



Te Kura o Otari
Otari School

News

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23 February 2016

Issue 3, Week 4, Term 1

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to a new student: Adelaide Wicks (I wonder if there are any other Principals with a daughter and a granddaughter in the same school!)

I am introducing a new feature to our newsletter "Keeping you in the loop", as a way of communicating more information about our busy, productive community of learners!

Getting to School on time - It is important children are at school before school begins at 8:55am. There are a few children arriving at school late every day. Please help your children to get to school on time.

BOT Meeting - The first Board of Trustees Meeting will be held in the staffroom on Monday 29 February.

"Keeping You in the Loop"

A weekly update of news, events and activities:

- Michelline, our Enviro School facilitator visited assembly yesterday and presented the school with a big sign proclaiming our Enviro-school status. The Enviro School team, led by Britta, also presented the areas they are currently focusing on throughout the school.
- Technology has started and the children are enjoying their classes. These are currently on a Thursday. Children need to be at school for the bus by 8:45am.
- All three strands participated in creating sand saucers and/or painting beautiful flower pictures for the Wadestown and Wilton Flower Show last week.
- Year 1 and 2 children from the three strands are going to swimming lessons every Friday this term.
- We have bought a drum set and Steve is going to start a school band. Currently this is for children who can play an instrument. They will be meeting with Steve for practice sessions in the hall, on Mondays.
- All the classes are practising for the athletic sports.
- Classes are enrolled for a free trial of an online maths programme called 'Maths Buddy'.
- We have an American Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching Recipient visiting our school. Her name is Angela Palmeiri and she has a particular interest in bi-lingual and Immersion teaching. We may have other Fulbright teachers visiting us as well.
- Clifford is taking a staff meeting on an *Action Learning* model that he has used successfully with children. This is part of our focus on *Inquiry Learning* this year.

- The Board will be receiving the 2015 National Standards Report and 2015 Ngā Whanaketanga Report at the end of this week.
- Students who want to stand for Student Council have given their names to Clifford. Student Council will be made up of 4 year 7 and 8 students from each strand. Two councilors are elected by peers and two are chosen by teachers. Seetha and Clifford lead this group.
- Student Librarians are currently in training.
- The Board will also be finalising the Charter and the Strategic Plan, which along with the National Standards and Ngā Whanaketanga Reports, are required to be sent to the Ministry of Education next week.
- We are looking forward to the school picnic at Scorching Bay next week! Don't forget appropriate clothing and footwear, hats, sunscreen, water, lunch and togs.

Bus Routes 640, 641, 642 (Johnsonville, Khandallah, Ngaio & Karori) - The Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) are reviewing our school bus routes. The data they have gathered shows the routes to be poorly utilised and likely to be cancelled. During a meeting held last week with Tania Savage (Cardinal McKeefry Principal) and Kerry Merriman from the Council, Tania stressed that she believed the data they had was wrong and these routes were well used by local schools. We will be recording how many students we place on these buses each day. Please support our submission to keep these routes going by emailing your feedback to Tania at principal@cardinalmckeefry.school.nz and she will submit it on your behalf. Please also consider placing feedback if you believe you may use these services in the future.

School Picnic at Scorching Bay - Our picnic is on Wednesday 2 March, leaving school at 9.30am. All children are to travel to Scorching Bay by bus (sorry, no room for parents). We require lots of parent help so please email Jillian (office@otari.school.nz) if you can help. We will require parents to help teachers supervise activities ie:

- Swimming and playing in or near the water
- Exploring the rock pools
- Playing on the playground

It would be great to see as many parents as possible, even if you can only come for an hour or two.

Te Reo Māori lessons: Are you interested in learning or increasing your Māori language knowledge or usage in the home, with your children, family or community? We are taking registrations for those interested in a 6-week course in the school hall in term one, 6:30-7:30pm on Thursday nights. Numbers are limited and this course will be offered if at full capacity. For dates, registration and further details please email: waahuu@extra.co.nz or text/call 021 639 790 asap and before 5pm Feb 23rd 2016.

