



OTONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Te Kura o Tihiōtonga Pānui



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

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

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

Date: 29th March 2023

Newsletter No: 09

Term 1 Diary:

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

30 Mar Y1 Ako Tui – All About Us 9:15-10:15am
Rm 1 Duck Tour 9:15-10:45am
Rm 3 Duck Tour 10am-12pm
03-05 Apr Y6 Ako Korimako Camp – MiCamp Taupo
03-06 Apr Y1-2 Ako Tui & Kiwi Swimming 11am – 1:30pm
04 Apr Golf Fun Day
05 Apr CBOP Swim Sports
06 Apr House Tug of War Competition 2-2:45pm
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)
(Waitangi Day – Monday 6th February)
(Easter – Good Friday 7th April to Easter Monday 10th April)
Term 2: Mon 24th April – Fri 30th June
(Teacher Only Day – Monday 24th April)
(ANZAC Day – Tuesday 25th April)
(King’s Birthday – Monday 5th June)
(Matariki – Friday 14th July)
Term 3: Mon 17th July – Fri 22nd September
Term 4: Mon 9th October – Wed 13th December (TBC)
(Labour Day – Monday 23rd October)

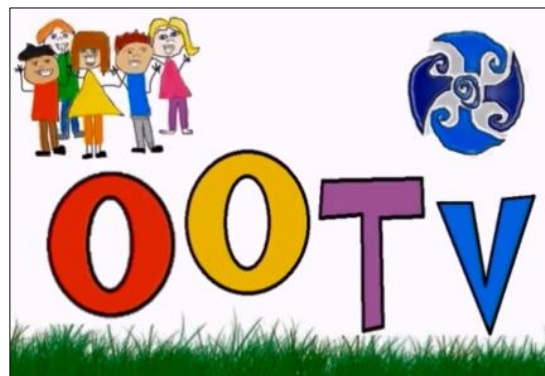
Term 2 Diary:

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

04 May OSSG/PTA AGM 7pm Otonga Staffroom
Everyone welcome!

New Entrant – Cohort Start Dates 2023:

TERM 1 Cohort 1: Wed 1st February
Cohort 2: Mon 6th March
TERM 2 Cohort 3: Wed 26th April
Cohort 4: Mon 29th May
TERM 3 Cohort 5: Mon 17th July
Cohort 6: Mon 21st August
TERM 4 Cohort 7: Mon 9th October
Cohort 8: Mon 13th November



PRINCIPAL’S REPORT – TERM 1 WEEK 9

Kia Ora Koutou, Dear Parents

Thank you all for supporting our School Disco this term and thanks to the OSSG/PTA and Teachers for the night. The students had an absolute blast.



Last Friday we took a group of Year 6 students to help with the biosecurity on Mokoia Island. We cleared traps around the whole Island, cleared the track right up to the top of the island and saw many native birds and learnt some history of the island. Nine mice were caught. Our tamariki did an awesome job and were great representatives for our kura.



Well done to all the students that competed in the RATS Duathlon. You were all a great examples of our school values!



Kind regards
Mr G Cunliffe

OTONGA SCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP (OSSG/PTA) NOTICE OF AGM

The Otonga School Support Group Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place at **6pm** on **Thursday 4th May 2023** in the Otonga school staff room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

NOTICE OF ROTORUA CENTRAL KAHUI AKO TEACHER ONLY DAY – Monday 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.



SPORTING SUCCESS



Congratulations to Ryan Kennedy (R1) who recently represented Otonga in the King Country, racing battle of the school's motocross series, it was an amazing day with Otonga students battling it out against other national schools in the mud.

Ryan again represents Otonga in the NZ battle of the schools motocross series over the next few months taking him all over the North Island with the final in Northland.

Any kids that ride at Otonga are encouraged to enter as it adds to the school points overall.

Well done Ryan, and all the best for the rest of the series!



LIBRARY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE NEWS

Overdue Library Books:

Today there are 79 books more than 7 days overdue! 'Overdue Borrower' reminder lists will be circulated to classrooms today. If children have an overdue book they will not be allowed to borrow a library book next week for reading during the school holidays. Please encourage your child to return any overdue books asap. Thank you.



My Favourite Summer Reading Book Reviews:

A wonderful effort from all the students who completed the Summer Reading Challenge. Come along and browse through the reviews with illustrations that are on display in the Library. Participation Certificates will be distributed to students.

Mrs Pauline Atkinson, Library Manager

DONATED BIKE - FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Children's Bicycle - Southern Star Bella Vista 18 Speed 24"
Free to a good home. Contact the school office if you are interested.
First in first served.



