



**Te Kura o Otari  
Otari School**

**News**

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

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Issue 10, Week 11, Term 1

**Reminder: Term 1 ends tomorrow at 2.55pm, so NO SCHOOL ON THURSDAY. Term 2 starts on Monday 1 May.**

**Literacy Quiz** - Congratulations to our Literacy Quiz participants who competed with 60 other schools in the Wellington Literacy Quiz last week. Two teams were entered from Otari School. One team placed 5<sup>th</sup> and the other team placed 21<sup>st</sup>. The top 5 teams were:

Wellesley 1<sup>st</sup> (also current world champions)

Karori Normal 2<sup>nd</sup>

Wellesley 3<sup>rd</sup>

Raroa 4<sup>th</sup>

Otari 5<sup>th</sup>

Well done to all the students who participated. The teams were made up of students from all the strands. Thank you to Johanne for working with our students and organising our participation in this event. Thanks also to parents for your support on the day.

## **2016 Ngā Whanaketanga and National Standards Results -**

### **Tuhituhi/Writing - a continuing focus**

In each of the strands - Montessori, Original and Māori Immersion - our analysis reveals that Writing and Tuhituhi have proven to be an area for continued emphasis to accelerate the learning of identified students.

In the Māori Immersion Strand 60% of students from year 2 to year 8 achieved 'at' or 'above' the Tuhituhi Standard at the end of 2016. There is no significant difference between boys and girls.

In the Original and Montessori strands 74% of students achieved 'at' or 'above' the Writing Standard at the end of 2016. When comparing genders, 80% of girls achieved 'at' or 'above' the standard compared with 67% of boys. There is only a 3% difference between boys and girls achieving 'above' the standard.

The tuhituhi results indicated that despite many students entering with limited te reo Māori the majority are learning to write successfully in te reo Māori by the time they are in their senior years at school. This finding is supported by the fact that all year 8 students achieved at or above the tuhituhi standard at the end of 2016.

This pattern of writing results improving over time is also apparent in the Original and Montessori Strands, with 91% of students in year 8 achieving 'at' or 'above' the National Standard.

While writing is an area for continued focus, results also showed that 26 students had lifted their OTJ (Overall Teacher Judgement) placement since 2015.

**School Auction** - Thank you everyone for participating. We raised \$602 for the school. Congratulations to the winning bidders.

**Otari School Netball** - If you have a child in Year 5 or 6 who is keen to play in a school team it's not too late to join. We are still short of a couple of players, so please contact Susan asap for more details - [susan@otari.school.nz](mailto:susan@otari.school.nz).

**Out of Zone Enrolment: Montessori strand** - A reminder that applications need to be in to the school office by Friday 28 April.

**Chocolate** - We will be fundraising again with Whittaker's Chocolate next term. If you do not wish your child to bring home a box to sell please send an email to Jillian at [office@otari.school.nz](mailto:office@otari.school.nz). If you can take more than one box, please also let us know.

**Lost Property** - Last chance to check through last term's lost property; it's in a bag in the medical room.

**Copier/Printer Toner Cartridges** - We have a family in the school who has offered a supply of new toner cartridges to parents who may wish to purchase them at a reduced price. Proceeds will go to the school. The toners would fit the following models: MX 2600, 3100, 4100, 4500 and probably other models with the N series. There are 7 Cyan, 6 Yellow and 7 Black. Each toner is \$100.00 (normally they are over \$300 each). If you would like more details please contact Veronica or Mohammed at [adham@ezisigns.nz](mailto:adham@ezisigns.nz).

On behalf of the staff and Board of Trustees I wish you all a happy Easter and relaxing break. Kia tau te rangimārie ki runga i a koutou katoa (peace be on your household all of you).

