



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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Our bank account is: Otari School BOT 060561-0017355-00

5 February 2018

Issue 1, Week 2, Term 1

**FLOWERS AND LEAVES** are needed for the junior syndicate to make sand saucers for the Wadestown/Wilton Horticultural Summer show. Please deliver to junior classes this **Friday morning**. Please raid your gardens for anything you can spare. Many thanks.

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to the 2018 school year! I hope you were all able to enjoy some of the stunning weather we have had this summer. We started the year with a Powhiri to welcome our new students and their whānau. Thank you to the Immersion Strand whānau for the kai they contributed for this occasion.

We have a number of new students and whānau to welcome to Otari School. Nau mai haere mai ki:

Zoe Millin	Kaikomako	Anna Dixon	Kakariki
Xavier Millin	Kaikomako	Muajes Addam	Kakariki
Ataaria Peita	Kaikomako	Taran Jones	Kakano
Lucy Williams	Kaikomako	Sumer Addam	Kakano
Mahalia Milner	Kaikomako	Bertie Bernard	Kakano
Kaimon Sumioka	Kereru	Lachlan K	Pohutukawa
Yosef Addam	Kereru		

We welcome a new staff member, Jenny Price, specialist teacher working in Totara. We welcome back all other staff.

Welcome also to two student teachers, Tatisana Brouke and Michaela Ryan who join our staff for the year.

**Staffing for 2018** - Below is a list of all the staff and their roles:

<b>Clifford Wicks</b> , Principal	<b>Susan West</b> , D.P, Teacher (Kakariki), SENCO, Original Strand leader
<b>Api Nathan</b> , Teacher (Kowhai), Assistant Principal, Immersion Strand Leader	<b>Johanne Wicks</b> , Teacher (Totara) and Library Management

<b>Britta Martini</b> , Teacher (Kakano), Syndicate 1 Leader*	<b>Deborah Sorensen</b> , Teacher (Pohutukawa)
<b>Lynette Franklin</b> , Teacher (Kaikomako)	<b>Sacha Fell</b> , Teacher (Kereru)
<b>Glenise Ward</b> , Teacher (Tui)	<b>Sally Barraud</b> , Teacher (Ngaio)
<b>Shani Leda</b> , Support Teacher (Kakano)	<b>Cilla Noblett</b> , CRT (Immersion)
<b>Christine Dowell</b> , CRT	<b>Kathy Heath</b> , Reading Recovery Teacher
<b>Jenny Price</b> , Special Needs Teacher	<b>Paula Crisp</b> Support Teacher (Montessori)
<b>Hanna Randall</b> , Specialist Teacher	<b>Jillian Wilson</b> , Office Manager
<b>Parekohai Wells</b> , Kaiarahi-i te-Reo	<b>Katrina Murray</b> , Teaching Assistant
<b>Sandi McKenzie-Edwards</b> , Teacher Aide	<b>Emile Guy</b> , Teacher Aide
<b>Catherine Rees</b> , Teaching Assistant	<b>Jo Fullelove</b> , Teacher Aide
<b>Alan Ward</b> , Caretaker	<b>Natasha Evans</b> , Teacher Aide
<b>Hilary Eats</b> , Librarian	<b>Deanne Grigsby</b> , IT Support
<b>Mike Heath</b> , Volunteer	<b>Alison Dyer</b> , Accounts Service Provider

\*Syndicate 1 (Years 1-4) = Pounamu, Kakano, Pohutukawa, Kowhai and Kaikomako

\*Syndicate 2 (Years 5-8) = Kereru, Totara, Ngaio and Tui

**Over-Archiving Theme and Topics - The Urban Environment.** Classes will be learning through "City" related topics for Science and Social Studies. This broad theme will allow teachers to design learning programmes that explore ideas and develop understandings related to people, culture, activities, structures, events, technology and science within a city context. This year teachers will also be implementing topics related to The Treaty of Waitangi and New Zealand Māori and Pakeha history and culture. The staff participated in Professional Learning Development before school started through a Teacher Only Day facilitated by Tamsin Hanley who wrote "A Critical Guide to Māori and Pakeha Histories of Aotearoa." These are 6 books containing teaching units to be delivered over a few years. Eventually we will choose one unit to deliver each year, in depth. However over the next two years we will be familiarising ourselves with all the units and teaching from each one. The units are able to be delivered in all strands. They are:

- Te Ao Maori Neha
- The British Isles
- Two Worlds Meet
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- Pakeha Responses
- Maori Responses

You will learn more about the topics we are teaching and other learning programmes through the class pānui that will be coming out over the following weeks.

**ERO Visit:** The Education Review Office are visiting the school on 12 February for three days. ERO's website states the following,

"ERO's overarching purpose is to support change that contributes to raising educational achievement for equity and excellence within, and across schools. In our school evaluations, we report on the quality of education and learning outcomes for all children and young people. We also report on the quality of school systems for sustaining and continuing to improve achievement."