NOWRUZ CELEBRATIONS

The ESOL class have been celebrating Nowruz (Persian New Year - beginning on 21st March). We made a traditional Haft-Seen table by decorating it with seven items to symbolise our wishes for the new year.



LEARNING THROUGH PLAY – What the Science Says

Do you know that play builds brains? We look at research that shows how playful learning experiences lay the foundations for brain development and develops 21st century skills

Our brains literally change as we learn

In a sense, what we do is who we are. We now have a large – and growing – pool of evidence to show that learning through play is the best way to support learning. Children are natural scientists – they come into the world ready to experiment and learn through play. And they use what they discover to not only adapt the structure of their brains, but also strengthen the skills they need to continue being engaged, flexible learners for their whole lives.

Checkout this [video](#) (The LEGO Foundation 2023)

Bernadette Cunliffe, Learning Through Play Co-ordinator



OTONGA SPORTS & COMPETITIONS – Registrations Now Open:

Rip, Grip & Whip

Available to **year 4-6** boys and girls. This mountain bike event takes place on Tuesday 9th May 2023 at the Waipa Mountain Bike Park from 8:30am. There are three categories to choose from: Course 1 - A Taster of Mountain Biking, Course 2 - Let Me Fly and Course 3 - Legend Status. If your child is interested in competing in this event, please [click here](#) to read the registration notice which contains important information about each category, terms of participation and **how to register and pay using Kindo**.



Registration Fee = \$5 per student

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Friday 31st March.
(No late entries will be accepted).

KIWI Competitions

Available to **year 5-6** boys and girls. Kiwi English, Mathematics & Science competitions. The supervised online tests will take place in the last 3 weeks of Term 2 and the first week of Term 3. If your child is interested in competing in one, two or all three competitions, please [click here](#) to read the registration notice which contains important information, including **how to register and pay using Kindo**.



Registration Fee = \$9.90 per subject

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Friday 5th May.
(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. However, you may wish to purchase these as everyday wear as well.

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>

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
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☒ WINZ VERIFIED
☒ BEST PRICE GUARANTEE

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CALL:
09 435 2576
EMAIL:
info@uniformhub.co.nz


THANK YOU - Kōkako Speech Therapy Practice

We would like to thank Mandana & Matt from Kōkako Speech Therapy Practice, for their generous donation towards our Structured Literacy program. We really appreciate your kind donation and support, which will enhance our school's resources immensely. Thank you!



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**

<div data-bbox="164 257 555 369"></div> <ol style="list-style-type: none">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.	<table><tr><th colspan="2">Term 1 review topics</th></tr><tr><th colspan="2">Legislation and Administration Policy</th></tr><tr><td>• Legislation and Administration Policy</td><td>Board review</td></tr><tr><td>• Student Attendance</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>• Enrolment</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>• Privacy</td><td>Board review</td></tr><tr><td>• Official Information Requests</td><td>Board review</td></tr><tr><td>• Uniform / Dress Code</td><td></td></tr></table>	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	
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SEESAW

We are excited to be using the digital platform SeeSaw again this year across the school. Seesaw is a simple way for teachers and students to record and share what's happening as evidence to learning.

It gives students a place to document their learning, be creative and learn how to use technology effectively and purposefully. Each student gets their own journal (digital portfolio) and will add things to it, like voice, photos, videos, drawings, or notes.

Parents and whānau can have access to this in real-time and can add feedback and comments.

Click on these to find out more: [Seesaw for Families](#) [SeeSaw for Schools](#)

How to access SeeSaw

You will have been sent an email with an invitation to sign up to your child's portfolio. If you need to be reinvited, please contact your classroom teacher or myself.

Neil Carrington, Assistant Principal



VISTAB 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.



COMMUNITY EVENTS, NOTICES & SERVICES

Geyser City Squash Club

Junior Squash Programme starting Term 2 at Geyser City Squash Club. All school age children welcome including complete beginners. To register interest, please email juniors@geysercitysquash.co.nz with child's name, DOB and school. Phone Claire 027 361 7310. Facebook: Geyser City Squash Juniors.



OTONGA
HOLIDAY Club

11 – 21 April 2023
7:30am – 17:30pm

\$40 per day

includes
full breakfast
and lunch

OSCAR
accredited
WINZ subsidy
available

DAILY ACTIVITIES

Painting Station
Creation Station
Colour Station
Popsicle Stick Art
Free Play
Movies
& much more

OUTDOOR PLAY

Playgrounds
Forte Building
Bring your Bike
Old School Games
Ultimate Tag

For further details
contact us:

Leandri – 027 348 7707
info.otonga@osprograms.co.nz
Otonga School Hall
105 Otonga Road Springfield



Skills Clinic



Wednesday 29th March 6 – 7pm

Stroke Skill Session

Saturday 1st April 9.30 – 10.30am

Starts & Turns Session

It is time to upskill
your knowledge
on:
Starts
Turns
Finishes
Speed
Technique
Then come and
join in!

