## **Ash Muralidhar**

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**To:** Sophie Herlihy

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## Rotokare

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## Kia Ora

The end of Term 3 wraps up my first official term as the Rotokare Educator - and what fun it has been!

Term 3 was a busy one, particularly as we juggled schools visits around the spring rain. As we head into the longer, warmer days I'm sure that will be less of an issue.

Looking forward to an action packed Term 4 in the sunshine. If you want to bring your tamariki out to the reserve this term, contact me ASAP as spaces are snapped up quickly. We would love to have you.

Sophie Herlihy
Environmental Educator



Make Your Term 4 Booking Here

**Step Into Nature This Spring** 







Spring breathes new life into the ngahere of Rotokare. With weather warming up and the sun shining upon us longer and longer each day, there's no better place to be than out here at the reserve surrounded by natural beauty. We offer a range of education options that align with the NZ curriculum and are set in a unique outdoor environment. Whether your tamariki are studying birds, bugs, or pests, or your rangatahi are studying forest stratification, wetland ecosystems, or species adaptations - we have a range of options to suit most natural focuses.

Our programmes also fulfil the Nature of Science strand and the newer ELC - Enriching Local Curriculum. The reserve has a rich and diverse history and a strong tie to the community, these aspects are integrated into the content we deliver.

A trip to Rotokare is a fun, educational, and hands-on experience for ākonga.

**BOOK NOW** 

## **Local Legends: Our Education Volunteers**

Our dedicated education volunteers is what takes a school trip to Rotokare to the next level. Many of our volunteers have a long history of involvement here at the reserve (some were here before the fence was!) and offer ākonga their unique local knowledge and passion.

As a community-led charitable trust, we are always on the look out for extra hands, our education department is no exception. Education volunteers assist in school visits by guiding classes on walks around the lake, sharing knowledge of flora, fauna, and cultural on the way.

If you or someone you know has some free time and want to pass on their passion to the next generation of conservationists - give us a bell about volunteering at Rotokare!



Upcoming: 2023 Youth Ambassadors



Rotokare's Youth Ambassador Programme is an extension of our Education and Volunteer Programmes We scout for environmentally-savvy students in Year 6&7 who are passionate about learning, doing, and inspiring their peers in wildlife, environmental education, and community awareness, all as an advocate for Rotokare.

For one year, the chosen Ambassadors are invited to expand their role in conservation in a hands-on fun and inspiring environment at Rotokare. The programme includes:

- Nine unique Ambassador workshops covering different aspects of New Zealand biodiversity, environmental awareness, and science communication, to level up their field skills and know-how;
- Tour guide training for day and night tours;
- Chances to represent Rotokare at special events. Our Ambassadors have helped release toutouwai (North Island Robins), hihi (Stitchbirds), and other native wildlife, and have also engaged in peer education at EnviroSchool events!
- Networking opportunities, in meeting other Rotokare Ambassadors and wildlife experts, conservationists, and educators across Aotearoa
- Annual field trips to unique sanctuaries

If this sounds like an opportunity one of your students would love to engage in, keep your eyes peeled for applications opening for the 2023 intake opening in December.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TÄHUHU O TE MÄTAURANGA

Our Education Programme fulfils the **Nature of Science** strand of the NZ curriculum and centers on the following Learning Areas:

- Science Living World
- Social Science Place and Environment
- **Technology** Technology and Society

Specific NCEA Achievement Objectives are available for schools to utilise (other units can be developed with an interested school/teacher as required). All objectives offered come as a complete resource (assessment/marking matrix and other resources students/teachers need to complete the standard).

ECE-Year

Year 10-13

- Youth
   Ambassadors
- Backyard Biodiversity
- Discover Your Schoolyard

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