



# OTAKIRI COUNTRY SCHOOL

## Newsletter 26<sup>th</sup> July 2018

*“Learners Forever, Leading the Future”*

Newsletters published weekly on Thursdays

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Kia ora koutou katoa

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to Term 3. It's hard to believe we are half way through the school year already. I hope you all found some time over the holiday period to spend time with your children.

It has been a great start to the term and this 'Spring' weather has been wonderful. A very special welcome to our new students and their families.

Term 3 promises to be just as busy as ever, with lots of learning opportunities for our students.

Our school van has been purchased and sign written. It's ready to go and we are looking forward to using it for all the extra-curricular events we have running this term. We have the official blessing of the van next Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> July at 9:15am. Please join us if you are able. A huge thanks to NZ Community Trust, The Southern Trust and the Otakiri Country Fair Committee for their generous donations towards the purchase of the van.

I look forward to catching up with you all in the coming weeks.

Nga mihi koutou

Mike Mokai

### Volunteering at School

Do you or any of your family/friends have some time available during the day to come along to school to volunteer your services. We are always looking for people who are able to support us in providing 'extra' learning opportunities and support for our students. If you would like to take a gardening group, take a lunchtime sport activity, do some cooking/baking, help in the library, listen to students read or provide support in the classroom please let Michelle in the office know.

We are particularly looking for a small group of adults who may be able to help deliver a Pause, Prompt, Praise (PPP) Reading and Oral Language support programme. If you are able to commit to coming into school to work one-on-one with a child/ren two or three times a week or you would like more information, please let us know.

### Otakiri School - Matariki Celebration 2018

Where: Otakiri Hall

When: Friday 3rd August at 5:30pm

What: Traditional Hangi Dinner and fun (BYO - drinks)

Please return all numbers to the office by close of school tomorrow Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July.

If you have any hangi stones or hangi wood available, please let Michelle in the office know (we need a few more).



### **Keep Warm, Stay Well**

Now that the colder weather is well and truly here, please ensure children are sent to school with warm clothing that is **named**.



The Public Health Nurse has also asked us to remind parents/caregivers to never ignore a sore throat. A simple throat swab could prevent Rheumatic Fever.

### **ARRIVING AT SCHOOL ON TIME**

It is vitally important that students arrive at school on time every day. This sets the tone for the whole day and ensures your child does not miss out on important information shared first thing.

Teachers mark attendance rolls at 9am each morning. If your child arrives at school after the morning bell they must go to the office before going to class.

Any child arriving at school between 9am and 9.30am will be marked as present but late, after 9:30am they will be marked as absent for the morning.

Please send any absences through on the school App or txt the school phone number 027 489 512 which will be checked during school hours.



### **School App**

If any parents would like to join the school App please let the office know.

You need to download the school App from Playstore then we need your e-mail address and we will send you your password.

### **HEADLICE ALERT**

**Head Lice are around again, please check and treat your family.**

#### **Facts about Head Lice;**

1. Are tiny egg laying insects.
2. Can only survive on human heads; they live on the hair and suck blood from the scalp.
3. Have no wings, so they cannot fly.
4. Head lice crawl along hair shafts and while they can fall they cannot jump.
5. 6 to 10 days after hatching, the louse is an adult and starts laying eggs.
6. The eggs are laid near the scalp (up to 1.5cm) and are glued to the hair shaft.
7. Dandruff and hair particles can be mistaken for eggs.
8. Anyone can get head lice - they have NO preference for cleanliness, hair colour, type or age.
9. ONLY the insect (adults and young lice) can move from one head to another. EGGs CANNOT SPREAD
10. Head Lice need head to head contact to spread from one person to another. You cannot get head lice by just standing next to someone with head lice.
11. Children can swim when they have head lice as head lice cannot swim. However, they can be transmitted through sharing towels.



### **Ag Day**

Otakiri Agricultural Day is just around the corner and will be here before we know it.

Just letting you all know that there will be a big change this year which will affect the children who usually rear calves.

The Ministry of Primary Industries and B.O.P Federated Farmers have requested schools to ban calves from Calf Club this year due to the threat of Mycoplasma Bovis.

After consideration of the matter the Otakiri School Calf Club Committee have decided to happily comply with this request.

We are one of the many schools that will not be having calves at their Ag Day.

This might be an opportunity for your child to 'Dare to Dream' and try their hand at rearing a lamb or a goat.

Dates for lambs born on or after 1<sup>st</sup> August and goats born on or after 15<sup>th</sup> July.

### **DATES & REMINDERS:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Aug – Matariki Dinner; 7<sup>th</sup> Aug – EBOP Sevens Tournament; 10<sup>th</sup> Aug – Rangitaiki Soccer and Hockey Tournament; 16<sup>th</sup> Aug – Tough Guy and Girl Race; 19<sup>th</sup> Sept – Ruru Camp; 26<sup>th</sup> Sept – School Photo's; 28<sup>th</sup> Sept – Last Day of Term 3; 15<sup>th</sup> Oct – 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Term 4; 18<sup>th</sup> Oct – Ag Day.

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

Website: [www.otakiri.school.nz](http://www.otakiri.school.nz)