



Learners today, leaders tomorrow
Ko ā tātou tamariki ngā rangatira ō āpōpō.

ŌTAKI SCHOOL
TE KURA TUATAHI O ŌTAKI

MILL ROAD, ŌTAKI

Telephone: (06) 364 8704

Fax: (06) 364 8710

Email: admin@otaki.school.nz

www.otaki.school.nz

NEWSLETTER Number 2 2010

Wednesday 18 February 2010

Rāapa te rā 18 Hui-Tanguru 2010

Kia Ora Koutou. Warm greetings to you all.

There are two major educational issues in the media currently. The first being the introduction of National Standards, the second being the value of homework.

On the first issue; though we are absolutely committed to high standards in achievement and behaviour here at Otaki School I am against the introduction of National Standards

Here are some of my reasons

- The introduction of National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics will serve to narrow the curriculum as teachers concentrate on those areas to the detriment of others such as The Arts, Science or P.E.
- The New Zealand Curriculum, which we have been developing over the last two years, is a curriculum which is acclaimed internationally, this will be adversely affected with the introduction of National Standards.
- Matching a student to - 'at', 'above', 'below' or 'well below' a standard may not reflect how much progress a child has made. A student with a hard working teacher could make 2 years growth in reading but still be reported on as 'well below' the Standard. Not good for either's morale!!
- National Standards have been trialed and thrown out in countries such as England as they have made no difference to educational outcomes.
- I believe Otaki School reports to its parents in an honest and accurate way, you know how well your child is achieving, National Standards will not add to this in any way.

On the second issue of homework

We are currently reviewing our Homework Policy and following a discussion at yesterday's staff meeting, thinking was; that if set, homework should

- Be at a level the child can work on independently
- Not be too time consuming
- Consist of spelling, reading, basic facts and perhaps topic work
- Take into account extra activities pupils were involved in outside of school

What are your thoughts? Do you think children should have homework? How much? How regularly?

What are your thoughts on National Standards? I would love to hear from you on either issue.

My email address is chris.derbidge@otaki.school.nz

Chris Derbidge
Principal



Welcome to Otaki School to Tiraha Nepia, Jessica Mannell, Jessica Remnant-Mannell, Henare, Irihapeti, & Hinekorako Manihera-Tauhore. Lyle, Anna & Natsumi Walker. Raniera Chapman, Dahnee Rawiri, Claude Adams, Chase & Shantay Nepia, Aushaye Cummings, Paekitawhiti & Herena Muriwai, Katrina Goose, Kailelei, Laine & Noema Sale, Athalia Gage & Tenali, Junior & Solomon Sini.
We hope that you all really enjoy our great school.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Feb	19	TKW Triathlon postponed until 19 March
	22-26	Donations for Gala – CLOTHES
	22	Japanese Group visit BOT 7pm in Staffroom
	23	Assembly Room 2
	24-26	TKW at Tainui Marae (except Room 3)
	28	Ratana Church Service 10am
Mar	2	Junior Assembly
	3	School Swimming Sports
	5	HPV's Year 8
	9	Assembly Room 3
	13	OTAKI SCHOOL GALA !!
	16	Junior Assembly
	19	TKW Triathlon
	22	Sports Festival at the Westpac Stadium - Year 5/6
	23	Assembly Room 4 NZEI Union meeting 1-.30 – 3.00
	26	Teacher Only Day (school closed)
	28	Ratana Church Service 10am
	30	Junior Assembly
April	1	Bike to school day End of Term 1
	19	Start of Term 2

OTAKI SCHOOL GALA EXTRAVAGANZA



When: Saturday 13 March 2010
Time: 10.30 onwards



Our gala committee is making good progress towards the big day.

Gala meetings are held every Thursday at 3.15pm.

All welcome, many hands make light work.

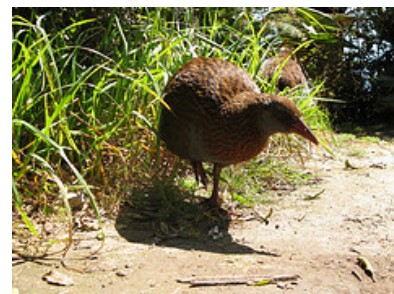
Thank you to all those who have donated items and returned the slip with offers of help.
We are still looking for more people to help man stalls, bake, make sweets etc.

Kia Kaha Whanau News

What a fantastic turnout we had at our hui last night. Because of you Kia Kaha is now going on an end of year trip to Picton or across to Kapiti Island.