The ERO team are Carol Shand (leading the review), Rob Webster and Ross Hana. We look forward to welcoming them at assembly next Monday. They will not be here until 11am therefore we are having assembly then. Following this they are meeting with The Board of Trustees and Senior Management team.

Below is a table of some key events and dates:

#### **TERM 1**

**Technology for Yr 7 & 8s (22, 23 Mar, 5, 6, 12,13 Apr)**

**Swimming for Yr 1 & 2s (16, 23 Feb, 2,9, 16, 23 Mar, 6 Apr)**

**Wed 21 Feb:** School picnic at Scorching Bay

**Wed 7 Mar:** School Athletics

**Wed 13 Apr:** End of term

#### **TERM 4**

**Wed 7 Nov:** Helpers' Morning Tea

**Fri 9 Nov:** Disco

**Tues 4 Dec:** Yr 8 Outing

**Thurs: 6 Dec:** Yr 8 Dinner

**Thurs 13 Dec:** Yr 8 Farewell

**Technology** for Year 7 and 8s begins week 8. For the first term it will be on Thursday and Friday of week 8, 10 and 11. (Week 9 has Good Friday at the end of it, therefore no tech that week.) For technology, Year 7 and 8s are taken by bus, leaving school at **8.40am**, to the Technology Centre at Karori West School. Clifford will be the teacher accompanying them. Children take their morning tea with them, as they don't return to Otari until lunchtime. If your child misses the bus, please take them to Karori West yourself. **The cost for each student for Technology for the year is \$50.00 payable to Otari School.**

**Swimming Lessons** - Swimming for our Year 1 & 2 students begins on Friday 16 February. Information has been sent home regarding this. **Cost is \$70 payable to Otari School.** We need lots of parent help to assist with changing clothes so if you are able to help please email Britta at [britta@otari.school.nz](mailto:britta@otari.school.nz). We will require help every week for 8 weeks but even if you can only help one or two weeks, that would be great.

**School Picnic, Wednesday 21 February** - This year we are going to Scorching Bay. We will leave school at 9.30am and return by 2.30pm. All whānau are encouraged to come and enjoy the day. We will require lots of parent help. Please return the slip at the end of newsletter. All children are to travel by bus with parents making their own way there. **The cost for the day is \$5.00 per child.**

**Lost Property** - Please make sure you name your child's clothing! This is very helpful if items are left around the school.

**Classroom Consumables** - As shown on the stationery list students are required to pay \$10 to cover classroom consumables for the year. A donation of \$10 for photocopying/printing/photography would also be appreciated.

**Code Club** - The Otari School Code Club will be starting back up on Monday 19 February. New members are very welcome and we look forward to seeing members from last year attend again. If your child is interested in doing Code Club, please email Sacha at [sacha@otari.school.nz](mailto:sacha@otari.school.nz).

**Here are a few reminders, especially for our new parents:**

**Issues and Concerns** - We know there will be times when parents have a concern. We also know that there will be times when something that has occurred at school might be confusing, annoying or upsetting. Please seek clarification from your child's teacher first, if class related, or from the principal if school related.

It is always better to talk about a concern with the teacher (or principal) than to worry. Often this enables things to be cleared up very quickly. When teaching and managing children there are occasions when the teacher 'gets things wrong.' When we do, we want to know and make amends. At the same time, sometimes only half a tale is told, so it is important to seek clarification first before making a judgement. We are in 'loco parentis', which means 'in the place of a parent.' Just like parents, we are fallible, but also like parents, we ultimately want the best for your children and their futures.

You are welcome to email us. We will do our best to respond in a timely manner. However, once school starts (for teachers, 7:30 - 8.00am) don't expect responses right away. It is best not to rely on text messaging.

Please consider your words carefully if you decide to send an email to school about a concern. We have found conversations are often a much more effective way of dealing with issues. If you do decide to email a concern, we would prefer not to receive these during the weekend.

We also try hard to communicate information effectively. In this school there are many groups to communicate with and sometimes we do find this challenging. We know we need to continually do our best to get information out there. Please help us by reading your newsletters and class notices thoroughly.

**School** begins at 8.55am. We finish at 2.55pm.

**Hats** are compulsory in terms one and four. If children do not have a hat they must stay in the shade. The hats must have a brim that covers ears and neck. Caps are not suitable.

**Absent Children** - If your child is going to be absent from school please ensure you ring (475-3018) or send an email ([office@otari.school.nz](mailto:office@otari.school.nz)) before 8.55am stating why your child is away.

