

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

26 July 2022

Week 1, Term 3

## Kia ora koutou

**20 years ago this week...** Twenty years ago this week I began my tenure as principal of Otari School. As many of you know, I was surprised at the end of last term by the children and staff with a special hui to celebrate this. Yesterday I shouted the staff morning tea and we had an extra long break time to mark the anniversary of my first powhiri at Otari School when our whānau was welcomed on Monday 15 July, 2002. I spoke yesterday about that first powhiri and how much it meant to our family. We were a grieving family of 6 having suddenly lost our nearly 9 year old daughter, Evangeline, exactly one month before (from a flu virus that, for some reason, overwhelmed her.) Despite the sadness we felt, the welcome we received and the words spoken at that first powhiri provided a reassurance that we had been brought to the right place. We have never forgotten the aroha of that powhiri or the way it truly made us feel we belonged here. I knew Otari School was a special place then and I know it still, 20 years later.

When we arrived the school had 150 students and there were 6 classrooms. Claire Rumble was the chairperson of the Board of Trustees, which also included Alison Dyer and Susan West. Susan, Jillian, Britta, Lynette and Katrina were all on the staff. The administration block was being built and I was temporarily accommodated in a small room situated where the current library is. Since then there have been many changes and developments in relation to curriculum, ministry priorities and property, including 3 more classrooms due to a 30% roll increase. Like all schools we have been subject to the never ending initiatives and changing priorities of the government and Ministry of Education. I have been very fortunate to have worked with a continuously dedicated and engaged board of trustees and have also had the pleasure of working with a succession of effective, skilled board chairs.

I have been asked many times about the challenge of leading a school that is comprised of three communities. "How does it all work?" is a common question. I always reply that it works because we all see the bigger picture and know that as well as fostering the unique and special features of each strand we are united in our value of whānaungatanga and in our commitment to developing the whole child as expressed in our vision. Our unique structure works because we value the contribution each strand makes to the whole school and we do deliberate things that foster each stand and that foster school unity. We are about to enter a period of reflection and renewal and I look forward with interest, along with the board, to hearing from the community as we review our priorities, values and vision.

I have learnt a lot over the past twenty years in many different areas. I've tried new things, implemented change, made mistakes, developed new skills, met challenges I thought would overwhelm me and learnt the true meaning of virtues like flexibility, detachment and fortitude! I've worked with amazing, talented people and enjoyed productive and rewarding relationships with students, staff and parents. One of the messages inside a class card that I received said "20 years?! Holy crap that's a long time!" (I love the no holds barred honesty of children!) They are right, it *is* a long time but as the old saying goes, "time flies when you're having fun" and I look forward to my 21st year and all that lies ahead.

Tangata ako ana i te kāenga, te tūranga ke te marae, tau ana  
(A person nurtured in the community contributes strongly to society)



Nau mai, haere mai ki ngā ākonga hou me o rātou whānau. Welcome to 5 new students and their whānau:

Bayan Kasho (Kererū)  
Mountazer Kasho (Tōtara)  
Mouatasem Kasho (Kererū)

Liam Mohan (Ngaio)  
Jed Milner (Kōwhai)

**Birthdays this week:** Happy birthday to Angus. Rā whānau ki a koe!



**Covid-19 Update** - The school currently has 7 known cases of Covid-19 (including two staff members). There are 5 children isolating at home.

**Board Elections** – Please consider standing for the Board. If you have any queries you are welcome to contact our Board chair, Natasha Kuka ([tash.kuka@gmail.com](mailto:tash.kuka@gmail.com)). Nomination forms need to be to the office by next Wednesday.



**School Photos** will be taken next Tuesday (2 August). All students will have a class photo as well as a portrait taken. If you would like a sibling one taken, please return the photo card which is coming home today. If you have a pre-schooler you would like included in a photo, these will be taken between 8.30-9.00am, in the library.

**CodeClub** will be starting again next Monday (1 August) in the Kererū classroom. We look forward to seeing your tamariki again then. Any questions about CodeClub please contact Sacha at [sacha@otari.school.nz](mailto:sacha@otari.school.nz).



**Class Trip Postponement** – Unfortunately we have had to postpone this weeks planned class trips for Kaikōmako, Tōtara and Kererū. New dates will be advised.

**Kapa Haka Uniforms** – There is a number of kapa haka uniforms missing. Please return them to school as soon as possible.



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**Tūmanako - Children's Art for a Peaceful Work Exhibition** – Please see information at the end of the newsletter regarding this.

**Taonga Horomata/Virtue:** For the first half of this term we are looking at the virtues that will help children relate to their peers as they play and work together.



© Can Stock Photo

Tolerance – Tukumarie. “In order to have faith in his own path, he does not need to prove that someone else's path is wrong.” (Paulo Coelho)

“Tolerance isn't about not having beliefs. It's about how your beliefs lead you to treat people who disagree with you.”(Timothy Keller)



Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Trip to Wgtn Museum/Space Place	Kaikōmako	TBC	\$12.50
Trip to Wgtn Museum/Space Place	Tōtara/Kererū	TBC	\$12.50
School Photos	All students	Tues 2 August	

Kia pai tō hararei, koutou.

