



OTONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Te Kura o Tihiōtonga Pānui

"United by the four winds, we grow stronger together"
"Mā te kōtahitanga e ngā hau e whā, ka kaha whakapū ngātahi tātau"



<https://www.facebook.com/OtongaRoadSchool>

105 Otonga Road, Springfield, Rotorua 3015 • Phone: (07) 348-6443 • Email: otonga@otonga.school.nz • Website: www.otonga.school.nz • Principal: Gareth Cunliffe

Date: 3rd February 2023

Newsletter No: 01

Term 1 Diary:

(Please note dates/events may be added or changed without prior notice)

31 Jan	OPP 'Know me before you teach me' Meetings
06 Feb	WAITANGI DAY – School Closed
09 Feb	Y6 Ako Korimako School Gala Day RIS
10 Feb	School Whakatau – 10am
	Touch Rugby Y0-6 Registrations Due by 9am via KINDO (No late registrations accepted)
13-17 Feb	Ara kē atu transport week
15 Feb	Cricket – Mixed Incrediball Y4-6 and Futsal Y5-6 Registrations Due by 9am via KINDO (No late registrations accepted)
17 Feb	Y6 Ako Korimako Tree Trust Trip 9:15am-12:15pm
21 Feb	Y5 Ako Kārearea EOTC - Lake Okareka BOT Meeting 6pm
22 Feb	Y5 Ako Kārearea EOTC - Beach Education - Papamoa
27 Feb	NZEI Teachers PUM – Please collect your child from school at 12:30pm
01 Mar	Waka Ama
06 Mar	New Entrant Cohort 2 Starts
7-8 Mar	Y6 Ako Korimako – Amazing Race
9 Mar	Top School
14 Mar	RATS Duathlon
16 Mar	Rm 11 Library Trip – Land of the Taniwha 9:30-11:15am
	Rm 12 Library Trip – Land of the Taniwha 12:15-2pm

Term 1 Diary Continued...

17 Mar	Rm 14 Library Trip – Land of the Taniwha 9:30-11:15am
20-23 Mar	Water Safety Programme – Student Leaders
22 Mar	Rm 13 Library Trip – Land of the Taniwha 9:30-11:15am
27-29 Mar	Y5-6 Tui Ridge Camp
04 Apr	Golf Fun Day
05 Apr	CBOP Swim Sports
06 Apr	Last Day of Term 1 – School Closes at 3pm

Term Dates 2023:

Term 1: Tue 31st January – Thu 6th April
 ('Know me before you Teach me' Meetings on 31st January)
Term 2: Mon 24th April – Fri 30th June
 (Teacher Only Day on 24th April)
Term 3: Mon 17th July – Fri 22nd September
Term 4: Mon 9th October – Wed 13th December (TBC)

New Entrant – Cohort Start Dates 2023:

TERM 1	Cohort 1: Wed 1 st February
	Cohort 2: Mon 6 th March
TERM 2	Cohort 3: Mon 24 th April
	Cohort 4: Mon 29 th May
TERM 3	Cohort 5: Mon 17 th July
	Cohort 6: Mon 21 st August
TERM 4	Cohort 7: Mon 9 th October
	Cohort 8: Mon 13 th November

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – TERM 1 WEEK 1

Kia Ora Koutou, Dear Parents – Welcome ALL

I hope that you are well and have had an amazing holiday with your children. It has been fantastic chatting with some of you at our 'Know me before you Teach me' meetings on Tuesday. 2023 is going to be an **amazing** year and I am looking forward to working with all of you for the benefit of our students and school community. A special welcome to our new Year 1 and other students and whānau.

The Cunliffe Family have had a great holiday. Deck renovations and gardening were our top priorities. We spent some time at Waihi Beach and with the boys.

Once again, our teachers have put in a fantastic effort into setting up the learning environments, ready for the new year.

Thank you to Matua Dan for making our school look even lovelier. Our beautiful environment, superb facilities and passionate people make Otonga School a super place to be.

Our teachers attended the Longworth Learning Through Play Conference in Napier during the break and this was an extremely valuable learning and team building experience for us. (More about this in next week's newsletter.)

