



School Newsletter

www.rotokauri.school.nz

Issue: 16 - 18 September 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)



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 - Pixie Harman

PRINCIPAL'S PIECE

Kia ora koutou

And just like that another term has almost come to an end. One more week and we have completed Term 3, so what have we accomplished - Rob Cope workshop, school cross country, Jump Jam competition, cluster cross country, speeches, AIMS disco, Bookfair, Book Character Day, Grandparents Day, AIMS tournament, author and illustrator visit. We will finish the term with a hockey tournament that our Year 5 - 8 students will be participating in and our Arts Festival.

Farewell to Sam Brinkworth

It is with a mixture of sadness and pride that we farewell Mr Sam Brinkworth (Room 9) as he leaves Rotokauri at the end of next week. He has made a big impact on our students, has taken on lots of responsibility around the school and has been a fantastic colleague to work with for the last 4 - 5 years. We wish Sam and his partner all the very best for their future in the Hawkes Bay.

Value of RESPECT

Thank you to all the families that have supported the school in addressing the value of respect. We have seen an improvement in the use of manners across the school which is pleasing.

Bookweek and Grandparents Day

What an amazing week we had with the bookfair and our special Friday with all our visitors. The bookfair sold \$6,649 worth of books which was fantastic - thank you to all families that purchased from the bookfair.

Our Grandparents Day is always a tremendous day with all the generations coming along to school. We really appreciate the positive feedback and seeing the delight in the eyes of the children when grandparents and/or special people in their lives come and share their educational experiences.

Thank you to the guitar group, Jump Jam teams and the Kapa Haka Performance Group for showcasing your talents - you showed courage and made many families extremely proud. Thank you to Rob Hooper, Rachel Warbrick, Mary Evans, Cary Viljoen and Ally Reichelt for encouraging our students and getting them to such a great standard.

We look forward to sharing this day again in 2027.

Rotokauri School Arts Festival

When: Thursday 24th September

Where: Multipurpose Room

Opening hours: 8.30 - 9.00 a.m and 3.00 - 4.00 p.m

Come along and view the amazing display of children's artwork which is in the multipurpose room and in the student's classrooms.

Walking To and From School

We love the fact that lots of our students are keeping fit and enjoying the weather as they walk to and from school. Just a reminder to students and parents that appropriate behaviour should be followed at all times. It is disappointing to hear that one of our students was hit by a stone thrown by another student while walking home and that students are pushing each other near the road. Please speak to your children about keeping safe while walking.

Class Placement Requests

It is that time of year that we start to organise classes for 2027. The classes are likely to be structured as below:

Room 1 = Year 1

Room 2 = Year 1 & 2

Room 3 = Year 2 & 3

Room 4 = Year 3 & 4

Room 6 = Year 4

Room 7 = Year 4 & 5

Room 8 = Year 5 & 6

Room 9 = Year 6 & 7

Room 10 = Year 7 & 8

The teaching staff for each class has not been confirmed yet. If you have a preference for the room that your child is placed in please email dsmith@rotokauri.school.nz and we can organise a meeting.

Leaving Rotokauri in 2027

If your child will not be returning to Rotokauri in 2027 can you please let the school office know before 1st November to assist with class placements. Year 8's can you please let the office know which secondary schools you will be attending in 2027.

Student Achievement

Congratulations to Kairo Sharma for his performance at the 2026 'Xiang Shang' Kung-fu Wushu New Zealand National Championships. He performed extremely well and came away with a gold medal in the under-33 kg division.



We hope that students have a fantastic holiday with hopefully some warm weather. We will welcome everyone back on Monday 12th October.

Nga mihi
Desiree Smith

BOT NEWS

Last chance to have your say!

Our survey closes at the end of the term. If you haven't completed it yet, please take a few minutes to share your feedback. Every idea, opinion, and suggestion helps us build an even better school community.





Rotokauri Car Show and Gala Donations

Please bring in those filled jars in exchange for housepoints!

We are now collecting pre-loved cuddly toys. Again, please send in with students for housepoints.

We are creating themed gift baskets by classroom this year for a grand raffle and need your help! If you are able to contribute, please send one themed prize to your child's classroom teacher. Budget-friendly items from Kmart or the dollar store are fantastic: every little item helps. We hope you have some fun with this one!

