



OTAKIRI SCHOOL

Pānui 30th January 2025

"Learners Forever, Leading the Future"

Newsletters published weekly on Thursdays

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Tēnā koutou katoa,

Welcome back to school for the 2025 school year. We are super excited to see the students back today. Our staff have been busy over the past few weeks preparing programmes that will engage and excite our students. We have made a couple of changes to our bell times this year. Please note: school starts at the earlier time of 8.45 and finishes at 2.45. Bus times will remain the same as they were last year and the year before that. If there are changes, we need to make with pick up and drop off times we will let you know. We do ask that you do have your children at school before 8.45 so they are ready to learn. This helps to reinforce some extremely valuable habits that will transfer with your child to their working life.

It was fantastic seeing so many of you at school yesterday for our meet the teacher morning. We managed to get through a few sausages and drinks!

We would like to thank those of you who have already purchased school stationery. If you are yet to do so it is as simple as jumping on the internet and placing an order through Office Products; all you will need is your child's name and class name. If you have any questions about this, please contact Michelle.

We are also really excited to be holding the Otakiri Country Fair on Friday 14th February. We will be needing parent helpers for this event. Please see the signup sheet near the school gate at pick up and drop off.

We have plenty of spaces for entries to the Otakiri Rural Challenge, do you have a team of four? Aged from 10 - 99? Keen to compete in some fun activities involving, physical, mental, creative and problem solving challenges? Then this is for you! We have a \$500 cash prize up for grabs for first place, \$250 cash for second place and a \$100 Smoke n Goose voucher for third place! Most of the activities will be able to be completed in 5 minutes or less. The creative challenge may take up to 20 minutes. The top three teams after 4 rounds will compete in the final challenge to decide the placings. The final challenge will be limited to 45 minutes and will be a team challenge. We are asking that teams have at least one team member present for the briefing which will happen at 5pm, the rest of the team will need to be here for a 5.30 start. Entries will cost \$50 per team. We will be running events alongside each other so you will not be able to watch your teammates complete their challenges. For more information or to register a team please email Michelle office@otakiri.school.nz We look forward to seeing you here at Otakiri School for our Country Fair!

If you are picking your children up it would be great if you could collect them from the main gate at the end of the school day. This will help us to keep your children safe.

Ngā mihi nui

Mr G



Otakiri School Country Fair

Friday February 14th 4pm – 8pm

Last year we had to postpone the Country Fair due to the weather. It is now only 2 weeks away!

Parent helpers' roster:

This is out the front of the school. We will operate the same roster we had last year so please check that you are still able to do the slots you volunteered for or if you are new to our school, please add your name to the roster.

We cannot run this fair without you. All names will go in the draw to win K-Mart Vouchers.

Thanks to all of you who have offered so far 😊

All funds raised this year are going to support our Well-Being programme. This is an initiative we have introduced this year to support our Tamariki/Children.

Plants

Do you have any plants or cuttings that have been potted up for the fair? These can be brought into school from now. Please LABEL with what type of plant it is.

If you have a surplus of produce such as tomatoes, cucumbers, fruit etc we are happy to sell these at the fair. These can be brought in from Wed 12th Feb.

Garage Sale:

Start sorting clothing and any Bric-a-brac you may have. (Books, utensils, crockery, etc).

You can send these to school now.

- ONLY clean clothing accepted. Preferably bag and label who it is suitable for e.g boy 6ys.
- NO large furniture items.
- All items must be in working order and clean, no broken/chipped crockery, unsafe electrical items etc.

Items Needed:

- Coat hangers
- Crock pots

Food Tent

This year in the food tent we will be selling Sausages, Burgers, Nachos and drinks. We need at **least 6 people in the tent at any one time** – BBQ'ing, making burgers & drinks, food & serving. Please offer your help in here. We still need some more helpers.

Hangi will also need people around 5pm-6pm to cut meat and plate up. Please offer your help here. If you have pumpkins, potatoes or kumara that can be donated for the hangi please let us know ASAP.

Cake Stall:

We will be running a cake stall as part of the fair and we ask that each family donates some home baking to be sold at the stall. On 10th Feb you will receive a pack with some baking containers in plus a new notice and some coupons. This year the fair is on the 14th which is Valentines day – perhaps we could have some Valentines themed baking. Each piece of baking should be sent along to school with the coupon on and these will be put into a draw to win a prize.

Country Challenge

Get a team of 4 organised to enter this challenge. First Prize of \$500 with 2nd and 3rd Prizes.

Get a team of your work mates, or a family team. Register with Michelle at the office.

More details coming out separately

Hangi Tickets

Hangi Tickets will be on sale from the office for \$15 each from Monday 3rd February.

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