



Rotorua Lakes High School

"Mauria te pono - Keep steadfastly to the truth"

NEWSLETTER ISSUE No. 9 – 20 MARCH 2020

CHALKBOARD

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Kia ora Koutou,

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

I am sure that we are all aware of the current situation and I will use other formats to regularly update our school community. Related to our current situation are the levels of student anxiety that we are dealing with within our school community. None of us can control the day to day events at this moment but we can pull together as a community to continue to support each other through these stressful times. I wish to clearly state that we maintain physical distancing not social distancing. The phrase 'social distancing' suggests a disruption to supporting each other. It is still perfectly possible and necessary to check in on those most vulnerable and reduce unnecessary concern. I understand that many parents and students have concerns around attendance and assessments – we will work with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health, following their guidelines to ensure that no student is disadvantaged.

I want to take some time to focus on things other than Covid 19.

We have been getting regular updates from our History & Economics trip in Wellington. Many of you will have seen the facebook posts about the awesome time the students are having.

In this newsletter you will see an article showing Isidora Gonzalez Diaz who won the art competition at the Rotorua Youth Festival last weekend. Her painting and the environmental focus that goes with it are a strong message to our youth and community and I commend her for her leadership in this area.

I would also like to congratulate Agustina Gonzalez Diaz and Caitlin Fleming for their outstanding commitment and performance at the Women's Artistic Gymnastics.

Take care of yourselves, take care of your whanau. Kia kaha. Kia maia. Kia manawanui. Be strong. Be brave. Be steadfast.

Nga mihi,

Jon Ward
Principal / Tumuaki

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

With so much information and misinformation swirling around about COVID-19, I wanted to share with you what will happen if we were to have a case in our school community. We have been planning for this and are in a position to respond quickly.

- If a case is confirmed in our immediate school community (e.g. a student, staff member, or member of their household), the Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Education will inform me, and I will ensure that you are informed quickly.
- If there is a case confirmed of someone in our school, we will likely be asked to close temporarily by the Medical Officer of Health. This will allow time for close contacts to be traced, appropriate testing to be undertaken, and a careful clean of the school to be undertaken.
- If our school does need to close temporarily, we have a plan in place to support student's learning.

We know COVID-19 feels scary and of course people are concerned for the wellbeing of our children. Please be assured that with no case confirmed in our school, your children are safe here.

A number of parents are contacting us stating that they have decided to keep their children away from school. Whilst I understand the sentiment behind this approach I need to confirm that the Ministry of Health has stated there is currently no justifiable reason for this to occur. School remains the best place for our children to be. Any student absent from school will have to be marked as 'Explained, unjustified', meaning that while you have notified us of their absence, the reason falls outside a valid reason under the Education Act.

Some parents of students being kept out of school have asked for work to be sent home. Again, if the reason is unjustified we are unable to provide work for these students. The online learning environment would only be triggered if for any reason there was a school closure. Our staff will be focusing on their students in the classroom environment. If a student is out of school for justified medical reasons, staff will endeavour to provide meaningful work for them to complete, but the expectation is that if they are unwell they focus on getting better rather than completing school work.

A number of parents have raised concerns regarding assessment and NCEA requirements. This is an area of discussion for both Ministry and NZQA. The simple rule at present is that if your child is unwell, let us know in advance of any assessment. We will work through how to provide for your child's needs by adapting to any given situation. Rules around medical certificates will be adjusted to be in line with directives from the Ministry of Health and NZQA.

Despite media coverage to the contrary, the advice from the Ministry of Health is that it is unlikely that we will see mass school closures and it is more likely that schools will develop local responses based on the immediate effects of COVID-19 in that community. As any changes to this approach develop we will keep you fully informed via our Facebook page and email, as per our Pandemic Management Plan.

Good hygiene is a priority at our school, and we are reinforcing this regularly with all students and staff. We know that practicing good hygiene is still the best thing we can all do to prevent illness. Hand sanitiser is now available in many locations in the school, with hand washing with soap and warm water remaining the focus.

We are getting the most up to date advice and guidance so that we can confidently make informed decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our school community.

LAKES DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

Lakes District Health Board have started up at a swabbing centre system at Rotorua today in a central location that will be open each day from 10am to 3pm. Swabbing is by appointment only and must come through the dedicated Healthline number. People who have initially been assessed as needing a test will be given an appointment to go for their test. The dedicated number for swabbing appointments is 0800 3585453. For further information please follow this link: <https://www.facebook.com/LakesDistrictHealthBoard/>

FURTHER INFORMATION

- Currently schools are open across NZ. PLEASE do not send your children to school if they have a cough or cold. The Education Minister has stated that schools are still the safest places for children to be, and we do agree with this however, **it is a high risk environment for our teachers, teacher aides and office staff and we would appreciate your support in keeping our staff safe and well.**
- As per the Ministry of Health guidelines, we request that ANY student who is unwell is to be kept at home – do not send them to school. We also request that no parents or visitors come to the school if they have any of the above symptoms AND have recently travelled or have been exposed to anyone in self-isolation. Please make all school-related enquiries via email or phone call.
- Any further queries please visit <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus> OR call the Healthline 0800 611 116

CIVIL DEFENCE GUIDELINES

For information from the Civil Defence please follow this link:

https://covid19.govt.nz/?fbclid=IwAR2h8VzdFSFxwqlcYYL4HwaWLwvyyzH_SikZcFt7sthe-jHi-0-vNsVoilmc

ASSESSMENTS

The following assessments have been set down to take place within the next two weeks. There may be times where, due to unforeseen circumstances, changes will need to occur. This will be done in consultation with the class(es) concerned.

