

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

4 February 2020

Issue 1, Week 1, Term 1

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to the 2020 school year.

We have a number of new students and whānau to welcome to Otari School.
Nau mai haere mai ki:



Elliott Papion	Kākano	Chiara Guarino	Tōtara
Grace Cottier	Kākano	Alyssa Guarino	Kākāriki
Ella Hiscoke	Kākano	Ruby Cottier	Kākāriki
Joshua Hiscoke	Kākano	Teina Tawhai-Lawson	Kākāriki
Luke Tangaere	Kākano	Zane Tawhai-Lawson	Kākāriki
Sienna Luatua	Kākano	Daniel Gordon	Pohutukawa
Atair Ounei-Encina	Kākano	Irirangi Hema	Pohutukawa
Tamati Pearson	Kōwhai	Leonard Landgraf	Pōhutukawa
Mākarā Milner	Kōwhai	Eloise Gordon	Pohutukawa
Tumoana Piripi	Kōwhai	Maia Clay-Petersen	Kaikomako
Tokomaia Edwards	Kōwhai	Alexander Bull	Ngaio

Welcome back to all our staff. We also welcome Catherine Hope (teaching in the Montessori strand) and our new student teacher, Georgia Griffiths, working in Kererū.

Staffing for 2020 Below is a list of all the staff and their roles:

Clifford Wicks , Principal	Susan West , Deputy Principal, Teacher (Kākāriki), SENCO, Original Strand leader
Api Nathan , Teacher (Kaikōmako) Assistant Principal, Immersion Strand Leader	Johanne Wicks , Teacher (Tōtara) and Library Management
Britta Martini , Teacher (Kākano), Reading Recovery Teacher	Deborah Sorensen , Teacher Ngaio, Montessori Strand leader,
Lynette Franklin , Teacher (Kōwhai)	Sacha Fell , Teacher (Kererū)
Glenise Ward , Teacher (Tūi)	Paula Crisp Teacher (Pōhutukawa)
Shani Leda , Support Teacher	Cilla Noblett , Support Teacher CRT (Immersion)
Christine Dowell , Support Teacher	Kathy Heath , Reading Recovery Teacher
Jenny Price , Specialist Teacher	Catherine Hope Support Teacher
Nichole Craig , Support Teacher	Alan Ward , Caretaker
Jillian Wilson , Office Manager	Katrina Murray , Teaching Assistant
Parekohai Wells , Kaiarahi-i te-Reo	Emile Guy , Teacher Aide
Sandi McKenzie-Edwards , Teacher Aide	Eli Markaida Ituino , Teacher Aide
Kanae Tsuji , Teaching Assistant	Deanne Grigsby , IT Support
Rebecca MacKenzie-Pollock , Specialist Teacher & Teacher Aide	Hilary Eats , Librarian
Alison Dyer , Accounts Service Provider	Mike Heath , Volunteer
Claire Rumble , Resources Manager	

No School - A reminder there is **no school on Thurs 6 February** but we are back on Friday 7 February.

Meet and Greet Evenings - I encourage all parents to attend the meet and greet afternoons each strand will be hosting over the next couple of weeks. The Original Strand's will be on this Friday (7th) 2.30-4pm in front of Kakariki/Kākano.

Taki Rua show – On **Tuesday 10 March**, Taki Rua will be putting on a performance for the whole school. **The cost is \$4 per child.**

School Picnic - We are starting our EOTC week with a picnic at Wainuiomata Pool on **Wednesday 11 March**. This is an opportunity for strands to get together and enjoy a relaxing day with the children celebrating our whanaungatanga and the start of the new school year. Parent help with some supervision is appreciated (please see the slip at the end of the newsletter). We will leave school at 9.15am and return by 2.45pm. All whānau are encouraged to come and enjoy the day. All children are to travel by bus; there will be room for about 20 parents on the bus; first in gets the seat. **The cost for the day is \$10.00 per child.**

St John's are visiting from 17-19 February running workshops with all children. **The cost is a gold coin donation.**

Global Day of Play - Otari School is participating in the Global Day of Play, however later than the actual International event, which is tomorrow. Our Day of Play will take place on Thursday 20 February. Educators from 50+ nations and 10,000+ classrooms are participating in this event to bring awareness of the importance of unstructured play for the healthy development of every child. We will provide more information about how this day will “look” at Otari, but in the meantime you might like to check out this website. <https://www.globalschoolplayday.com/>

Ngā Taonga Horomata / Virtues: A new approach - This year we are adopting a new approach to teaching the virtues. Instead of focussing on one virtue we will be focussing on 4 overarching contexts or kaupapa that are particularly relevant to social and emotional development and a range of virtues that we need in relation to these.