Ngā mihi  
Clifford


**2022 Term Dates**

Term 3: Mon 25 Jul – Fri 30 Sept  
Term 4: Mon 17 Oct – Wed 14 Dec  
**Teacher Only Days: Tues 25 Oct**



**Drama Club** - We run fun weekly speech and drama classes to help your child express themselves creatively as well as learning some valuable performance skills along the way. Our drama classes work alongside the Trinity College London syllabus. Classes are based in Karori. Two week free trial available for all new students. Email [admin@dramaclub.co.nz](mailto:admin@dramaclub.co.nz) or check out our website:

[www.dramaclub.co.nz](http://www.dramaclub.co.nz) for classes.

Lions Club of Karori &  
Rotary Club of Karori  
raising funds for community projects

# 2022 Karori Community BOOK FAIR

**Karori Baptist Church Hall**  
Marsden Village, Karori Road

**Fri 5 Aug 12 noon - 8.00 pm**  
**Sat 6 Aug 9.00 am - 4.00 pm**  
Spend \$25 and be in to win prizes!

For more information, contact:  
Beth Anders (Lions Club of Karori) 021 264 1481  
David Watt (Rotary Club of Karori) 027 246 6339



From the Tūmanako Organising Committee to whānau

Kia ora whānau

For the 7th year, the **Tūmanako - Children's Art for a Peaceful Work Exhibition** invites tamariki/children and taiohi/young people from the Wellington region to contribute artwork.

We are working directly with schools, kura and community groups to engage students in the project - and each year we receive over 100 artworks. We'd be delighted if your tamariki/children can participate this year.

*"I felt happy being part of Tūmanako because I had always loved art and enjoyed doing it." [young artist, 11 years]*

The exhibition is hosted by the Soka Gakkai International of New Zealand (SGI) - a peace organisation based on humanistic values, with support from the Peace Foundation, Unicef and the United Nations Association of New Zealand.

We are opening the exhibition at Johnsonville Community Centre on 5 August. The artworks will be exhibited at Johnsonville Library at Waitohi Hub for two week, from 5 - 20 August. We invite kaiako/teachers, taura/students, their whanau/families and hoa/friends to join us for the opening and visit the exhibition. **Please register for the opening event by 28 July [here](#).**

This year's theme is based on a Whakataukī/Māori Proverb, and we hope it inspires taura/students to think about how even a simple action or thought can contribute to a peaceful world:

**Kotahi te kākano whakaaro, he nui ngā hua o te rākau houhou rongo.**  
One seed of thought grows the forest of peace.

More information can be found on our website at [www.sginz.org/tumanako](http://www.sginz.org/tumanako).

Many thanks, and we look forward to welcoming you and your children at our opening in 5th August.

Kind regards  
Catherine

On behalf of the Tūmanako committee  
[www.sginz.org/tumanako](http://www.sginz.org/tumanako)





# Silver Lining Line Dance



## 10 Week Basic Beginner Modern Line Dance course

coming to

### Whitby

Mondays

6.30pm – 7.30pm

From 05/09/2022 – 21/11/2022

(Adventure School Hall, Longitude Place)

Cost \$80.00

(pre-enrolment is required, and course fee is payable in advance)

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### Titahi Bay

Thursdays

12.30pm – 1.30pm

From 15/09/2022 – 24/11/2022

(North Wellington Indoor Bowls Hall, 1 Onepoto Road)

Cost \$80.00

(pre-enrolment is required, and course fee is payable in advance)

Looking for fun, and friendship, and exercise for the body and brain?

Want to dance to modern music?

No previous dance experience required.

Modern Line Dancing classes might just be what you're looking for



Scan the QR Code to enrol or

Use this link to my website <https://silverliningdance.co.nz/basic-beginner-enrolment-form/>

Email: [christine@silverliningdance.co.nz](mailto:christine@silverliningdance.co.nz) if you'd like more information

**BOOST YOUR LEARNING**

**PRIVATE TUITION**

$\frac{2}{3}$   
 $\left(\frac{6x+1}{5} + 1\right)$   
 $\frac{5(2x+1)}{6} = \frac{1}{6} - x$   
 $x = \frac{2+x}{3} + \frac{x-1}{6}$

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Learn to LOVE Learning

[WWW.BOOSTYOURLEARNING.CO.NZ](http://WWW.BOOSTYOURLEARNING.CO.NZ)



**Matika** - An eight-week bereavement support programme  
for tamariki

*We are delighted to announce that places are now open for Matika, Skylight's new psychoeducational group programme for bereaved children.*

*Matika provides an opportunity for children who have experienced the death of someone close to them, to connect with others in their own age group who are experiencing a similar loss. Together the children learn about the big emotions of grief, ways to cope with the loss, and ways they can continue to feel close to the person who has died. The programme is run by trained facilitators who guide the children through a range of age-appropriate activities.*

*Each group meets weekly, for eight weeks.*

**Wellington Dates**

**For tamariki aged 6 – 9 years.**

**3.45pm – 5.15pm Tuesday: October 25<sup>th</sup> | November 1<sup>st</sup> | 8<sup>th</sup> | 15<sup>th</sup> | 22<sup>nd</sup> | 29<sup>th</sup>  
December 6<sup>th</sup> | 13<sup>th</sup>**

**For tamariki aged 10 – 13 years.**

**3.45pm – 5.15pm Wednesday: October 26<sup>th</sup> | November 2<sup>nd</sup> | 9<sup>th</sup> | 16<sup>th</sup> | 23<sup>rd</sup> | 30<sup>th</sup>  
December 7<sup>th</sup> | 14<sup>th</sup>**

***This programme is free to attend. Contact us to find out more or register your interest in your child attending, please email [info@skylight.org.nz](mailto:info@skylight.org.nz)***

