



OTAKIRI COUNTRY SCHOOL

Newsletter 31st May 2018

“Learners Forever, Leading the Future”

Newsletters published weekly on Thursdays

RD 3. WHAKATANE 3193 Phone (07) 304 8101 E-mail: office@otakiri.school.nz

Kia ora koutou katoa

Dear Parents and Caregivers

In last week's newsletter I informed you about an upcoming Teacher Paid Union Meeting and I wanted to give you some further information as to why teachers are needing to meet.

You may be aware of the nationwide crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers.

While there are many more children coming into the school system, there are not enough new teachers being trained. Urgent and significant changes are needed to ensure that the teaching profession can attract the people it needs and to ensure class sizes do not start to increase.

On Wednesday, 27th June, the teachers from our school will be attending a NZEI Te Riu Roa Paid Union Meeting regarding the Kua Tae Te Wā - It's Time campaign. The campaign aims to free teachers to teach and principals to lead, by getting the additional support and staff that schools need. The meetings will allow our teachers to discuss how the Ministry of Education has responded to changes that the union is seeking.

Our teaching staff are members of NZEI and legally entitled to attend this meeting, which starts 2pm.

Normal classes will not be able to take place from 12.30pm. If you are able to pick your child up early that would be appreciated. To minimise disruption, if students need to remain at school after 12.30pm, there will be a limited number of non-union staff available to supervise students.

The bus will run early on this day, with the first bus (Awaiti) leaving at approximately 12:40pm and the second bus (Braemar) leaving at approximately 1pm.

I appreciate that this creates some inconvenience for families. However, I encourage you to support your teachers as they strive to achieve the changes which will safeguard quality education for all children and ensure we make teaching an attractive profession for graduates.

Nga mihi koutou

Mike Mokai

Teacher Only Day

Otakiri school have a Teacher Only Day on Tuesday 12th of June. There will be **no school that day** so please make other arrangements for your children.

School accounts

School accounts came home yesterday, please check your child's bag. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle in the office.

Newspapers

If you have any newspapers lying around at home the school would welcome them for Art projects. Please bring them to the office or Miss G in Tui class.

Guitar Lessons

We have some children looking for guitar lessons. If you know of anyone in the area who teaches guitar can you please contact the office.

Old school desks

Do you have some old school desks that you no longer need, can you please contact the office if you would like to sell/give them away.

Gymnastics Coach

The school is still looking for a gymnastics coach. If you think this is something you have the time to commit to please contact the office or Ms Shattock in Ruru to find out more.

Edventure Outdoors- School Holiday Camps

These July school holidays we are running 2 awesome camps.

Tramping, rock climbing, possum trapping, team building challenges, hot pools and much more

Edventure Outdoors Camp, Mt Pirongia, July 9-13th

Edventure Winter Camp, Aongatete lodge, July 16-20th

- 8-14 yr olds

- OSCAR available

- Pick up/drop off AKL, BOP, Waikato

Book at www.edventure.co.nz or email mark@edventure.co.nz

The Frazzled Kiwi Adventure Race – Sunday 10th June

The Frazzled Kiwi is a 2 hour adventure race for families, school students and social adults. Make your way around farmland on foot, looking for check points and completing mystery activities. There will be mud and water and plenty of fun!!!! This event is beginner friendly and a great family day out.

Date: Sunday 10th June 2018.

Duration: approx. 2hrs.

Location: 1923 State Highway 2, Nukuhou.

Race start: 10am

Cost: \$25 per person. Entries on race day \$30 per person.

For more information or to enter online go to www.frazzledkiwi.co.nz or contact Fiona on 0276267910

Photos from Tuesday's Cross Country.....

Well done to everyone who participated in the Cross Country, you all did so well and made it such a great afternoon. (more photo's will be on our Facebook page soon).



THANKS FOR DARING TO DREAM!!!!

DATES & REMINDERS

4th June – Queens Birthday, **no school**; 6th June – Rangitaiki Cross Country; 7th June – Country Fair AGM; 12th June – **Teacher Only Day**; 15th June – Matariki Celebration (date to be confirmed); 27th June – Teachers Union Meeting, **school finishes at 12.30pm**; 3rd and 5th July – Learning Conversations; 6th July – last day of Term two.

Newsletter by e-mail office@otakiri.school.nz. School account number for donations and payments: 12 3253 0069149 00