



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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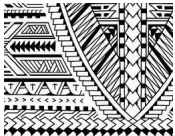
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29 May 2018

Issue 15, Week 5, Term 2

Talofa lava

Brrrrr! It has been a rather chilly start to the week! It is great to see so many children warmly winter attired.



Samoan Language Week

This week marks New Zealand Samoan Language Week and New Zealanders are being encouraged to learn a little of the pacific island's language this week. Le Gagana Samoa is the third most widely spoken language in New Zealand, behind English and Māori. In New Zealand over 77,000 people speak Samoan.

Greetings

Saying "hello" is as simple as mālō in an informal setting. The more formal ways to say this are:

- Talofa lava » Hello (polite)
- Mālō le soifua » Hello

To say goodbye, you can say:

- Tōfā soifua » Goodbye
- Toe feiloa'i » See you later
- Feiloa'i taeao » See you tomorrow

The word **manuia** is used to wish somebody well with anything at all and can be used to say goodbye as well.

- Manuia le taeao » Have a good morning
- Manuia le aso » Have a good day
- Manuia le afiafi » Have a good evening
- Manuia le pō » Have a good night

Manners

- Fa'amolemole » Please
- Fa'afetai » Thank you
- Fa'afetai tele lava » Thank you very much
- Tulou lava » Excuse me (used when passing in front of somebody)

Polite conversation

- 'O ā mai 'oe? » How are you?
- Manuia fa'afetai » Fine thank you (most common response)
- Manuia fo'i fa'afetai » Fine also thank you
- Feoloolo » Not so good

Leaving Us - This week we farewell Natasha Evans, who has been a wonderful teacher aide in Totara class. Natasha is going to an educator position at the Botanic Gardens. We wish her all the best in this role.

Education Review Report - According to our correspondence with ERO the review should be published on their website now. I have not been able to locate it yet, however the final report is verified, therefore we will proceed with publishing sections in the newsletter each week.

I will publish a section of the ERO report and provide further commentary that expands on the findings, provides more context, our views on some of the findings and the actions we are undertaking to address identified areas.

Education Review Report:

1 Equity and Excellence – Valued Outcomes For Students

1.1 How well is the school achieving equitable and excellent outcomes for all its students?

Reported achievement data for 2017 in the Original and Montessori strands, shows that most students achieve well in reading and mathematics. By the end of Year 8 this is particularly evident. Writing achievement is generally not as high.

The school has yet to achieve equity for all Māori children in reading, writing and mathematics. Addressing disparity for boys in reading and writing is an ongoing priority. Pacific children's achievement is comparable to their peers in reading and writing. The school has some further work to do for these students to experience equitable outcomes in mathematics.

Māori Immersion Strand achievement data shows that in 2017, most students achieved well in pāngarau and kōrero and a large majority in pānui and tuhituhi. Overall, student achievement is higher across all subjects compared to 2016. There is, however, disparity for girls particularly in pāngarau compared to boys.

Leaders have identified that raising achievement levels in writing for all is a priority.

1.2 How effectively does this school respond to those Māori and other students whose learning and achievement need acceleration?

The school has yet to have a sustained upward trajectory of improved achievement for those students whose learning and achievement need acceleration. The school can show improvement for some students in reading, writing and mathematics.

Commentary on Equity and Excellence findings 1:1 and 1:2

Current Actions:

All students who are not achieving at the expected curriculum level are identified at the start of the year. Teachers meet in their strands to discuss the needs of these children and how they will be addressed. There is a range of intervention programmes, including when possible, extra teaching sessions. We focus on these students, prioritise their needs and liaise with whānau to address them. We are pleased ERO acknowledge that by year 8 most children are achieving at expectation. It is also gratifying the overall good achievement in the Māori Immersion Strand is acknowledged.

Priority learners are identified in all key learning areas and needs are being addressed through the classroom programmes. Like previous years, I will be receiving an update about all these students later this term.

Our View:

Achieving equity is a worthy goal and teachers are integral to it being met. Sufficient resourcing and funding is also necessary and multiple factors that impact on achievement need to be addressed as well. When discussing this with ERO I expressed the view that schools cannot bear the sole responsibility for achieving this equity.

Further Context:

The disparity in achievement between boys and girls in literacy that ERO write about is based on National Standards data. 91% of girls achieved at or above and 73% of boys. However this data included students receiving extra funding due to their specific learning needs, of which there were significantly more boys (10% of boys as opposed to 1% of girls). When these students are not included in the data the results are 82% of boys achieving at or above and 92% of girls. This is still a 10% difference, however good results overall. It is important to provide the same context to parents that we provided to ERO, despite this not being reflected in the final report.

Of the 10 students in the Māori Immersion strand assessed as not meeting the curriculum expectation in Pāngarau, 8 are girls, thus the disparity in Pāngarau.

Writing/Tuhituhi achievement was not as high as other areas, a picture that is reflected in the nationwide achievement. Our results showed that 70% of students were achieving at or above in writing and 72% at or above in tuhituhi.

