



## Welcome

I would like to welcome the following children and their families to our wonderful school: Jiliang Zhang, Alice Shushakova, Annie Wang, Junu Park, Ollie Girgis, Angela Shen, Amelie Dong

## Upcoming events

4 Nov	EOTC Yr. 3/4 Rms 24, 27, 28 & 29
5 Nov	EOTC Yr. 3/4 Rms 22, 23, 25, 26 & 30 Yr. 5 & 6 Speech Competition 12.00
6 Nov	Assembly Yr. 3 & 4 9-9:45am Positive Puberty Plus Yrs. 5 & 6
9-13 Nov	Cultural Week Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> - Cultural Dress up day
16 Nov	BOT Meeting 5:30pm
27 Nov	KiwiSport Dance Display 1.30 p.m.

## 2021 Classes

Teachers are busy completing assessments on children and looking at combinations of children as we start to work on the organisation of classes for 2021. I am sure you will appreciate that with over 600 children to place in classes, this is a huge and complex task. When placing children in classrooms, we consider a range of factors such as academic strengths and needs, social groups, a balance of boys and girls, and individual teacher strengths and passions.

You will be informed of your child's 2021 class and teacher **on Monday 30 November**. Children will have an opportunity to meet with their new teacher and classmates in the last week of school.

## End of Year Events

The end of Term 4 is always a busy, but special time as we end the year with some very special events. The first of these is our final House Assembly on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> of December at 2:00pm**. This is where our 2020 House Leaders share some of their highlights from their experience as a House Leader. It is also when we announce our 2021 House Leaders. If your child is going to be a House Leader in 2021 you will be notified prior to the assembly as we hope you can make time to come and see them presented with their House Leader badge.

On **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December** we have our Awards Assemblies. The year 1-2 Awards Assembly is from **9:30-10:45 a.m.** and Year 3-6 from **11:30 a.m. - 12:45 pm**. Throughout the year teachers take special note of children who consistently demonstrate the qualities of our school values. Each teacher selects one child to receive a certificate for one of the values and these are presented at the Awards Assembly. Other children who have had whole school responsibilities are honoured as well. You will

be informed if your child will be receiving an award so that you can attend if you wish.

Our last day of school for the year **Tuesday 15 December** is when our Year 6s present their Graduation Assembly to the rest of the school at **11.30 a.m.** Our Year 6 trophies are awarded along with Graduation Certificates. After the assembly, the Year 6s move on to the court where they are farewelled with a haka. This is a very special time for our year 6s and a lovely way for them to remember their last day at Oteha Valley School.

We ask that you do not tell your child if they are receiving an award at any one of the above assemblies, as we like to keep it a surprise.

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## Pink Shirt Day

Thank you to everyone who wore something pink and donated to Pink Shirt Day. \$350 was raised.

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## BOT News

Kia ora from the Board of Trustees,

It has been a very unusual year for the Board of Trustees (BOT), as it has for all of us. We've managed to move our meetings to Zoom when necessary, which has meant we've been able to carry on with Board business reasonably easily. I'd like to thank the Board for their continued commitment, vision and compassion for our school and community during this year.

The BOT property team has continued to meet online and in person (depending on lock-down level) all year with the ministry and architects for our major 18 classroom building project. The architects are currently in the details design phase and will be submitting to council for consent once this stage is complete. There have been some challenges to overcome this year with the project and this has meant the timeline has moved slightly, but we remain committed to the project and will keep you informed as and when we gain consent and have a clearer indication for the project start date.

Due to the water restrictions sadly our fields have deteriorated with large cracks and holes occurring in the surface. We are of course very concerned about safety and disappointed to have to restrict the use of

the fields. The school and BOT is working hard to talk with different specialists to obtain quotes in order to repair the damage and hopefully we will have a more effective long term solution for what seems to be a recurring issue with our fields.

Term 4 is a busy one for our children, teachers and management at Oteha Valley School. We know that amidst the busyness there will be joy, laughter and learning.

Ngā mihi nui

Georgina Dew

*"An effective board of trustees does not try to do the work that their principal & staff are there to do. Instead, they are active in setting the overall direction of the school through strategic planning & review, monitoring & refining the school's progress towards its overall objective" New Zealand School Trustees Association (NZSTA)*

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## Children Not Returning in 2021

If your child is not returning to school next year, please let the office staff know. We also need to know if your child will not be starting on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 our first day. This helps us plan for classes in 2021.

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## EPro8

Congratulations to the Oteha Giraffes; Caleb, Charlie, Hunter, and Edric. They came first in the EPro8 Albany Heats and are through to the semi-finals on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November at Takapuna Normal Intermediate. Good luck to them. Thanks to Chantelle Rich who trained up all our teams who participated.