Picton



Weka on Kapiti Island



Grandma, Grandpa Readers

Do you have time to come and read to children at our school? Children love being read to. Here at Otaki School we place a large emphasis on reading and have excellent literacy programmes in place through out the school. Being READ TO helps develop a love of reading. You can come in for an hour or so and read to a number of children.

If you are keen please come to a meeting in Room 10 next Thursday February 25 at 3.30pm to discuss your role and which age groups or class you'd like to work with.

Note you do not have to be a grandparent to help us out with this programme!



Māra Kai – Community Garden



Our māra kai is producing some amazing kai for all of us to share. Our red onions are bigger than softballs, our many variety of māori potatoes are ready to be harvested, our marrows are the biggest you have ever seen. Soon our corn will be ready for eating as well, yummy. With all these fantastic veges growing in our garden, it does need some attention. It is unfortunately too big a job for the tamariki to do by themselves. If you are able to spare an hour or two to come down and do some weeding this would be really helpful.



You are welcome to come and help yourselves to the kai in the garden, all we ask is that you come in and do some planting, watering or weeding etc. The garden is for EVERYBODY in the community.

*Mā tāu rourou, mā tāku rourou ka ora ai a Ōtaki-
With my basket and your basket, Ōtaki wil prosper.*



Next meeting will be in Room 3, Thursday 25th Feb 2010 @ 3.30pm.

You are welcome to come, nau mai haere mai.

The Story behind our new Pou



In the last newsletter we told you we would share the story behind our two pou presented to the school by Arthur Thatcher.

“Some time ago Koro Don Te Maipi was white baiting at the Waikanae River mouth when he spotted a large log in the water. The next day as he returned to his vehicle he noticed the log had washed up and was behind him. Koro cut the log into manageable lengths and took it home. The kahikatea log was offered to Whakarongotai Marae in Waikanae, however they already had plenty of suitable carving timber available to them.

Koro Don then offered the wood to Arthur and he readily accepted it. From here came the two wonderful carvings gifted to our school.

The female figure was named “Nga Reo” by Uncle Rowdy this is to recognise all the languages of our school, English, Māori, Chinese etc

The male figure was named “Nga Hononga” by Koro Don this means the joining or coming together and signifies the coming together of the cultures and languages here at Otaki School.”

A lovely story and two aptly named pou!!!



Teacher Only Day March 26 – School closed

On 26 March the school will be closed as teachers are involved in professional development on the use of interactive white boards. This course runs on Friday 26 and Saturday 27th March

Paid Union Meeting March 23

On 23 March there is a Paid Union Meeting which teachers are expected to attend. The meeting is from 1.30-3.00, so we are asking parents to keep their children home on that afternoon. Children who have to stay at school will be supervised.

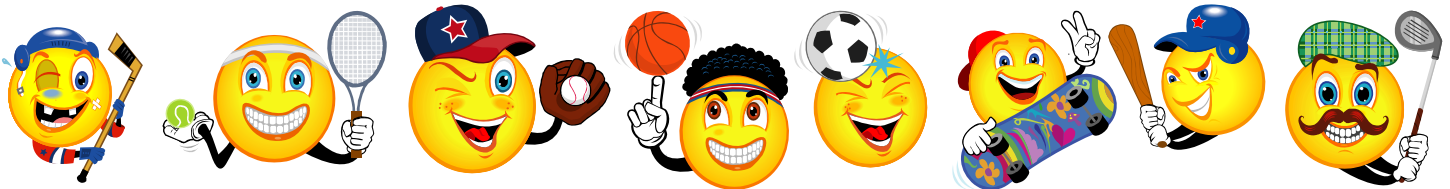
Children who go home will be marked absent for the ½ day.

It is unfortunate both the Teacher only day and the Paid Union Meeting are in the same week, but the timing is out of our hands.

School Picnic



Our annual school picnic was held on Monday 15 February. The whole school travelled to the Waikanae Pools either by bus or car. As usual a great day was had by everyone. The weather was favourable, not too hot and not too cold, and not wet like last year! Thank you to those parents who attended and helped with transporting children to and from the pools.



Sport Notices

For any sports notices, please look on the notice board in the office foyer.

Pedal to Picnic

Venue: Haruatai Park and Otaki Pool

Date: 19 February 2010

Time: 4.30 Fun Activities

5.00 Bike display

6.00 Ride around historic places

Bring the whole family and help Push Play.

