



**Rototuna**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
HE RAWE MO AKETONU - OUR BEST ALWAYS



## CONTACT US

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Dear Parents, Whanau and Caregivers,

Welcome to the fourth week of the term. The children are now into the routine of learning. Sometimes they are still struggling with the high temperatures and humidity when they are outside. I am sure they are pleased that the classrooms have air-conditioning.

## **Driving**

Last week I had a complaint from a community member including a photograph of an irresponsible driver. He told me that he was forwarding the photograph to the Police. I can understand his complaint. There are Hamilton City Council parking signs on many streets around the school warning people not to park on yellow lines, on grass at the side of the road, on corners and across driveways. We need to respect the law and also the neighbors who live near our school.

I have been suggesting that people park at the Countdown Carpark and meet children there. There was a really good example when we had a rainstorm last Thursday, I saw 2 parents walk down from Countdown and walk back to their car before the road patrol finished at 3.15pm.

There was still a great deal of congestion when I was able to assist Tina Anderson in getting children into cars. This lasted until 3.20pm.

It is better use of your time, healthier for your children to walk and better for our environment to wait at Countdown. I am also sure it's better for the blood pressure and stress too.

Please DO NOT drop off or collect your children at the back gate while your vehicle is parked on the yellow lines. This is an illegal traffic infringement and detrimental to the safety of students.

Please also respect the carparks signposted for the Early Education Centre. These are only to be used by parents who are picking up daycare children at that time. Please do not be offended when you are asked to move away from this parking area if you are not collecting a child from the daycare. The Early Education Centre will be monitoring these parks.

## **Testing**

This week Year 4 to 6 students have started some tests in reading and mathematics that compares them to their peers throughout the country. We look forward to the data as it helps our teachers validate judgments they make about student learning.

## **Thanks**

I thank all the parents who made the effort to come along and talk to the teachers about children. It is such a benefit to teachers and your child(ren). Every teacher told me that they had learned things that would help them target students better. We used to have about 100 parents turn up to Meet the Teacher meetings. Just Wednesday alone we had 350 discussions compared to a rushed talk in the past. I thank those who turned up on either day and some who have made time on another day to have that conversation.

I thank the parents who shared views about how it was useful to them. Many did this in conversations but I also received emails too. I am looking forward to a very successful year of learning for all children who are at our school.

## **PTA Meet and Greet.**

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 7 pm  
School Staffroom

We've had a number of people ask about our PTA, what we do, how to help or how to join.

So, we're holding a short, casual session before our first PTA meeting. Come along to meet some of the friendly members to find out what we do or simply join up. Stay for the meeting and find out what 2018 has in store! (have a say, share your ideas!)

Can't make this meeting? No worries! Just email [pta@rototunaprimar.school.nz](mailto:pta@rototunaprimar.school.nz) and one of our team can catch you at another time or can call/email you.

Don't want to join the PTA but want to help at an event or two? Great, we need you! Just email [pta@rototunaprimar.school.nz](mailto:pta@rototunaprimar.school.nz) and we'll get back to you.

The PTA is a fun and friendly team to join. We are all busy people who want to contribute to our school's resources and sense of community for all families. We welcome new members and helpers and always need more help. No matter how small your contribution may be, any efforts are welcome!



### **Celebration**

This Friday we hold our second Celebration for this year. It will be led by students from Room 23 and their buddy class, Room 9 will join them to share work. Also included during the Celebration will be a digital presentation and this will be put together by Room 18.

I hope that you can join us and celebrate the learning at Rototuna School.

### **Chinese New Year**

I hope that there were many celebrations over the weekend to mark the start of the next Chinese Year – this is the year of the Dog. I know that there have been a lot of discussions in the school over the past few days.

### **Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees will have the first meeting of the new school year next Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February beginning at 6:00pm in the office meeting room. You are most welcome to come along and see what the Board of Trustees does.

### **Swimming Sports**

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March we will hold our swimming sports at the **Fairfield College Pool beginning around 11.00am** – students will be leaving school between 10.30am -11.00am. This event is for competitive swimmers only. Usually all Year 4 to 6 children can participate in competitive swimming or non-competitive activities. However, this is not possible this year as the Hamilton Council Pool is closed for maintenance/upgrade. The Fairfield Pool does not have the space to cater for the number of children at our school. We will return to the bigger pools at Te Rapa when they are available.

Competitive swimmers must be able to swim 25 metres and breathe properly to participate in the competitive swimming.

### **Biking to School**

Please make sure that your child has the confidence to ride a bike and the skills to monitor people on footpaths and cars moving in and out of driveways. The best idea is to bike with them first so they know the route and the dangerous points on their journey. All children who bike to school need to wear a helmet.

### **Riding a Scooter**

This is a great way to get to school but the children need the same skills of watching for other footpath users and cars that move in and out of driveways.

### **Absences**

Please notify the office if your child is going to be absent from school. You can now do this easily by using the APP on your phone or leave a message on our absence line 853 2470.

### **Ice Blocks**

The P.T.A will continue to sell lemonade ice blocks on Friday lunchtime. Costs are \$1.00 each.

### **Have your contact details changed?**

Changed jobs? Changed mobile number? Moved house?

Please check your details on the @school Parent Portal and advise the office if anything needs correcting. It is important that school has up to date and current contact information.



Kind regards,

**Mike Sutton**  
Principal

### **Player of the Day**

Louis Jefferis

### **GENESIS ENERGY COMPETITION**

Our school has been entered into the School-gen's Energising Young Minds competition through Genesis energy. This means we are in for a chance to win either \$25,000, \$15,000 or \$10,000 for our school. The competition works on a voting system which means we need your support to vote for our school using the following link <http://www.schoolgen.co.nz/voteforyourschool> You can vote once a day up until voting ends on the 2 April. So get behind our school and let's see if we can win our kids an amazing prize. Thanks in advance for your all your support. The PTA team.