The 4 kaupapa we are focussing on over the year are:

- Playing and Working Together
- Working and Learning
- Communicating with others
- Ourselves, our space and our community

Each kaupapa will be visited twice.

For the next five weeks we will be focussing on fostering the key virtues that will **help children relate to their peers as they play and work together**. The virtues we will be exploring are:

- Cooperation - Mahi Tahī
- Caring - Manaaki
- Forgiveness - Muruhara
- Detachment - Wehenga Kē
- Trust - Whaka-ae-tika
- Loyalty - Pūmau, Ngākau Pone
- Truthfulness - Whakaata-pono
- Friendliness - Whakahoahoa
- Respect/Whakaute - *for others, self and environment* (This will be a focus virtue for all kaupapa.)

Our quotes in the newsletter will reflect the kaupapa and/or the focus virtues.

Western Zone Cricket and Football - There are two Western Zone sports event coming up this term for Year 5-8 children for which we will need parent volunteers to help supervise and/or umpire teams.

Cricket - Tuesday 25 February (pp 27th)

Football - Tuesday 24 March (pp 26th)

If you are able to help can you please contact Sacha (sacha@otari.school.nz). Any parents or whānau who are interested in helping with any sporting events/skills throughout the year please feel free to contact Sacha. Your input would be much appreciated.

Immunisation Forms for Yr 7/8 – Students will be coming home with permission forms . Please fill in and return by this Friday. Even if you do not want your child immunised, we still need a signed form returned.

Code Club - We will be having a Code Club again this year for children in Years 4-8. This is likely to begin in week 3 or 4 and will be on a Monday afternoon. We aim to cater for all skill levels. Further information will be in later newsletters. If you have any questions or are able to help please contact Sacha sacha@otari.school.nz.

Technology for Year 7 and 8s begins in week 9. Students are taken by bus, leaving school at **8.40am**, to the Technology Centre at Karori West School. Clifford will be the teacher accompanying them. Children take their morning tea with them, as they don't return to Otari until lunchtime. If your child misses the bus, please take them to Karori West yourself. **The cost for each student for Technology for the year is \$50.00 payable to Otari School.**

Swimming Lessons – No decision has been made at this stage. More to follow.

Flowers and Greenery will be needed for the junior syndicate to make flower displays for the Wadestown/Wilton Horticultural Summer show on Saturday 15 February. Please deliver to junior classes next Friday (14th) morning. Please raid your gardens for anything you can spare. Many thanks.

Lost Property - Please make sure you name your child's clothing! This is very helpful if items are left around the school.

Parent Donation – A voluntary donation of \$250 per family is asked of families. This can be paid as a one-off lump sum payment or instalments during the year (our bank account is 060561 0017355 00).

Classroom Consumables – As shown on the stationery list, students are required to pay \$10 to cover classroom consumables for the year. A donation of \$10 for photocopying/printing/photography would also be appreciated.

Costs - Here is a summary of the upcoming costs required:

- Technology for Yr 7/8 - \$50.00
- School Picnic - \$10.00 per child
- St John's visit – gold coin donation
- Taki Rua production - \$4 per child
- Class Consumables - \$10.00 per child
- Maths Buddy for Years 3-8 - \$14.00 per child
- Educa (Montessori Strand only) - \$4 per child
- Donation: Parent Donation \$250 per family
- Donation: Photocopying/printing contribution \$10 per child

Term Dates – A reminder that we are having 2 Staff Only days; Friday 29 May and Friday 23 October. School will not be open for students on these two days.

Here are a few reminders, especially for our new parents:

Issues and Concerns – We appreciate parents coming and talking to us when they have a concern. It is best to go to the teacher first if your concern is related to the classroom. For other concerns it may be appropriate to talk to a strand leader (Deborah, Api or Susan) or the Principal. We want to address an issue as quickly as possible rather than have you dwelling on a matter.

Emails can also be an appropriate means of communicating and sometimes can be quickly addressed. However, nothing beats a conversation if you are really worried about something. The school has a mobile phone (022 561 3368), which can be used to let us know your child is not attending school.

