



OTAKIRI COUNTRY SCHOOL

Newsletter 20 February 2020

"Learners Forever, Leading the Future"

Newsletters published weekly on Thursdays

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Tena koutou Parents, Caregivers and Whanau,

Late in 2019, our community, staff and students completed a survey facilitated by Dr Melinda Webber from Auckland University, "Kia tu rangatira ai: Learning, succeeding, and thriving in education. This research project focused on how students learn, succeed and thrive at school. The survey elicited student, whānau and teacher perspectives about how students develop positive attitudes, motivation and engagement towards school, future aspirations, and who their role-models for success were. The survey was aimed at helping us better understand the personal, teacher, whānau and community factors that positively impact students' learning and success here at Otakiri School.

The survey focused on the following questions:

1. What motivates students to engage and persist at school?
2. What are their attitudes towards school?
3. What job do they want to do in the future?
4. How do teachers and whānau make a positive difference to their learning?
5. What role does culture play in student motivation to succeed?
6. Who are their role models and what do they tell us about what success means to them?

Staff have analyzed the reports and identified seven areas for further development. Attached to this newsletter is a survey for parents, caregivers and whanau to rank these seven areas in order of importance. We value your input into future goals for our school and appreciate you taking the time to consider ranking these goals before returning this survey to the school office.

Copies of the survey summary are available from school.

Nāku noa

Sharon Theobald

Bike Track

As we still don't have a delivery date for the bikes at school it's great to see so many students bringing their own bikes to make use of the track. A reminder that students must wear a helmet and suitable footwear i.e. not jandals. We now have satisfactory locks for the doors so students are able to leave their bikes at school overnight should they wish to do so.

If you are dropping off bikes, please do so at the front of the school. Your children can then walk them to the bike rack.

Kapa Haka

We welcome Murray Korewha who is working with all classes on a Monday morning to develop a knowledge and appreciation of waiata, haka and poi for our students, with a view to performing not only at our Centenary celebrations at Labour Weekend but also the Rangitaiki Festival later in the year. Very exciting times ahead.

Our school dress code for everyday school wear is:

1. That Otakiri students wear shirts no briefer than a standard crew neck t-shirt that meets the waist band of their pants. NO singlet tops.
2. That no undergarments will be visible. Eg boxers or other underwear.
3. That students may not wear cosmetics, including lip gloss, nail polish and eye liner. Nails are to be kept trimmed.
4. That jewellery is limited to studs or sleepers for ear piercings. Taonga and other items of cultural or personal significance may be worn following Principal approval.