## Rototuna Primary School now has a School App!

Go to the App Store on your Apple or Android device and  
**Search 'SchoolAppsNZ'** to download the app onto your device.  
Then search 'Rototuna Primary School' to find your school's app.



# kids first



**first**  
credit union

FIRST CREDIT UNION'S NEWSLETTER JUST FOR KIDS! ISSUE 38 | SUMMER 2018



Jimmy

## Summer fun... now school's back!

**Welcome back super savers!** I hope you all enjoyed your long summer holiday! I went camping with my family and had a great time at the beach.

There are some cool things happening this year. I've been learning about Chinese New Year which will be happening soon. What an awesome festival filled with cool traditions. Read all the things I've learned below. Make sure you enter our 'Year of the Dog' colouring competition over the page - you could win \$50 for your savings!

**Stay cool super savers!**

## Chinese new year 2018 YEAR OF THE DOG

OF ALL THE CHINESE FESTIVALS, CHINESE NEW YEAR IS THE FESTIVAL THAT IS LOVED AND LOOKED FORWARD TO THE MOST.

For Chinese people, the Lunar New Year is a time for happy reunions, family and friends, rich in colorful traditions and customs. Each year is assigned an animal according to the Chinese Zodiac - 2018 is the year of the dog.

In China, planes, trains, buses, boats, donkeys, and any means of transportation you can imagine, are jammed packed with people returning home to enjoy the celebrations with their friends and family. And all over the world, wherever there is a Chinatown, the festivities are a colorful display of dragon dances, lantern festivals, feasts, and of course fireworks!

### THE HISTORY OF CHINESE NEW YEAR

This traditional festival has been celebrated for more than four thousand years. It came about from ancient celebrations to mark the end of the long winter season and the beginning of spring. It celebrates the earth coming back to life and the beginning of the growing cycle. This is why it is also called the Spring Festival.

### WHEN IS CHINESE NEW YEAR?

Chinese New Year will be on February 16 this year. Chinese New Year dates vary each year and could fall at the end of January or in February.

### THE PREPARATIONS

It is a tradition for every family to thoroughly clean the house in order to sweep away any ill-fortune and to make way for incoming good luck. Homes are decorated with red paper cut patterns and poetry scrolls.

### FIREWORKS

Bamboo stems filled with gunpowder were once used in ancient China to create small explosions to drive away evil spirits. Over time, this has evolved into the use of firecrackers during the festive season. The burning of firecrackers also signifies a happy time of year and has become an important part of Chinese New Year celebrations.

### TRADITIONS

Red envelopes containing money are usually given from older people to younger people during Chinese New Year. Small gifts (usually food or sweets) are also exchanged between friends or relatives (of different households).



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## WANT A CHANCE FOR RICHIE MCCAWE TO LAND AT YOUR SCHOOL?

The Fonterra Milk for Schools programme is turning 5! To mark the big occasion, Richie is helping Fonterra and its farmers make a special milk delivery to four lucky primary schools, by helicopter. Nominate your local school, tell us why he should land there and he could be on his way.

**ENTER NOW AT [RICHIESMILKRUN.CO.NZ](http://RICHIESMILKRUN.CO.NZ)**

Terms and conditions apply. For safety, Richie will bring regular size milk packs.





# colour in... and win!

Colour in this cute guy to celebrate 2018 being the Chinese year of the dog!  
Return your completed picture with your school banking passbook, bring it in to a First Credit Union branch, or post it before Friday 6 APRIL 2018 to PO Box 585, Waikato Mail Centre, Hamilton.

NAME

AGE

PHONE

SCHOOL

ADDRESS

2 lucky people will  
**WIN \$50**  
for their savings!



## winners congratulations!

Congratulations to the winners of our Savings Wordfind competition - **Nixon Coe** and **Nashrullah Danish**.

Great work finding all the hidden words guys -  
**you've both won \$50 for your savings!**

## Hey mum! Hey Dad!

**Make next Christmas stress free  
and easier on your account!**

Our Christmas Club savings account will help you get ready for the silly season! Save as little as \$5 a week and you will have \$240\* to spend over the festive season. You'll earn a great interest rate on your savings. Funds become available in November, so you can't dip into it during the year!

\*Savings calculated from the first week of January to the last week of November.

## final funny...

**Q:** What kind of dog likes baths?

**A:** A Shampoodle!



If you're not a First Credit Union member, ask your parents if you can open a Kids Account today! Just pick up a School Banking pack from your school office, or visit one of our branches.

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credit union

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## TE RAPA JUNIOR RUGBY WEIGH INN

**Friday 2nd March 5pm to 7pm**

**Sunday 4th March 10am to 12pm**

Both at the Te rapa clubrooms on  
vickery st

New players need birth certificate

Subs

\*\$50 per child

\*\$25 per each extra sibling

Subs to be paid at weigh in if possible

Eftpos available

See u all there

FOR MORE INFO OR IF YOU CANT MAKE  
ONE OF THESE DATES CONTACT

JASON BRYANT 0275938967

## SUBURBS COMMUNITY SPORTS CLUB

### 2018 JUNIOR RUGBY WEIGH-IN

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 10am-2pm

At Suburbs Community Sports Club, Flagstaff Park, Commodore Ave, Hamilton

Ages 4-12 years, boys and girls all welcome

All new players are required to bring a birth certificate or passport

For further details go to [www.hamiltonsuburbs.co.nz](http://www.hamiltonsuburbs.co.nz) or contact Brendon Stone 0274846013