Level	Subject	Standard	Date
1	Drama	90006	Resit – week 9
2	Drama	91213	Resit – week 9
3	Drama	91512	Resit – week 9
1	Chemistry	90930	POSTPONED until TERM 3
2	12MSC & 12MAT	91264	Week 9

Level: 1 (11MSC)

Standard: 91035

Date: **Weeks 9 and 10** as per the following timetable:

CLASS	Part 1	Part 2
RC #3	Period 4 Friday Week 9	Period 5 Monday Week 10
RC#6	Period 2 Monday Week 10	Period 3 Tuesday Week 10
Sm	Period 1 Monday Week 10	Period 2 Tuesday Week 10



NEWS

ROTORUA YOUTH FESTIVAL



CONGRATULATIONS to Isidora Gonzales Diaz who won the art competition at the Rotorua Youth festival in the weekend. Isidora won vouchers to canopy tours, rafting vouchers, art supplies and lots more. Her work will be on display around town and then will be auctioned off to raise money for the catfish killers, who work to keep our lakes pest free. To all the Lakes High students who came down to support Isidora and vote. Thankyou!



READER / WRITER VOLUNTEERS

FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL ASSESSMENT CONDITIONS

We are dependent on volunteers who support students by reading and/or writing for them in assessment tasks, either in class or at examinations. A Reader/Writer must be proficient at reading and writing at the required level; undergo a Police Vet, which the school does on your behalf; and the key requirement: be available during the day. For further information, please contact Anne Perrott by email perrotta@rotorualakes.school.nz



MATHS HOMEWORK CENTRE

Each Thursday from 3.15 – 4.15 pm in A11

All welcome

Please bring a snack and a smile

HEALTH & WELLNESS



A registered nurse educator from Asthma New Zealand (Lakes Region) will be attending Rotorua Lakes High School to support and educate asthmatic teens around their asthma. We offer a free one on one assessment service where we assess all newly enrolled students who have asthma, as well as those who might be having issues managing their asthma. We seek to improve our regions asthma outcomes by educating people around their asthma so they can better understand their condition and how best to manage it. We also aim to keep students in school and reduce school absenteeism caused from poorly controlled asthma. We make sure the students are on the right medications, and use good asthma inhaler technique and help the student to find ways for them to best manage their asthma individually. Please inform the school nurse if you do not wish your child to be seen by the Asthma NZ nurse. To find out more about us please visit our website at <https://www.asthma.org.nz/> Or contact Nurse Educator Amanda Vercoe, Phone: 021 0844 1635 Email: Rotorua@asthma.org.nz



SPORTS

SENIOR WOMEN'S ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS SUCCESS



Caitlin Fleming and Agustina Gonzalez Diaz competed at the Hamilton Senior Women's Artistic Gymnastics Competition during the weekend representing Te Puke Gymsport. They train a least 12 hours a week all year round to prepare for these events.

Wonderful results from both young ladies



Agustina had a 2 day competition

Day 1

1st Vault

3rd Beam

Silver Medal Placed 2nd Individual overall

Silver Medal Placed 2nd Team overall

Day 2

3rd Overall

Big Congratulations ladies and amazing start to the gymnastics competition season!

SPORTS CANCELLATIONS

We have been made aware that at this stage the following sporting codes have put school games, practices and trials on hold.

- Hockey
- Netball
- Rugby
- Waterpolo
- Volleyball

We strongly encourage our students to work on their fitness so that when we are able to play again we will be ready!!



CAREERS & GATEWAY

Kia ora whanau

The 4th annual Rotorua Youth Awards (RYA) waka with our senior students from Rotorua Lakes High School is in full swing! Their intensive leadership journey will encompass 12 weeks of planning and organising for the annual event and the nominations are now open;

- 13 categories
- 39 finalists
- 13 winners

- \$12,000 in cash and prizes up for grabs
- A new category for 2020 - The Youth Employment Plus
- (Rotorua) 'Youth Employer of the Year Award' is an opportunity to acknowledge Rotorua employers who actively employ and support youth within their organisation/business.

