



OTAKIRI COUNTRY SCHOOL

Newsletter 23rd September 2021

"Learners Forever, Leading the Future"

Newsletters published weekly on Thursdays

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Tēnā koutou katoa

Welcome back to Term 4, of what has been another unusual year for us all. I hope you had an opportunity to have a bit of whanau time over the two-week Term break.

Term 4 is historically a very busy Term and Term 4 of 2021 promises to be no different, with many opportunities for exciting learning. As we remain in Alert Level 2, schooling continues to look a little different to what is 'normal.' While we remain in Alert Level 2, it is unlikely that we will have any interschool events, as the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health are advising strongly against bringing students from different schools together. We can however continue to hold events etc. for our own students. Unfortunately, at Alert Level 2, once any parent or outside person comes on to site we are limited by the current Health Orders with regards to limiting numbers for indoor and outdoor events. This means we may need to have to continue to look to do things differently than we have in the past. The rules and guidance we receive from the Ministry of Education can change any plans, at the drop of a hat, and that is simply the current situation we are dealing with. We will keep you updated on upcoming events and any changes that may be required.

You no doubt heard the announcement from the Government around the mandatory vaccination requirements for all school staff and any adult who has contact with children in school contexts. At this point the Public Health Orders that will enact these requirements have yet to be published, although we are expecting them any day. These Health Orders should provide us with clarity around expectations and timeframes. Once we receive them we will put in place procedures and processes to ensure we are meeting the expectations.

In saying all that, the Term has started really well, and our students and staff, as always, are showing resilience and positivity as we look forward to the Term.

I look forward to the journey that Term 4 brings us all.

Ngā mihi nui
Mike Mokai

Junior Tough Guy & Gal and Prince & Princess of the Mountain

Due to being at Level 2 these events have been postponed to the following dates:

Junior Tough Guy & Gal Friday 3rd December

Prince & Princess of the Mountain Saturday 20th November

A new training schedule will be sent home in Week 3.



Hats

As part of our sun safety, a reminder that royal blue hats are expected to be worn again this term. These are available at the school office at a cost of \$10.00. Students can wear a hat with a wide brim (no caps) of their choosing but it must be royal blue, without any slang or alcohol promotion displayed on it.



Sugary Treats at School

We are noticing children coming to school with lollies, bubble gum and other sugary treats. Please ensure your children are not bringing lollies, chocolate, bubble gum, Raro sachets, fizzy drinks, jelly crystals etc as these are not appropriate for school. We are happy to make small exceptions for birthdays but otherwise please keep these items for treats at home.

Rip Module

Thank you to those children who returned their forms for the Rip modules, at this stage we have 5 teams going to be entered across all age groups.

Mr Brown is unable to make the Year 1-2 games due to the times of these games so if anyone is keen to help out and coach this team please let him or the office know by lunch time tomorrow (Friday 22nd October) so we can enter this team or unfortunately we will not be able to register our Year 1/2 team.

At this stage we are also looking for someone to help with the Year 3/4 team.

If you are keen to help out, please let us know!

Thank you to David and Josh who will be helping with the Year 5/6 teams!

A couple of quick Snaps from Ag Day this morning



More photos next week.....

Dates and Reminders

25th October – Labour Day; 29th October – Assembly 2pm; 5th November – Gold Team Athletics; 12th November – Assembly 2pm and School Disco 5pm to 8pm; 19th November – **Teacher only Day, NO SCHOOL**; 20th November – Prince and Princess; 24th to 26th November – Korimako Camp; 26th November – Assembly 2pm; 1st to 3rd December – Ruru & Kākāpō Camp; 3rd December – Junior Tough Guy and Gal; 6th to 8th December – Karearea & Tui; 9th December – **Learning Conversations, school finishes at 12pm**; 10th December – Assembly 2pm; 13th December Learning Conversations; 15th December – Last Day of School.

Year 8 dinner and final assembly to be advised.

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