

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

1 February 2022

Week 1, Term 1

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to the 2022 school year!

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



Lily Charles	Kākano	Ralph Weaver	Pōhutukawa
Hudson Charles	Kākano	Edison Luty	Pōhutukawa
Max Thornton	Kākano	Matisse Vessey	Kōwhai
Wila Weaver	Ngaio	Milania Stevenson	Kōwhai

A special welcome to new whānau joining our school. We look forward to getting to know you and hope you quickly feel as though you are part of a strong and vibrant community.



Welcome back to all our staff. We also welcome new staff members; Richard Kobiti-Hiko, teacher aide in the Māori Immersion Strand and Ann Kendon, teaching Reading Recovery each day.

Staffing for 2022 Below is a list of all the staff and their roles:

Clifford Wicks , Principal	Susan West , Deputy Principal, Teacher (Kākāriki), SENCO, Original Strand leader
Wairere Ropata , Teacher (Kaikōmako), Assistant Principal, Immersion Strand Leader	Johanne Wicks , Teacher (Tōtara) and Library Management
Britta Martini , Teacher (Kākano), RR Teacher	Deborah Sorensen , Teacher Ngaio, Mont Strand leader
Lynette Franklin , Teacher (Kōwhai)	Sacha Fell , Teacher (Kererū)
Erana Franklin , Teacher (Tuī)	Paula Crisp , Teacher (Pōhutukawa)
Shani Leda , Support Teacher	Tom Wild , Support Teacher
Christine Dowell , Support Teacher	Catherine Hope , Support Teacher
Jenny Prince , Specialist Teacher	Rebecca MacKenzie-Pollock , Teacher & T Aide
Nichole Craig , Support Teacher	Ann Kendon , Reading Recovery Teacher
Jillian Wilson , Office Manager	Katrina Murray , Kaiāwhina
Parekohai Wells , Kaiarahi-i te-Reo	Emile Guy , Teacher Aide
Sandi McKenzie-Edwards , Teacher Aide	Catherine Rees , Teacher Aide
Kanae Tsuji , Teaching Assistant	Deanne Grigsby , IT Support
Richard Kobiti-Hiko , Teacher Aide	Hilary Eats , Librarian
Alan Ward , Caretaker	Claire Rumble , Resources Manager
Alison Dyer , Accounts Service Provider	

Day of Play - The Day of Play is an opportunity to observe children while they learn through play. The entire school will be having a Day of Play on Wednesday 9th February.



Code Club - We will be having a Code Club again this year for children in Years 4-8. This is likely to begin in week 3 or 4 and will be on a Monday afternoon. We aim to cater for all skill levels. Further information will be in later newsletters. If you have any questions or are able to help please contact Sacha sacha@otari.school.nz.

Technology for Year 7 and 8s is on Fridays and begins in week 2. Students 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. At technology, children learn skills through cooking, building and constructing with wood, creating sewed items and working with other materials, such as plastics, metal to create practical and aesthetically pleasing objects. 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.



Financial: Costs - Here is a summary of the upcoming costs required:

- Technology for Yr 7/8 - **\$50.00**
- Class Consumables - **\$10.00** per child
- Contribution to costs for digital learning and reporting platforms - Original strand: (Seesaw, Reading Eggs, Mathletics) **\$18**
- Contribution to costs for digital learning and reporting platforms - Montessori strand: (Educa, MathsBuddy,) **\$18:00**
- Contribution to costs for digital learning and reporting platforms - Immersion strand: (Seesaw, Mathletics,) **\$15:00**
- Donation: Parent Donation **\$250** per family
- Donation: Photocopying/printing contribution **\$10** per child

The costs for digital learning platforms and reporting resources are 50% of actual costs. These costs can be paid now or during the year via internet banking (060561 0017355 00) or via EFT-POS at the school office. If you do pay via internet banking please send Jillian an email itemising what you are paying for (office@otari.school.nz).

Further information about digital learning and reporting resources - All classes will be operating online platforms for informing parents and caregivers about the learning that is happening in the classroom. The Montessori Strand uses Educa and the rest of the school use Seesaw. To enhance mathematics learning, classes are also using either *Mathletics* or *Mathsbuddy*. Reading Eggs/Reading Eggspress is an online learning programme some classes are using to supplement their reading programmes.

These digital platforms are above and beyond the paper based resources we have used (and will continue to use).

Parent Donation – A voluntary donation of \$250 per family is asked of families. This can be paid as a one-off lump sum payment or instalments during the year.

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.



Term Dates – We are having 3 Staff Only days; Thursday 14 April (before Easter), Friday 3 June (before Queens birthday weekend) and Friday 19 August. School will not be open for students on these three days.

Activity Account – Parents are able to set up an ‘Activity Account’ to pay for trips or stationery during the year; no need to search the house for gold coins! We suggest starting with \$30. A spreadsheet is set up and when trips/shows come up, the amount is taken from the account. You will be sent a printout of what the money has been used on. If you wish to start one up, please deposit money into the school account (060561-0017355-00) with Activity Account as reference.



Pokeman Cards - Children have been told that Pokemon cards are to stay home. They have been the cause of conflict in the past and there are plenty of other lunchtime activities we would prefer children be involved in.

