

Inspiring a love of learning through an education that values the development of the whole child.

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14 February 2017

Issue 2, Week 3, Term 1

School Picnic is on tomorrow at Aotea Lagoon, Porirua. We will leave school at 9.30am and return by 2.45pm. Lunch will be at 12.15pm. Please remember to send your child to school with plenty of food and water, a sunhat, sunblock, appropriate footwear and a warm jacket. Whānau are welcome to attend. Cost is \$5 per child.

Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

Welcome to a new child and her family: Alexandra Cochrane (Pounamu)

Parents Emailing/Texting Teachers - Please be advised that if you need to get a message to a teacher during the day, to call the school office (475-3018) as teachers are not likely to be checking their emails and texts during school time.

Fundraising - Aroha Wahanui, parent in Pohutuakawa class is keen to re-establish the Parent Fundraising Group for this year. If you are interested in being part of this sub-committee of the Board of Trustees please contact Aroha at aroha.wahanui@gmail.com.

Maths Buddy - Otari Yr 3-8 students have been using the Maths Buddy programme, an online teaching and learning programme that supports their maths learning. We have been pleased to see the benefits that Maths Buddy has provided for students, teachers and parents. The benefits to students are:

- Rewinding, fast forwarding and repeating the lesson, as needed
- Stopping, reflecting, asking questions and absorbing the content in their own time
- Being able to revise and catch up on missed work easily, with the whole of the NZ Mathematics curriculum (years 1-13) available to them
- Having access to help anytime, anywhere and on any device ie computer, iPad and other tablets and electronic devices.

For parents, the benefits include being able to:

- Have immediate access to the same information about your child's progress as the teacher
- Receive weekly reports on your child's progress

- Be fully involved in the Mathematics education and progress of your child

In order to receive the benefits of the programme the cost will be \$25 per student for the entire year. **We are asking parents to support the programme by contributing \$12.00.** This will give access to the programme from anywhere, at any time and on any device. We have signed up all Ye 3-8 students.

Technology for Yr 7/8s is on Thursday and Friday this week.

Envirogroup outing to BioBlitzGo at Zealandia - Monday 27 February, 9.30am to 2.15pm. Parent help and transport needed. The Envirogroup would like to participate in the Bio Blitz event at Zealandia (for more info on bio blitz go to: <http://wellington.govt.nz/services/environment-and-waste/environment/biodiversity/bioblitz-go>)

The students will be encouraged to use the NatureWatch app where possible to record anything that they find or observe. The App can be found at: http://naturewatch.org.nz/pages/mobile_apps_nz.

Parents will need to pick up and drop off children from Otari School and we will need parents to stay with the Envirogroup for the event. If you are interested in helping or have any questions could you please let Britta know asap - britta@otari.school.nz.

Payments - The following amounts are due for payment:

- Camp (Yr 7/8) - \$250.00. We require at least \$50 to be paid before camp commences on 7 March.
- Technology (Yr 7/8) - \$50.00
- Swimming (Yr 1/2)- \$55.00
- Class Consumables (All Students) - \$10.00
- School Picnic (All Students) - \$5.00
- Maths Buddy (Yr 3-8 Students) - \$12.00 per student
- Photocopying Donation - \$10.00 per student

End of Year dates for your diary:

Yr 8 Outing and Dinner - Thursday 7 December

Yr 8 Farewell (this involves Yr 7s as well) - Thursday 14 December

Te Taonga Horomata - Manawanui. Virtue: Steadfastness

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawa nui - be strong, be brave, be steadfast.

Change your opinions, keep to your principles; change your leaves, keep intact your roots. *Victor Hugo*

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
School Picnic	Everyone	Wed 15 Feb	\$5.00
Junior Swimming	Yr 1/2	Fridays 17 Feb - 7 Apr	
Goal Setting Interviews	Parents and Children	Mon 13 - Wed 15 March	

Kia pai o koutou wiki - have a great week everyone.

Ngā mihi
Clifford

**He rau ringa e oti ai –
Many hands make light work**

Community Notices:

GirlGuiding is in Northland and Wadestown! Offering lots of fun and adventure for girls aged 5 - 17, GirlGuiding NZ empowers girls to find their strengths, inspires them to discover the best in themselves and make a positive difference in their community.

Pippins (5 – 6 year olds), Brownies (7 – 9 year olds), Guides (9 – 12 year olds) and Rangers (12 – 17) meet in a range of weekday afternoons. Have a look to see how you can join in the fun at www.girlguidingnz.org.nz. To find out more about the local groups please email rose.o'connor@girlguidingnz.org.nz or call 0800 663 466.

Spring Clean - Now the kids are back at school is it time to de-clutter/spring clean? If you could benefit from some practical support please call Nicci on 021 149 3284. I can just provide advice or I can manage the whole process - whatever helps most. Additional services include: downsizing your home eg moving into a retirement village; help with presenting your house for sale.

Babysitter: My son Ben is excellent with young children. They just love him! He is 14, very trustworthy/mature and reliable. As his Mum (and manager) I am trying to help him learn the skill of saving early. If you need a babysitter please call/txt Nicci on 021 149 3284 as we would love to help you.

Northern United Hockey Club - If you have a little one who is interested in playing hockey in a friendly and supportive environment then this is the Club for you! We are holding three "Have a Go" sessions for children in school years 3 to 8 who are new to hockey. Session times and venue: 5-6 pm, Mondays 20th Feb, 27th Feb and 6th March at our club turf, 28 Blackrock Road, Newlands. Cost: \$15 all up. Check out our website for more details and online registration form. Registration closing dates: 11-a-side: Sun 5th Mar (date of first trial). 6-a-side: Sun 12th Mar. To register your child, simply click on the "2017 Registrations now open" in the navigation bar of our website at <http://www.nujhc.org.nz/>. You can also give Sandi (Teacher Aide at Otari School) a ring; 479 9335 or 022 075 9549.

ScoutsNZ - Ngaio Scouts are currently looking for new members and welcome children age 6-13 for Keas, Cubs and Scouts, if you are interested in joining, please contact our Group Leader Hadyn Nicholls (ngaioscouts.gl@gmail.com). We have a trial period of four weeks for any of our sections and would love to have you come along.

Onslow Junior Football Club - A reminder for all Mixed Saturday Grades 7-14 and Girls Only Sunday League (GOSL) 7-14 footballers - 2017 registrations are closing on February 19th. First Kicks (for children turning 5 or 6 this year) registration remains open until March 5th. For more information and to register go to www.onslow.org.nz.

Springboard & Platform Diving at Kilbirnie Pool - Wellington Diving Club has a range of diving classes for kids aged 5 years and up. Why not try something new this year? Visit our website and come along for a free trial! We have several after-school sessions and cater for kids of any level from beginners to competitive. We also run fun casual sessions on Sundays. For more information, please visit our website www.wellingtondiving.org.nz or call/text Barbara on 027-485-8888.

Sign up for the Football Season. Waterside Karori welcomes boys and girls to register to play for the club in 2017. By becoming part of Wellington's biggest football club you get all kinds of opportunities to play football and have lots of fun with your friends. Please register now at <http://karorifootball.co.nz/juniors/registration/>. Registrations close 28th February.

Getting the Kids Eating – new food, green food and family food. A workshop for parents exclusively concentrating on "picky eating" and practical strategies for working with children who are fussy. Hosted by Judith Yeabsley, expert at the Healthy Food Guide, qualified Nutritional Therapist, Director "extreme eaters" cooking school. Mon 6th Mar, Karori Community Centre 7.00 – 8.00pm – judith@theconfidenteater.com for bookings.