Welcome to our new teachers Whaea Nat (Room 10) and Mr Doyle (Room 20). We are also happy to introduce Matua Daniel Gibbs our new caretaker and Mrs Katrina Weller our new Admin Assistant/Secretary/Principal PA. Otonga School is really happy to have quality staff like this.



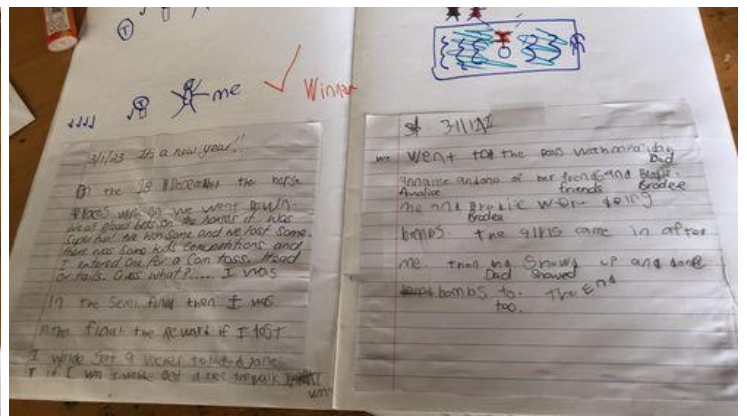
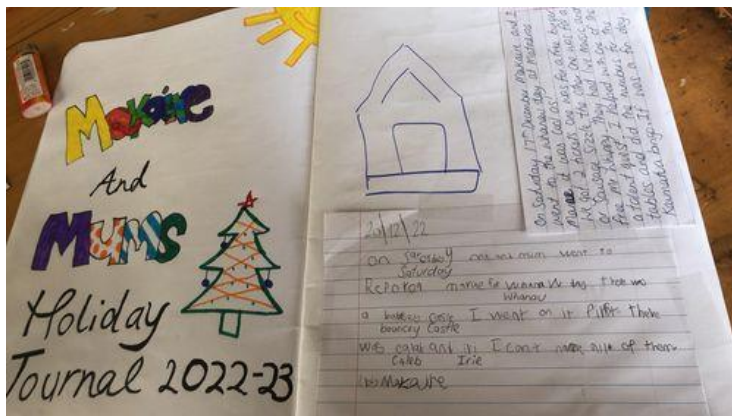
Mr Cunliffe's Holiday Challenge

Thank you to **Saffron Watts** and **Makaire Reweti** who have shared their holiday adventures with us. **Please come to my office to get a little treat.**

Saffy had an awesome summer holiday at the Ohiwa Caravan Site. She has challenged herself and has been bodyboarding for the first time and had lots of fun while learning water safety. One evening she and her brother caught their first fish with their Daddy and Uncle. The little bait fish they caught helped catch a large snapper fish out at sea the day after (dinner was sorted!)



Makaire and Mum made an awesome Holiday Journal celebrating all of the great experiences during the time.



Message from BOT Presiding Member

On behalf of the Otonga School BOT, welcome back to our returning students and staff, and welcome to those who are new to Otonga School. I trust everyone has had a good break over the holidays and are ready for a great year.

Welcome to our new staff members. We know that you will make them feel welcome. I've had the pleasure of meeting each and know they will be fantastic additions to the team.

Last year was a busy year for the Board. We had our triennial elections resulting in a new Board being elected and "changing of the guard". Thank you again to our outgoing members particularly Tim Cochrane who was Board Chair for three years.

The BOT has finalised our 5YA Property Plan with the Ministry of Education which covers our projects and spending for the next five years. Excitingly we were able to fund the purchase of a school van for trips and activities along with help from Otonga School Support Group and RECT. It has already been put to good use by the teachers who took it to Napier for the Learning Through Play conference last week. I have heard fantastic feedback about it.

Looking to the year ahead we have already begun implementing our 5YA Property Plan. We are also discussing and planning what further projects could further enhance the property and beautiful grounds at the school, so watch this space in that regard.

Thank you for your ongoing support and best of luck to everyone for the year ahead.

Jonathan Brady

Introducing...

Kia Ora! I'm Whaea Nat! I was a student at Otonga during my primary school years and am so excited to be coming back as a teacher. I am a very artsy person who loves painting, dancing, music and kapa haka. In my spare time I love hanging out with my cats in the garden and spending time with my family. I cannot wait for this new adventure in my teaching career!