Follow Up Action:

ERO advised us to select a group of students from all of the students whose achievement needs acceleration, who we think will make more than 1 years progress if they are provided with intervention strategies. We are particularly focusing on writing and pānui for these students and documenting their progress. We will also graph this progress so that the Board can see if there is an upward trajectory of improved achievement by the end of the year.

Cross Country and Fun Run - Fingers crossed that the weather will be okay for our school cross country and fun run tomorrow. Parent and whānau are very welcome to come and support their children. Below is an outline of the various routes. You are welcome to

wait at any point along the way or at the finish line through the school waharoa. The Year 5-8 Cross Country races will run first starting with the Year 8s at 1pm. The Year 4 Cross Country and fun run will not start before 1.45pm.

Y7/8 Cross Country - Starting at the corner of Curtis Street and Wilton Road. Children will run along Wilton Road to Wilton Park, run round the park three times, back up the ramp and then back to school running down the drive to finish through the waharoa.

Y5/6 Cross Country - Starting at Ian Galloway Park (opposite Cardinal McKeefry). Children will run along Wilton Road to Wilton Park, run round the park two times back up the ramp and then back to school running down the drive to finish through the waharoa.

Y4 Cross Country and Y3-8 Fun Run - Starting by the school hall. Run up the school drive, along Wilton Road to Wilton Park, down the ramp and around the park one time, back up the ramp and then back to school running down the drive to finish through the waharoa.

Y1/2 Fun Run - Starting by the school hall. Run up the school drive, along Wilton Road to Wilton Park, down the ramp, up the steps and then back to school running down the drive to finish through the waharoa.

Chocolate - Please start sending in the money for the sold chocolate. There is 5 boxes left to sell; please let Jillian know if you can take another one.

Queen's Birthday Weekend - A reminder that there is no school on Monday 4 June.

Entertainment Books are available from the school office or a digital version is available. Check the following website: www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/about/flickbook/wellington.

Trains - We received the following information from Greater Wellington Regional Council: ***Near Misses with School Children on Train Tracks.** There have been some near misses recently involving children crossing train tracks before and after school. They all have one thing in common: children aren't expecting a "second train". In all of these recent near misses, bells and lights have still been operating, but because the first train has passed, students make the mistake of thinking it's safe to cross. This can be extremely dangerous as the track crossings in areas with double tracks **always** have the potential for a second train to pass. This link shows footage of one near miss:*

*<https://www.facebook.com/TrackSAFENZ/photos/a.154551947888305.28634.154539751222858/1833540026656147/?type=3&theater>. As well as looking and listening before crossing, please make it clear to children that if bells and lights are going, it's because a second train could be coming and it's **not safe to cross**. Thank you for your support in getting this safety message out to children. For more information about safe behaviour around tracks and trains, see Tracksafe.co.nz.*

Te Taonga Horomata: Harikoa. Virtue: Joyfulness

Joyfulness is an inner wellspring of peace and happiness. It is beyond ordinary happiness because it is not an occasional emotional reaction to luck or circumstances. It is a deep sense of wellbeing that fills us with delight and hope. We appreciate the gift of life and savour its richness.

"Joy gives us our wings! In times of joy our strength is more vital, our intellect keener and our understanding less clouded. We seem better able to cope with the world and to find our sphere of influence." Abdu'l Baha

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
School Cross Country	All students	Wed 30 May	
Onslow College Visit	Yr 8 students	Thurs 7 June, 11am	
WZ Cross Country	Selected students	Tues 12 June	
School Photos	All Students	Wed 27 June	
School Disco	Everyone	Fri 29 June	TBA
NZ Playhouse	All students	Tues 24 Jul	\$5.00

Have a good long weekend everyone. See you back here on Tuesday 5 June.

Ngā mihi nui
Clifford

2018 Term Dates			
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	Mon 17 Dec	No School: Labour Weekend: Mon 22 Oct

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

Nanny/child carer looking for work in the July school holidays (Week 2). Our old child minder, Jess, is looking for at least 30 hours a week work for week two of the July school holidays. I can highly recommend her, she looked after our two, Sylvie and Nathan for over two years while at Vic Uni. She's sensible, imaginative, reliable, smart and fun for the kids. If you need someone, or would like to job-share with another family, please don't hesitate to contact: Jillian 021 255 0956

Sunshine Drama provides a creative and fun learning space that engages imaginative minds, grows confidence & builds communication and performance skills. Our new Karori evening class for 11-13 years, starts Thursday, 7th June. This is a 4 week block course for \$40. In Term 3, these classes will run for nine weeks. Contact Jenae Ryan 0274380533 to or visit www.sunshinedrama.co.nz.

Marsden School Year 9 Information Evening - Samuel Marsden Collegiate School is holding their Year 9 Information Evening on Wednesday 6 June at 7pm, Marsden School, Marsden Ave, Karori. The evening will cover Year 9 programmes and activities and day to day life at Marsden. To register please visit marsden.school.nz/experience.

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 (we have contact numbers on there too, should you prefer to talk to a human!)