Bike to School Day

Venue: Otaki School

Date: 1 April 2010

Time: 8.00 Shared breakfast in hall

8.45 Courses and jumps for bikers

9.30 Round the block bike ride

10.0 Courses and jumps for bikes



Bring your decorated bike to win a prize. Help celebrate bikewise month. Heaps of prizes. Nau mai, haere mai.

Touch

The Saturday kids touch module has now finished. Thank you to the 101 Otaki School kids who took part. Well Done!

ANZ BANK SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking is starting up again. If your child has an ANZ bank account they can bring their deposits to school and deposit it into the blue letterbox at their school. Once a week a staff member from the ANZ bank will collect their banking and deposit it into their account then return their book to them at school.

If you haven't got an ANZ bank account and are wanting to open one we can do this for you. During February we will be at your school to open accounts for your children (see your child's teacher with details of when we will be at school) or you can call into the ANZ bank in Otaki and we can open the account.

We will need identification for your child and yourself to open the account as well as the information below.

CHILDS NAME	
DOB	/ /
ADDRESS	
PHONE NUMBER(s)	
IRD NUMBER	
PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME	

Required Identification:

Child: Birth Certificate/Passport/Student ID

Parent: Drivers Licence or Passport

Or 2 forms of other ID e.g ATM Card/Community Services Card

If you have any questions please feel free to give me a call on 06 3647865 or come down and see me at ANZ Bank Otaki.

Thank you

Anita Te Maipi-Rice

Branch Manager

ANZ Otaki

Anita will be at school for the last time this Friday (19 Feb) between 8.30 and 9.00am

DUFFY BOOKS IN HOMES

KIDS AT HOME – (KAH)

Dear Parents / Caregivers

The Books in Homes Programme which provides Duffy children at our school, provides books for pre-school well.

These books are for children turning 1, 2, 3 and 4 years of vision for the future is to reach all children at home.

It currently works with the child already at school, choosing a book and card to take home for their younger brother/sister on or near their birthday. When the child turns 5 they get a school starter pack including a book bag and a dictionary.

If you would like to join the programme we will need names and dates of birth of your pre-schoolers. Please fill out the bottom portion and return it to school at your convenience.



Books for the children as

age. Their

a book and

NAME OF CHILD/REN

DATE OF BIRTH
INCL. YEAR

BOY OR GIRL

NAME OF OLDER BROTHER OR SISTER

CLASS ROOM NUMBER

Weekly Road Sense Fact – Did you Know?



Did you know

That motorists sharing the road with a cyclist must allow at least 1.5m between the car and the cyclist.

Joggers, it is hard for drivers to see you when you are running. Wear bright clothes and reflective belts or bands. Obey the road rules for pedestrians. Be very careful at intersections.



Community Notices

Otaki Taekwondo Club

Start date - 1 March 2010

Junior Club, ages 5-7,
Time: - 5.30pm - 6.30pm
Cost Junior - \$15.00 per month
(Junior cost applies to primary,
intermediate and college students)

Senior Classes - 8 yrs old up to adult's,
Time: - 6.45pm - 8.15pm
Senior class - \$20.00 per month

New members will have 2 free classes

Korean martial arts come along and learn
self-defence, discipline,
self-confidence and fitness.

Training days are Mondays and Wednesdays at the
Otaki Memorial Hall.

Email - otakitaekwondo@gmail.com;
ring Jim Babbington on 021701518 or
Paula Teau 02102780389 |

The Otaki Sports Club Inc.

Junior Tennis Coaching with Alice Wiggin

6 weeks of 1 hour lessons
(approximately 6 children per lesson)
starting Monday 22 February
3.30pm onwards at

Haruatai Park, Mill Road, Otaki

Cost is \$50 for the 6 lessons
payable at the first lesson

To register contact Jamie
atkinson.tennis@gmail.com or
027 573 9302 |

Catherine Inger School of Dance

Classes have started at our Otaki Studio

We have classes in Ballet & Modern
Jazz

From the ages 3 to adults

Held at Hadfield Hall in
Te Rauparaha Street Otaki

Classes are held on Mondays starting
from 3.30pm, feel free to come in and
have a look

If you have any enquiries ring
Sam 027 699 3350 |

Judith Fuge Dance School

Achievement Through Encouragement

Jazz, Ballet, Hip Hop, Contemporary,
Tap, Stretch, Leap, Spin dance lessons

Also Performance extension classes
Ph 902 6573 or 021 249 6573
|

Kapiti Basketball Association Under 13 Boys Rep Basketball Trials

Players must be born in 1998 or 1999
& must be available to attend the
regional tournament in Wellington in
July.

