



Rotokawa School

MARCH 2024 Newsletter #2

CALENDAR

- 11 Mar - Tents to come in to school for CAMP
- 12 Mar - Ruia Morrison Pohiri
- 13 Mar - Rural Cluster swimming
- 13 Mar - Irlen & Vision Screening - Yr 5/6
- 15 Mar - Bake Sale
- 18 Mar - Hearing Screening
- 19 Mar - Paid Union Meeting - School closes at 12.30
- 19-22 Mar - Year 5/6 Ohope Camp
- 19 Mar - Rats Duathlon
- 20-21 Mar - Mahi by Mahi PLD
- 22 Mar - Matua Shane/John - Incredible Years Professional Learning
- 28 Mar - Super Smash Cricket
- 29 Mar - Good Friday - No School
- 1 Apr - Easter Mon - No school
- 2 Apr - Easter Tue - No School
- 3 Apr - CBOP Swimming
- 9 Apr - Fluoride - Teeth
- 12 Apr - Last day of Term 1, 2024
- 29 Apr - First day of Term 2, 2024
- ODD WEEKS - TUESDAY - 9.30am - Assembly
- EVEN WEEKS - TUESDAY - House competition

Don't forget to
download



TERM ONE Week 6

Kia ora e te whānau,

Over the last few weeks, we have had a range of events and experiences occurring within our school that have positive contributed to the culture here at Rotokawa.

Ruamata Marae noho was a highlight for many, with all students, and their whānau, from across the school having the opportunity to engage in an overnight noho! We had so much positive feedback around the learning and opportunity itself! We would like to express thanks to all whānau for their support with that kaupapa! As a school, we look forward to the next noho marae!

Across the school, we also had our annual swimming sports. It was great to see so many faces come along and celebrate the achievements of our tamariki - whether they were mums, dads, aunties, uncles, siblings or grandparents.

Next week, we have our Year 5 & 6 camp to Ohope. We have many tamariki, whānau and staff attending this trip, which will enable positive relationships and connections to be made by all! We know that the tamariki will enjoy their time in Ohope! Keep an eye out for the photos!

On the 19th of March, our staff have a Paid Union Meeting that our teaching staff need to attend and school will be closing at 12.30pm. On this day, school lunches will be available for tamariki to consume prior to them being picked up at 12.30pm. If you can please pick your children up at this time, that would be great!

Ngā mihi,

Rotokawa School

PAID UNION MEETING

Kia ora e te whānau,

On Tuesday 19th March, our staff will be attending the Rotorua Branch PM Paid Union Meeting. To enable our teaching staff to do this, school will be closing at 12.30pm. If your child is at school on this day, can please organise your tamaiti/tamariki to be picked up at 12.30pm on this day, that would be much appreciated.

We appreciate you working alongside us with this.



Primary and area
school teachers'
paid union
meetings

PUMMS

Rotorua Branch PM Paid Union Meeting

Whakamana Kaiako: Paid Union Meetings Term 1 2024

Paid Union Meetings for primary and area school teacher members of NZEI Te Riu Roa to take a stand for the professional practice and expertise of teachers to be recognised and fairly valued through Mana Taurite/ pay equity. Whakamana Kaiako, Whakamana Tamariki.

These are paid union meetings as set out in the Employment Relations Act. NZEI Te Riu Roa members covered by the primary and area school teacher's collective agreements are entitled to be released to attend.

TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024 AT 1:30 PM NZDT
SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12.30PM

PLEASE PICK YOUR TAMAITI UP FROM SCHOOL.



Rotokawa School

WHAKANUIA

The 5th of March saw a 20 year teaching celebration occur for one of our staff members - Matua Jamal.

Matua Jamal has been a Kaiako here at Rotokawa School for 20 years - between March 5th 2004 and March 5th 2024.

Over the last 20 years, Matua Jamal has displayed aroha, manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga in a variety of ways. He has contributed positively to camps, day trip, school wide events - including hāngi, final assemblies and Matariki, had long and short hair, taken study leave, led the boys class, been on a Te Ao Māori journey, taught in single cell classes as well as team teaching in double cell classes, held a number of leadership roles, taught all year levels (independently from Year 3-6 and team teaching from Year 0-6), been a kaiako through 4 different principals, is teaching the 2nd generation of families, re-established Pae Maia (Reo Rua), taught one of our staff members (whaea Shontelle), now has past students in his class, developed his guitar play skills, and always been a staunch WAIKITE supporter - among a range of other amazing things!

