



LAKE ROTOMĀ SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER • TERM 2, 2026

He Kura Tangata – Growing Our People Together

17 Thursday 30 April, 2026 | office@lakerotoma.school.nz | (07) 362-0839

Kia ora e te whānau 🙌 What a strong and positive start we have had to Term 2. After a fantastic Term 1 focused on building identity, relationships, and strong foundations for learning, we have hit the ground running with rich learning opportunities, exciting challenges, and continued focus on our tamariki success. 🌟

School Van Update

As many of you are aware, our school van was stolen and badly damaged early this term. This has been disappointing for our kura, as it is an important part of ensuring our tamariki can get to school and access learning opportunities.

We appreciate the support from our community during this time. A rental van is currently in place, and we are working through next steps regarding our school vehicle. Moving forward, our van will be stored in a more secure location to help prevent this happening again.

🌟 Learning Focus This Term

Structured Literacy

Our tamariki continue to grow in confidence with reading and writing through our Structured Literacy approach. You will see:

- Strong focus on phonics and spelling patterns
- Improved confidence in reading and writing
- Tamariki using their skills across all learning areas

Mathematics – Building Strong Foundations

We are continuing our focus on the refreshed NZ Maths Curriculum, with an emphasis on:

- Number knowledge and strategy
- Algebra and patterns
- Problem solving and explaining thinking

Our learners are developing confidence in explaining how they solve problems, not just the answer.

Matariki Robotics & Innovation (Upcoming)

We are excited to be introducing robotics, drones, and ROVs (remote operated vehicles) into our learning this term as part of our Matariki kaupapa alongside our Matawhaura Cluster. Tamariki will:

- Tell a local Pīkiao story connected to Matariki using coding
- Work collaboratively to design and program robots
- Take part in timed drone and underwater challenges

This is an awesome opportunity to combine culture, storytelling, and future-focused learning. 🚀

Matariki Learning

This term we begin exploring Matariki – Stories, Culture and Connection. Our focus will be on:

- Understanding the meaning of Matariki
- Sharing stories from our rohe
- Strengthening identity and connection to our whenua and whakapapa



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Physical Activity & Hauora

We continue to prioritise hauora through:

Activity

- Daily fitness
- Games and sports
- PALs programme development

Our Goal

- Grow student leadership
- Encourage active, healthy lifestyles
- Celebrate hauora every day

Mana Way – Our ROCK Values in Action

Our Mana Way (PB4L) continues to be a strong part of our kura culture. Each week we celebrate tamariki who demonstrate our ROCK values. We love seeing our tamariki striving to "collect the set" and live these values every day. 🌟

R Respect Tangata tū tika	O Ownership Whiria te muka tangata	C Community Aroha ki te tangata	K Kindness Aroha ki te tangata
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Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is essential for learning success. Our goal is to have all tamariki attending school consistently.

If your child is away, please let us know. We are here to support whānau to ensure every child can access learning. 🙏

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Upcoming Events

Event	Date / Details
🏃 Matawhaura Cross Country	Thursday 4 June 2026 Postponement date: Friday 5 June 2026
Student/Teacher Conference	Wednesday 6th May 3pm - 6pm
🌟 Matawhaura Matariki Learning & Celebration	Dates to come
🤖 Matawhaurau Cluster Robotics & Coding Event	Coming soon



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Working Together

We continue to value strong partnerships with our whānau. If you have any pātai, whakaaro, or need support, please reach out.

Together, we are building confident, capable learners who are proud of who they are. 

ERO Visit – Term 2 Update

In Week 1 of Term 2, we welcomed the Education Review Office (ERO) into our kura. The focus of their visit was on:

- Student attendance
- Tracking progress and achievement
- Literacy and numeracy learning
- How we prioritise time for teaching and learning

Our visit was well-structured and focused on identifying both our strengths and areas where we can continue to grow.

What ERO Noticed

We are proud to share that ERO highlighted many positive aspects of our kura, including:

- The commitment of our kaiako (teachers) to improving outcomes for tamariki
- Strong focus on growing student agency (students taking ownership of their learning)
- Evidence that our tamariki are making progress and building their capabilities

Strengths Across Our Kura

ERO also recognised the work we are doing in:

- Whānau engagement – building strong partnerships with families
- Culturally responsive teaching – valuing who our tamariki are and where they come from
- Health and wellbeing – supporting the hauora of our learners

Growing Leadership – PALs Programme

We shared our developing Physical Activity Leaders (PALs) programme, led by Whaea Mel. This initiative focuses on building student leadership through physical activity, and ERO acknowledged this as a positive direction for our kura.

Looking Ahead

Overall, the visit was very positive for Lake Rotomā School. While we celebrate our strengths, we also recognise there is still more to do. Over the next 2–4 years, we will continue to:

- Strengthen attendance and engagement
- Grow literacy and numeracy outcomes
- Improve how we track and respond to student progress
- Build even stronger learning partnerships with whānau

We are proud of the progress our kura is making and grateful for the continued support from our whānau and community. Together, we are moving forward.

Ngā Mihi
Whaea Te Aroha
Tumuaki / Principal – Lake Rotomā School