Taonga Horomata – Virtues: Whakaute - Respect

Respect is an overarching value at Otari School. Having respect for oneself, for others and for the environment is a constant expectation and children need to know what each of these “look like” in multiple situations. This term we are particularly focussing on virtues within the context of playing and working together.

“Respect is appreciation of the separateness of the other person, of the ways in which he or she is unique.” Annie Gottlieb



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

Issues and Concerns – We appreciate parents coming and talking to us when they have a concern. It is best to go to the teacher first if your concern is related to the classroom. For other concerns it may be appropriate to talk to a strand leader (Deborah, Wairere or Susan) or the Principal. We want to address an issue as quickly as possible rather than have you dwelling on a matter.

Emails and expectations - There are times when emails can be an appropriate and effective means of communication. However, last year the volume, timing and the tone of some emails were causes of concern and stress for staff at times. Too often emails were sent to staff late in the evening. We cannot stop this from occurring but we can manage ourselves and our responses. To support the well-being of all staff we now have a policy that no one is expected to respond to emails **after 5:30pm or during the weekend**. Therefore, while a teacher may *choose* to answer an email in the evening or at the weekend, please **do not expect it**. In terms of managing their own stress levels teachers have been advised to exercise self-discipline and avoid answering (or even looking at) their school emails after this time as well.

School begins at 8.55am. We finish at 2.55pm. If your child is late, please ensure they pop into the school office to advise of their attendance.

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. We have some lovely bright cheerful hats to sell from the school office for \$12.

Absent Children - If your child is going to be absent from school please either send a text to 022-561-3368, ring 475-3018 or send an email to office@otari.school.nz before 8.55am stating why your child is away.

Lunches - We have the following lunch options, ordered through **eZlunch** by [clicking here](#):

- Tuesdays – Sushi Wednesdays – Subway Fridays – Hell Pizza
- Thursdays – Nada Bakery through Luncheonline - <https://www.luncheonline.co.nz/>

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. Please be considerate of the residents who live in Shropshire Avenue and not park over their driveways.

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

Permission for Trips/Shows – When you enrol your child in the school you are asked to sign a document giving blanket permission for your child to attend trips or shows. You will be advised of events your child is participating in.

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.

External Lessons - The following lessons are held at school during the day:

- Keyboard lessons - Wgtn Music Academy admin@musicacademy.co.nz
- Guitar Lessons – Andres (contact@andresjensen.com)
- Marrzipan Drama lessons - [Enrolmy](#)

Have a great week everyone. A reminder that there is no school next Monday (7 February, Waitangi Day).

Ngā mihi
Clifford

2021 Term Dates

Term 1: Tues 1 Feb – Wed 13 Apr

Term 2: Mon 2 May – Fri 8 Jul

Term 3: Mon 25 Jul – Fri 30 Sept

Term 4: Mon 17 Oct – Wed 14 Dec

Teacher Only Days: 14 Apr, Fri 3 June, Fri 19 Aug

Notice from our onsite drama team:

Oh no. The evil Dr. Phineas P. Perti has turned Unicorns into food and is planning on taking over the world! How will Uni-tato get past the wicked 3-headed dog to save the world?!

Is your child shy? Do they feel intimidated by the idea of public speaking and performance? Do they sometimes find it difficult to make eye contact? Do they just need dedicated time per week to just be CRAZY?!

Come and join the revolutionary self-confidence programme - **Marrzipan!** We run awesome classes at schools, which focus on key life skills and public speaking ability. We play fun engaging games and perform at the end of term once to parents and once to the school. All scripts are original, engaging, educational and HILARIOUS. You can sign your child up for a **Trial Lesson** via our website www.marrzipandrama.co.nz.

Looking for a place to be yourself?
Always wanted to share your
super-silly-nut-bar-flavour energy
with the world?

You can at Marrzipan

Classes in social skills, positive
thinking and self belief for the
super-shy to the super-high!

SIGN UP FOR A TRIAL CLASS TODAY
www.marrzipandrama.co.nz

9 Classes including two showcases per term.
Maximum 10 students per 45 minute class.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

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WELLINGTON



Term 1 sewing
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levels

www.annalee.co.nz

KAT Theatre's Play-in-the-Park
**The Sleeping Beauty
Who Didn't**
by Thomas Barker
and Company

entry
by
Koha
(EFTPOS
available)

February
12 & 13
19 & 20
1:30 & 3:30

Khandallah Park
Bad weather? - go to
KAT Theatre Facebook page.

Did she wake in time
to save the kingdom
from a grasping
villain?

Bring the family and bring a picnic to find out what
happened when the princess didn't sleep for 100 years.



Does your child struggle to learn in a mainstream classroom?

Are they having challenges with friendships?

Do you think they need to develop some more self-esteem or purpose?

Level Up Learning is an after-school programme designed to help young people develop personal, interpersonal and study skills that are essential for not just surviving, but thriving, in their teen years and beyond.

Check out our website leveluplearning.nz or contact Tallulah for more details:

Phone 027 212 7614

Email info@leveluplearning.nz