Kia ora, My name is **Andrew Doyle**. I am originally from Ireland but have called Rotorua home for the last nine years. I am really excited to be a part of Otonga School this year. I am married with three daughters, Emma 9, Olivia 8 and Molly 6. I am an experienced senior school teacher with a love of sport, science and looking after our environment. I can't wait to get to know the students and their family next year, and look forward to being a part of the Otonga whānau.

Kia Ora, I'm super excited to join the Otonga whanau this year and meet all the wonderful families who make up our awesome community. Although I'm Rotorua born and raised, I spent 16 years living in Sydney teaching in the primary sector so it's nice to be home working in the NZ school system. My husband John and I have two daughters Aurora and Allegra. My girls are definitely cat people owning 2 Siberian beauties, Charlie and Suki. My interests are gardening, ancient history and getting out into the Redwoods whenever I can. Make sure you pop into the office to say hello next time you're at school, I'd love to see you. **Mrs Katrina Weller**



"Kia Ora whanau, I'm super privileged to be the new Caretaker at Te Kura o Tihīōtonga. My wife, Whaea Jess in Room 8, and my 2 boys are already here and love the school. I have a long history at the school with my grandparents being on the original school board and my mum and siblings were foundation pupils. I'm excited to do my part in keeping Otonga School as one of the greatest schools in Rotorua. I look forward to seeing you around the school."

Matua Dan Gibbs

'Know me before you teach me' Meetings

We have received some really great feedback about holding our Otonga Progress Plan (OPP) 'Know me before you teach me' Meetings before school starts.

At Otonga School we value whānaungatanga and working together with families for the success of our students. This is for teachers to learn from families and children about their students' interests, aspirations, passions and how we can best support you throughout 2023.

NZEI Union Meeting - Monday 27th February

Our teachers will be attending the above meeting. **We ask that you please pick up your child(ren) from school at 12.30 pm this day.** Many Thanks

Notice of Rotorua Central Kahui Ako Teacher Only Day on 24th April

Just a heads up that on **Monday 24th April school will be closed for students for our first teacher only day in 2023.** Four extra days over the next two years were being made available because of significant changes to "strengthen our schooling curriculum and assessment systems". Timing of the second day in 2023 and those in 2024 are still to be confirmed.

Vis Tab Sign-in Sponsor Needed

We are in search of a business to sponsor our **VisTab - People Management System**. All visitors sign in and out using Vis Tab on arrival/departure at reception in the school office.

We will add your company logo at the bottom of the default screen. It is seen by many, even through the window when the school office is closed.

The cost is \$63.25 per month. Please contact the school office if you would like the opportunity. First in first served.



School Bike Track - Jumps too dangerous

We have had some (unofficial) over-enthusiastic bike track builders working on the bike track during the holidays. They have done a fantastic job but unfortunately have created something that our primary school age students cannot use. The jumps are simply too dangerous. Please stay off the bike track until we return it to something more manageable for our bikers. Matua Dan has cordoned it off and has made a warning sign to stay off please.

Have a lovely Waitangi weekend,
Gareth Cunliffe, Principal



LOST PROPERTY



Please name **ALL** your child's belongings. This helps us to return them to the rightful owner if they are misplaced. Any unnamed items can be collected from the Lost Property shed beside the hall. Lost Property items will be displayed on Thursdays (weather permitting) on the concrete wall near the hall.



OTONGA SPORTS – Term 1 Registrations Now Open:

Cricket – Mixed Incrediball (Year 4-6)

Available to **year 4-6** boys and girls.

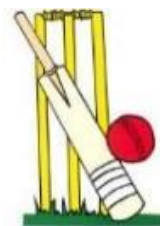
Please [click here](#) to read the registration notice, which contains important information about the game and **how to register and pay online via KINDO**.

Games will be held on **Thursday afternoons** from 3:45pm till 5pm (approx.) at **Smallbone Park**, Devon Street. **Starting on 23rd February until 30th March.**

Registration Fee = \$35 per player.

A sports shirt and shorts can be purchased from <https://www.uniformhub.co.nz/collections/otonga-school>

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Wednesday 15th February. (No late entries will be accepted).



