



# Roto Review

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

**Kia ora Koutou Katoa,**

**With everything that's going on, let's stay on the positive and bright;**

'Meet the Teacher' is going ahead, but in a Google Meet format rather than face to face. More details inside this newsletter.

The pool is almost ready for swimming again. It has been a long road with the painting, the repairs and changing the whole system to a salt based pool. We were rather optimistic in our schedule but we are close. We should be in on Monday, barring a major catastrophe!

THANKS to the many families who put in hours of labour to get the pool right for the next 10+ years:

The original group who prepared the surface of the pool and painted it; Leon Kennerley who spent over 3 full work days here helping to get the new filter and chlorinating system in place; and Graeme Norvill who returned again to put all the handrails back on and help install the new doors and windows into the pool/PE shed over the weekend. The shed has been given a makeover, which started in the September holidays last year, thanks to the Watson family (and I mean family because Steve is the builder doing the job for us but also had his 3 boys and daughter down here working long hours for over a week to get the job done). The great thing about a rural school is how the families give up their own time to help things happen for all the children in the school. It is greatly appreciated.

Well done to the children too. They might be a little more nervous at home, but they are all managing to deal with the restrictions, changes and protocols we have in place now. They are enjoying themselves during break times, and some classes are playing together more nicely than when they were apart. Adversity can help to unite! Inside are a few photos of the children still enjoying their time at school, and there are many more photos on our Facebook page and the closed group 'Roto Parents'.

On another note, we are going through an "assessment" phase at the moment. At the end of 2021 we focussed on teaching children whilst we had them rather than "testing" them to see the progress they made over the interrupted year. Now we are doing lots of assessing so we can plan more accurately what the children need to learn. This may be tiring children out or making them a little more anxious. We try hard not to make scary for them but everyone wants to do their best so they can be a little more anxious at this time.

**Our new friends Zyon & Sonny were't here for the photos in the last newsletter, so here they are! They've settled in so well and are loving the playground!**



## 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 the teacher, to create the account. You will get to see your child's work and the things happening in the class.

Teachers will be posting things into your child's portfolio more this year, as we share how they are going with their work and the things we are doing in our learning.

## SETTLING IN REPORT & MEET THE TEACHER CONFERENCES

We have the Settling In Report coming home on Feb 23rd. 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.

The next evening is MEET THE TEACHER via Google Meet. Each teacher will send an invite to a google meet. It will likely say the Meet is at 3pm. Ignore that. It is just set up so that the same link goes out to all families in that classroom. If you have 3 children in 3 rooms, you will get 3 invites.

## EXTRA LEARNING GROUPS

Some children have joined groups which do extra learning activities at school, kapahaka, Ignite Music lessons, etc. With the change of protocols, these can no longer happen. We are restricting parents on site, so only sensible to restrict outside groups to, for now.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

There are no major upcoming events as most things cannot be held at the moment but here's what's going on so far;

- 21/2 Office won't be manned so please email Mr D if you need to speak to someone, or phone if urgent.
- 23/2 Settling In report comes home.  
BOT Meeting
- 24/2 Online 'Meet the Teacher' Conferences
- 25/2 Fortnightly Assembly (online)

## HATS

We have a number of children asking us for a spare hat daily and no longer have any spares left.

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. Caps are not sufficient protection but the caps with the neckflap are fine.

## COVID RESPONSE

Everyone has been emailed the new protocols the school is following to reduce the risk of sudden and widespread infection across the school. Contact Mr D if you did not receive that email on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> it was based around the COVID plan sent out on the 9<sup>th</sup> February.

There are increasing cases across the country but also in Cambridge.

Please contact Mr D if your children have any unwell feelings, even if they don't seem to be COVID like symptoms. It just gives us one more bit of info to act on if we suddenly need to start our processes for a positive case in the school.

Mr D is the first point of contact – 0274 850 794. Calling is best, or a text so that we can act quickly if needed. Please make sure we have your latest mobile numbers so we can get hold of you quickly.

## BUS SAFETY

Our Country Bus driver, Stan, has asked us to share a couple of reminders for your tamariki who catch either of our buses to and from school. We would be extremely grateful if you could discuss these with your child at home to help us get these important safety messages ingrained in their brains!



1. Mask on before you hop on.
2. Always put your seatbelt on (if your bus has one).
3. **Never** walk in front of the bus!  
Always walk behind the bus and look both ways to make sure it's clear before you cross.

**Also, a note for parents** – Did you know that when you drive past a stationary school bus you **must** slow down to no more than 20 km per hour.

## BUS CHANGES

If you need to make a change to the way your child is getting home please let us know before 2pm if you can. This allows us time to let your child know, and to add them to the bus list/remove them from the bus list/direct them to after school care. We are unable to take your child's word for it, no matter how responsible they are, so it is important we hear the changes from you directly.

## CHANGES TO CONTACT DETAILS

Have your contact details changed since you enrolled your child? It's important that we are able to contact you in an emergency and able to send you information that you need to be aware of so please make sure you update your contact details if anything has changed. You can email these to me at [office@rotoorangi.school.nz](mailto:office@rotoorangi.school.nz)

## TE REO CORNER

An easy start to the year for us to practice our te reo.

Try a new greeting every day of the week. Can you make it to the end of the week without using the same greeting twice?

**Ata marie** – Good morning (really says Morning Peace)

**Tēnā koe** – hello to you

**Kia ora** – Hello

**Mōrena** – Good morning

**Tēnā koe i te tēnei rā** – hello to you on this day

**Tēnā koe i te tēnei ata** – hello to you on this morning.

**Tēnā korua** – hello you two (i.e. said to 2 people)

I have used macrons in the greetings today so I don't confuse our new families. However, from here on, I will be using the Tainui way of writing which uses a double vowel instead of the macron. The macron just means that the letter holds its sound for a fraction longer than a letter without a macron. It only happens on vowels (just like in English we have long and short vowel sounds).

So next time Tēnā koe will look like Teenaa koe.



## My Summer

I heard cheeky seagulls squawking for delicious hot chips.

I heard gigantic waves crashing loudly against the seashore.

I saw hungry seagulls circling the ocean for fish.

I saw brave people riding the enormous waves.

I felt salty seawater racing against my skin as I was boogie-boarding.

I felt squelching hot sand as I walked to the ice cream shop.

I wondered If we would stay in a bach?

I wondered if a tsunami would hit?

By Henry, Room 5.

## ABSENTEES

Please remember to let the office know if your child is, or will be, absent from school. You can let us know by email, text, Skool Loop App, or by phoning the office and leaving a message on the absentee line. The office mobile number is **027 277 9351**.

to be aware of so please make sure you update your contact details if anything has changed. You can email these to me at [office@rotoorangi.school.nz](mailto:office@rotoorangi.school.nz)

If you'd like to share any news or achievements with us please email the office 😊



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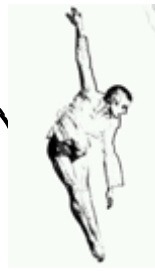
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Term 1 commences from Monday February 15<sup>th</sup>

Contact Carmel to enrol or for more information on

0274054600 or [carmel@dynamixdance.co.nz](mailto:carmel@dynamixdance.co.nz)

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