Check out the class themes and ideas below:

Room 1 - movie night e.g. popcorn, snacks, cosy socks, movie tickets.

Room 2 - kids' pack (girls) e.g. books, stationery, crafts, games, snacks.

Room 3 - kids' pack (boys) e.g. books, stationery, crafts, games, snacks.

Room 4 - art and craft e.g. art supplies, pens, stickers, paints, clay, craft packs.

Room 5 - movie night e.g. popcorn, snacks, cosy socks, movie tickets.

Room 6 - summer fun e.g. water balloons, sunscreen, smores ingredients, inflatables, water guns.

Room 7 - gardening e.g. seeds, tools, gloves, plant labels, handcream.

Room 8 - baker's box e.g. utensils, tea towels, cupcake cases, sprinkles.

Room 9 - women's self-care e.g. beauty products, eye masks, nail polish, tea, books, treats.

Room 10 - men's self-care e.g. snacks, stationery, skincare/ personal care, coffee, socks.

Do you have any prizes you or your business might like to donate? Please get in touch at pta@rotokauri.school.nz if so!

Donations from families of larger prizes to be raffled are also warmly accepted.

Some ideas from items we have had donated in the past include:

- meat for a meat pack (perhaps you can spare a portion of a home killed beast?)
- bike/scooter
- chilly bin
- wheelbarrow
- portable speaker
- kayak
- tickets to a concert/event
- vouchers for an experience

Thanks in advance - this gala can only take place with your support

Help on the day

We are looking for help on the day - specifically we need a couple of adults who could cook food prior to or during the gala. We will provide the ingredients, you will need the means to cook it. Please send us an email if you are able to support us in this way!

Sponsorship for the Car Show & Gala

We are looking for some businesses to be our special sponsors for the event. Do you know any that might be interested? Please reach out to us if so! We are currently looking for gold, silver and bronze sponsors - for more information please read [this](#) letter.

We also are also currently asking businesses for:

- Prize donations
- Raffle item
- Goods or services
- Food or beverage sponsorship

Thanks in advance for all your support as we prepare for our biggest fundraiser of the year.

GENERAL NOTICES

Agricultural Day - 14 October 2026

Just a reminder, if you have not already done so, to put your entry in by **Monday, 21st September** <https://forms.gle/kUKoAQyAFZ4JJzyR7>



Sunhats

The school policy is that during Terms 1 & 4 all Rotokauri School students and staff must be wearing a Rotokauri sunhat whilst outside. These are for sale on your Kindo app for \$21.00 and can be collected from the school office. If you are unsure of the size you can try the hat on your child on collection.

These hats need to have no graffiti or embellishments, and must have a working toggle. Please ensure that students have these or they will have to play under the shade area at the top of the school.

Public Health Nurse Letter to parents and caregivers:

Immunisations for Year 7 and 8 students

In Term 4 - 2026 the Public Health Nurse team will be offering catch-up vaccinations.

- For students whose consent forms were not returned in Term 1 this year.
- Any consented children who missed vaccinations at the start of the year (absent, unwell, etc).

If you have previously declined and have changed your mind, please get in touch with your Public Health Nurse, Mel Rowe (027 272 1516),

Email: Melanie.Rowe@tewhatuora.govt.nz

Refer to the link below for more information:

[Immunisations for school-aged tamariki](#)

Lost Property

There is quite a big amount of lost property in our student foyer. Please take some time next week to pop in and look through for any of your child's clothing. At the end of next week it will be washed and distributed to a charity.

Student-Led Conferences

We are excited to be holding our Student-Led Conferences on Thursday 22nd October, from 3.00 pm - 6.00 pm. These conferences are part of our annual process for reporting to parents and whānau. Students must attend and lead their conference. They will share their learning progress and reflect on the goals they set at the Parent-Teacher Interviews. Please note, Room 5 students will not be participating in Student-Led Conferences until next year.

There will be up to five conferences running simultaneously in each class. To ensure these conferences run smoothly, please:

- stick to your 15-minute time slot
- make arrangements for the care of preschool-aged children
- book one conference per student per family
- bring your child to school so they can lead their conference.

Online bookings will close at 11.00 am on Thursday 22nd October.

If you are unable to attend, please contact your child's teacher to arrange an alternative time.