Futsal

Available to **year 5-6** boys and girls.

Please [click here](#) to read the registration notice, which contains important information about the game and **how to register and pay online via KINDO**.

Games will be held on **Sunday afternoons** from 1pm till 7pm at the **Rotorua Girls' High School Arena**, Old Taupo Road. **Starting on 19th February until 2nd April.**

Registration Fee = \$20 per player.

A sports shirt and shorts can be purchased from <https://www.uniformhub.co.nz/collections/otonga-school>

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Wednesday 15th February. (No late entries will be accepted).



Touch Rugby

Available to **year 0-6** boys and girls.

Please [click here](#) to read the registration notice, which contains important information about the game and **how to register and pay online via KINDO**.

JUNIOR GRADING Day will be held on **Saturday 18th February** and the competition will start on Tuesday 21st February (Years 5-8); and Wednesday 22nd February (Years 0-4) from 3:30pm onwards at the Westbrook fields.

Registration Fee = \$25 per player.

A sports shirt and shorts can be purchased from <https://www.uniformhub.co.nz/collections/otonga-school>

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am FRIDAY 10th February. (No late entries will be accepted).



OTONGA SPORTS UNIFORMS

For 2023 we are introducing a new school sports uniform. This will be our uniform for **all** sports in future: touch, miniball, cricket, futsal, netball, hockey, ripper.

We are long past an upgrade and these new shirts and shorts are of top quality with a sublimated design.

These are available for you to order at:
<https://www.uniformhub.co.nz/collections/otonga-school>

You may wish to purchase these as everyday wear.

Please note: Sports uniforms will no longer be available from anywhere else, just through SportsClub.

Neil Carrington, Assistant Principal



UNIFORMHUB

OTONGA SCHOOL

PRICE LIST

TEE \$48

SHORTS \$40



\$48



\$40

Tee Size	6yr	8yr	10yr	12yr	14yr	16yr	S	M	L	XL
1/2 Chest (cm)	38	40	42	44	46	49	53	55	58	61

Short Size	6yr	8yr	10yr	12yr	14yr	16yr	S	M	L	XL
1/2 Waist (cm)	26	28	30	32	34	36	43	44	45	46

✓ FULL UNIFORM & ACCESSORIES RANGE

✓ ONLINE SHOPPING & QUOTING

✓ LAYBUY & AFTERPAY

✓ WINZ VERIFIED

✓ BEST PRICE GUARANTEE

ORDER ONLINE:
uniformhub.co.nz

CALL:
09 435 2576

EMAIL:
info@uniformhub.co.nz

LIBRARY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE NEWS

Annual Stocktake and Return of Library Books:

An amnesty is in place so please return any school Library or Readers you have found at home during the summer break.

Summer Reading Programme :

Children please return your completed '**Summer Reading Log**' and '**Favourite Book Review**' page to the Library before **Monday 13th February**.

The completed reviews with Illustration will be displayed in the Library. I hope you all enjoyed the reading challenge and had fun completing the review page. Make sure you check out the display wall later this month.

Mrs Pauline Atkinson, Library Manager



BEAN BAG WANTED

If you have a spare bean bag at home that is no longer needed, we would love to take it off your hands. Please let us know at the school office.



THANK YOU TO OUR BBQ TABLE SPONSORS

We would like to thank everyone below who very kindly sponsored a BBQ table for our school. These are a great addition to our kura and are used by all students. It is great to see our students having a space to work outside the classroom or a place to sit, eat and chat with friends. If in the future you would like to sponsor a table please contact the school. Thank you.

