

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

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21 February 2017

Issue 3, Week 4, Term 1

Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

We had a lovely picnic at Aotea Lagoon last week. The children thoroughly enjoyed the environment, especially the fantastic adventure playground. Thank you all for your support of this whole school event.

Welcome to a new child and his family: Mokonuiārangi Savage (Kōwhai)

**Increase in School Donations** - School donations are increasing by \$50.00 to \$250.00 per family. The donations have not increased since 2012, however the Board's decision to raise the donation has been made reluctantly. Government funding alone will not meet budget expenses. This year, we have a significant shortfall. The Board has already made budget cuts to address this. We are also exploring the possibility of grants. Our other avenues are fundraising and donations.

The donation will be an item on invoices, however it will always be termed "donation" making it clear that it is not a mandatory payment.

The requested donation equates to \$62.50 per term, or \$25 per month (March to December.) Our family have certainly found setting up a regular monthly payment a less stressful way of meeting the school donations and other school related costs.

**Original Strand 'Meet the Teachers' Afternoon Tea invitation** - The Original Strand teachers would like to invite parents to come and enjoy a cup of tea and home baking in the library on **Friday 24 February, 2.50 - 4 pm**. This is an opportunity for you to meet the teachers who are working in the strand and to hear a little bit about the strand's organisation and key values and goals for the year. Please RSVP to [susan@otari.school.nz](mailto:susan@otari.school.nz). We look forward to seeing you on Friday. *Susan, Johanne, Sacha, Britta, Shani*

**Puppet Show - Thursday 23 February, 1.30pm for Years 1 and 2.** The junior school will be enjoying a puppet show by Anna Bailey on Thursday afternoon. Anna will be performing 'Nan and Tuna' to us. Nan and Tuna have been friends for 70 years and now they both have one last important journey to make. But before they leave they need to find someone to care for their river. Marionettes, shadows and water puppets combine to tell the fascinating life story of NZ's endangered longfin eel (tuna) and the difficulties they face on their long journey back to their birthplace. There is a cost of \$3.00 dollars per child.

**Upcoming Events** - Week 6 is EOTC week. While the yr 7/8 students are away at camp the rest of the school will be participating in a number of events including two trips. One is to Karori Park on Wednesday 8 March and the other is to the ASB Sports Centre on Thurs 9 March. More details to follow including costs.

**Fundraising** - We are really keen to re-establish a fundraising committee. Please contact Aroha Wahanui at [aroha.wahanui@gmail.com](mailto:aroha.wahanui@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**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. 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 Year 3-8 students.

**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
- Maths Buddy (Yr 3-8 Students) - \$12.00 per student
- Photocopying Donation - \$10.00 per student

***Te Taonga Horomata - Manawanui. Virtue: Steadfastness***

Steadfastness is a noble quality, but unguided by knowledge or humility, it becomes rashness, or obstinacy. *Aaron Schwartz*

E kore e mimiti te aroha mōu - My love for you will never wane

**Upcoming Events Calendar:**

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Puppet Show	Yr 1-2	Thurs 23 Feb, 1.30pm	\$3.00
Junior Swimming	Yr 1-2	Fridays 17 Feb - 7 Apr	
Trip to Karori Park	Yr 1-6	Wed 8 Mar	TBC
Trip to ASB Centre	Yr 1-6	Thurs 9 March	TBC
Goal Setting Interviews	Parents and Children	Mon 13 - Wed 15 March	
Yr 3 Sport Festival	Yr 3s	Tues 14 Mar	TBC
School Athletics	All Children	Tues 21 March	

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

Ngā mihi  
Clifford

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

**Come to the original “ Big Dig” Treasure Hunt** on Sunday 26 February, 11 am to 1.00 pm at Freyberg Beach, Courtenay Place Rotary regularly organises this event to give families a fun day out, and at the same time raise funds for local community charities. For a \$5 entry fee children get to dig in the sand for buried tokens. Each token earns a prize! Entrants will be given a wrist tag, which will be surrendered when a prize is claimed (but there’s no reason why you can’t get a second entry!). All prizes have been donated, and are of a greater value than the entry fee. There are bicycles and books, toys and vouchers for all sorts of things!”

**Staglands Wildlife Reserve** will be celebrating **Children’s Day** on **Sunday 5 March** by offering **FREE ENTRY** into The Reserve for **ALL CHILDREN**. In addition to their usual attractions visitors can enjoy **free off-road tractor-trailer rides** plus a special performance from **The Major Minors Children’s Choir**. So if you are looking for a fun Children’s day outing for the whole family; meet at Staglands and Connect with Nature on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March. For more information visit [www.staglands.co.nz](http://www.staglands.co.nz)

**Get out in Otari-Wilton’s Bush** and have fun with your family!!! Saturday 11 March 2017. Everyone Out in Otari is an adventure treasure hunt where you will need to work together to complete activities and navigate to secret points hidden throughout Otari-Wilton’s Bush. You’ll probably get wet, will definitely get dirty, are likely to learn something new and you’ll absolutely have fun. So what are you waiting for! Enter your family team now! <http://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2017/everyone-out-in-otari/wellington>. Check us out on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/everyoneout/>

**Attend the Life Flight Open Day on 19 March!** Life Flight is opening their hangar doors for their annual Open Day on Sunday 19 March! Held at their Air Rescue Centre near the Lyall Bay Warehouse, it’s an exciting day of emergency service demonstrations, delicious food and entertainment for the entire family. Entry by donation to Life Flight Trust. We hope to see you there! Find out more at [www.lifeflight.org.nz/openday](http://www.lifeflight.org.nz/openday). Please invite your family and friends to attend. If you’re on Facebook, you can share the event from our page.

**Elements Rhythmic Gymnastics** - We still have spaces available in our recreational classes this term. We have classes available from Mon to Sat, min. numbers apply. For more information about Elements and our classes, visit [www.rhythmicgym.nz](http://www.rhythmicgym.nz)

**Wests Junior Rugby Club** would like to invite you to play rugby this season. Our rugby season starts on May 5/6 and you can register online and check or FAQ at <http://www.wests-junior-rugby.org.nz>.

**Kelburn Brownies** have places available in 2017 for girls aged 7 to 9 ½ years. Brownies encourages girls to become more aware and independent through a varied programme of activities. We meet Tuesdays 4.30pm - 6pm in Kelburn. Please contact Katrina at [kelburnbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:kelburnbrownies@gmail.com) for more information or to reserve a place for your daughter.

**All Star Victory Cheerleaders 2017** - Enrolments still open. Contact: Julie 027-6526021,4773107, [allstarvictory@gmail.com](mailto:allstarvictory@gmail.com) or via [enrolmy.com/all-star-victory](http://enrolmy.com/all-star-victory). [www.allstarcheerleaders.co.nz](http://www.allstarcheerleaders.co.nz)

**Professional musician (New Zealand Symphony Orchestra)** and experienced teacher offers **brass lessons** for students of all ages in Wadestown. For more information please contact Tom on 027 728 4052 or email [moyerayre@paradise.net.nz](mailto:moyerayre@paradise.net.nz).

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### **Puppet Show for Yrs 1-2**

Please find enclosed \$3.00 for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the puppet show

Please deduct \$3.00 from my activity account for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the show.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_