



Te Kura o Otari
Otari School

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News

9 March 2010

Issue 5, Week 6, Term 1

Kia ora koutou

We had a wonderful time at the athletics sports on Thursday. I was particularly impressed with the way senior students encouraged the younger participants, and with the enthusiasm displayed by all the children throughout the day. We understand it is difficult for parents to get to these events and are most appreciative of those who were able to come and support the children and their teams.

National Standards Information - As promised earlier this year, we will continue to provide information about the National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics through our newsletter. This week we look at English language learners and students with learning disabilities.

National Standards and English Language Learners - The progress and achievement of children who are English language learners (often classified as ESOL students) will be monitored in relation to the English Language Learning Progressions, until their abilities enable them to integrate fully within the regular classroom assessment programme involving National Standards.

Students with very significant learning disabilities - Children with very significant learning disabilities will have their progress assessed in relation to the standards *through their individual education programmes and processes*, which are agreed in consultation with parents, families, whānau, teachers and the Ministry. Therefore, reports for these children will be describing progress toward goals, established together, through these programmes. They will not include statements about achievement (at, above, below, well below) against the national standards.

Other students with learning disabilities - The progress of these students will be measured against the national standards. It is mandated that we must report progress in relation to the standards at least twice a year, and that one of these reports must include achievement (at, above, below, well below). For these children it may be more appropriate to only write about *progress* in the end of year written reports, and inform parents of achievement against the standards separately. This can be done verbally, or in a separate written form. We will consult parents of these children about this.

Three way interviews - Parent/child interviews are on Tues 23, Wed 24 and Thurs 25 March. Bookings can be made online using the following website <http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz>. School code is 6FTZV. If you are unable to use the website call Jillian (475-3018) and she will book it for you. Please note that parents may be contacted to re-arrange interview times if there is a large time gap between appointments.

Whanau Hui/Shared Kai - Thursday 11 March, 5.30pm in Kaikomako. All welcome.

Board of Trustee Elections - The election for the parent representatives on the school Board occurs shortly (7 May). Parents will receive nomination forms via the mail. More information can be found on the New Zealand School Trustees Association website (www.nzsta.org.nz).

Basketball at Karori Recreation Centre - Basketball is due to start next term for years 7/8 and yrs 5/6. This is held after school and is reliant on parents to manage teams. If you would like your child to participate please return the slip at the end of the newsletter. Please remember that this can only go ahead if parents are willing to run it. Cost per child is usually between \$25-\$30 per term.

The Montessori Playgroup, which runs in the school hall on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, is opening up its waiting list to Otari School families. If you have a child aged between 0-3 and would like to enrol please email lisadocherty@ihug.co.nz.

VIRTUE: Our virtue is Loyalty. You are practising Loyalty when you...

- Are steadfastly committed to those you love
- Stand by your loved ones through good times and bad
- Forgive mistakes
- Are devoted to keeping your relationships strong
- Do not allow misplaced loyalty to endanger yourself
- Your first commitment is to the truth

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Montessori strand open evenings	Montessori parents/children	Tues 9 & Thurs 11 Mar	-
Whanau hui	Everyone	Thurs 11 Mar, 5.30pm	-
Parent/Child Interviews	Parents & children	23,24,25 March	-

Have a great week everyone.

Regards
Clifford

*I am thankful for the gift of Loyalty.
It nurtures my commitments*

Extra notices sent home last week:

- Whanau hui notice
- Junior Sport Festival notice

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

Jennifer Evans Dance Academy – Classes available in classical ballet, jazz ballet, hip hop and tap. For boys and girls of all ages, from beginners to advanced. Highly regarded male and female tutors. Classical teachers are all former Royal New Zealand ballet dancers. Studios in Karori and Khandallah. Phone 476-2821 or 027-635-0191

YMCA School Holiday Programme Easter Holidays are almost here!! The YMCA has yet another FUN, EXCITING holiday programme starting on the 6th April till 16th April Monday through Friday. Centrally located at Mt Cook School and St Marks Church School. Spaces are limited so be in quick to order a brochure and enrolment form For an ACTION PACKED holiday. Contact Donna McGinnity donna.mcginnity@ymca.org.nz ph: 04 568 3252.

Mobile Guitar Lessons - Geoff Day has been teaching for over fifteen years and has a real strength connecting and inspiring his pupils. He has a young family himself and is an energetic role model. His method is fantastic for beginners and he teaches all styles at a pace that suits each pupil, building confidence with music and in life. Please contact Geoff directly on (04) 387 2630, 021 565 750 or geoffontheroad@yahoo.com.

Bats Theatre - On Saturday 27th March at 3pm we invite you to enjoy a 'one off', family friendly, matinee show of one of Ken Campbell's finest plays - 'Skungpoomery' directed by Phoebe Smith. Take this opportunity to enjoy spectacular live theatre with friends and family. Skungpoomery is a hilarious and vibrant day in the lives of Faz and his feeble-minded assistant Twoo. The pair discover their lives have become staid and listless and set about creating a wonderous, all consuming, and contagious device-of-life to reinject the jizz and zoom back into their daily routine. Expect a physically challenging, knee-slapping and word-boggling theatrical experience! Call or email Bats Theatre on 04 802 4176 or bats@bats.co.nz now to secure tickets. Can't make the matinee? 9pm shows will also be held Tuesday - Saturday from March 18 – March 27.

YMCA Camp Kaitoke Holiday Camps: Kayaking, horse riding, archery, group games, campfire fun, and much more! Our highly skilled, trained staff ensure your child has an amazing time, and we have programmes for campers aged 5-15 years, and Leaders in Training 15-17 years. We have 4 day and 1 week options these school holidays, including Art camp, Adventure camp, Horse camps, and our traditional Y-camps. Camps are OSCAR approved, and range in price from \$220-\$350 per camper. For more information contact Emily Robinson at emilyrobinson@ymca.org.nz , or on (04) 526-7338.

School holiday Croatian dancing - Children of Croatian descent are warmly encouraged to join in a school holiday activity for 2 hours a day: Monday 5 – Friday 9 April, with a performance in front of family and friends on Saturday 10 April. Fees \$30 per student. Contact Jude Ulrich 9701154 or 021 0497455 by Sunday 14 March.

The Funky Monkeys 'CAMPING ADVENTURE' SHOW! - The Funky Monkeys are coming to town to perform their live musical extravaganza during the April school holidays! This is a great holiday outing at an affordable price! Newtown Cultural Centre, Tues 13th April @11am. Tickets available at www.iticket.co.nz or call 0508 484 2538. For more info visit www.thefunkymonkeys.co.nz.

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Basketball at Kaori Recreation Centre **Yr 5/6 and Yr 7/8**

_____ would like to play.

Yes, I can manage a team.

Name _____

Phone _____