Amy Garrood

The plaques on the tables include:

"You are always enough" <i>Sponsored by The Reweti & Thrush Whanau 2022</i>
"Supported by Mercury"
"Take back your Weekends" <i>Sponsored by Crewcut Lawn & Garden</i>
"The important thing is not to stop questioning!" - Albert Einstein <i>Sponsored by Silver Fern Rotorua Suites & Spa</i>
Eves Real Estate



	<div><p>THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS</p><p><i>Eves Real Estate</i></p><p><i>Silver Fern Rotorua Suites & Spa</i></p><p><i>Crewcut Lawn and Garden</i></p><p><i>Mercury</i></p><p><i>Reweti & Thrush Whanau</i></p></div>	

SCHOOLDocs

We invite you to view/review our school policies at <https://otonga.schooldocs.co.nz> (Note that there is no "www.")
Our **username** is: **otonga** and **password** is: **fourwinds**



1. Follow the link to each policy.
2. Read the policy.
3. Click the red Policy Review icon at the right-hand top corner of the page. A new screen will appear.
4. Select your role (board member, staff member, or parent/caregiver) from the drop-down list.
5. Enter your name (optional).
6. Submit your ratings and comments.
If you don't have internet access, school office staff can easily provide you with printed copies of the policy and the [review form](#).

Term 1 review topics

Legislation and Administration Policy

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| • Legislation and Administration Policy | Board review |
| • Student Attendance | |
| • Enrolment | |
| • Privacy | Board review |
| • Official Information Requests | Board review |
| • Uniform / Dress Code | |

COMMUNITY EVENTS, NOTICES & SERVICES

Rotorua Central Scouts – Cub Section

Is your youth interested in joining our Scout Group? Our Den is in Pererika Street - Cub section 8 - 11yrs meets Thursdays 6 - 7:30pm. The first 4 nights are free. Contact 027-490-3124 or 07-348-5853 please leave a message if no answer, all enquiries will be replied to.

Otonga After School Care Programme

Are you looking for part time work? Or maybe you know someone who is. This job is working with children every school day from 2.30pm until 5pm. The successful applicant will be mature, good natured, able to communicate easily with children and totally responsible. It's an assistant supervisor role which requires energy and commitment. The care of the children is the focus and the ability to work in a team. If this work appeals to you, please send your CV to robyn.cowley@xtra.co.nz. We look forward to hearing from you. Nga mihi, Robyn Cowley.



Join Rotorua BMX Club

Start Up to Race

Welcome to Rotorua BMX Club and our Start Up to Race new rider programme

This fun and skills oriented development programme is designed as an introduction and pathway to BMX. BMX skills are transferable to any bike riding disciplines and all riders are welcome to participate. The programme is to learn and develop specific BMX skills using BMX bikes i.e. 20" wheels and under. There is a big emphasis is on fun and learning, fun and friendship, fun and going fast, fun and riding bikes...

Cost: 3 free go's then join the club which includes term 4 start up to race and access to the club all year

When: Thursdays 5.30pm- 6.30pm starting 2nd February 2023

Where: BMX Track cnr State Highway 5 and Waipa State Mill Road

- **Includes:** coaching, assessment, a "Skills Plate" and progression stickers
- **Gear needed:** bike, long sleeve top and long pants, closed in shoes, gloves, helmet (full face when using the gate), under 8 years old must also wear elbow and knee pads
- **Hire option:** BMX bike \$5 per night (limited availability), helmet, gloves and pads \$5 per night. Hire available from 5pm.

Any questions email rotovegasbmx@hotmail.com or message through the face book page Rotorua BMX Club

futures
GEYSERLAND



Futures Festival of Golf

WHERE: Rotorua Golf Club

WHEN: Wednesday 15th February

TIME: 4pm to 5:30pm

FREE Entry

Join us for a fun-filled golf experience at the Rotorua Golf Club!

Test your skills in the putting, chipping and driving challenges, or just come along and give golf a go!

Plenty of prizes to be given away. Suitable for young people aged 5-18 of all abilities. No previous experience is required.

For more information, contact: Penny Smith,
penny.smith@golfnz.org, or scan the QR Code



**Scan the QR Code
to find out more**





Girls' Brigade Presents

All Together Challenges

Girls' Brigade Rotorua is having an All Together Challenges themed evening for their first meeting of the year. It is for girls aged 5-18. There will be games, yummy food, and prizes to give away. The event will be held at our regular venue: Victory Church, 39 Old Taupo Rd (opposite Bunnings).