As a means of celebrating him and his teaching career thus far, our tamariki and kaiako partook in a BBQ lunch, and we hosted a private school assembly which saw a myriad of photos, memories and acknowledgements shared in honor of Matua Jamal. Huge mihi goes out to the past students who shared their aroha with him!

Nei rā te mihi ki a koe Jamal!

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi





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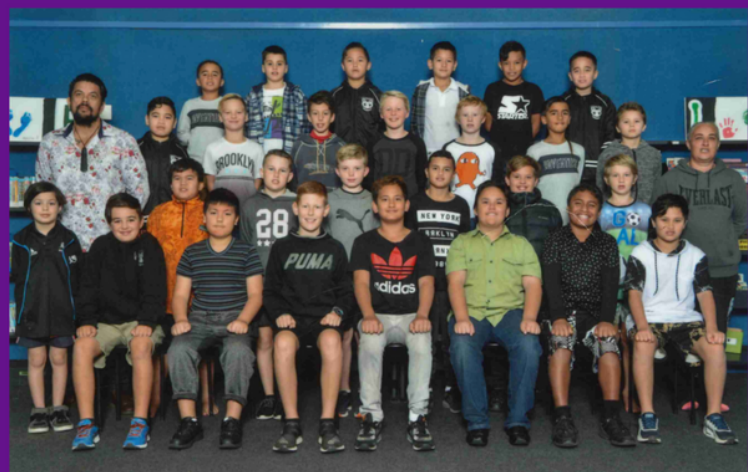
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Study Leave

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Rotokawa School

ROKOKAWA WHĀNAU

FRANCES WHARERAHI - WHAEA FRANCES

*Learning Support Coordinator within
the Rotorua East Kāhui Ako. Currently
working at both Rotokawa School and
Mokoia Intermediate.*

*Working alongside tamariki and kaiako
in Pae Maia.*



Ko Ngongotaha me Whakapunake ōku maunga,
Ko Rotorua nui ā Kahumatamomoe me Te Wairoa Hōpūpū Hōnengenenge Mātangi Rau ōku wai
kaukau,
Ko Te Arawa me Takitimu ngā ōku waka,
Ko Te Arawa me Ngāti Kahungunu ōku iwi,
Ko Tuhourangi, Tuwharetoa, Ngāti Whakaue, Ngāti Pīkiao me Ngāti Kurupakiaka ōku hapū,
Ko Te Papaīouru, Te Pākira, Takitimu me Taihoa ōku marae,
Ko Heke Wharerahi rāua ko Alison Wharerahi (nee Kingi) ōku mātua,
Ko Mererihī Te Akau taku tamāhine
Ko Frances Wharerahi ahau,
No reira tēnā tātou katoa.

My name is Frances Wharerahi. I am of Te Arawa and Ngāti Kahungunu descent. Born and raised in Rotorua. A teacher for 17 years, a team leader for 13 and an advocate for Te Ao Māori and Kapahaka. Away from education, I am the eldest sibling of 3 and have a 7 year daughter who currently attends Te Kura o Te Koutu. I am a newly appointed trustee for Te Taumata o Ngāti Whakaue Iho Ake and love giving back to my iwi and also making mokopuna decisions.

I am the new Learning Support Coordinator for both Rotokawa School and Mokoia Intermediate. With the last year's event, Te Hiwi o Toroa being held it was the perfect opportunity to see the amazing kapahaka talent and performances from the local kura and to also meet the staff, students and whānau from the local community. I look forward to what 2024 will bring.

Ngā tauwhirotanga.



Rotokawa School

HOUSE COMPETITION

ŌTAUIRA



Ōtauirā is an environmental landmark which is the wetlands in the area at Waikawau/Hannahs Bay. All the different species of creatures were at this place.

WAIKAWAU



Waikawau is an environmental landmark which is also known as the shoreline – of Hannahs Bay Reserve. Wai means water, Kawau is a shag.

KARAMURAMU



Karamuramu is an environmental landmark near the airport. This site, which also has a hot bath, was covered in Karamuramu trees.

WAIKAWA



Waikawa is an environmental landmark near the end of Rotokawa Road. Waikawa is a puna or a spring.

POINTS WILL BE UPDATED EACH NEWSLETTER
AND EACH FORTNIGHTLY ASSEMBLY.