To book your child's Student Led Conference, go to the School Interviews website. The school code is uz6ud or click on this link for direct access:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/uz6ud>

1. First enter your name, your student's name, and your email address.
If you need to book for more than one student, change the "Book for x students" setting and enter the other student's name.
2. On the next page, pick the teacher you want to meet.
3. Then you'll see a timetable showing when your chosen teacher is available. Simply click on the time that suits you.

If you don't have internet access or have difficulty making a booking, please call Sharon at the school office for assistance (phone 07 849 5068).

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

Western Cluster Y5-6 Speech Competition

Congratulations to Archer Crellin, Te Aria Kingi, Van MacDonald-Hooper and Anthony Williams, who represented Rotokauri School at the Western Cluster Speech Competition at Te Uku School recently.

Year 5 Results - 1st place: Archer Crellin, 3rd place: Te Aria Kingi

Year 6 Results - 2nd place: Van MacDonald-Hooper

Waikato Full Primary Schools Speech Competition

Congratulations to Ella Wen who was a finalist at the Waikato Full Primary Schools Speech Competition on Wednesday evening.

Class Certificates - Week 6 - Term 3

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Amara-Jayde Kelemete-Vaniqi	For being an active learner in class.
Rātā Room 1	Finn Nicol	For being an amazing active learner on the mat.
Mānuka Room 2	Aoife Parkes	For learning new spelling patterns to write many more words.
Mānuka Room 2	Mika Knight	For being an active learner in maths learning fractions.
Tōtara Room 3	Ivey Griffin	For her positive attitude to all learning experiences and her kindness to all.
Tōtara Room 3	Pippa Cloete	For leading by example and showing great concentration on her learning tasks.
Ponga Room 4	Ben Fyers	For making good choices in class and keeping your focus on your learning. Keep it up!
Ponga Room 4	Reign Makuch	For working your best to complete class tasks on time.
Rimu Room 5	Ivy Cleland	For making good choices in the class and being in the right place at the right time.
Rimu Room 5	Taylor Griffin	For her enthusiasm in class activities and her willingness to share her ideas.
Pūriri Room 6	Leo Hefferon	For your awesome “magic tree” story.
Pūriri Room 6	Dánilo Standring	For your enthusiasm in Kapa Haka.
Matai Room 7	Casey Mancer	For showing the value of active learning.
Matai Room 7	Violet Short	For always helping others. Keep it up.
Nīkau Room 8	Arlo Clarke-Gray	For persevering through a tough task with courage and determination.
Nīkau Room 8	Harper Moka	For encouraging others to use the REACH values and working extra hard in her maths.
Kauri Room 9	Teagan Mancer	For working hard in all areas of her learning!
Kauri Room 9	Ellie-Rose Anderson	For working hard in all areas of her learning!
Kahikatea Room 10	Kaylee Quinlan	For looking out for some of our junior school children and being an active member of Room 10. We appreciate you!
Kahikatea Room 10	Carter Moka	For being a tuakana to the younger children, especially the Room 5 children. We appreciate you!

Class Certificates - Week 8 - Term 3

Class	Student's Name	Certificate Comment
Rātā Room 1	Eknor Kaur	For being an active learner in your sentence writing.
Rātā Room 1	Gurjazz Singh	For working hard on your handwriting.
Mānuka Room 2	Mya McNabb	For your creativity when creating a 3D sculpture made from paper.
Mānuka Room 2	Delilah Andrew	For being an active learner in writing, creating a narrative story.
Tōtara Room 3	Kabir Hari	For showing lots of courage and resilience this week.
Tōtara Room 3	Eloise King	For your awesome effort you have put into your writing.
Ponga Room 4	Lisa Jiang	For growing your confidence and communicating your wants and ideas to help organise your flying machines.
Ponga Room 4	CJ McNabb	For being an empathetic friend which has been noticed by staff around the school.
Rimu Room 5	Lawson Burley	For making a great start to school. Lawson is able to follow the class routines.
Rimu Room 5	Kaea Rei-Maynard	For making a great start to school. Kaea is able to follow the class routines.
Pūriri Room 6	Oscar Hapi	Your huge improvement in spelling this term
Pūriri Room 6	Kairo Sharma	Being such a great role model in Room 6 this week.
Mataī Room 7	Ada Westgate	For working hard this week on all her artwork.
Mataī Room 7	Wyatt Harker-Ferguson	For working hard this week on all his artwork.
Nīkau Room 8	Liam Lester	For putting great effort into his writing and using feedback to improve his work.
Nīkau Room 8	Cleo Mackrell	For being responsible in class and completing all her work to a high standard.
Nīkau Room 8	Link Doody	For being a friendly and respectful student who contributed positively to our school community.
Kahikatea Room 10	Korbyn Fergus	For focusing well this week and creating a fantastic piece of cultural Art. Also, thank you for stepping up to take on a tuakana role at assembly this week. We appreciate you!
Kahikatea Room 10	Heidi Viljoen	For always giving 100% in all that you do!