The Skills Clinic is open to all,
including Swim Rotorua Junior
Academy
plus
all children competing in CBOP
Inter-school swimming event.

These are free skills clinics. General admission payable at the door

MID ISLAND GYM SPORTS SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME April 2022



Two options available: 8.00am – 3.00pm (\$35 per day) or 8.00am – 5.15pm (\$45 per day).
We start the day with a range of fun games, followed by the daily activity. During the day the children will get to take full advantage of our awesome Gymnastics & Trampoline facilities.

We are Ministry of Social Development approved for OSCAR subsidies.
Application forms for OSCAR must be completed 2 weeks PRIOR to the Holidays commencing.

<p><u>Monday, 10th April</u></p> <p>CLOSED</p>	<p><u>Tuesday, 11th April</u></p> <p>CIRCUITS</p> <p>Make the most of our facilities and give everything a go</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, 12th April</u></p> <p>BAKING DAY</p> <p>Will it be Savoury or Sweet?</p>	<p><u>Thursday, 13th April</u></p> <p>SKILLS DAY <u>Cheerleading & Trapeze</u></p> <p>We have something new for you to try.</p>	<p><u>Friday, 14th April</u></p> <p>EQUIPMENT DAY</p> <p>Hut building and fun games with all the equipment</p>
<p><u>Monday, 17th April</u></p> <p>CIRCUITS</p> <p>Make the most of our facilities.</p>	<p><u>Tuesday, 18th April</u></p> <p>SKILLS DAY <u>Trampoline & Cheerleading</u></p> <p>A full on energy buster day.</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, 19th April</u></p> <p>BAKING DAY</p> <p>Yummy ANZAC Biscuits</p>	<p><u>Thursday, 20th April</u></p> <p>B DAY</p> <p>A day full of activities, brought to you by the letter</p>	<p><u>Friday, 21st April</u></p> <p>SHARED LUNCH & MOVIE DAY</p> <p>Bring a shared lunch and watch some movies.</p>

BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS ARE REQUIRED IN ADVANCE TO SECURE THE DATES.

We reserve the right to alter the daily programme depending on the enrolled numbers.
We have lots of fun recreational activities in store. Suitable for children aged 5-13yrs.

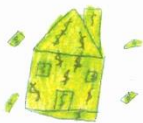
Children are to bring; morning tea & lunch, plus an extra snack for the late pick up, a NAMED water bottle & socks for trampoline use.

If you would like more information or wish to make a booking please contact us.
Address: 60c Te Ngae Road Rotorua Email: migsholidayprogramme@outlook.co.nz

Working for FAMILIES

Even kids can't imagine the real difference financial support could make for their family.

Kids have big imaginations. So when asked how they'd spend an extra \$300 a week we got some very ambitious answers...



pheasant farms, diamond ring slides, a pumpkin-headed robot that will save the world, and plenty more.



While magical, we realised sometimes the most amazing dreams are actually the dreams children's families have for them.



That's why financial support for their future goes to you.

Working for Families payments help families busy raising the next generation.

Payments are based on your income, family circumstances and are available to qualifying families with dependent children 18 years or under.



There are four types of Working for Families payments.

You may qualify for more than one payment type, depending on your personal situation.

Best start tax credit

A payment for families supporting a newborn baby.

If you qualify for Best Start you'll receive the payment until your child turns one - no matter what your family earns. You could continue to receive Best Start payments until your child turns three, but this will depend on what your family earns.

Best Start payments begin once paid parental leave finishes.

In-work tax credit

A payment for qualifying families who have some income from paid work each week, with no minimum hours of work required.

Like the family tax credit, this payment depends on how much your family earns.

If you're receiving an income-tested benefit or a student allowance you will not qualify for this payment.

Minimum family tax credit

A payment to make sure qualifying low-income families get a minimum level of income.

The parent, parents, or caregivers need to work a required number of hours for salary and wages.

A single parent must work at least 20 hours a week. In a two-parent family or other family structure, one or both parents between them must work at least 30 hours a week.

If you're receiving an income-tested benefit you will not qualify for this payment.

Family tax credit

A payment to help qualifying families with the costs of raising children.

This payment depends on how much your family earns, the number of dependent children you have, and any shared care arrangements.

If you receive an income-tested benefit you may also qualify for this payment. In this case, Work and Income will usually pay you the family tax credit.

To see if your family may qualify, check out the Working for Families calculator at ird.govt.nz/workingforfamilies - it only takes 5 minutes to complete.