



Te Kura o Otari  
Otari School

News

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

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6 December 2016

Issue 37, Week 9, Term 4

Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

**"Tis the season..."** It is a busy time of year for everyone. The last two weeks are always particularly frenetic. There are end of year events, activities, meetings and administrative tasks. It is also a time when peace and goodwill can be somewhat tested! We want a calm, happy end of year and are doing extra morning tea and lunchtime duties and providing some different lunchtime activities to support this. For example, yesterday I took a group of year 7 and 8 students to Wilton Park. Only the boys wanted to come and most of them played rippa rugby. I was very impressed with the way they organised themselves and played together. Taking advantage of some good weather, opening up the PE shed and finding a bit of space works wonders - and the whole school benefits!

**Carols in the Hall - Thursday 15 December, 11am.** This is another event that helps us reach the end of the year in good spirits. It is an opportunity to dress up in Christmas or celebration theme and come together to sing some seasonal songs. We will be singing a variety of carols accompanied by the piano, band and recorded music. Everyone is welcome!

**Year 8 Farewell - Tuesday 13 December, 6pm.** Please ensure the year 7 and 8 students are at school by 5:50pm. They are to assemble around the back of the hall where the sheds are. This is a special occasion, one in which we celebrate our Yr 8 students and where they have an opportunity to share about their time at Otari School. The evening will also include performances.

**Reports** - End of year progress and achievement reports will be sent home on Monday 12 December.

**Stationery** requirements for 2017 can be found on the opening page of our website ([www.otari.school.nz](http://www.otari.school.nz)). You can either purchase the items through OfficeMax or print off the lists and purchase elsewhere. If that is the option you choose please do not buy cheap pencils and books - they just don't last.

***Te Taonga Horomata: Matatau. Our virtue is Humility***

*Humility is being modest, humble and unpretentious. We consider others' views and needs as important as our own. We willingly serve others and accept help when we need it. When we cause hurt, we have the humility to admit and make amends. We accept the lessons life brings, knowing that mistakes are often our best teachers.*

**Upcoming Events Calendar:**

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Yr 8s Outing/Dinner	Yr 8 students	Thurs 8 Dec	TBA
Yr 8 Farewell	Yr 7/8 families/students	Tues 13 Dec, 6pm	
Carol Singing	Everyone	Thurs 15 Dec, 11am	

Have a great week everyone. A reminder that term finish next Friday (16<sup>th</sup>) at 12 noon.

Ngā mihi nui  
Clifford

**Community Notices:** Check the website (under Notices/ Weekly Newsletters) for more community notices.

**Wanted to rent:** 3-4 bedroom house for family of four from mid-late December. Close to Otari School preferable. Please contact Meredith on 027 3831272 or email [meredithdyernz@gmail.com](mailto:meredithdyernz@gmail.com).

**Guitar Lessons** - Finn Johansson is returning to teach guitar in 2017 at Otari school. Finn has taught guitar to over 100 students over the last 7 years and holds a diploma in electric guitar tuition with the London College of Music. He's toured the world with bands as well as playing his own music. He teaches all styles, as well as songwriting and home recording. Slots fill up fast, so if you want lessons please email [astro\\_johansson@hotmail.com](mailto:astro_johansson@hotmail.com) expressing your interest.

**Raroa Music Centre** offers Saturday morning group music lessons for primary school children at low cost. Classes include choir, keyboard, recorder, drums, ukulele, guitar, violin, cello, clarinet, flute and trumpet. To enrol for 2017 visit our website at [www.raroamusic.org.nz](http://www.raroamusic.org.nz) and enrol online. Enrolments open in mid-January.

**For rent: Northland (Cheshire St) house available from 7<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Large sunny 4 bedroom house with expansive views over hills. Three spacious living areas, good indoor/outdoor flow onto large flat fenced lawn. Call Sarah on 04 297 9152 or 021 0232 9772 for further details and to arrange viewing.

**Term Dates 2017**

Term 1: Wed 1 Feb – Wed 12 Apr (school closed: TOD Thurs 13 April)

Term 2: Mon 1 May – Fri 7 July (school closed: Fri 2 June TOD & 5 June Queens Birthday)

Term 3: Mon 24 July – Fri 29 Sept

Term 4: Mon 16 Oct – Tues 19 Dec (school closed: Labour weekend: 23 Oct)



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