



# Roto Review

We live by  
our motto of  
**AIM HIGH**

Dear parents and caregivers,

## WELCOME TO 2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome to a brand new year. 2021 looks far more promising than 2020 has been. With a starting roll of 99 wonderful children, you can feel how settled and enthusiastic the children are already. There is a very positive, settled vibe around the place.

We held a whakatau to welcome Taylah Russell, our new teacher, along with approximately 40 adults and 15 brand new students (plus 23 students from last year who had not been formally welcomed). The home team looked smaller than the visiting team.

Miss Russell is in Room 2, teaching our Year 3/4 children. She is brand new to teaching, having graduated last year but is already making an impact in her class. We look forward to the enthusiasm and new ideas a young teacher brings. If building a chimney in your reading corner is any indicator, then I think we will see lots of cool things happening in Room 2 this year.

## TEACHER ONLY DAYS

The Ministry of Education are allowing schools to hold 8 Teacher Only Days (or TODs) over 2020-2022 for professional learning, assessment/reporting support. We will be holding 3 this year. In an effort to provide maximum benefit for staff but minimal interruption for families we have organised for these to happen around weekends. Many of the schools in Cambridge have also tried to co-ordinate these dates to cause less disruption. Pencil these dates in your diaries! **We will have Teacher Only Days in 2021 on:**

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June (Fieldays weekend), and Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.**

## WELCOME EVENING

We will be holding a Welcome to School BBQ evening on Thursday 18th February from 5.30pm. This is the perfect opportunity for new families to the district/ the school/ Cambridge to come and meet other families and the teachers at Roto-o-Rangi School. We would love to have all our families who have already been in the school for a while now coming along to meet the new people to Roto. It also provides the chance to meet the new "friends" and their families, so bring the entire whanau along.

The teachers will be there so that you can have an informal chat about how your child is settling in and if there is anything more you need to know about the class.

On the night we have a free sausage sizzle and the pool is available for people to have a swim. The PTA are running a disco from 7-8pm. The night just gets better every year.

## WELCOME

We welcome the following children to Roto-o-Rangi School – Henry, Alice and Gus (from the US), Arthur and Lincoln, Lilly and Saffron, Imaani, Ezekiel, Arielle, Millie, Melita, Harlan, Jake, Sophie, Zara, Brodie, and Kyle.

We know you will enjoy your learning at Roto-o-Rangi and make our school an even better place to learn in.

There are more children in the photo than at the whakatau because we have had even more people start since then.



## TERM 1 SPORTS

Miniball and touch are starting this term. Notices have gone to children interested in playing, but if you haven't seen one and are keen for them to play it would pay to contact their teacher. Teacher's emails are on the school website.

## CYCLING EVENT

The RIDE festival this weekend starts with Cycling NZ holding National Time Trials out our way. They are using the school grounds for mechanical repairs, rest spots, etc. tomorrow. We have been asked to open the Time Trials event by singing the National Anthem, so at **9.45am** the whole school will be at the front gate singing.

The Breeze Radio station will be broadcasting from the school during the morning too.

Due to this event parking may be an issue at school as the front of Roto Hall will be occupied and cones etc maybe up around the carparks, so please be patient if you need to wait. The MP Room and field are out of action for the children during the day so a **brief Friday School Assembly will be held under the archgola at 2.30pm.**

## KNOWING WHAT IS HAPPENING

We communicate upcoming events as early as we can in a variety of formats. **The 3 main ones are the Facebook page, Skoolloop and Newsletter.** Whilst we don't always get it right, the vast majority of the time the information is out there.

The school uses a **private Facebook page (called Roto Parents)** which only parents have access to (no aunties, uncles, family friends, grandparents, just those with day to day care of the students). It has photos of the children doing activities in the school, has the mundane information like start times to Swimming Sports, reminders about paying school accounts and where not to park. It also celebrates some of the great learning happening at the school and informs you of events coming up.

**Skoolloop** is an app that you download to you phone to receive messages, view the school calendar, send in absence messages, etc. Just download it from the App store and search for Roto-o-Rangi school.

**Website** – the website has a calendar with all the upcoming events you need to know about. It also has general information to help you know what is happening – such as the term dates, the TODs in 2021, basically all the general information about how the school operates.

**Newsletter** is published every fortnight beginning in Week 1 of the Term (so week 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 of each term). It celebrates learning happening in the school and provides the latest information.

**Email** – for large attachments or extra important notices because most families have email.

## WHOLE SCHOOL CAMP

I am trying to finalise our Whole School overnight camp. We hope to hold it April 8/9<sup>th</sup> and will confirm asap.

## CLASSDOJO

Parents with kindergarten children may be familiar with Seesaw, children's portfolios online. We are using Clasdojo to do the same thing. Go to your app store and download it. Sign up for a parent account then add your email and the password supplied by your child from school to create the account. You will get to see your child's work and the things happening in the class.

## SETTLING IN REPORT

We have the Settling In report coming home on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>. This is just a highlight of how well your child has settled into the routines of their classroom and their focus on the learning so far.

There is a section for parents to feedback to teachers what you goals/aims are for your child/ren during this year too. Please take the time to complete this and discuss with your child/ren what you want to support them in achieving this year as well.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 18/2 Welcome to Roto evening, starting at 5.30pm.
- 25/2 BOT Meeting 6pm in Staffroom
- 26/2 Settling In Reports come home
- 5/3 Roto Swimming Sports (check notices below)
- 15/3 Rural Schools' Swimming Sports – St Peter's
- 25/3 BOT Meeting – 6pm
- 2-6/4 Easter break – (Fri thru Tues Inclusive)
- 8-9/4 Whole School camp at Maungatautari marae (TBC)
- 16/4 Last day Term 1
- 3/5 Start of term 2

## ROTO SWIMMING SPORTS

We are trying to squeeze both Swimming Sports into the one day. The Senior Swimming Sports are in the morning of Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March at Cambridge High School, the Junior Swimming event is in the afternoon of the 5<sup>th</sup>.

We have had to separate the sports because the CHS pool is too deep for the younger children. We don't want them on different days otherwise some parents have to take 2 days off work to see their children. We are starting the Senior Sports at 9.30am to finish by 12.30pm. Then back to school to start the Juniors at 1.00pm. More details and a request for transport help will be out on Monday.

## HATS

All children must be wearing a hat if they wish to play out on the grounds at school during Term 1 and 4. Please ensure your child has a brimmed hat, and it is clearly marked with their name. Plain caps are not sufficient protection (but the caps with the neckflap are fine).

## BEHAVIOUR

We have implemented a "Traffic Light" system with behaviours. Hence you may be contacted more frequently about behaviour incidences at school, so don't panic if this happens. An email has been sent with an outline of the approach we are using.