



Te Kura o Otari
Otari School

News

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Issue 19, Week 11, Term 2

Kia ora koutou

I hope you like the new OTARI fence art. This is the result of work Simon Gray has led with students and staff to enhance our environment with artwork. The tiles, created by children and adults from the school community, were fired by Potter, Aimee McLeod. Simon then placed these around the big letters he had made, which our caretaker Alan and his assistant Mike, finished attaching this week. A truly community effort! There are some more tiles children have done, which Simon is going to get fired. These will also be displayed in school later in the year.

We farewell Mandy Buckley this week who is finishing her position as teacher aide in Kakano. Mandy's care and expertise with children have benefitted those students she has worked with. Mandy's inherent kindness and compassion are qualities highly valued in a special needs teacher aide. They are also reasons why children love Mandy. Her commitment to the well being of children and the knowledge and skills she has in special needs education mean she will be missed by students parents and staff. All the very best for the future, Mandy.

Matariki Celebration - It was great to see so many families from all the strands celebrating Matariki together last Thursday. Everyone enjoyed the singing, entertainment, Matariki talk and the kai. Finishing with fireworks was an extra treat. Many thanks to Jo, Toni and all whānau from the Māori Immersion Strand involved in the organisation of this event.

Matariki - Kai for the Foodbank - Please consider donating some food for the storehouse that helps those who are in need this Winter.

Wiki Pukapuka/Book Week - Week 2, Term 3 - During Book Week we will have two visiting authors, Apirana Taylor on the Monday and Juliette MacIvor on the Tuesday. There will also be a book quiz, a library book sale and a book character dress up day on the Friday, culminating with a parade of book characters. We have asked the tamariki to think of a book character over the holidays. *Whaea Johanne*

Assembly - There will be a low key assembly on Friday at 2.15pm. Parents welcome.

Chocolate and Soap Fundraisers - Many thanks to those who have returned the money. We would appreciate payment before the end of term. We have more chocolate and soap available should you wish to sell more over the holidays.

Hui Whānau - Nei rā ngā mihi o Matariki ki ngā whānau o Kaikōmako, o Kōwhai, o Tui hoki. The next Hui Whānau will be held on Tuesday, 4 August, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm, in Tui (third week of Term 3). **Please note the change of date!** Time and venue are the same. If you have any agenda items, please email Rachelle Hautapu on hautapu@hotmail.com a week prior to the meeting. The agenda and minutes from the last meeting will be emailed out a few days beforehand.

Entertainment Books - Books are available. Let Jillian know if you would like one or you can order it online: <http://www.entbook.co.nz/10455w7>.

Te Taonga Horomata: . ***Our virtue is Hope***
Hope is looking to the future with trust and faith. It is optimism in the face of adversity. Without hope, we lose our will to live fully. Hope gives us the courage to keep moving forward. It can be elusive when we have suffered often, yet it is the light that can redeem our dreams. With hope, we know we are not alone. There is always help when we are willing to ask.

Upcoming Events Calendar:

| Activity | Who's Involved | Date & Time | Cost |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------|
| Immunisations | Yr 8 Girls | Fri 3 Jul | |
| Book Week | Everyone | 27 -31 July | |
| Whānau Hui | Immersion strand | Tues 4 August, 5.30pm | |
| Parent Interviews | Parents/Caregivers | 25-27 August | |
| School Panto - The Pied Piper | Everyone | 14,15,16,17 September | |

I am away for the next three days at the National Principal's Conference being held in Wellington. Susan will be acting Principal and Api will be acting Deputy Principal while I am away. It has been a very busy, productive, long term. The children are showing signs of being quite ready for a holiday (as are the staff!). I wish them, and all Otari whānau some enjoyable time out these holidays. I look forward to seeing all the tamariki and kaiako back on 20th of July. A reminder that school finishes at 2.55pm on Friday.

Ngā mihi nui
 Clifford

Community Notices: (Please note these notices are passed on to us and are not necessarily an endorsement)

Swimming Lessons - Easyswim Swim School Ltd is now taking bookings for Term Three and also Holiday courses during the upcoming School holidays. New Swimming Group - The Easyswim Sharks run on Sundays 1pm – 5.00 (45 minute sessions) at Freyberg pool. These new groups cater for swimmers who have graduated Easyswim and higher. Swim for fitness or to transition to a swimming club and have fun doing it. 2347946, email: book@easyswim.co.nz or visit www.easyswim.co.nz.

Kelly Sports Term 3 - Kelly Sports will be back in Term 3 with their fun and exciting classes. Kelly Sports encourages children to have fun, build confidence and to give sport a go. We believe that sport and physical activity has so much to offer young people; it improves fitness, develops communication skills, team work and gives children a place to channel their energy.

