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

26 October 2021

Week 2, Term 4

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to a new student. Nau mai, haere mai ki te ākonga hou me tōna whānau: Finn Seymour (Pōhutukawa)





Happy Birthday - Ra whanau ki a koe Mila (Tuī), Zander and Ataiir (Kākano) and Telesia (Tōtara).

Athletic Sports - Our athletic sports tournament was scheduled for tomorrow, however due to the current forecast we are postponing it until Thursday of next week (4 November. Parents are most welcome to attend. As these are council grounds we must abide by their Level 2 rules, which means signing in, social distancing (2 metres) and mask wearing.





Operating Under L2 - We try hard to keep up to date with the Ministry of Education guidelines. Sometimes these shift with changes in the national situation (e.g, now requiring adults to wear masks when visiting the school, dropping or picking up children.) At the moment principals around the country are addressing the new vaccination mandate requirements. We are compiling a register in relation to this.

While undertaking this we aim to maintain an environment that is collegial, caring and respectful. Things covid, do tend to take up more headspace than we would like. Being around children is a great tonic for relieving the term 4 stress and the "pandemic fatigue!" I certainly enjoy seeing how happy they remain in their learning and their play. We also appreciate the ability of our tamariki to be flexible and adaptive! We are currently thinking about how some of the end of year events might look if we are still at Level 2. Like the children we will endeavour to remain cheerful and adaptive. This is the best approach as we hurtle towards the end of term and all that it entails!

School-Wide Reading Assessment - Recent PAT Reading test results show that we have over 60% of our students in years 4 to 8 reading and comprehending *above average* expectation level and overall, 82% of students are achieving *above expectation*. Around 20% of our students achieved a score that indicates *exceptional* reading ability.



An aspect of this assessment is the particularly high achievement of both genders. 90% of girls and 79% of boys achieved *at or above expectation*. Achieving *above expectation*, were 56% of girls and 70% of boys.

Recent running record assessment in relation to Immersion Reading Levels also reflects a positive picture of reading achievement, with 82% of ākonga in years 3-8 being instructed at a level *at or above expectation*.

Students who are not achieving *at expectation*, are part of our "priority learner" group identified in our school learning improvement plan. They receive extra support and a differentiated reading programme.

Reading assessment results contribute to the overall judgements we make at the end of the year as we assess where students are achieving in relation to the New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga. Our results reflect the very good teaching of reading that occurs throughout the school. A full report on these assessments will be put on the school website next week.



Calendar Orders – Coming home today, are individual order forms for calendars. All orders are done online. Each order requires a unique code.

Term 4 Sun Safety - Every child must wear a sun hat with a brim when outside, in term 4. Otari hats can be purchased from the school office (\$12).





Swimming – Due to too many restrictions there will not be any swimming lessons this term.

Technology for Yr 7/8 students re-starts on Friday.





Taonga Horomata - Dignity and Sincerity - We are looking at virtues that help children when interacting with others and the wider community.

Dignity/Amarutanga - Dignity is honouring the worth of all people, including ourselves and treating everyone with respect.

"Human dignity is the same for all human beings: When I trample on the dignity of another, I am trampling on my own." Pope Francis

Sincerity/Pono - Sincerity is being open and genuine. Our words and actions reflect a truthful heart. "Ka rongo i te ia o te aroha, he ngākau māhaki" - (To feel genuine intentions is to understand a charitable heart.)







Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
School Athletics	All Students	Thursday 4 November	
Poroporoaki	Immersion Strand whānau	Thursday 25 November	
Yr 8 Immunisations	Yr 8s	Tuesday 30 November	
City Mission Pack the Bus	Everyone	Tuesday 30 November	
Yr 8 Outing	Yr 8s	Wednesday 8 December	
Yr 8 Dinner	Yr 8s	Thursday 9 December	
Yr 8 Farewell	Yr 7/8s & whānau of Yr 8s	Monday 13 December	

Have a great week everyone.

Ngā mihi Clifford

2021 Term Dates

Term 4: Ends on 15 Dec, 12 noon



Zumba Fitness in Wilton - Would you like to try out a Zumba Fitness class? Zumba classes are held at the Otari School Hall, 166 Wilton Road, Wilton. Come along and experience the benefits of Zumba Fitness. Classes are suitable for beginners and all levels of fitness. Options will be given to suit your fitness needs.

Wednesday's 7.00pm – 8.00pm. \$11 per class, students \$7. **FIRST CLASS FREE.** 5 and 10 concession passes available. **Contact:** Annick 021 462 042 or email zumbawithannick@gmail.com



