



Te Kura o Otari
Otari School

News

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

Phone: 475-3018

Email: office@otari.school.nz

Our bank account is: Otari School BOT 060561-0017355-00

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Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

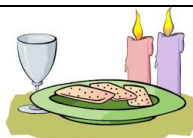
Health/Hauora Curriculum Consultation - Health education is the only part of the school's curriculum for which the law specifically requires the Board of Trustees to consult with the school's community once every two years. Our school curriculum has a Health and Physical Education Plan to meet the requirements to The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Maruatanga o Aotearoa. I have uploaded a folder containing this plan to our school website in the **Learning/Akoranga** section. Please look at it and email me (principal@otari.school.nz) any feedback you would like taken into consideration, before the Board formally adopt a statement on the delivery of this curriculum.

For context, I have included the New Zealand Curriculum objectives and Te Maruatanga o Aotearoa Objectives (in English and Te Reo Māori) which are also contained in our Otari School Curriculum. The consultation document is called **Health and PE Otari School Plan**. <http://www.otari.school.nz/21/folders/54-health-and-pe>

Added to Website - Also added to the **Learning/Akoranga** section is a folder containing 2018 curriculum reports. There are currently two that have been uploaded, one pertaining to 2017 National Standards results and the other to Ngā Whanaketanga results. The **assessment** section has been updated. I have added the 2018 School Charter in the **School/Kura** section.

Learning Hui - Thank you for taking the time to meet with your tamaiti and their kaiako last week.

Bake Sale - On Friday (6th) at lunchtime there will yummy cakes, muffins and brownies for sale. Bring your gold coins. Allergies catered for.



Celebrations and Festivals: Passover

At this time of year Easter is not the only religious festival being celebrated. The holiday of Passover is celebrated from sundown on March 30 through April 7, 2018. Passover is also called Pesach and is a Jewish festival that celebrates the exodus of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery in 1200s BC, as chronicled in the Old Testament book of Exodus. To anyone celebrating this festival we say "Sameach pesach!" "Happy Passover!"

2018 Lit Quiz. Otari has 2 teams entered this year, to be held at Samuel Marsden School, Karori on 11 April 2018.

Entertainment Books – We are selling the books again. Check out the following website:
<https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/about/flickbook/wellington>.

Te Taonga Horomata: Waihanganga-tanga. Virtue: Creativity

Creativity connects us to beauty of sound, design, colour, movement, ideas and words, and allows us to bring something new into the world. Creativity brings our gifts to fruition.

'Creativity is putting your imagination to work, and its produced the most extraordinary results in human culture. Ken Robinson

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Technology	Yr 7/8 students	22, 23 Mar, 5,6,12,13 Apr	\$50

Have a good week everyone. Don't forget the school holidays are looming; last day of term is Friday 13 April. School finishes at 2.55pm.

Ngā mihi nui
Clifford

2018 Term Dates

Term 1	Thurs 1 Feb	Fri 13 Apr	No School: Fri 30 March, Mon 2 Apr, Tues 3 Apr
Term 2	Mon 30 Apr	Fri 6 Jul	No School: Queens Birthday: Mon 4 June
Term 3	Mon 23 Jul	Fri 28 Sept	
Term 4	Mon 15 Oct	Tues 18 Dec	No School: Labour Weekend: Mon 22 Oct

Community Notices: (Please note: Notices are sent to us. They are not an endorsement)

Sunshine Drama provides a creative and fun learning space that engages imaginative minds, grows confidence & builds communication and performance skills. New Thursday afternoon classes Start in Term 2. Contact: Jenae 0274380533 to arrange a free trial class or visit www.sunshinedrama.co.nz to learn more about our classes.