All categories with their specific criteria and nominations forms can be found by clicking here - www.onechance.nz/youth-awards



Rotorua Youth Awards 2020 Nominations

39 Finalists, 13 winners, \$12,000 in cash and prizes. Showcasing youth art and performance.

Nominations are now open and close Friday 10 April

Nominate now at onechance.nz

Rotorua Youth Awards Celebrations Saturday 16 May, Energy Events Centre Doors Open 4.30pm

TERMS & CONDITIONS
Free tickets are limited, only four tickets per person from Friday 17 April at the Ticketmaster Office Energy Events Centre.

onechance.nz



Everyone to go to the link and nominate your choices 😊

Rotorua Youth Awards 2020 Celebrations;

- Saturday 16 May - Youth Week
- Energy Events Centre, doors open at 4.30pm
- Key-note speaker - K'Lee, NZ singer and MaiFM DJ
- Dress theme of "BLACK'n'WHITE"
- Limited free tickets are available from Friday 17 April

at the EEC

Alan Tāne Solomon

Alan Tāne Solomon

Chief Enthusiast

OneChance New Zealand



The following UNIVERSITIES will be in to talk to interested students this term during lunchtime on these dates:

KEY DATES FOR YOUR CAREER CALENDAR

NZ Defence Force Visit - Mon 23 March	- 1.30pm in L1
Massey Uni	- Tues 24 March - 1.30pm in L1
Wintec	- Wed 25 March - 1.30pm in L1
Auckland Uni	- Thurs 26 March - 1.30pm in L1
Wintec Open Day	- Fri 3 April
Victoria Uni	- Wed 8 April - 1.30pm in L1
PIHMS Career Week	- Tues 21 – Fri 24 April
Otago Uni Tertiary Open Day	- Sun 3 – Mon 4 May

OTAGO ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN – WED 1ST JULY



Contact the Careers Department for further info: Barbara Walker 3456124 x 235
walkerb2@rotorualakes.school.nz



NOTICE BOARD



EARTH GUARDIANS
Character Design Competition

Powered by
Massey University
& Weta Workshop

Create a character to defend the earth, using nature and the elements to inspire your designs

Entries close
1 July 2020

Enter online and check FAQs at
creative.massey.ac.nz/earthguardians

Entry categories and prizes

<p>Ultimate Concept Artist Award <small>Industry Selected</small></p> <p>Win a Wacom 10" Cintiq Pen Display.</p>	<p>Te Ao Māori Award <small>Massey University</small></p> <p>Win a \$500 prize pack including flights to Wellington for a Weta Workshop experience.</p>	<p>Top School Award <small>Weta Workshop & Wellington School of Design</small></p> <p>Win a visit to your school by designers from Weta Workshop.</p>
<p>Create With Us Award <small>Wellington School of Design</small></p> <p>Win \$1000 towards studying the Bachelor of Design at Massey University.</p>	<p>Rising Stars Highly Commended Awards <small>Weta Workshop</small></p> <p>Win \$150 towards travel to Wellington for a Concept Design experience and a tour of Weta Workshop.</p>	<p>Highly Commended Schools Participation Awards <small>Gordon Harris</small></p> <p>Win 1 of 8 \$250 prize packs of art supplies from Gordon Harris for your school.</p>
<p>Moana Oceania Narratives Award <small>Massey University</small></p> <p>Win a \$500 prize pack including flights to Wellington for a Weta Workshop experience.</p>	<p>Best Game Concept <small>Massey University & PiPoK</small></p> <p>Win \$150 towards travel and a one day experience at PiPoK in Wellington.</p>	

Principal Sponsors:   

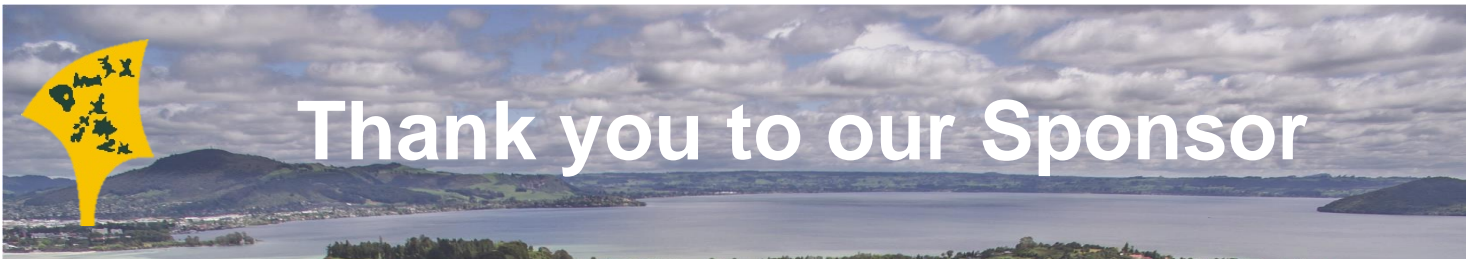
Award Sponsors:  



CONTACT US



Phone: 07-345 6124 Email: office@rotorualakes.school.nz
Web: www.rotorualakes.school.nz



Thank you to our Sponsor



ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT

- NCEA Subject Selection?
- Defining a Career Path?
- Planning Tertiary Study?

WE CAN HELP!

- Career Counselling
- Interview Coaching
- Tertiary Study Plans
- CV Writing

GOAL digger
CAREER SOLUTIONS

PH: 07 393 2424
info@goaldigger.co.nz
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