Ngā mihi nui  
Clifford



**Term Dates 2017**

Term 1: Wed 1 Feb – **Wed 12 Apr** (school closed: TOD Thurs 13 April)

Term 2: Mon 1 May – Fri 7 July (school closed: Fri 2 June TOD & 5 June Queens Birthday)

Term 3: Mon 24 July – Fri 29 Sept

Term 4: Mon 16 Oct – Tues 19 Dec (school closed: Labour weekend: 23 Oct)

**Community Notices:** (Please note: Notices are sent to us. They are not an endorsement)

**Term 2 After School Creative Classes DIY:** Choreography (Make Your Own Dances). This is a class for kids about the basics of making dances and discovering their own style of movement. DIY: Comedy Sketches - A combination of physical comedy (a la Charlie Chaplin/ Mr Bean) and theatre, this class allows kids to play and learn how to mould this into something fun and watchable. Classes held in two age brackets 5-7, 8-12yrs. Enquiries taken about over 12 yrs groups. Current classes in Newtown, Aro Valley and Hataitai and enquiries taken about classes in other locations. Contact Jen McArthur through the website <http://jenmcarthur.com/>

**Drama Classes** - Our international curriculum will: Help explore performance skills, creativity, overcome shyness, develop positive self esteem, grow their imagination, interact with adults, make new friends, and have lots of fun. Fun after-school classes – 5 – 17 years. To enrol please call or see our website. 0800 161 131. [www.helenogradynz.co.nz](http://www.helenogradynz.co.nz).

**Wild Eyes** is a new Wellington-created website aiming to get Kiwi kids off screens and connected with NZ nature, conservation and science ... using screens! Wild Eyes provides awesome digital incentives to students for completing fun offline nature missions. Wild Eyes missions are curriculum-friendly, designed to be completed in or outside the classroom or at home, and are perfect for individual or group inquiry learning particularly with a focus on science, environment or sustainability topics. To launch the (free!) website Wild Eyes is running competitions throughout April in partnership with What Now and Forest and Bird's Kiwi Conservation Club for kids. For details check out the website at [www.wildeyes.co.nz](http://www.wildeyes.co.nz). Check out a mission here: <https://www.wildeyes.co.nz/missions/backyard-spy>. Check out the competitions and enter to go wild and win! <https://www.wildeyes.co.nz/competitions/>

**Scouting** - Does your child love the outdoors and learning new things? Northland Scout Group are welcoming both boys and girls to be new keas (age 5-7), cubs (age 8-10.5), or scouts (age 10.5-14). Also have you considered becoming a Scout leader? This is a rewarding way to learn new skills, pass on your own skills, go on exciting adventures and get involved with your local community. Please contact [Rob@Wallace.gen.nz](mailto:Rob@Wallace.gen.nz) or see [www.facebook.com/NorthlandScouts](http://www.facebook.com/NorthlandScouts) for more information.

**An Awfully Big Adventure** - This ridiculously clever, funny and highly entertaining show highlights the absurdity of war, exploring WWI and its impact on New Zealanders. Amongst the pythonesque absurdity and theatrical performance comes a show that explore the story of two young men; one a keen enlistee and the other a conscientious objector meeting on Flanders Fields. Written by Leo Gene Peters for families (due to content we recommend over age 7). Te Papa Soundings Theatre, 23-25 April, 11.30am. Book at [capitale.org.nz](http://capitale.org.nz)

**Pukana** - Join in with the team at Pukaha these school holidays and sign up to be a Junior Ranger! Get in behind the scenes with our Rangers and learn about caring for our birds and our forest. We will look at our insects, plants and eco-systems. Our ranger guides are great at coming up with fun activities to suit the conditions but a Junior Rangers motto is "Be prepared" as we go rain or shine! Come and help make a difference with us. \$25 per child per day (age 6 - 12 years old) which includes a packed lunch from Wild Cafe (filled roll or hot soup, fruit, homemade biscuit) plus water. We prefer the Junior Rangers join our programme without their adult however when you bring your Junior Rangers to Pukaha you can enjoy a FREE coffee in our Wild Café and go and enjoy a walk around the park for half-price while waiting for the Junior Rangers to come off duty. Spaces are limited and bookings are essential. Book now at [info@pukaha.org.nz](mailto:info@pukaha.org.nz) or give us a call on 06 375-8004

**Pukana** - EGGS, EGGS, EGGS! Join us over the Easter break to celebrate all things EGGS! From Friday April 14th-Monday April 21st there will be a range of Easter school holiday activities in the park, count how many coloured Easter eggs you can spot in the park, find out fun facts about native wildlife eggs in the kids discovery area & see if you can tell your Hibi from your Kiwi egg! Easter Sunday there are Easter treats for everyone!