



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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Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

**School Wide Professional Development** - This year all strands have been involved in Digital Learning professional development. This has been accessed through the Ministry of Education and facilitated by Kathe Tawhiwhirangi. Two or three times a term Kathe spends a day at our school working one on one with teachers and delivering whole staff meetings. We share progress of our own digital learning journeys, increase our knowledge and understandings and identify school wide priorities to pursue.

Teachers and children are benefitting from the PLD. We are using the e-Learning Planning Framework to help us measure our digital fluency. This framework is a "road map" that helps us to identify where we are in terms of our digital capabilities within a range of contexts. It enables us to identify the practical steps we can take to improve our practices. The framework provides processes and practices that have proven to be very effective in lifting school wide e-Learning capability.

Phases in the e-Learning Planning Framework move from "Emerging" through to "Empowering". These phases describe how digital technologies are integrated into teaching and learning within each dimension of the framework. Further information about the e-Learning Planning Framework can be found here:

<http://elearning.tki.org.nz/Professional-learning/e-Learning-Planning-Framework>

A significant development in relation to integrating digital technology for teaching and learning has been the purchasing of a screen for every classroom. The screens are all fitted with Chromecast. The screens are being used effectively to enhance the delivery of our curriculum.

**e-Learning Agreements** - This term children will be bringing home an e-Learning agreement. Before they do this, teachers will be going through the agreement with the children so that they understand fully what the agreement entails in relation to the e-Values they will be expected to uphold.

**Potential Strike Action** - On Wednesday 15 August primary school principals and teachers may be taking strike action. It is important parents/caregivers are aware of the possibility that school will be closed on this day. Further information will be forthcoming once all votes for strike have been counted and a decision made.

**School Cellphone** - Thank you to the many parents who has sent their cellphone number to the new school phone. If you have not yet done so, please text your name and number to 022 561 3368.

**2019 Term Dates** - The 2019 term dates have been confirmed; see end of newsletter.

**Scholastic Books** - Book orders need to be to the office by next Wednesday (8<sup>th</sup>).

**Yummy Fruit Stickers** - Please keep collecting stickers or cut out the label on the plastic bags. Sheets can be downloaded from: <http://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/schoolstickerpromo>  
We have until the end of September to collect as many as possible.

***Te Taonga Horomata: Mahi Tika. Virtue: Optimism***

*Optimism is a positive, cheerful outlook. When we are optimistic, we are hopeful even when others have lost faith. We believe that good has the power to prevail over evil. We do not allow ourselves to be victimised by set backs or losses. We embrace challenges with confidence and vitality. We are solvers, not complainers.*

*"The optimist sees the rose and not its thorns; the pessimist stares at the thorns, oblivious of the rose." Kahlil Gibran*

"What day is it?" asked Pooh.  
"It's today," squeaked Piglet.  
"My favourite day," said Pooh."  
— A.A. Milne



**Upcoming Events Calendar:**

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Vision/Hearing Testing	New Entrants	Thurs 9 Aug, 9.15am	
Board meeting		Mon 13 Aug, 7.00pm	
Scholastic Book Fair	Everyone	Wed 29 - Fri 31 Aug	
Orange Day Parade	School Patrollers	Fri 7 Sept	
WZ Netball Tournament	Selected students	Tues 11 Sept	
Parent Interviews	Parents/Caregivers	17, 18, 19 Sept	

Have a great week everyone.

Ngā mihi nui  
Clifford

2018	Start	End
Term 3		Fri 28 Sept
Term 4	Mon 15 Oct	Mon 17 Dec, 12noon
2019 Term Dates		
Term 1	Thurs 7 Feb	Fri 12 Apr
Term 2	Mon 29 Apr	Fri 5 Jul
Term 3	Mon 22 Jul	Fri 27 Sept
Term 4	Mon 14 Oct	Fri 20 Dec

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

**Spaces at Montessori at Otari Preschool** - Please let family and friends know that at present we have a few spaces available at Preschool. This is rare, so be in quick. Phone 475-9688.

**Yoga for kids aged 6 to 12 at Otari School** – I have been teaching yoga internationally and locally for over 15 years and love seeing the children explore the ancient science of Hatha Yoga with it's many postures! Teaching yoga to the youngest generation gives kids an opportunity to grow a deeper body awareness and let's them understand how they change as they become more familiar with the practice of yoga. Hatha yoga helps them with concentration, increases mobility and strength and aids emotional well-being. Parents to can feel a difference in their child when they practice yoga. Bibi is also the author of "Aristotle's Journey into happiness - Yoga for children and the young at heart". For interest please email: [bibibibiworld@gmail.com](mailto:bibibibiworld@gmail.com) or send a text to 021 101 3756. Every Thursday from 3:15pm to 4:10pm. Suitable for ages 6 to 12. Term \$100 (sibling discount \$95) - trial class \$12.

**St Mary's College Open Evening** - Thursday 2nd August, 5pm-6.30pm. All welcome!

**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](http://www.marrzipandrama.co.nz) (we have contact numbers on there too, should you prefer to talk to a human!)

**Community Swimming Sports** - We want to see all children in our community participate in swimming and have a positive attitude towards swimming. Knowing that a few schools locally don't run school swimming sports, we have set up a community swimming sports event on August 12th 1.30pm at Cannons Creek Pool. This event is open to those year 4 – 6 children from schools that don't run swimming sports. Easyswim has significant experience running these events and our swimming sports events are designed with this in mind and to be fun and appropriately challenging for each child. It does not matter what your child's swimming ability is, as we will have some non-stroke events mixed in to ensure all kids have a go and are involved. So feel free to share this information with your friends to support the event. It's important to note this event is open to everyone, so you don't need to be an Easyswim customer to attend. For an information sheet or to book your child contact us on 2347946 or email [book@easyswim.co.nz](mailto:book@easyswim.co.nz).

**Scouting** - Does your child love the outdoors and learning new things? Northland Scout Group are welcoming both boys and girls to be new keas (age 5-7), cubs (age 8-10.5), or scouts (age 10.5-14). Also, have you considered becoming a Scout leader? This is a rewarding way to learn new skills, pass on your own skills, go on exciting adventures and get involved with your local community. Please contact [Rob@Wallace.gen.nz](mailto:Rob@Wallace.gen.nz) or see [www.facebook.com/NorthlandScouts](http://www.facebook.com/NorthlandScouts) for more information.