## Stationery 2021

Online stationery packs for 2021 will be available to order in December. Information on how to order will follow in the next newsletter.

By supporting our stationery campaign this year, we were rewarded with over \$1,000 which was spent on Robotics equipment.

Stationery purchased will be posted to your home address. Purchasing online will support the school to purchase additional resources for the classrooms, ensure your child has the correct stationery, and means you can avoid long queues in the Stationery shops in January!

Room 5 made this mosaic:



## Whānau Friday

Parents, caregivers, family and whānau are invited into classrooms until 9.30 a.m. each Friday for our Whānau Fridays. These days are an opportunity for your child to share something they have been doing at school and for you to participate in some activities in the classrooms. We have had a good response to this in the short time we have been offering it and it is lovely to see many of you who are able to make time on a Friday.

Classes do different things each week so please check in with your child's teacher to find out what they will be doing.

Here are some images of what some classes have been doing on Whānau Fridays.







Rooms 31 and 32

## Book Character Day

Our school was filled with characters from many different books when we had our Book Character Dress Up day a couple of weeks ago. As we do not have a library due to our growing roll, we were not able to have a Book Fair this year, but the children and staff loved the opportunity to dress up as a book character.

There were lots of *Harry Potter* characters, many, many Elsas and other characters from *Frozen*, along with *Mary Poppins*, *Spiderman*, *Little Red Riding Hood*, crayons from *The Day the Crayons Quit*. We even had our own magical *Gandalf*.

## Mathex

Mrs Coote and Mrs Faulkner took 3 teams of our top Yr. 5 & 6 Mathematicians to Northcross Intermediate for the Primary Mathex competition. Preparation for the competition had been limited due to Lockdowns but all the teams did their best. As well as being good Mathematicians the children had to be good problem solvers and strategists and work together in a team. There were 46 teams from school from the North Shore and Hibiscus Coast. Our team placings were:

**Team 2** (Joshua Lee, Tyler Pou, Kay Wu, Ivan Young)  
10<sup>th</sup>

**Team 3** (Gavin Xin, David Dong, Ryan Deng, Karry Gong)  
14<sup>th</sup>

**Team 1** (Cleo Huang, Alex Wang, Chloe Huang, Ryan Newth)  
28<sup>th</sup>

Congratulations to all the children who competed and thanks to Mrs Coote and Mrs Faulkner.

## Learning Conferences

It certainly was 3<sup>rd</sup> time lucky for us as we were finally able to get through our Learning Conferences. It was lovely to see so many parents coming to talk with teachers and I know that the teachers really valued the opportunity to talk with parents.

If you were unable to make one of the Conference Days, please contact your child's teacher to organise a time to meet with them.

## Cultural Week

One of the aspects of our school I am most proud of is our diversity. We have children, families and staff from many different cultures and this diversity is a real strength of our school. To acknowledge and celebrate this diversity, next week we are having a 'Cultural Week' where every day children will be participating in different activities when they can learn about some of the many cultures in our school.

Classes have selected one culture that we have in our school to learn more about and they been buddied up so they can share this information with another classe.

The activities are:

- Monday:** Ko wai koe? -Getting to know each other"
- Tuesday:** Toi ataata- Art from different cultures
- Wednesday** Korero Mai- Story telling from different cultures and in different languages
- Thursday** Kete aronui- Mixed bag- finishing off activities
- Friday** Whakamutunga-Our grand finale where children and teachers can dress up in the costume or some clothes from a country of their choice. Our Kapa Haka will perform on this day.

Thanks to Miss De Villiers and Miss Mbewu for organising our cultural celebration.



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## Kids For Kids Choir Performance

Mrs Coote has been working with 44 keen singers to prepare them for the Kids for Kids Concert that was held at the Bruce Mason Centre last night.

This year the concert was all about celebrating Aotearoa's "Big Aroha" with children coming together to sing some of the best of Kiwi music. The concert was fronted by NZ Music icons, Jacqui Clarke and Nathan King.

It was lovely to see all the children on stage and be able to celebrate Kiwi songs.

Kia kaha, kia haumaru



**Rose Neal**  
Principal



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## Community Notices

### Childcare

KinderCare Albany on Oteha Valley Road is offering 30% off childcare fees to all Oteha Valley Parents, for the first three months of their child's enrolment. Contact the centre to find out more at [09 479 2828](tel:094792828).



# Wave Warriors Holiday Surf Programme

The NZ Surf Academy are running their popular holiday surf programme over the spring holidays for 6-16yr olds at Orewa Beach

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## OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS

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Breathing life into learning  
 Hahatia te ora ki nga akoranga