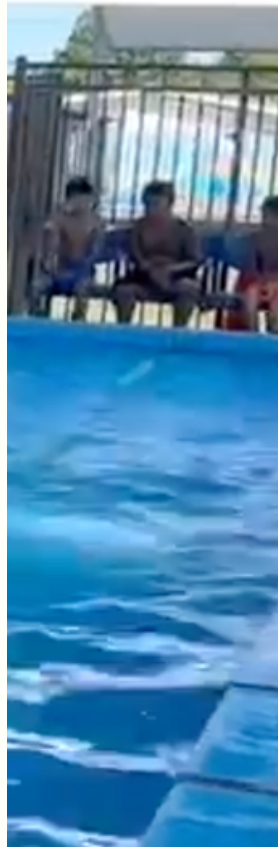
HOUSE COMPETITION

Week 6 - Haka Competition





LEARNING NEWS

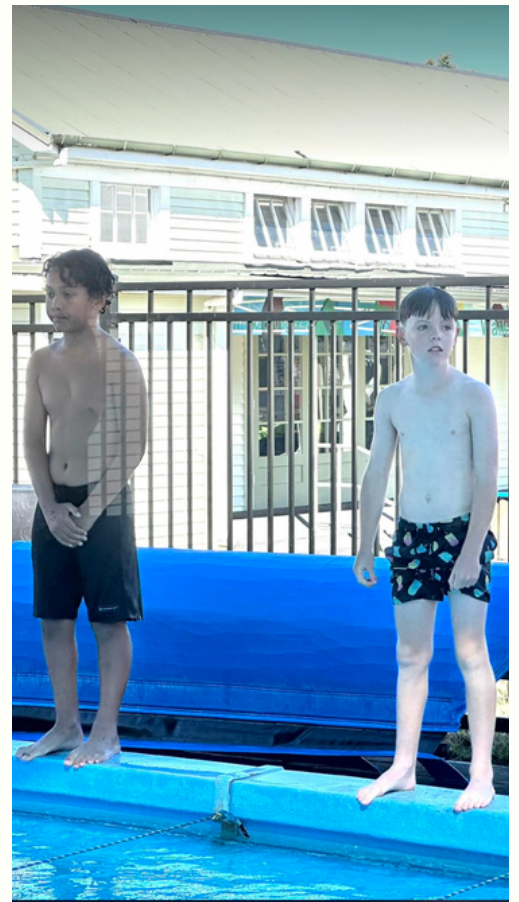


SWIMMING

Last week we hosted our Annual Swimming sports.

It was great to see tamariki showcasing their swimming abilities in front of their peers, kaiako and whānau. We would like to extend our thanks to all whānau who took time out of their day to join us!

Congratulations to all tamariki representing us at Rural School Swimming Sport later in the term.



LEARNING NEWS

Ruamata Noho

This term our school-wide Local Curriculum kaupapa/topic is around Ahurea/Culture. As part of this learning, every class in the school will be participating in a noho marae at Ruamata Marae. This will allow our kura to not only build tuakana/teina relationships but also to connect with our local area.

Throughout the week visit, classes learned about a range of concepts, including:

Pōhiri/Whakataua processes

Marae protocol

Kai preparation and safety & table settings

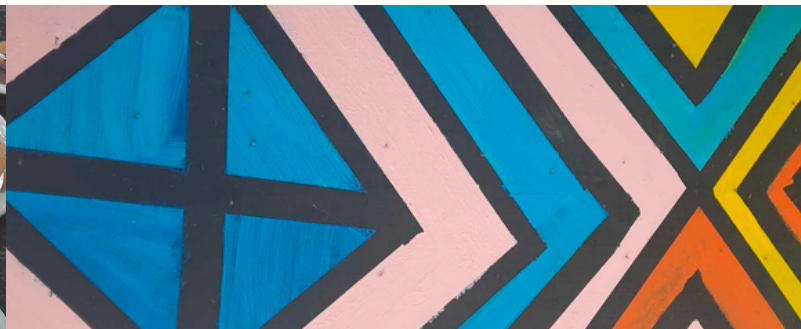
Understanding the naming and meaning of Ruamata Marae, including the different buildings and their names

Our connection as a school to Ruamata

Tuakana/Teina - Classes were mixed across the school

Different mediums of Art

A huge thanks goes out to Ruamata Marae and Hau kāinga, Ruamata Kura, The Arts Village and Whaea Sheree, all of our tamariki and whānau who supported this kaupapa, and all who contributed to planning arrangements.