Thursday 16th February

6PM-7:30 PM AT Victory Church Rotorua, 39 Old Taupo Road

**"IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING
INSPIRATIONAL & WANT TO BUILD UP
TEAMWORK SKILLS"**

www.girlsbrigade.nz

Contact Katie on 0221288956 or email 4throtoruagb@gmail.com



**Girls'
Brigade**
4th Rotorua



GIRLS' CLUB

Thursday 6pm-7:30

Age 5-18

Girls' Brigade is an international Christian movement for girls aged 5 - 18. Girls' Brigade Rotorua meets on Thursday evening for activities, games and devotions. Club nights, outings, camps, adventure sports and international events, all offer girls opportunities to enjoy challenges, grow friendships, learn new skills, and strengthen their faith: all while having fun!

Location: 39 Old Taupo Rd-Victory Church Rotorua

Cost: \$25 per term

Contact: Phone 07 348 7733 Email 4throtoruagb@gmail.com

www.girlsbrigade.nz

Coming Soon!

**NEW AND EXCITING MENU OPTIONS ARE
COMING SOON!**

**ITS BEEN A FANTASTIC SUMMER BREAK
AND WE ARE ALMOST READY TO
RELAUNCH OUR LUNCH ORDER SERVICE
FOR 2023.**

**AT THIS STAGE WE ANTICIPATE WEEK
THREE OF TERM ONE BUT WILL STAY IN
TOUCH WITH DETAILS A LITTLE CLOSER
TO THE TIME**

**TO ALL OUR WHĀNAU AND TEACHERS,
HAVE A FANTASTIC FIRST WEEK BACK AT
SCHOOL!**



*Build Awareness, confidence, flexibility, strengths and respectful mentality.
Taekwondo helps young individuals to grow stronger while it suits all ages.
Enjoy the discipline, fun and friendly environment, and learn from well-respected
Taekwondo Master (original NZ Taekwondo federation) and instructors.*

Locations:

Session 1: Otonga School Hall Otonga Rd. Rotorua *
Mondays 6:30 to 7:20 pm (Beginners) & to 8 pm (colour belts)

Session 2: Westbrook School Hall, Malfoy Rd. Rotorua *
Fridays 6:30 to 7:20 pm (Beginners) & to 8 pm (colour belts)

*Attending both sessions are highly recommended, however enrolling for one selected session is acceptable.

Class/Term Otonga school Hall: Start date: Monday 13rd Feb 2023

Class/Term Westbrook school Hall Start date: Friday 3rd Feb 2023



Enrolment / Contact / Information:

Email: Taekwondo.Training.m@gmail.com

Text: 02040 797219

FIND OUT
HOW WE CAN
SUPPORT YOU

- Email/Msg/Txt
- Phone: 0800 563 123
- Make appointment
- Drop in to see us
- Dadzkare Group
- Fun Events



KidzNeedDadz.org.nz

 KidzNeedDadz



AUCKLAND
83 Church St
Onehunga
09 5251690

BAY OF PLENTY
538 Fraser St
Greerton
07 5710379

WELLINGTON
22 Margaret Rd
Raumati
0508 2255333

CHRISTCHURCH
21 Marshland Rd
Shirley
03 9822440



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR CHILDCARE THAT IS MORE THAN
JUST SOMEWHERE "SAFE" TO LEAVE YOUR CHILD?

IF SO, ROTORUA COMMUNITY CRECHE & KINDERGARTEN
IS THE PLACE FOR YOU!

MIXED AGES (0 - 5)

SESSIONS

MINIMUM 2 DAY BOOKINGS

20 FREE HOURS

CASUAL BOOKINGS

EXCELLENT TEACHER/CHILD RATIO

SMALL ROLL

WE EAT TOGETHER

NOT FOR PROFIT

All our children are nurtured in the same environment

Morning and All-Day sessions available

We have a variety of flexible options

From 3 years old - conditions apply

On top of what you may have permanently booked for your child

With 5 qualified and fully registered teachers

We are licenced to enrol a maximum of 38 children

Fostering a family/whanau environment and a sense of belonging

Our centre is primarily funded by the Ministry of Education. We have charitable status

ROTORUA COMMUNITY CRECHE & KINDERGARTEN INC IS A
HIDDEN GEM THAT HAS BEEN QUIETLY OPERATING FOR OVER 40
YEARS!

187 Old Taupo Road | P O Box 5010 | ROTORUA
07 348 6605 | office@rcck.org.nz | www.rcck.org.nz