The Pantaloons present "Snow White" at the Gryphon Theatre. An hilarious pantomime adventure! April 23-27, 10am & 11.45am. Tickets only \$12 from www.eventfinda.co.nz

The world's most beautiful sport- Rhythmic Gymnastics. Free trial classes. Rhythmic Gymnastics is a mix of dance and gymnastics. It develops strength, flexibility and hand-eye co-ordination through the use of apparatus – rope, hoop, ball, clubs and ribbon. We still have spaces available in our recreational classes for term two. Come along and try out our new badge programme. Your daughter will work through Levels 1 to 10 over time. We have classes available from Mon to Sat, min. numbers apply. Our classes are in Thorndon, just opposite the Botanical Gardens. If your daughter loves to dance and is looking for something a little different, then come along to a class and give it a try! Email info@rhythmicgym.nz to arrange a FREE trial. For more information about Elements and our classes, visit www.rhythmicgym.nz

BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWS

As your Board of Trustees we knew that 2018 was going to be busy and it turns out we were right! Below is an update of what we have been up to this term.

Governance: This term we have had 3 official Board meetings but were also involved in the ERO review which saw many of us here a number of times that week meeting with ERO and have been involved with review and follow up. The legislation that governs school Board of Trustees requires the Board to re-elect the Chair at the first meeting every year. I was re-elected Chair for 2018 and look forward to leading a highly engaged and committed Board this year. The Board comprises Natasha Kuka, Adrian Wagner, Rich Ford, Maria Borshevsky, Mike Mayne, Shani Leda, Clifford and myself. The ERO reviewers commented on more than one occasion that Otari School is very lucky with its committed Trustees. I agree with that sentiment!

Annual and Strategic Plan: We submitted our 2018 Annual Plan to the Ministry at the end of March. This year we will be consulting with the school community on the development of the 3 year strategic plan. Maria is leading the work on behalf of the Board to develop our consultation plan. We want to make sure we engage with as many of you as we can and will look to use existing whānau events such as Matariki to check in with you. Please look out for these opportunities as we really need your input.

Financial: The Board subcommittee (Natasha and Mike) work with Clifford and our fantastic long serving Accounts Service provider Alison Dyer to ensure we balance the books. It is not easy and requires difficult decisions but we are required to be financially prudent. Fundraising and school donations are a critical element of the school's financial picture. This year we are managing our roll such that we have secured some additional funding from the Ministry which Clifford will use in his usual very wise way but it doesn't get away from the need for donations to keep coming in and for fundraising opportunities to be well supported. The Board really appreciates everything you do for Otari's tamariki.

Property Update: The Hall is coming along nicely and we are working with the Ministry, our property consultants and architects in relation to the refurbishment of the Original Strand. Starting that project has been delayed by the Hall project as well as issues with costs. We are hardly in the "Grand Designs" category but we are working closely with the team to ensure that the teachers and students get the improvements they are seeking. Balanced against that is that builders are in demand and building costs are on an inexorable rise at the moment. Rich is leading the property work for the BoT but if there is anyone out there in the school community who has skills that would be useful (builder or building project management for example!) then please get in contact with Jillian in the office, we would love your support.

ERO: The ERO inspectors have been and gone. A huge amount of work has gone in behind the scenes to ensure that we were well placed for the visit. The reason many of us choose to send our children to Otari is because of its uniqueness. Whilst this is fantastic it does cause challenges for the Board and management as we cannot allocate limited resources in the usual way. One small example of this is if a classroom roll gets too big the usual approach would be to create two classrooms and move on. That doesn't quite work where there are three different strands with the usual ebb and flow that we see with the roll. I mention this as the uniqueness was the thing I observed ERO struggle with. Management of Otari School is by necessity more hands on than a conventional school. The Board is working with Clifford on responding to the draft report. There are some aspects of the report which we believe would benefit from being qualified by the context we work within. There are also some beautiful, affirming comments which we can rightly be proud of. The report will be released next term.

Our meetings are always open to the school community and you are welcome to attend. Next year will the School Trustee elections and I am sure there will be opportunities for the Board to be refreshed so if you are thinking about it and want to know what it is all about then come along.

Ngā mihi nui

Catherine Thompson