2024 - Summer fun





2024 - Touch





HOW ROTOKAWA WAS NAMED

HOW ŌWHATA WAS NAMED

HOW WAIKAWAU WAS NAMED

TERM 1, 2024

ROKAWA LOCAL CURRICULUM
AHUREA / CULTURE

Pakiwaitara: The naming and meaning of Rotokawa

It is not clearly known as to whom named 'Rotokawa- the sour waters.'

Rotokawa, which also has a lake sitting near by, was once pristine freshwater lake with a contributing geothermal spring called 'Waikawa'. This Geothermal activity, and ultimately the name of the Spring, was brought by the fire sisters 'Iwi pupu and Te Hoata.' As we learn the story of 'Whakapoungakau was named', this story comes to light.

Since the birth of deforestation for farming purposes, Lake Rotokawa has been overcome by silt and has lost its pristineness. Due to local council decisions, Lake Rotokawa lake (like lake Rotorua) has been given 'mana-official status' in terms of defined boundaries. As a result, Ngati Uenukukōpako are working towards returning the lake to its once pristine condition.



Removing barriers to learning

As we have done so in previous years, our school will be accessing supports that allow us to routinely screen students across our school (Irlen/vision, hearing, dyslexic characteristics and barriers to learning etc). We are very fortunate to have some Learning Support Coordinators from our Eastern Kahui Ako and members of our wider community (including Empowered Learning and Lakes DHB) coming in to support us with the screening. We are being proactive in the screening of these areas to ensure that no child slips through the cracks, and to help us to get to know our learners and what they need to make good progress this year.

From time to time, your child may need parental consent (e.g. for hearing screens with the DHB we need parental consent), so they may come home with permission forms.

Once screening has occurred, and if any further actions need to be carried out, you will receive communications that come home.

We appreciate our whānau and community working collectively to support our Rotokawa Tamariki.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ngā mihi,
Rotokawa School

Ways to help at home

We understand and acknowledge that learning takes on many different forms. We have many whānau requesting information on how they can support their tamaiti and their learning at home. As a school, we encourage you to get out and about with your tamaiti, engage in community and sporting activities and kōrero with your tamaiti.

However, to provide additional support, in Week 5/10 of each term, we will also be sharing some snippets of games and activities that you can carry out with your tamaiti too!

Keep an eye out for our newsletter.



Ways to practice and help LITERACY at home - Stage 1-5



Talking with whānau about our day - Oral Language is important in Literacy instruction



Playing outside/inside and noticing words, letters, sounds etc.



Reading poems

- Rhyming words
- Finding the first sounds in words
- Retelling the poem/nursery rhyme on Seesaw



Rhymes

- make rhymes by only the beginning sound in a word. For example, you could start with the word "rat." Your child might reply with the word "hat." On and on you can go together!



Guess-That-Word

- Lay out a few items or pictures in front of your child with a mixture of items (some starting with the Phoneme (sound) / Grapheme (letter) they are learning). Ask them to find the items that start with that letter/sound.



Clapping It Out. ...

- Clap how many syllables/sound breaks are in words. e.g. Ro/to/ka/wa has 4 syllables.



Rhyme or not?

- Say three words, two of which rhyme and one that does not (you can make this as sensible or as silly as you like). For example, you might say 'mit', 'bit' and 'frog'. Then ask your child for the word which doesn't rhyme.



- Writing and reading shopping lists or to do lists



Reading Practice

- Reading LLLL Cards - Provided by school
- LLLL cut and order sentences



READING AT HOME

- Easy read - Child reads
- Easy-Tricky - Turn take - read a page each
- Tricky read - Parent/Caregiver reads to child



- Talking with older people/Kaumātua about interesting stories, the past or interests



- Finding your letters, spelling patterns or words in magazines or newspapers



Tongue Twisters

- Practise saying different sounds and identifying common sounds in sentences.



Mystery Bag

- Suggest your child choose one of their target letters/sounds. Get them to find items that begin with that letter and create 'SOUND bags'



Recognising Sound

- Try saying three words that begin or end with the same sound and asking your child what sound they share. For example: m-mouse, m-oney, m-mountain. You could also change it up by inserting a word that does not belong in the group of words and have your child identify which is the odd one out.



I-Spy With Words

- Play I-spy out and about - instead of using the letter, give your child the initial sound



Digital Sites

- Reading Eggs - Ask your teacher for your login
- Seesaw

Throughout the year, we will host a Literacy afternoon for whānau/families to attend.



