

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

12 April 2022

Week 11, Term 1

## Kia ora koutou

**Covid-19 situation** – We only have one case in Tōtara with 4 children isolating. One staff member is isolating as a household contact. All other staff are back on deck.



**Attendance in Term 2 - Starting afresh!** As you can see our Covid-19 numbers have reduced significantly. We hope to see as many children as possible back at school next term. The ministry is sending a strong message that children need to be back at school, engaged in learning onsite and interacting with other students. Data from around the country shows that concern about attendance is justified. There are ministry people available to contact families if a school has ongoing concerns about individual students.

Over this term Otari School has taken an understanding approach as families dealt with the spread of Covid-19 throughout the community. However the time has come for a shift in expectation as we look towards term 2. Therefore, all students who are feeling well or not isolated at home due to being a household contact, are expected to be at school on day 1 of term 2.

**Teacher Only Day, Thursday 14 April** - This Thursday teachers will be focussing on planning for term two. They will be evaluating their programmes from the past term, updating records about student engagement and achievement in light of the forthcoming reporting that happens in term two and they will be planning how they will further address their professional development goals for this year. Teacher aides will also be meeting to discuss issues of relevance in relation to their challenging roles, including providing feedback on a draft code of conduct.



**Birthdays this week** and over the holidays - Happy Birthday - Rā whānau ki a koe.... Aditi Prasad, Edison Luty, Isabel Dods, Julieta Funes, Kahukura Sykes, Kieran Sorensen, Mikaere Ngati, Ruaariki Jones, Ruby Cottier, Wiremu Hakaraia and Evan Charles.



**Taonga Horomata/Virtues:** Purposefulness - Whakataranga

“The purpose of life is living a life of purpose”.

“He manako te i kōura i kore ai” - *Wishing for the crayfish won't bring it.*

**Purposefulness and knowing the purpose!** Being purposeful about our learning is the usual context we discuss this virtue in. However, purposefulness can also be something we explore in relation to cultural practices, observances and participation in traditional and religious events and activities.

At hui on Monday I talked about how festivals, holy days and special holidays have different meanings for different people. Despite this, each festival and holy day also has an *original* purpose as do the practices and symbols that pertain to them. Easter, Passover, Ramadan and Anzac Day are all being observed over this month. Later this week many children will eat hot cross buns and chocolate eggs, and behind these yummy treats there is an original purpose to the making of the buns and the gifting of the eggs, just as there is for the fasting that occurs during Ramadan and the foods eaten during passover and the red poppies worn by so many before and on Anzac Day. Knowing about the purpose behind traditions and symbols is interesting and informative. It also supports the virtues of understanding, tolerance, appreciation and respect.

The forthcoming weeks may be a time of reflection, contemplation, family togetherness or solitude, religious observance or connection with meaningful traditions, they may just be a time for chocolate indulgence and some cafe brunches, or they may be a combination of all of the above! Whatever the purpose or purposes are, we hope that the holidays bring you and your whānau enjoyment and refreshment.

Kia tau te rangimārie  
O te Rangi e tū iho nei  
O Papatūanuku e takoto nei  
Ote Taiao e awhi nei  
Ki runga i a tātou  
Tihei Mauriora

*May the peace  
Of the sky above  
Of the earth below  
And the all embracing universe  
Rest upon us all  
Behold it is life!*

**Ngā mihi nui  
Clifford**

**2022 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**



**City Libraries:**

**View Finders Photography Competition.** During the April school holidays, we're running **View Finders** – a photo competition for tamariki and rangatahi aged 5-18. You can submit your original photos across three categories – Nature, Whānau, and Objects or Books, and there are heaps of awesome prizes to be won. Plus, all submitted photographs will be entered into a special exhibition that will take place after the holidays at libraries and community spaces across the city. Entries can be submitted online, or dropped off at your local library. To find out more, and participate, visit [wcl.govt.nz/viewfinders](http://wcl.govt.nz/viewfinders). Special thanks to our friends at local photography business [Splendid Photo](#) for their support!

**The City Nature Challenge** - Are you keen to contribute to real scientific research while getting out in nature with your whānau and having a great time? We've got the perfect solution for you – this year, the City Nature Challenge is returning in style for a massive **Bioblitz** from Friday 29 April to Monday 2 May. In the lead up to the Bioblitz, park rangers and other experts (including a few librarians!) will be leading nature expeditions to good flora and fauna-spotting locations around the city. Visit [wgtn.cc/CNC2022](http://wgtn.cc/CNC2022) to keep up to date with all the events!

**ComicFest: Comicify Your Life.** What would your life look like if it were happening on the pages of your favourite comic book? In the lead up to **ComicFest** on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, we're running a competition for aspiring artists of all ages during the April school holidays. Draw yourself as a comic book superhero, villain, or just an ordinary 'comicified' human, and be in to win a bevy of sweet prizes, judged and announced by some of New Zealand's most talented artists. Entries can be submitted online, or dropped off at your local library.

To find out more, and participate, visit [wcl.govt.nz/comicifylife](http://wcl.govt.nz/comicifylife).

**Springboard Diving at Kilbirnie Pool** - Wellington Diving Club offer diving lessons for kids aged 6yrs+ to Adult sessions! Try something new - visit our website and register for a FREE 30min Trial Lesson in the school holidays or during term. After-school sessions available on Wed/Thurs and Saturdays - All levels welcome from beginners to competitive. FREE Community Diving sessions one Sunday per month during Term. T&C's apply. For more information, please visit our website [www.wellingtondiving.org.nz](http://www.wellingtondiving.org.nz) or call/text Barbara on 027 485 8888.



**Marrzipan Drama School Holiday Workshop** The Marrzipan Drama Holiday Workshop runs from 10am-4pm **Tuesday 26 - Friday 29 April**. Students will devise their own play from scratch, create characters, direct each other, design the set, bring in costumes and get to perform to family and friends at the end of the final day! Past workshops have been a great hit! As well as having fun, the children develop confidence and public speaking ability, in a fun, relaxed environment. Oh and did I mention games? Lots and lots of games! For more information check out our website or talk to Joshuwawa for more details! Spaces are limited so get in quick! **W:** [marrzipandrama.co.nz](http://marrzipandrama.co.nz) **E:** [wellington@marrzipandrama.co.nz](mailto:wellington@marrzipandrama.co.nz)



## Make a bucket load of difference

Please help collect for Mary Potter Hospice's Street Appeal on 19 & 21 May 2022



Can you spare an hour or two to help keep hospice services free for your community? We need volunteers to help collect funds around Wellington, Porirua and Kāpiti on Thursday 19 and Saturday 21 May 2022.

Find out more and sign up today at [marypotter.org.nz](http://marypotter.org.nz) or contact Phillip at [street.appeal@marypotter.org.nz](mailto:street.appeal@marypotter.org.nz)

A banner for the Mākara Beach Craft Market. It features a string of colorful bunting at the top. The text includes: 'THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH', '9AM - 2PM', 'MĀKARA BEACH CAFE', 'MĀKARA BEACH CRAFT MARKET', and 'UNIQUE · LOCAL · NZ MADE'. There is also an illustration of a market stall with various items.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

9AM - 2PM

MĀKARA BEACH CAFE

**MĀKARA BEACH CRAFT MARKET**

UNIQUE · LOCAL · NZ MADE