Emergency Form - Last week an Emergency Form was sent home. Please return to soon asap. We need an updated form from every family. (If you have recently enrolled & filled in the form, it's not necessary to re-do it).

Seed Packets are coming home with your children today. They are a Wgtn City Council initiative of 'Growing Neighbourhoods'. Each packet also contains a neighbour's card for families to record your neighbour's details to keep in case of an emergency. The letter we received from the Council will be put on our website (under Newsletter) should you want more details.

Te Taonga Horomata: Manaaki. Our virtue is Helpfulness

We help others by doing things they cannot do for themselves. It is often easier to give help when we need it. It takes courage to ask for help when we need it. There is always plenty of help when we are willing to ask. When we work selflessly to benefit the lives of others, we always bless our own.

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
School Picnic	Everyone	Wed 2 Mar	\$5.00
Whānau Hui	Immersion Strand	Wed 9 Mar, 5.00pm	
Bruce Potter, Illustrator	All Children	Mon 14 March	\$2.00
School Athletics	All Children	Wed 16 Mar	
WZ Football	Selected Children	Tues 22 Mar	
Easter Break - No school	Everyone	25,26,27,28,29	
Kia Toa Show	All Children	Wed 6 Apr	\$4.50

Have a good week everyone.

Ngā mihi nui
Clifford

"Down in their hearts, wise people know this truth:
the only way to help yourself is to help others."
Elbert Hubbard

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

Available for rent - 2 (double) bedroom townhouse with carport in Warwick St, \$425p/w. Seconds from playground and bus route. Suit small family or couple. Includes fridge and possibly additional furniture if required. Please contact Warren (021 227 8187) if interested.

Before School Care Service at Otari School – Wilton - Our Before School Care at Otari School in Wilton will be resuming on 7th March 2016 running from 7am - 9am including a pick-up from home in the morning between 7-7.30am & FREE drop-off service to school before 9am. We provide healthy breakfast and homework assistance as part of our service. Our Before School Care has NO TV or video games and we run structured activities daily including mini-excursions. Spaces for our Before School Care is limited to 20 cubs so we can provide the best possible quality programme. We kindly ask that you make your bookings in advance online by 3rd March 2016 so we can confirm your booking before the service resumes. If you wish to learn more about our services and fees, please visit: www.pridelands.org.nz for more information or call 0800 PRIDE 4 U. Thank you again and we look forward to continuing to provide you a great morning service.

Karori Junior Football Club is now taking registrations for players for the 2016 season. We are a great club, based at Karori Park, with a friendly and inclusive culture that welcomes kids of all levels and abilities, from highly competitive through to very social. From grade 9 upwards, the kids play games against other clubs across Wellington. Grade 6 is for kids who turn 6 in 2016, Grade 7 for those who turn 7 this year, and so on. You can register at <http://www.watersidekaroriafc.org.nz/waterside-karoriafc/juniors/registration-info/>.

Inspire Photography professional group portrait sessions \$20!! - Northland Kindergarten is excited to offer you and your family an Inspire Photography sitting on the afternoon of Saturday 27 February, this is a fundraiser. For \$20 you will get a 15-minute session slot with the photographer. You will then be able to view and order pictures online from Inspire Photography. Northlandkindycommittee@gmail.com to secure a time. First come, first served.

Music Lessons For Everyone! - Violin, viola, saxophone, recorder, keyboard, theory lessons available. Studio located in city-side of Kelburn. Prices and times to suit. Aidan Verity, 022 620 8691, aidanverity@gmail.com, www.nzmusicteachers.co.nz/aidan-verity.

Child's Name _____

School Picnic: ☐ Enclosed is **\$5.00** ☐ Deduct **\$5.00** from my Activity Account.

Bruce Potter (Illustrator): ☐ Enclosed is **\$2.00** ☐ Deduct **\$2.00** from my Activity Account.

Kia Toa Show: ☐ Enclosed is **\$4.50** ☐ Deduct **\$4.50** from my Activity Account.