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

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Issue 16, Week 7, Term 2

Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

Welcome to two new children and their families: Makere Nepe-Apatu

Sarah Parnell

WZ Cross Country was postponed today. If the weather clears it will go ahead on Thursday.

Union Meeting - Everyone should have received information regarding the upcoming Union meeting on Tuesday 19 June. Please return the slip or email Jillian (office@otari.school.nz).

School Survey - Every three years Otari School runs a survey to ensure that our strategic direction, our vision and our Charter reflect the expectations and values of the school community. The Board of Trustees is coordinating the 2018 survey this year with Clifford and will be running it for three weeks, starting on 18 June. We really encourage you to participate. This is your school and we want to make sure your ideas, thoughts, suggestions - including for change - are heard and reflected. More details next week.

School Disco - Friday 29 June: Helpers Required - Are you able to help with this year's disco? We need help with:

- Supporting the Student Council to decorate the hall (1-3pm Friday 29th)
- Selling tickets (5.30-6.30pm)
- Food Preparation (4.30pm onwards)
- Selling Hot Food (5.30pm onwards)
- Sausage Sizzle (5.30pm onwards)
- Making curry (before the 29th)
- Ham/Cheese Toasties (5.30pm onwards)
- Rubbish/Recycling (5.30pm onwards)
- Clean-up (8-8.30pm)

Please contact Jo for more details: jofullelove@gmail.com.

Chocolate - Please send in the money or deposit into the school account (060561-0017355-00) as soon as possible. \$72 per box. If you can sell more, please let Jillian know.

Yummy Fruit Stickers - Please keep collecting stickers or cut out the label on the plastic bags. Sheets can be downloaded from: http://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/schoolstickerpromo We have until the end of September to collect as many as possible.

Education Review Report - This is the third instalment of the ERO review findings, focusing on achievement of equity and excellence and what further developments are needed.

2. School conditions for equity and excellence

2.2 What further developments are needed in school processes and practices for achievement of equity and excellence?

Annual goals clearly identify groups of students whose learning requires improvement. However, target setting needs to focus more on accelerating the progress of all identified students towards specified expectations. This should further assist the school in evaluating its success and progress towards achieving it priorities.

Leaders and teachers use a suitable range of assessment tools and data to identify students at risk of not meeting expectations. Teachers effectively use this information to inform next learning steps. These learners' achievement and progress is closely monitored, and some show acceleration. The school has identified the need to strengthen moderation practices. ERO recommends the school prioritise the review of assessment guidelines to provide clear expectations for teacher practice.

Leaders should further strengthen the appraisal process by documenting procedures that align with current practice. This should support teachers to continue to improve their practice.

Leaders and teachers work collaboratively to reflect on their effectiveness. Sharpening teacher inquiry, focused on analysing the effectiveness of their own practice to improve outcomes for specific students, should assist them to determine their next steps.

Internal evaluation needs development and implementation to enable the school to better determine the effectiveness of the operation, initiatives and interventions in improving student outcomes. This should inform leaders' and teachers' knowledge of what has the most significant impact on raising achievement, and support next steps for continued development.

Trustees receive useful information from leaders to set priorities focused on promoting positive outcomes for all learners. It is timely for trustees to prioritise and sharpen the leadership focus on continuous improvement at the strategic level. Policies, procedures and systems must be updated to reflect best practice.

Commentary on Equity and Excellence Findings 2:2

Each year we identify our priority learners from our achievement data and teachers document how they are going to meet the needs of these students. We have always monitored these students and I have been kept informed of their progress and reported to the Board on them (as a group) as well.

ERO want us to more specifically focus on those students who have the potential to make more than one years progress in a year and set targets for their achievement. They also recommend that these children have their achievement plotted on a graph that clearly shows an upward trajectory as they meet the targets. Therefore this year we have identified these students and implemented the recommendation.

Strengthening our appraisal process has been an ongoing focus. We have a thorough process established that involves relevant goal setting, classroom observation, professional development and self reflection. This process is in relation to the Practicing Teachers Criteria, which identify the knowledge, practices, professional attributes and values teachers need to demonstrate in their practice.

Thorough internal evaluation requires time and commitment and is an area that is challenging to address in relation to the competing demands of school management. The focus this year on consultation, our own teacher inquiries and our well being surveys will help with providing further information to contribute to effective internal evaluation.

The Board updated all policies last year. There are some procedural documents that need to be updated in light of current practice. ERO recognised that our practice was up to date, but the procedural documentation was not consistently reflecting this. We have rectified some of these already and are updating the others over the next two terms.

Sharpening leadership focus at the strategic level reflects ERO's view that more time could be spent analysing data and presenting it to the Board for strategic consideration. Some useful and practical means of achieving this were provided by ERO. While acknowledging this, I felt it necessary to clarify that "sharpening leadership focus at the strategic level" would not be at the expense of involvement with classes, pastoral care, or some of the other student related activities that motivate me as a leader and educator.

Te Taonga Horomata: Ohaoha-nga. Virtue: Generosity

Generosity is giving to others something that is of value to us. Generosity is a quality of spirit that calls us to share what we have. We also allow others to give to us. Every gift is doubly blessed, bringing joy to the giver and the receiver. Generosity helps us to give time and attention to the feelings, needs and view of those around us.

"The fragrance always remains in the hand that gives the rose." Mahatma Ghandi

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
WZ Cross Country	Selected students	Thurs 14 June	
School Photos	All Students	Wed 27 June	
School Disco	Everyone	Fri 29 June	TBA
NZ Playhouse	All students	Tues 24 Jul	\$5.00

Have a good week everyone.

Ngā mihi nui Clifford

2018 Term Dates				
Term 2	Mon 30 Apr	Fri 6 Jul		
Term 3	Mon 23 Jul	Fri 28 Sept		
Term 4	Mon 15 Oct	Mon 17 Dec	No School: Labour Weekend: Mon 22 Oct	

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

Matariki Celebration - The Wadestown Presbyterian Church is holding a Matariki Celebration for the community on Sunday 24 June at 4pm. There will be activities for the kids and adults, followed by a Potluck dinner with soup provided.

St Mary's College Open Day - Thursday 14 June 2018, 9am or 11.30am. All Welcome.

Weta Workshop - School Holiday Workshops 16-20 July: Calling All Superheroes. Weta Workshop is opening its doors to a new cohort of creative superheroes! We warmly invite the children of Otari School to come along. From sketching to sculpting and costume making, our workshops for ages 6 – 12 years old will excite and delight! Don't miss out. Book online at www.wetaworkshop.com/school-holidays.

Wadestown Community Creche Open Day - Thurs 14 June, 9am-12pm. Come and check us out at our open day! We'd love to see you and feel free to bring your little one for a play. If the timing doesn't work for you please give us a call on 04 499 1574 and we can plan a visit to suit. Wadestown Crèche is a high quality Early Childhood Education Centre offering part-time sessions (8.20am - 12.30/2.30pm) for pre-school children aged 12 months - 4 years. It's owned and managed by parents, on a not-for-profit basis. Our team of experienced fully qualified teachers supports each child's development and learning through play, rich and varied experiences and stable routines.

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. Kelburn Brownies meet on Tuesdays from 4.30pm–6pm. Contact kelburnbrownies@gmail.com or 0220 963 973.