down the steps together.

As we reached the beautiful yellow sand, the first thing I did was jump onto a hill of sand. I immediately recoiled out of the sand, it was burning hot, probably hotter than the depths of hell. My first instance was to throw off my Crocs and run straight into the cool, shimmering and possibly glittering blue water.

For a while, I played with my Mum's friend's kid. We built sandcastles, swam in the ocean, but after a while, I started catching waves on my buggy board and trying to find little crabs.

One wave was so tall and big, towering over me. The smart move was to avoid it, but my ambition drew me towards it. And like my brain had predicted, the wave swallowed me up and my board hit my head.

After doing that for what seemed like hours, I eventually decided to sit on the picnic blanket. And eat snacks while the others keep playing.

After another 30 minutes, we decided to call it a day and go get dinner.

As the beach grew farther and farther, once a beautiful shining ocean now looked like a glowing diamond sea.

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

Class Certificates - Week 7 - Term 1

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Reid Langeveld	For showing lots of interest in our topic - Journeys to NZ
Rātā Room 1	Gurjazz Singh	For settling into school routines quickly.
Mānuka Room 2	Melo Clark	For sharing your positive attitude towards learning with others and helping others.
Mānuka Room 2	Mika Knight	For having a passion and interest in learning about NZ history.
Tōtara Room 3	Kabir Hari	For sharing great ideas and thinking during our NZ history discussions.
Tōtara Room 3	Harjot Sidhu	For sharing great ideas and thinking during our NZ history discussions.
Ponga Room 4	Addison Harris	For being an Active Learner when making her putiputi (flax flower) and willingly helping others.
Ponga Room 4	Emilynn George	For being an Active Learner when making her putiputi (flax flower) and willingly helping others.
Pūriri Room 6	Callista Baker-Smith	For leading the race for homework nights reading this term.
Pūriri Room 6	Amaia Metenga	For leading the race for homework nights reading this term.
Mataī Room 7	Khloe Bennett	For always working hard in all areas of her learning.
Mataī Room 7	Dot Warbrick	For always working hard in all areas of her learning.
Nīkau Room 8	Isla Cowley	For doing some great work with contractions this week.
Nīkau Room 8	Link Doody	For always showing respect to others through your words and actions.
Kauri Room 9	Teagan Mancer	For showing exceptional progress with her learning in literacy and maths.
Kauri Room 9	Ella Boswell	For showing exceptional progress with her learning in literacy and maths.
Kahikatea Room 10	Kaylee Quinlan	For your outstanding recount writing - fantastic progress!
Kahikatea Room 10	Jasmine Lee	For your outstanding recount writing - fantastic progress!

Class Certificates - Week 8 - Term 1

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Mānuka Room 2	Claire Smith	For being an active learner in maths and stretching your thinking.
Mānuka Room 2	Lily Swain	For listening to the sounds in words and writing them down in your story writing.
Tōtara Room 3	Eva Lu	For being an awesome role model and giving your best.
Tōtara Room 3	Summer Martin	For working hard on mastering your sounds.
Ponga Room 4	Ameera Stevenson	For working hard with all of your learning. I am proud of the dedication you have to be an active learner.
Ponga Room 4	Lexi Viljoen	For always wanting to extend your learning. You put your best foot forward in everything that you do.
Pūriri Room 6	Atlas Williams	For showing respect, good listening and active learning in class.
Pūriri Room 6	Amaia Matenga	For showing respect and active learning in class.
Mataī Room 7	Conor Emerson	For showing the value of empathy to his classmates.
Mataī Room 7	Avneet Sangha	For smashing her spelling words this week.
Nīkau Room 8	Liam Lester	For working hard on his story this week.
Nīkau Room 8	Shia Paterson	for doing some great work with subtraction using renaming.
Kauri Room 9	Zac Hoebergen	For showing kaitiakitanga by picking up rubbish during break times.
Kauri Room 9	Thomas Warner	For showing great progress with his learning.
Kahikatea Room 10	Billie-May Murphy	For your outstanding work ethic. You take pride in completing your work to a high standard and use your time responsibly.
Kahikatea Room 10	Nikki Rossbotham	For showing the value of being an active learner. You settle quickly into your work, stay focused, and make the most of your learning time—keep up the fantastic effort!

Community Notices and Advertising


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Childcare & Learning Centre

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