Rotokawa School

WEEKLY TRANSITION TO SCHOOL



Before School visits support children to develop relationships, become familiar with their new setting and get a feel of what school life is going to be like here at Rotokawa School. All learners transitioning to school are welcome to come in and see what our school and New Entrant class is about with our 'Transition to School Programme'.



Our Goal: 'To build positive relationships with the child, their family and the ECE centres in our community to ensure smooth transitions for children coming to Rotokawa School.'



Day:
Friday
Morning

Time: 8.30am onwards,
9.00am school starts,
10.30am-11.00am -
morning tea and
play break.

Children who are participating in a transition visit are welcome to stay for morning tea and play. Bring along your lunch box to join us.



Where: Room 5

Pop into the office and Whaea Talia will help you out.



How many visits: As whānau, you are best placed to know how many school visits your child may need. Visits can be discussed, so pop in and see us.

We endeavour to support teachers to visit your child in their ECE too, so please let your classroom teacher know which ECE your child currently attends.

**VAN PICK UPS
(WITH A
TRUSTED
ADULT)
AVAILABLE**

DELICIOUS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

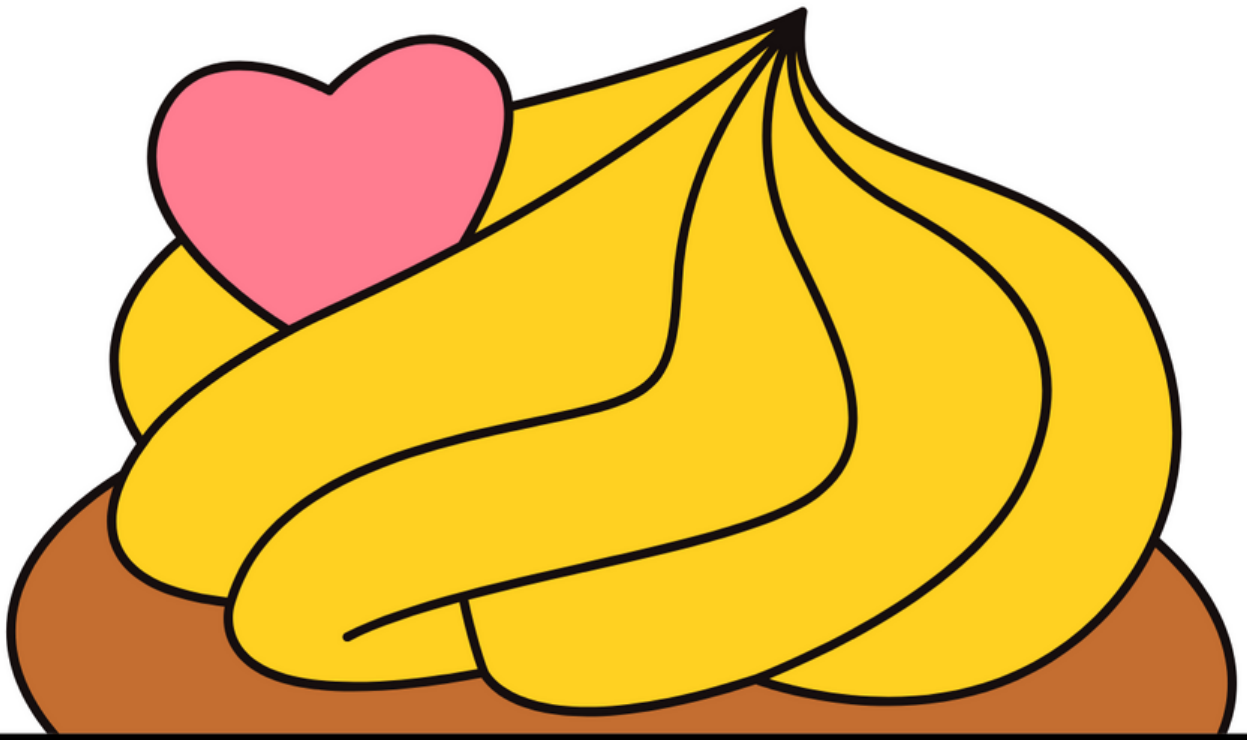


**SAUSAGE, BREAD,
SAUCE, ONIONS**

\$2.50

DRINK
\$1.00

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH
AT LUNCTIME



Friday 15th March 2024

Morning Tea and Lunchtime in Pae-Maia

BAKE SALE

All items 50c - \$5

