

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

27 February 2024

Week 5 Term 1

Kia ora koutou

What's Going On? - Events and Activities at Otari School

- **Wednesday:** Day of Play – **NO Wheels** (bikes, scooters, skateboards, skates, skate shoes, remote control cars etc)
- **Monday (4th):** Yr 7 Immunisations
- **Tues:** WZ Cricket



Strategic Plan - Ōtari School's Strategic Plan will be on the school website on Friday. The annual plan relating to it will be published during March.

New ERO partner - ERO now works with a school over 3 years. Last year, compliance areas were reviewed and school goals were developed in relation to school and board priorities for curriculum development and student outcomes. Our 2023 ERO review partner, Maddy Haydock, has gone back into the sector, therefore I am meeting with our new review partner, Debbie Hamer, today.



One hour a day of Reading, Writing and Maths - One of the initial discussions I will be having with ERO is how we are addressing the government's policy that all children will receive an hour of reading, writing and mathematics. (ERO are just gathering information about this - it is not a compliance check.)

Our teachers/kaiako are currently reviewing their programmes in light of this requirement. There are evaluative tools available and we will be looking at our programmes individually, as strands and in syndicates. It will be interesting to see how other teachers timetable curriculum areas and to evaluate just how much time we are spending on these three areas.

I am confident that when averaged over the week our teachers meet this requirement already. I do not want any teacher to become obsessed with making sure every child has a 1 hour block of reading, writing and maths every single day. The intention is that this occurs throughout the day, not that a child is engaged in reading, writing or doing mathematics equations for an hour. (Can you imagine a 5 year old writing for an entire hour?)

Writing/tuhutuhi includes talking about the features of a genre, listening to examples of stories, creating a shared story together, drawing a picture to motivate writing, participating in an experience to motivate writing (e.g, a trip to the zoo and children write a recount the next day) writing instructions, filling in a template related to another subject (e.g, science, technology), proposing a going out trip, doing reading activities that require written responses.

Reading/pānui includes instructional lessons, being read to, buddy reading, reading daily timetables, reading to follow a science experiment, to research for an inquiry, learning a waiata, playing board games and reading activity games, sharing poems. There are many other examples of children reading that will occur throughout the day.

Maths/pāngarau is less integrated, however there are certainly times that it is employed in other subjects (cooking, science experiments, physical education, technology.) The maths session will involve different components within an hour, including reinforcement of concepts through activities with the whole class, groups receiving teacher instruction, groups working at specific exercises related to the instruction and children involved in independent maths activities.

While ensuring the 3 R's receive due diligence we want children engaged in visual arts, performing arts and physical activity. Our vision involves educating the whole child. Children must be given opportunities to learn and express themselves through the arts and to participate in sports and games that develop their confidence and physical abilities. We will not need to sacrifice these areas to achieve the "1 hour a day" requirements. We will also continue to go on trips and learn outdoors, have our "day of play" days and continue our involvement in sports events.

Please see the attachment regarding 'One Hour A Day' from the Ministry of Education.

CodeClub - It has been great to see how popular CodeClub has been this year and we now have 30 children. Unfortunately this means we cannot take any more children this term and only children whose parents filled in the google form at the start of the year or emailed Sacha directly are able to attend at this stage (even if your child attended last year). Numbers often change throughout the year so if your child is in Year 4-8 and you would like them to be put on a waitlist for CodeClub please email Sacha (sacha@otari.school.nz). CodeClub is totally volunteer run so if you would like to volunteer to help that would be very much appreciated, please email Sacha.



Yummy Fruit Stickers: FREE Sports Equipment – Please collect stickers (and bag cut-outs) from Yummy Fruit and send them along to school. We collect them all year long and in October send them off to the Yummy Fruit. Depending on how many we collect, we get to choose a bunch of free sports equipment! You can download sticker sheets from:

- [https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/SSP-pdf New Variety Sticker Collection Sheet compressed.pdf](https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/SSP-pdf%20New%20Variety%20Sticker%20Collection%20Sheet%20compressed.pdf)
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Birthdays This Week: Happy birthday to Ashley, Violet and Rad. Rā whānau ki a koutou! We hope you all have a great day.



Taonga Horomata: Manawaroa, Pakari - Resilience

Resilience is the strength of spirit to recover from adversity. When we experience disappointment, loss or tragedy, we find the hope and courage to carry on. Humour lightens the load when it seems too heavy.

He toka tū moana. (As durable as a rock pounded by the surf.)

"The oak fought the wind and was broken. The willow bent when it must and survived." (Robert Jordan)



Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Immunisations	Yr 7	Mon 4 Mar	
WZ Cricket	Selected students	Tues 5 Mar	
Life Education	All students	11-15 Mar	\$8.00
Pedal Ready	All students	18-22 March	
WZ Ki o Rahi	Selected students	Tues 19 Mar	
Trip to Te Papa	Tōtara/Kereru, Kākāriki	Tues 26 Mar	TBC
School Picnic	All students	Wed 27 March	\$8.00
Easter Break – NO SCHOOL	Everyone	Fri 29 Mar, 1 & 2 Apr	
WZ Football	Selected students	Tues 9 April	

Kia pai to koutou wiki! Have a great week everyone!

Ngā mihi
Clifford



Our public health nurses are coming to your school in the week starting 4 March to provide immunisation for Yr 7 tamariki:

- If you have changed your mind or your situation has changed please contact us at res-immunisation@huttvalleydhsb.org.nz, or call us on 04 587 2949
- If you have not yet consented, but want to, please collect a consent form from the school office or contact us on 04 587 2949
- If you declined the vaccines last year but you have changed your mind and you now want your year 8 child to receive the vaccine(s) please collect a consent form from the school office or contact us on 04 587 2949
- If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at res-immunisation@huttvalleydhsb.org.nz, or call us on 04 587 2949



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