



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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14 May 2019

Issue 13, Week 3, Term 2

Board Elections – Nomination forms were sent last week; they need to be returned to Jillian by noon next Wednesday (24 May).

Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

We are looking forward to the cross country and fun run this afternoon.

Consider standing for the BoT - We have received one Board of Trustee nomination. With a week to go we are hoping that there will be a few more received before next Wednesday! I encourage you to bring your skills and be involved in the governance of your child's school. Over the years I have been fortunate to work with people who have strengths and experience in financial management, property and building, community consultation, policy writing, fundraising, education, tikanga Māori and te reo Māori and Montessori knowledge. With these combined abilities much has been achieved throughout the years for the benefit of our school. Please consider a role in school governance and contribute significantly to the ongoing success of Te kura o Otari.

Literacy Quiz - Otari School teams acquitted themselves very well last week at the Wellington Primary Schools' Literacy Quiz. Over 50 schools took part. Both Otari teams did well and we congratulate all participants. Our A team were particularly successful. The top ten results out of 100 were:

Papakowhai A: 87

Tawa Int: 87.5

Seatoun B: 83

Karori Normal B: 82

Queen Margaret A: 82

Raroa Int B: 82

South Wellington Int: 82

Otari A: 81

Samual Marsden Whitby: 81

Karori Normal A: 80.5

Well done, Kohurangi Jones for winning a spot prize and knowing the author of "Anne of Green Gables!" (Lucy Maud Montgomery). Thank you Johanne for all your work with the children, your encouragement and organisation for the event.

Strike Action - During paid union meetings between 6-10 May 2019, primary teacher and principal members voted overwhelmingly to hold a day of joint strike action with secondary teachers on 29 May. Despite some misleading information to the contrary, the current offer **will not** provide teachers with a “\$10 000” increase in salary. It is an offer of 9% **over three years**, therefore 3% a year until 2021. The starting salary for a teacher, depending on qualifications, ranges from \$36,000 to \$54,000 (most would be starting around \$48,000) and the top salary a teacher can progress to is between \$59,000 and \$76,000, with the majority reaching \$70,000 after working for 8 years. A 9% pay increase offer over three years certainly does not equate to “most teachers being offered a \$10,000 pay increase.” Pay is part of the picture, however. As well as asking for a significant pay increase for both teachers and principals (16%) the original claim from NZEI includes the following:

Teachers:

- Introducing staffing and resourcing for every school to have a SENCO (Special Education Needs Co-ordinator)
- Doubling the amount of CRT (Classroom Release Time) available to teachers and renaming it ‘professional practice time’
- Increase professional leadership staffing to allow more release for teachers in leadership positions
- Reduce curriculum staffing ratio to reduce class size and allow for more teachers to share workload
- Increasing the number of resource teacher positions nationally
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Principals:

- Introducing staffing and resourcing for every school to have a SENCO
- Ensure every school has a minimum 2 FTTE staffing
- Increase professional leadership staffing to allow more release for principals and other leaders
- Reduce curriculum staffing ratio for years 4-8 from 1:29 down to 1:25 to reduce class size and allow for more teachers to share workload.

If there is no breakthrough in negotiations, teachers from Otari School will be joining their colleagues for strike action on 29 May. A formal notice from the Board of Trustees will be provided before then.

Pink Shirt Day is on Friday (not last week!). Join the movement to stop bullying and spread aroha/kindness! Help us turn Aotearoa into a sea of pink this Pink Shirt Day to Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying! Anyone can celebrate Pink Shirt Day. Celebrated annually around the globe, Pink Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007 when two students took a stand against homophobic bullying, after a peer was bullied for wearing a pink shirt. In Aotearoa, Pink Shirt Day aims to create schools, workplaces and communities where all people feel safe, valued and respected.

Chocolate – Many thanks to everyone who is selling chocolate. Boxes are \$72.00; payment can be made to our bank account (060561-0017355-00) or cash sent to the office.

Yummy Stickers – We are collecting stickers from Yummy apples (& Yummy plastic bags). The more we collect the more free sports equipment we receive. Sticker collection sheets can be downloaded from https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/SSP-pdf_Sticker_Collection_Sheet_compressed.pdf.

Te Taonga Horomata: Kaha. Virtue: Strength

Strength is the inner power to withstand whatever comes. It is our capacity to endure in the midst of tests. We grow in strength as we tackle life's challenges with courage and determination. We deepen in strength when we choose gentleness and practice patience.

'Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, vision cleared, ambition inspired and success achieved.' Helen Keller

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
WZ Cross Country	Selected Students	Tues 21 May	
Yr 8 Immunisations	Yr 8s	Fri 31 May	
Trip to Te Papa	Ngaio/Pohutukawa	Thurs 6 June	TBC
WZ Hockey	Selected Students	Tues 11 June	
Technology for term 2	Yr 7 & 8s	21, 28 June & 5 July	
Parent Teacher Updates	Parents/Teachers	1,2,3 July	
Yr 7 Immunisations	Yr 7s	Tues 2 July	

Have a great week everyone.

Ngā mihi nui
Clifford

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

Need a Netball Umpire - Hi, my name is Tyler, I am an ex-Northland school student. I am in Year 9 at WGC and I completed the Kiwi Whistler Umpiring course and worked for Kelly Sports over summer. I am keen to umpire over the winter season this year, please contact me if you need an umpire. I am playing also at Hataitai courts so times may clash sometimes. Tyler 021 08866811

Blue Dragon Book Fair - Ngaio Town Hall - Saturday 25 May 2019 - 9am to 4pm. Do join us. We would love you to come and buy books, DVDs and CDs. Children's books are \$1, adult books are \$3 (\$2 each, after the first five books purchased). All proceeds (about \$14,000 last year) will go to the Blue Dragon Children's Foundation, which helps to break the poverty cycle for Vietnam's poorest children. This includes street kids, children with disabilities, children from rural families living in extreme poverty, and victims of human trafficking and slavery. If you have books, DVDs or CDs to donate, please contact Dinah Dobson, trustee, on 475 7371 or 027 686 4554.

TechWeek Marsden Innovation Series – speaker Victor Huang. Monday 20 May, 8.15am – 9.30am, entry at Marsden School Main Reception, Marsden Ave, Karori. On Monday 20 May the Series features Victor Huang, all-round technology and social entrepreneur, animator, fashion photographer, game maker, product designer and film director. Victor will inspire with his creativity, aptitude with technology along with his entrepreneurial spirit. During his eleven years at Weta Digital, Victor was a recipient of the Visual Effects Society Award recognising his work on The Hobbit and he has most recently completed work on Avengers: Endgame. Visit the Marsden School website for more details, please rsvp to rsvp@marsden.school.nz

Marsden School Year 10-13 production of Godspell. 21-24 May, 7.30pm, Marsden Auditorium, Marsden Ave, Karori. The narrative centres around a group of philosophy students who gather together on the familiar tiles of Cuba St to debate the existence of a God. Cue Jesus, who has come to spread an important message. Jesus enlists the help of the young philosophers to enact a series of parables from the gospel of Matthew. The prodigal son, the sheep and goats, the adulteress and the Pharisees all have a part to play in drawing together this community. The group eventually comes to understand a shared vision - that together we can create a world of kindness, tolerance and love. Tickets on sale now: Adults \$20 / Students \$16, see the Marsden School website to purchase yours.