Values

Week 4		
Raaya Sami	Rātā Room 1	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Delilah Andrew	Mānuka Room 2	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Jordy McKinnon	Tōtara Room 3	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Dil Judge	Ponga Room 4	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Kyan Moore	Rimu Room 5	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Manraj Pannu	Pūriri Room 6	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Dot Warbrick	Mataī Room 7	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Navraj Brar	Nīkau Room 8	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Harry Gyde	Kauri Room 9	For demonstrating the value of empathy .
Billie-May Murphy	Kahikatea Room 10	For demonstrating the value of honesty .

Week 5		
Dylan MacDonald-Hooper	Rātā Room 1	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Ryker Wenzlick	Mānuka Room 2	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Jameson Walker	Tōtara Room 3	For demonstrating the value of respect .
Kaylee Wen	Ponga Room 4	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Roman Rakena	Rimu Room 5	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Cole Dutton	Pūriri Room 6	For demonstrating the value of honesty .
Liam Harrison	Mataī Room 7	For demonstrating the value of active learning .
Maddox Cornwall	Nīkau Room 8	For demonstrating the value of courage .
Indi Payne	Kauri Room 9	For demonstrating the value of active learning .

Week 6		
Kylo Orchard	Rātā Room 1	For demonstrating the value of courage.
Willow MacCulloch	Mānuka Room 2	For demonstrating the value of active learning.
Pippa Cloete	Tōtara Room 3	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Eliza Jenkins	Ponga Room 4	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Kaea Rei-Maynard	Rimu Room 5	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Calista Baker-Smith	Pūriri Room 6	For demonstrating the value of active learning.
Taj Judge	Mataī Room 7	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Seán Parkes	Nīkau Room 8	For demonstrating the value of respect.
Mya Allen	Kauri Room 9	For demonstrating the value of active learning.
Inshirah Hussain	Kahikatea Room 10	For demonstrating the value of empathy.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TERM 3?

Monday 21st September	Tech - Years 7 & 8
Thursday 24th September	Arts Festival at Rotokauri School
Friday 25th September	Last day of Term 3
Monday 12th October	First day of Term 4
Wednesday 14th October	Agricultural Day

Full Primary School Cross Country

Congratulations to the 9 students from Rotokauri School that participated in the Waikato Full Primary Cross Country that was held at Rotokauri School yesterday. Here are the results for the day.

Year 7 Girls

1.	Abigail Hayward	St Columba's Catholic
2.	Emily Aquilina	Southwell School
3.	Luuka Max	Te Kowhai School

Year 7 Boys

1.	Thomas Warner	Rotokauri School
2.	Francois Cloete	Te Kowhai School
3.	Dylan Heerikhuisen	St Peter's Cambridge School

Year 8 Girls

1.	Charlotte Bell	Southwell School
2.	Lucia McLauchlan-Hillary	St Joseph's Fairfield
3.	Alexa Sanders-Edwards	Southwell School

Year 8 Boys

1.	Dallas O'Neil	Ngātea School
2.	Louis Dorsers	Korokanui School
3.	Travis Williams	Te Aroha Primary School

Team Events**Year 7 Girls Team Event**

1. Southwell School
2. St Peter's Cambridge
3. Hamilton Christian School

Year 7 Boys Team Event

1. St Peter's Cambridge
2. Southwell School
3. Hamilton Christian School

Year 8 Girls Team Event

1. Southwell School
2. St Peter's Cambridge
3. Hamilton Christian School

Year 8 Boys Team Event

1. Te Kuiti Primary School
2. Te Rapa Primary School

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MONDAY
28 SEPTEMBER



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30 SEPTEMBER



7 PM – 8 PM NZST



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