School begins at 8.55am. We finish at 2.55pm.

Hats are compulsory in terms one and four. If children do not have a hat they must stay in the shade. The hats must have a brim that covers ears and neck. Caps are not suitable. We have hats to sell from the school office for \$12 (only green and yellow available in small size).

Absent Children - If your child is going to be absent from school please either send a text to 022-561-3368, ring 475-3018 or send an email to office@otari.school.nz before 8.55am stating why your child is away.

Lunches – We have three choices:

- Sushi is available on Tuesdays, ordered online at <http://www.ezlunch.co.nz>
- Pita Pit is available on Thursdays, ordered online at www.lunchonline.co.nz
- Hell Pizza is available on Fridays. Order slips can be found at the office (\$5 each).

Driveway - Parents are asked to refrain from parking at the bottom of the driveway between 8.15 – 9.30am and 2.45 – 3.30pm. Parents are to 'drop and go' only. Please do not park up or down the drive and leave your car. The Otari Bush Reserve (around the corner) is available for temporary parking, or park on Wilton Road. Please be considerate of the residents who live in Shropshire Avenue and not park over their driveways.

Cookies are sold from the office at morning tea for \$1.30.

School Closure - Should the school need to be closed due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. bad weather) the following will occur:

- A closure notice will go on The Breeze and Newstalk ZB radio stations.
- A closure notice will go on our facebook page.
- A closure notice will go on the school web page. Make sure you use the refresh button to get up-to-date information.

Maths Buddy – Otari Yr 3-8 students have been using the Maths Buddy programme, an online teaching and learning programme that supports their maths learning. We have been pleased to see the benefits that Maths Buddy has provided for students, teachers and parents. The benefits to students are:

- Rewinding, fast forwarding and repeating the lesson, as needed
- Stopping, reflecting, asking questions and absorbing the content in their own time
- Being able to revise and catch up on missed work easily, with the whole of the NZ Mathematics curriculum (years 1-13) available to them
- Having access to help anytime, anywhere and on any device ie computer, iPad and other tablets and electronic devices.

For parents, the benefits include being able to:

- Have immediate access to the same information about your child's progress as the teacher
- Receive weekly reports on your child's progress
- Be fully involved in the Mathematics education and progress of your child

In order to receive the benefits of the programme the cost will be \$25 per student for the entire year. **We are asking parents to support the programme by contributing \$14.00.** This will give access to the programme from anywhere, at any time and on any device. We have signed up all Year 3-8 students.

Educa in the Montessori Strand – As per the email sent by Deborah, payment of \$4 per child is requested.

Below is a table of some key events and dates:

<p>TERM 1 Technology for Yr 7 & 8s (Starts 3 Apr) Tues 25 Feb: WZ Cricket Tues 10 Mar: Taki Rua production Wed 11 Mar: School picnic at Wainuiomata Pool Tues 24 Mar: WZ Football/Rippa Rugby Thurs 26 Mar: Immunisations for Yr 8s Tues 7 Apr: Yr 1-4 Futsal Tournament Wed 8 Apr: Yr 5-8 Futsal Tournament TBC: School Athletics Thurs 9 Apr: End of term</p> <p>TERM 4 Fri 4 Dec: Yr 8 Outing Tues 8 Dec: Yr 8 Dinner Thurs 10 Dec: Yr 8 Celebration</p>

Have a great week everyone.


Ngā mihi
Clifford

2020 Term Dates		
Term 1	Mon 3 Feb	Thurs 9 Apr
Term 2	Tues 28 Apr	Fri 3 Jul
Term 3	Mon 20 Jul	Fri 25 Sept
Term 4	Mon 12 Oct	Tues 15 Dec

Easter is in Term 1 Holidays: Fri 10, Mon 13, Tues 14 Apr
 Anzac Day: Mon 27 Apr
 Queen's Birthday: Mon 1 June (**Teacher Only day on Friday 29 May**)
 Labour Weekend: Mon 26 Oct (**Teacher only day on Friday 23 Oct**)

Notice regarding the Immerison Strand:

Tēna kotou katoa. Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari. Whaia te iti Kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe me he maunga teitei! He uri tēnei no Ngāti Tūwharetoa te Iwi, Ko Sonya Bishara tāku ingoa. He uri tēnei no Ngāti Rangitahi te iwi. Ko Erin Hurley tāku ingoa. Tēna koutou, tēna koutou, tēna koutou katoa. Welcome to Te Kura o Otari. This year we have appointed two new people from the Immersion Whanau to be the first points of contact to talk to you about all of the immersion whānau contacts, initiatives, and activities that we are involved in at Te Kura o Otari. Erin Hurley and Sonya Bishara are your new contacts. If you have any patai regarding the Immersion Whānau, please contact: Erin on Ph 021 754 890 erin.hurley2009@gmail.com or Sonya on 0275727025 sonya.bishara@gmail.com. They are both available to support you and your tamariki at Te Kura o Otari.