**Lunches** – We have three choices:

- Sushi is available on Tuesdays, ordered online at [www.ezlunch.co.nz](http://www.ezlunch.co.nz).
- Pita Pit is available on Thursdays, ordered online at [www.lunchonline.co.nz](http://www.lunchonline.co.nz)
- Hell Pizza is available on Fridays. Order slips can be found at the office (\$5 each).

**Driveway** – Parents are asked to refrain from parking at the bottom of the driveway between 8.15 – 9.30am and 2.45 – 3.30pm. Parents are to 'drop and go' only. Please do not park up or down the drive and leave your car. The Otari Bush Reserve (around the corner) is available for temporary parking, or park on Wilton Road.

**Cookies** are sold from the office at morning tea. Cookies are 80 cents.

**School Closure** – Should the school need to be closed due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. bad weather) the following will occur:

- A closure notice will go on The Breeze and Newstalk ZB radio stations.
- A closure notice will go on our facebook page.
- A closure notice will go on the school web page. (Make sure you use the refresh button to get up-to-date information.)
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**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 \$14.00.** 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.

***Te Taonga Horomata: Whataute. Our Virtue is Respect***

*Respect is an attitude of honouring ourselves and others as people of value. We care for each person's dignity. Everyone has the right to expect respect. We show respect in the courtesy of our words and in our tone of voice.*

Kia pai o koutou wiki – have a great week everyone. Best wishes for an enjoyable Waitangi day.

Ngā mihi, Clifford

#### Extra-curricular lessons at Otari:

- **Kelly Sports** at is back for Term 1 at Otari. Wednesday lunchtimes - **Summer Sports** for years 1-3 - come and have a go at **Athletics, T-Ball** and **Ball Sports**. We're fun, we're active and we're all about giving it a go and being your best. Come and learn to be a Kelly Sports Star. Call/email the office on 972 7201/ [adminwgtn@kellysports.co.nz](mailto:adminwgtn@kellysports.co.nz) to enrol.
- **Keyboard Lessons** – Mondays. Contact Wgtn Music Academy 977-9102.
- **Guitar Lessons** – Contact Finn on 022-675-4490

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

**Drum Lesson's for 2018** Mark Lockett B.Mus Perf Jazz, Dip Mus - Recently returned from performing & teaching in NYC. For more information visit [www.drumlab.co.nz](http://www.drumlab.co.nz) or phone 021 0433 663

**Your Parenting ACT:** Parenting can be both a joy and very hard work and things get in the way of us being the parents we want to be. Sometimes they are things outside us, but more often they are our own thoughts and feelings. They might be thoughts about ourselves, about our children, about our parenting, or about what others think about our parenting. Your Parenting ACT is a 5 week course that helps you parent in line with your own values. It uses principles from ACT — Acceptance and Commitment Therapy — to help you make room for all your thoughts and feelings, so you can respond flexibly as a parent. ACT uses acceptance, mindfulness and behavioural strategies to help people pursue what matters most to them, including being the parent they want to be. St Luke's Centre, 34 Pitt St, Wadestown, Wellington. Mondays, from the 26th of February between 7:00pm and 9:00pm. For more information and registrations: <https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/your-parenting-act-tickets-40080148804>.

**After School Yoga for Children with Bibi.** Every Thursday from 3:30pm to 4:15pm. Suitable for ages 6 to 12. Term \$100 (sibling discount \$95) - free trial class.

**Kelburn Brownies** have places available. Brownies is about learning, developing self-confidence, making new friends and, of course, having lots of fun outside school! Our programme is provided in a safe environment. We get together each week for outdoor adventures, conservation activities, cooking, crafts, games and community action projects – all challenging the girls to achieve and grow. Brownies meet Tuesday's from 4.30pm – 6pm. Contact [kelburnbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:kelburnbrownies@gmail.com) or 0220 963 973.

**Drama Club** - After school Speech & Drama classes for children. I have small classes of approximately 6-8 pupils and all classes are grouped by age. Solo/group drama examinations are available for children of all ages. Please check the online class times for more details. Enrol your child at [www.dramaclub.co.nz](http://www.dramaclub.co.nz), or email Bridie at [admin@dramaclub.co.nz](mailto:admin@dramaclub.co.nz). Alternatively you can contact Bridie on 021 054 2593.

#### Term Dates 2018

Term 1: Thurs 1 Feb – Fri95

13 Apr (school closed Easter: Fri 30 Mar, Mon 2 & Tues 3 Apr)

Term 2: Mon 30 Apr – Fri 6 July (school closed Queens Birthday: Mon 5 June)

Term 3: Mon 23 July – Fri 28 Sept

Term 4: Mon 15 Oct – Mon 17 Dec (school closed: Labour weekend: 22 Oct)

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#### School Picnic

☐ Enclosed is \$5 for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the picnic.

☐ Deduct \$5 from my activity account for \_\_\_\_\_ to attend.



*Yes, I can parent help: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_*