



**Te Kura o Otari
Otari School**

News

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

Phone: 475-3018

Email: office@otari.school.nz

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

11 December 2018

Issue 39, Week 9, Term 4

Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

The Year 8 farewell was a very enjoyable occasion. The leavers presented heartfelt speeches that expressed how much Otari School means to them. They spoke fondly of their teachers and friends, thanking them and their parents. On the night some children received curriculum awards. They were:

Sky Gobbi – Science, Maths, Visual Arts, English
Ngataierua Apanui-Barr – Mahi Toi, Putaiao, Te Reo Matatini
Hinewairua Duncan – Putaiao, Hakinakina, Te Reo Matatini
Otis Cloutman - Science, Maths,
Hitomi Komatsu – Maths, Visual Arts
Lani Kalapu – Social Sciences, Visual Arts
Charlotte Lubransky – Visual Arts, English
JaeTiare Te Paiho – Sporting Achievement
Anton Luatua – Sporting Achievement
Elizabeth Forgan - Writing
Abigail Grant – Writing
Kathryn Eyre – Curriculum Diligence
Hazel Ford – Curriculum Diligence



We also presented three Citizenship awards, 2 plaques and a Citizenship Cup. The plaques were awarded to Hinewairua Duncan and Otis Cloutman. The Citizenship Cup was awarded to Sky Gobbi.

Thank you also to our patient year 7 students who made the year 8 children gifts at technology and presented these on the night and supported the event with their singing.

Below is the short speech I made prior to the year 8 presentations:

This year has been somewhat challenging. We have dealt with a hall fire and the fall out from that, a seemingly ever changing refurbishment project, an ERO review and full scale strategic planning, industrial action and a host of other administrative and management issues and challenges that are part of school leadership and governance. However, when we look at our Year 8 leavers they are really quite unaffected by all of this. They have continued, throughout the year, to enjoy their school life. They've still completed projects, gone on school trips, danced at the disco, dressed up, played endless tag, built huts, built friendships, been told to get off their phones, played football and touch rugby, written, drawn, composed, created, constructed and performed – pretty much untouched by the myriad of issues and problems we deal with year to year – which is exactly as it should be.

So now we look at them, about to leave this special and unique time to begin a new chapter in their young lives. And we think how fast time has flown, we find it hard to believe they are so tall, so grown up and so... articulate. They think for themselves, express opinions we're not sure we altogether agree

with, figure out technology quicker than us, roll their eyes, sigh and tell us that if only we were like everyone else's parents everything would be fine.

And we remember them - when they held our hands on that first day of school, with a mixture of wonder, worry and excitement in their eyes, as we (and I can say "we" this year) relinquished them, to another new chapter. And here we are now. They no longer hold our hands (well they can't because it's hard to hold hands and be on instagram at the same time) and yet we still feel a little like we did eight years ago. We're letting go again. And while this has a poignancy we feel more than they do, we also know this is a moment that deserves to be acknowledged – these young people deserve to be honoured and this moment in their lives warrants a celebration and thus we are here tonight to do this.

Therefore, without any further sentimental musings from me let us hear from these, once little 5 year olds, now big 12 and 13 year olds as they remind us exactly why we are so proud of them.

Decile Rating – Earlier this year I requested a decile review. This has been completed and we have been notified that our decile has changed from a 10 to a 9. This is good news as it provides us with a bit more funding and more accurately reflects our school community.

I look forward to seeing you all back here on 7 February 2019. We will begin the year with a powhiri to welcome all new families and any other families who may be starting during the year and wish to be welcomed at this powhiri.



Until then, I wish you all a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Kia tau te rangimārie ki runga I a koutou katoa.

Ngā mihi nui

Clifford

Bake Sale – Kākano is having a bake sale tomorrow. Please bring gold coins. The money raised will benefit the school.

Stationery for 2019 – Stationery requirements for 2019 can be found via the front page of our website (www.otari.school.nz) or direct at <https://www.myschool.co.nz/>. You can either purchase the items through OfficeMax or print off the lists and purchase elsewhere. If you opt to purchase items elsewhere please ensure the items are of good quality – cheap pencils do not last! Ensure books are exactly what the teacher has requested.

A reminder that the term finishes on **Monday 17 December at 12noon.**

2019 Term Dates		
Term 1	Thurs 7 Feb	Fri 12 Apr
Term 2	Mon 29 Apr	Fri 5 Jul
Term 3	Mon 22 Jul	Fri 27 Sept
Term 4	Mon 14 Oct	Fri 20 Dec

Queens Birthday: Mon 4 June Labour Weekend: Mon 22 Oct

Marrzipan Drama Holiday Workshops - developing self confidence and public speaking ability in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. 1-5 day courses available running 8.30am-5.00pm for \$60 per day (discount for the whole week!). Spaces limited to 16 per group so your child gets the special attention they deserve! W: www.marrzipandrama.co.nz: workshops@marrzipandrama.co.nz T: 0275217352

Drama Holiday Programme - *Twas the Night before Christmas* - A five day (17th to 21st Dec) collaborative holiday programme on Drama, Music, Dance, Creative Writing and Craft will be conducted by Drama Remedy from 9.00 am – 4.00 pm just before the festive season begins. (04) 478 5962 or 022 027 3316 dramaremedy@gmail.com or visit our website www.dramaremedy.co.nz