Trials will be held:

Sun 21st Feb 2.30-4.30pm
KCDC Gym at Paraparaumu College
Sun 28th Feb 2.30-4.30pm
KCDC Gym at Paraparaumu College
Sun 7th Mar 2.30-4.30pm
KCDC Gym at Paraparaumu College

A commitment to attend all 3 trials is
ideal. If you are not able to attend all
trial dates please contact the coach.
U13 Coach Andrew Stellingwerf (04)
2986671 inspect@xtra.co.nz or look
up Kapiti Basketball Association on
facebook |

Palmerston North Basketball Association

U15 Boys & Girls

Age Group Representative Trials

Date: Sunday's 7, 14 & 28 March 2010

Time: 2-4pm

Venue: B & M Centre (Arena)

Cost: \$2 per session

To be eligible you must not turn 15 in 2010

For more information contact:

Helen Richardson

Coaching & Development Manager
Palmerston North Basketball Association

pnba2@inspore.net.nz

06 354 5458

021 990 028

Palmerston North Basketball Association

U13 Boys & Girls

Age Group Representative Trials

Date: Sunday's 7, 14 & 28 March 2010

Time: 6-8pm

Venue: B & M Centre (Arena)

Cost: \$2 per session

To be eligible you must not turn 13 in 2010

For more information contact:

Helen Richardson

Coaching & Development Manager
Palmerston North Basketball Association

pnba2@inspore.net.nz

06 354 5458

021 990 028

GRAFTERS

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email: grafters@actrix.co.nz

RAHUI JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB REGISTRATION DAYS

Rahui Junior Rugby Club will be holding registrations on the following days and times. This is for all players from 4 - 12 years as at the 1st of January, 2010 (U7s to U13s)

Friday the 19th February 4-6pm

Friday the 26th February 4-6pm

Saturday the 6th March - 1-3pm

Fees for 2010 are as follows:

1 player \$30.00

2 players \$45.00

3 or more players \$55.00

(from the same family)

We also need coaches and managers for a number of teams so if you are interested or require further information please contact Megan Nelson-Latu on:

027 4814599 3687914 (after 6pm) or via

email:

Hydepark@clear.net.nz |

St Mary's Parish
Otaki

Do you want your child to take part in our Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist Programme for 2010?

For further information please contact Shona Hartendorp before 27th February.

Phone 364 8330 |

OTAKI GYM CLUB AGM / GYM

CLASSES FOR TERM 1

The Otaki Gym Club AGM will be held on Monday, 1st March at 7:30, 3 Lemon St, Otaki.

Our club offers fun gym sessions for kids aged 3-12 yrs old. Rebecca, our highly qualified coach, teaches basic gym skills as well as cool tricks like flips and walk-overs (depending on the age group). In order to keep this wonderful opportunity open to all kids in the community we keep our fees low, but we need more hands on board to make it work. If you are able to contribute in some way or just want to find out about our club you are welcome to join the AGM or phone Jutta (3648552) for more information.

Gym sessions for Term 1: NEW DAY (Wednesdays), 3-7 yrs 3:30-4:15 pm, Tumbling Turtles 8-12 yrs 6-7 pm.

Enrolment date and first day of session will be advised soon.

Birthday Party + Rides + bouncy castle + sun = FUN!!

Tram 159 celebrates her 85th Birthday on Sunday 28 February at the Tramway, Queen Elizabeth Park (McKay's Crossing, 3 km N of Paekakariki) 159 invites all her friends around for the party and to enjoy the many activities - including pony rides, tram rides, lolly scrambles @ 11.30 & 2.30, plus balloons and of course - a birthday cake!

Be intrigued by the Tram Barn display and Museum

Food and refreshments on site

Be there! Great family fun: 11 AM 'til 4 PM

Octogenarians and former Wellington Tramway employees get a free Tram ride, cake and afternoon tea too!

**Kapiti Tramway Experience
Wellington Tramway Museum Inc.**

Display and Museum Open daily from 10 A.M.
Trams run school and public holidays 11AM - 4.00 P.M.

Weekday, school visits and other special events by arrangement.

Birthdays and Christmas & other Parties a speciality
www.wellingtontrams.org.nz |