



Te Kura o Otari
Otari School

News

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Issue 35, Week 6, Term 4

School Disco – Friday 27 November, 5.30-8.30pm.

The theme is 'Out of this World'. This is a family event; food will be available to purchase from 5.30pm. Disco starts at 6.00pm. Tickets \$5 child or \$10 family are available from the office. Parents must supervise their children.

The Original Strand are organising this event. If you can help please contact Bronwyn: b.j.j.g@hotmail.com.

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to a new student and her family: Grace Friend (Kaikomako)

Kereru and Kakano are off to the Island Bay Marine Education Centre today as part of their topic studies. We hope they have a very enjoyable day.

Whitireia Performance - Last week the Immersion classes, along with Totara and Ngaio, attended a performance by performing arts students from Whitireia. Otari teachers and students are most appreciative to Cilla Noblett (Māori Immersion teacher) for arranging this opportunity for the strands to enjoy watching and participate in, such a high calibre of performing arts.

Western Zone Athletics - Last week Otari Students competed in the Western Zone athletic competition. This involved 10 schools. We sent 50 children to the event; the children listed below got placings. Six of these children will be going onto Interzone Athletics next week. Not a bad result for a school of our size! Thank you parents for your support. Well done all those who made it to the Western Zone competition and congratulations to the 10 place-getters. They are:

Short Sprint:	Mataira Wallace (2 nd)
Long Sprint:	Lauren Lautua - (3 rd)
High Jump:	Mathieu Clatin - (4 th)
Vortex:	Taimaania West (1 st), Katie Van Klei (2 nd), Sam Mastreani (1 st) & Heta Mako (3 rd)
Relays:	(3 rd) Mathieu Clatin, Matangi Sword, Aaron Beasley & Petera Williams

Strategic Planning Meeting - Last night the Board of Trustees had a special 'Strategic Planning Meeting'. Thank you for the survey responses that contributed to our goal setting. Over the next couple of months a new strategic plan will be drafted.

A few parents indicated they would like further in depth, face to face feedback. They will be contacted in the New Year regarding this.

Kapa Haka - Survey feedback has shown there are some misconceptions about kapa haka at Otari School. Parents who have the impression we only allow Māori or Māori Immersion students to participate in kapa haka are misinformed.

Throughout their time at Otari School children in the Montessori and Original strands have opportunities to participate in kapa haka. These opportunities include weekly kapa haka with the Immersion strand, participation in the Western Zone Kapa Haka Festival and kapa haka for special school performances. Non Māori and non Immersion children have also participated in the St Brigid's Kapa Haka Festival. There are also students from the Original and Montessori strands who start the day with karakia and waiata with the Māori Immersion Strand, who are happy to offer this experience for students from other strands.

Like any other cultural and performance area, opportunities depend on competing activities, events and availability of teaching expertise, therefore participation might not be the same every year. For example, the previous two years senior Otari students participated in the Western Zone Kapa Haka Festival and this year we were not able to.

We are most appreciative of the expertise Whaea Lynette, Whaea Parekohai and Whaea Katrina share with all of us.

We acknowledge that there are non Immersion parents who are keen for their children to be more involved in more kapa haka, and will continue to seek ways of making this possible.

Concerns - I am always willing to make myself available to meet with parents who have concerns, as are the teachers.

Guitar Lessons - Extra guitar rehearsals (for an end of year guitar concert) will held at 11am in the hall on Wednesdays for the next 3 weeks. Remember to bring your guitars to school tomorrow.

Helpers Morning Tea - The staff would like to invite our wonderful helpers to morning tea this Thursday at 10.30am. If you have helped in any way: music, fundraising, transporting, coaching, reading to children, mending resources, sorting, assisting in the classroom or numerous other ways, please come and join us.

Wgtn City Mission 'Pack The Bus' - The bus will be visiting us shortly. See the back page for a list of items they would like to collect. Items can be left in the school office.

Message from Hutt Valley Health - This is just a gentle reminder to check with parents that their children's asthma plans are up to date. It is important that all children who suffer from asthma do have an action plan from their G.P. and the schools are notified of the plan and have a copy. Also it may be timely to check that the children with anaphylaxis have an up to date plan and an EpiPen that is in date.

Te Taonga Horomata: Mahi Tohu. Our virtue is Mercy

Nothing inspires hope so much as a clean slate. When we have the humility to remember the countless mercies we receive throughout life, we find it in our hearts to show mercy to others. We offer the gift of our tenderness.

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Volunteers Morning Tea	Volunteers/staff	Thurs 19 Nov, 10.30am	
School Disco	Everyone	Fri 27 Nov, 5.30pm	
Wgtn City Mission 'Pack the Bus'	Everyone	Tues 1 Dec, 10.15am	
Year 8 outing and dinner	Yr 8s	Thurs 10 Dec	TBA
Year 8 farewell	Yr 7/8s & families	Tues 15 Dec	
Carols in the hall	Everyone	Wed 16 Dec	
End of term		Thurs 17 Dec, 12noon	

Ngā mihi nui
Clifford

*"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that".
Martin Luther King Jr*

Community Notices: (Please note these notices are passed on to us and are not necessarily an endorsement)

Kids Yoga with Bibi (from ages 5 to 12) Sundays 9.30am to 10.15am at the Beginner Yogi Studio in Marsden Village Karori. Bookings recommended as classes are restricted to 12 students. Cost is \$10 per child. For further information or to make a booking contact Vidhya at tovidhya@yahoo.com.

Bookings Now Open for Northland Kidz Club Summer Holiday Programme: 18, 21, 22, 23 December, January 5th to February 2nd. On our "out-and-about" exploring of the Wellington region, we'll be having tours of the Governor-General's residence (Government House), Nairn St Cottage and the Wright's Hill World War II Fortress in Karori. We'll be playing golf at Pirate's Cove, going ten-pin bowling and go-karting, playing laser tag, visiting Somes (Matiu) Island, swimming, and much more! \$45 per child per day (third child onwards, \$20), 8.30am to 6pm each day. For details, check out our website (www.nkc.org.nz), or contact Jan on cell (022-140-2612), e-mail (nkc.jan@gmail.com).

Marrzipan Drama Holiday Workshop runs from 10am-4pm Wednesday 13th-Friday 15th Jan. 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. We welcome any students from any school in Wellington- even if they haven't done Marrzipan before! Bring your cousin! Bring your neighbour! Come have a blast with Kay! For more information check out our website or give me a call! Spaces are limited to 12 per group so get in quick! W: marrzipandrama.co.nz E: kayla@marrzipandrama.co.nz M: 021 02645487.

Pack this Bus will visit school on Tuesday 1 December



**The Wellington City Mission has a special Christmas list for
*Pack the Bus:***

Christmas items:

Muesli Bars
Tinned Fruit
Jellies
Tinned Meat and Fish
Meals in a Can
Breakfast Cereals
Spreads: Jams, Peanut Butter, Vegemite
Fancy Biscuits and Confectionery

New Toys & Gifts: (new toys only please - and unwrapped)

Retail Vouchers
Event Vouchers: Movies, Zoo, Pool
Lego/Meccano
Art Equipment
Educational Books
Beach/Picnic/Water Toys
Puzzles
Outdoor Sports Gear
Board Games

Other:

Toiletries for the Whole Family