



# OTAKIRI COUNTRY SCHOOL

## Newsletter 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

*"Learners Forever, Leading the Future"*

Newsletters published weekly on Thursdays

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Tēnā koutou katoa

It seems weird to be saying that we are nearing the end of the Term. It has obviously been a disrupted Term due to Lockdown and Alert Level changes. It is great to see Auckland also beginning to move down Levels now and hopefully we can continue to move towards Level 1 for our whole country.

The Board of Trustees have agreed to allow the camps that are planned for Term 4 to continue, should we still be in Alert Level 2, when they are due to take place. The Ministry of Health has provided schools with comprehensive guidance for schools so that EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) activities can still go ahead. Ideally we will be at Level 1, but if not we will be well planned so our awesome students don't miss out. I know forms have come out for parents to indicate that they would like to attend camp. Please get these in by the required dates on the forms, so that any Police Vets can be logged with the NZ Police within the required timeframe.

We will have a final school assembly on Friday afternoon next week. Due to Alert Level 2 restrictions we are unable to have any parents present at this end of Term celebration. Apologies if your child is receiving an "Otakiri Way" LEAD acknowledgement, but we are bound by the current health regulations.

I trust you all have a great break during the school holidays and we look forward to getting back into Otakiri fun and learning at the beginning of Term 4.

Ngā mihi nui

Mike Mokai

### **Māori Whānau Consultation**

On the day before Lockdown we sent out some Māori Whānau Consultation Questionnaires. If you still have these at home, we would really appreciate you completing them and returning them to the office, by Friday. The Board of Trustees would really like to hear your views and opinions.

### **Ag Day and Group Day Trophy Cleaning**

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October the Ag Day committee will be having a trophy cleaning bee at 1pm in the school staffroom. We would appreciate your help if you are able to spare an hour or two.



If your child has an Ag Day or Group Day trophy at home can they please be returned to the office by Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

**Ag Day entry forms must be returned to the school office by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October.**

### **Photo Orders**

All photo orders are placed after photo day. This year Masterpiece photography have moved to online orders. We will send home a link and password to enable you to order photos as soon as this arrives from Masterpiece photography.

### **School Centenary**

Unfortunately, after a lot of discussion, the Otakiri School and District Centenary has made the decision to postpone the Centenary Celebrations that were to be held over Labour Weekend this year. They have decided to wait until 2025, when they can plan with more certainty and have a big 105<sup>th</sup> celebration.



### A Couple of Requests

- Do you have an old Cream Can lying around at home that you are willing to part with? We are seeking a Cream Can for a display at the front of the school.
- Do you have some design skills that could help us plan a permanent historical display at the front of the school? We have lots of ideas, but are lacking the skills to put the design together.

If you can help us with either of these, please contact Michelle.

### Student Led Conferences - CANCELLED

Student Led Conferences will take place on Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of September, from 3pm until 6pm. Come along any time that afternoon and let your child share the news with you. If we are still in Alert Level 2, the Student Led Conferences will be cancelled.



### Junior Tough Guy & Gal

#### Prince & Princess of the Mountain

There will be notices coming home tomorrow with information about Junior Tough Guy & Gal, Prince & Princess of the Mountain race and school relay teams. This information will also go on the app and Facebook.

### Garden Competition

Otakiri School Garden Competition will be happening again in Term 4. A notice with more information will come home early Term 4, but now is a great time for children to make a plan and start planting.

Children should plan their gardens carefully. Parents may give guidance with planning and help with the preparation of the site particularly if a lot of digging is required. Once planting is complete the garden must be solely the work of the child. Gardens need to have neat edges, be carefully laid out and clearly marked for judging. Children may raise plants from a seed or from the seedling stage.

The Categories are flower or vegetable. Children will also need to do a small project so taking photos along the way may be helpful.

**Wheels day**

**Friday 1st October**

Music will be playing at lunch and there will be an RC car race track

**Bring your wheels to school**

**There will be prizes for best dressed vehicles**

Helmets are to be worn while bike riding and are encouraged for scooters, skateboards etc

### Dates and Reminders

27<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> November – Dental Bus at school (TBC); 1<sup>st</sup> October – Wheels Day, Assembly 2pm and Last Day of Term 3; 18<sup>th</sup> October – First Day of Term 4; 21<sup>st</sup> October – Ag Day; 25<sup>th</sup> October – Labour Day; 26<sup>th</sup> October – Group Day Day; 29<sup>th</sup> October – Assembly 2pm; 5<sup>th</sup> November – Gold Team Athletics; 12<sup>th</sup> November – Assembly 2pm and School Disco 5pm to 8pm; 19<sup>th</sup> November – **Teacher only Day, NO SCHOOL**; 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November – Korimako Camp; 26<sup>th</sup> November – Assembly 2pm; 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Ruru & Kākāpō Camp; 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> December – Karearea & Tuī; 9<sup>th</sup> December – **Learning Conversations, school finishes at 12pm**; 10<sup>th</sup> December – Assembly 2pm; 13<sup>th</sup> December Learning Conversations; 15<sup>th</sup> December – Last Day of School.

Year 8 dinner and final assembly to be advised.

**Newsletter by e-mail contact [office@otakiri.school.nz](mailto:office@otakiri.school.nz). Website: [www.otakiri.school.nz](http://www.otakiri.school.nz)  
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