 *Want to find out more about scouting? Wondering about becoming a Kea (age 5-7), Cub (age 8-10) or Scout (age 11-14)? Northland Scout Group is having a sign-up and information night 6.30 pm Thursday 19 March, Northland Memorial Community Centre, 5 Woburn Road, Northland. Like to know more or get involved sooner? Check us out at www.facebook.com/NorthlandScouts or email Northland.Scouts@gmail.com for more information.*

Sunshine Drama provides a creative and fun learning space for students aged 4 - 16 years of age. Sessions engage imaginative minds, grow confidence & build communication, performance and social skills. Classes are held Tuesday after school and on Saturday mornings. For further information or to arrange a free trial class, contact Jenae on 0274380533 or visit www.sunshinedrama.co.nz.

Karori Lions Karnival and Fair is on again – Sunday 16 February at Ben Burn Park, Karori. Quality Stalls selling superb merchandise, adventure rides, children’s activities, raffles, lots of food and a full day of stage entertainment for the family. From 10.00 until 3.30 pm. Come along and have some fun.

Back to School Sports - TERM 1 2020 (Yrs 1-4) – Wednesday’s Lunchtimes. Kelly Sports will be back in Term 1 with their fun and exciting classes. Come and try **Cricket, Dodgeball, Touch Rugby and Kick Boxing**. With 2 weeks of each sport. It’s a great way to try new sports, learn new skills and improve ability. We use games & drills to teach game sense and team play. Your child will learn the fundamental skills for all sports – throwing, running, jumping, striking, balance and many more – all while having a great time!

For full details and to enrol into our programmes visit

www.kellysports.co.nz email adminwgn@kellysports.co.nz or call 04 972 7201

Raroa Music Centre 2020 Registration - Raroa Music Centre offers Saturday morning group music lessons for primary school children at low cost. We still have availability for Level 1 or beginner students in music basics, clarinet, flute, recorder, ukulele, and violin. To enrol for 2020 visit our website and enrol online. Please email the supervisor for Level 2+ availability. Enrolments close 8 February 2020.

<https://www.raroamusic.org.nz/> or supervisor@raroamusic.org.nz.

Drama Club supports your child so they feel happy and confident when performing in front of others. We work on developing your child's performance skills so they can give an engaging and captivating performance. We have small classes, grouped by your child's age and we work alongside the Trinity College London syllabus. Email bridie@dramaclub.co.nz to trial a couple of our classes to see if they fit for your child's needs.

Your Parenting ACT. - Parenting can be both a joy and very hard work. But things get in the way of us being the parents we want to be - including our own thoughts and feelings. These can be about ourselves, about our children, about our parenting, or about what others think about our parenting. Your Parenting ACT is a 5 week course for parents of school aged children that helps you develop a strong foundation for your parenting. It helps you understand your child, develop your self, nurture your relationship with your child and parent in line with your values. It uses principles from ACT — Acceptance and Commitment Training — to help you make room for all your thoughts and feelings, so you can respond more calmly and flexibly as a parent. ACT uses acceptance, mindfulness and behavioural strategies to help people pursue what matters most to them, including being the parent they want to be.

Berhampore Centennial Community Centre, 493 Adelaide Rd, Wellington.

Tuesdays, from the 22nd of October between 7:00pm and 9:00pm.

For more information and registrations:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/your-parenting-act-february-2020-registration-82667279057>.

Giselle is a clinical psychologist in Wellington. She works in private practice with children, teenagers and their families. Before that she spent 15 years working in Wellington’s public health system and teaching in a university clinical training programme.

School Picnic – Wednesday 11 March

_____ will be attending the school picnic, travelling by bus.

I enclose \$10 cash.

Please deduct \$10 from my activity account.

Yes, I can parent help at the school picnic - Name _____

Signed: _____