Winter Winners (Yrs 1-4) – Wednesdays 12.30pm -1.30pm - Come and try Football, Netball, Rippa Rugby and Handball. Learn new game skills all while having FUN! For full details and to enrol into our programmes visit www.kellysports.co.nz email adminwgt@kellysports.co.nz or call 04 972 7201.

Art lessons for kids. Brush painting, calligraphy, sketch and more. Please visit the website. www.chineseartlessons.com or contact Judy Huo on 9763933 , 0211475988

Creative Writing Classes in Karori - Brain Bunny Creative Writing Classes are suitable for children who are already passionate storytellers, and for children who are looking to gain confidence. Classes for 8-12 year olds will be held at Karori Community Centre on Mondays 4-5pm in term three. \$130 per child. Classes are also offered in Island Bay, Kapiti and Churton Park. For more information or to enrol visit: www.brainbunny.co.nz or contact Helen on 4990435 or brainbunny@hotmail.co.nz.

The DCM Bookfair is coming! 11 and 12 July (Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday 10am-4pm), TSB Arena, Queens Wharf. There will be thousands and thousands of books for sale - most at only \$2 each! - DVDs, CDs, records, magazines. There will be masses of kids' books, magazines, New Zealand books, collectable old books, popular books, rare books, even brand new books - treasures for everyone! This is the largest book sale of its kind in New Zealand - and raises funds for a very good cause. The DCM charity, whose members consist of inner city churches and synagogue, is working to end homelessness in our city. It runs a Food Bank and counselling services from its offices in Compassion House in Luke's Lane. The DCM gives practical help to anyone who needs it - not just the homeless - doing good work that desperately needs to be done. This Bookfair is the DCM's main fundraiser for the year - there won't be another huge book sale like this until next year - so make sure you don't miss out!

Dinner at the Delhi Brasserie in Newtown, on Sunday 19 July at 6pm to raise funds for the Adarsh Charity Primary School in Sonipat, North India. The pupils of this little school, which is run by a local charity, all have to work before and after school to support themselves - many of them support their entire family! Without the school, they would have no chance to get an education. The money raised here in New Zealand by Hilary Phillips and Pushpa Wood is sent directly to the school via Pushpa's sister Uma, who is a volunteer working for the charity. All the money is used for the children - so far we have provided clothes and shoes, school uniforms, desks and chairs, improvements to their washing facilities and a large water purifier/cooler. If you would like to come to the dinner, the cost is \$20 adult, \$10 child. The food will be Indian, of course - but not too hot! It will be vegetarian with vegan, gluten-free, and dairy-free options. If you would like to come, please let Hilary know (0212096740, 4758720, hilary.phillips@vodafone.co.nz) as soon as possible, as places are limited.

If you're looking for somewhere to take the kids these school holidays, the Heritage Centre at Corrections' National Office (Mayfair House, back building, 44 the Terrace) is free and open Monday-Friday, 7.30am to 5.00pm. You can step into a replica old cell and imagine what it was like being locked up in such cramped conditions. See an old cat o' nine tails and ball and chain, and find out about Corrections today. Suitable for ages 8 and up.

Windmill Music Show presents *In The Jungle*, a fun, interactive music show for 1-7 year olds. Tues 7th, Wed 8th, Thurs 9th July. Tickets \$10.00, family \$25.00, under 1's free. Details and booking: www.windmillmusic.co.nz.

Meditate - If you are interested in learning to meditate, a weekend course will be held in Wellington on July 10-12. For more details, visit www.thebrihtpath.co.nz or ring Rebekah on 021-493-783.

An ex Wellington trained teacher Avril McDonald is trying to start a global social movement to help children manage tough emotions and 'Feel Brave'. She is working on a series of Feel Brave books and has signed a global publishing deal with an Educational Publisher called Crown House Publishing for a 5 book set plus a teacher/parent guide due in Feb 2016. To help her get the funding to promote her resources, Avril is seeking our help with a kickstarter crowd sourcing campaign to build a simple Application to be used in schools as part of the Feel Brave educational program that she is building. Please view the link to see how you can help:
<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1639726590/feel-brave-stories-to-help-children-manage-tough-e>

Violin lessons - Alex Vaatstra (MusB) is an experienced violin teacher based in Karori, Wellington. Alex teaches beginner students from aged four and is happy to prepare students for exams and diploma recitals. Places are available starting in term 3, 2015. Please contact me if you're interested in learning the violin and we can organise a trial lesson. 027 657 9646 – www.vaatstrastings.com, ahvaatstra@hotmail.com.

Nannying Work Wanted – Experienced, reliable and mature mother looking to care for babies and children up to secondary school age. Qualified chef willing to cater for family, flexible hours, first aid certificate. Contact Nicola 384-1366 or 0273-419-044.