



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 whakapupu 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: 10th May 2023

Newsletter No: 13

Term 2 Diary:

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

11 May	Y5 Ako Kārearea - EPro8 Interschool Event OSSG/PTA AGM 6pm Otonga Staffroom Everyone welcome!
12 May	Hui a Kura
15 May	Rm 7 – Taniwha Library Trip 9:30-11:30am Rm 8 – Taniwha Library Trip 12:30-2:30pm
16 May	Rugby 9's Rm 6 – Taniwha Library Trip 9:30-11:30am Y2 Ako Kiwi – Te Pui Kiwi Enclosure Trip 9:30am-12:30pm Rm 5 – Taniwha Library Trip 12:30-2:30pm
19 May	Hui a Kura Pink Shirt Day
26 May	Whole School Singing/Waiata 11:45am-12:30pm
29 May	New Entrant – Cohort 4 – Starts School
30 May	School Cross Country BOT Meeting 6pm Staffroom
02 Jun	Hui a Kura
05 Jun	King's Birthday – SCHOOL CLOSED
06 Jun	Rugby 5's
13 Jun	Central Schools Cross Country Perform Educational Musicals Performance
16 Jun	Hui a Kura – Held by Y2 Ako Kiwi at 11:45am
20 Jun	BOP Cross Country Championships

Term 2 Diary Continued...

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

23 Jun	Whole School Singing/Waiata 11:45am-12:30pm
27 Jun	COLOUR FUN RUN
	BOT Meeting 6pm Staffroom
30 Jun	Hui a Kura Last Day of Term 2 – School closes at 3pm

Term Dates 2023:

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)

New Entrant – Cohort Start Dates 2023:

TERM 2	Cohort 3: Wed 26 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: 1 st Day of Term 1, 2024 (TBA)

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – TERM 2 WEEK 2

Kia Ora Koutou,
 Dear Parents & Caregivers

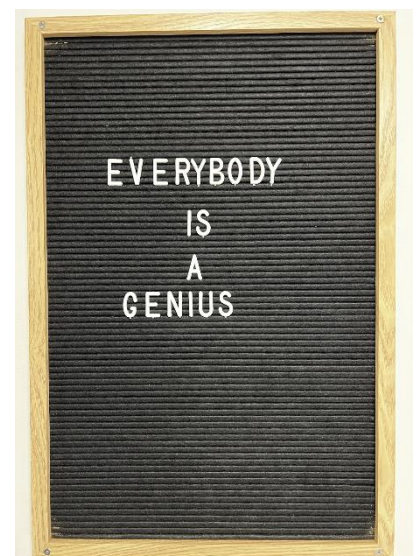
Do Something You Enjoy!

My family and I have just attended The Otago University Open Day in Dunedin. As many of you may already know, my eldest son is in his third year there and it was a chance to take the youngest along to see what is available as he may attend in 2024 too.

Well, what is available is everything! It made us think of how lucky we are in NZ to have so many options. The choices are endless and if you are not planning on going to Uni, then Polytech has numerous choices too. For our children, the world is literally their oyster!

We attended some fantastic 'lectures' and no matter which department was presenting (BArts, BComm, Education etc.), the lecturers all had a few common things in their talks...

- **DO SOMETHING YOU ENJOY**
- **FOLLOW YOUR INTERESTS**
- **DON'T SPEND TOO MUCH TIME FINDING THE PERFECT FIT - GIVE IT A REAL GO AND IF IT IS NOT WORKING, CHANGE IT**
- **BE YOURSELF - WHAT SKILLS CAN YOU BRING TO THE LEARNING**



Well, how does this apply to Primary School? A great deal actually as we are as the NZ Curriculum says, ‘a vision of young people developing the competencies they need for study, work, and lifelong learning, so they may go on to realise their potential.’



No matter what our children choose to do one day, we are creating the leaders of the future to be positively contributing members of society. **How exciting is that?**

In next week's newsletter: What skills, learning dispositions(habits) etc. are important for us to teach and learn at Otonga School for our students to succeed.

Have a lovely week.

**Kind regards
Mr G Cunliffe**

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

The Otonga School Support Group Annual General Meeting (AGM) will now take place at **6pm** on **Thursday 11th May 2023** in the Otonga school staff room. Everyone is welcome to attend.

WITH MUM ALL THE WAY!

Mr G (our new caretaker) and his brother ran the Rotorua Marathon with his mum who has done it 43 times! Congratulations whānau, this is a huge effort. [Click on Seven Sharp Link here](#)



Amazing Achievement

MRS BARNETT

Congratulations to Miss Sarah Bain who has recently got married and is now Mrs Sarah Barnett.



UPDATE ON KITTY

OWNER FOUND! Thanks to our students, Mr & Mrs Cunliffe and Pahl Whānau for looking after her.



BENEFITS OF PLAYING IN THE RAIN

Over the past two weeks we have experienced a lot of **RAIN**. This did not however stop our students from getting outdoors at times and exploring. Of course, we're not saying we let them get soaked and cold as a result! If it's really coming down or if there's a storm/strong winds, we keep them indoors. But, a little light rain and some playing in the wet can actually be really good for children's physical and mental development.

Benefits: Children learn that water does not only come out of a tap - where our natural resource comes from.

Mud kitchens are fantastic to interact with texture, in the rain. The rain that keeps coming down, cleans the kitchen while playing.

Letting children respond to the rain and nature helps them to understand what is and isn't safe. They learn the difference between a light drizzle and a torrential thunderstorm.

Children will experience how slippery a wet surface can be, and how rain changes how well they can see.

Moving about on wet surfaces takes more concentration, strength and agility.

They learn how to move things that cannot get wet, under shelter - like drying the clean washing.

A wet day enhances their senses as it smells, tastes, looks and feels different.

Please make sure all students come to school with a change of clothes in their bags. A raincoat is also a good idea. It's really important to keep children warm while they enjoy the rain to keep them fit and healthy.

Mrs Bernadette Cunliffe - Learning Through Play Leader



ROTORUA MINI MARATHON 2023

Well done to all the runners who took part in the Rotorua Mini Marathon last Friday, as well as the teachers and parents who supported on the day. It was an awesome event and fabulous to have our whole school attend.




ROTORUA Daily Post

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Photos: Rotorua Mini Marathon

Young runners were out in force taking part in the 2023 Rotorua Mini Marathon.



Image 16 of 27: Rotorua Mini Marathon Finn Civil from Otonga School. Photo / Andrew Warner




ROTORUA Daily Post

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Photos: Rotorua Mini Marathon

Young runners were out in force taking part in the 2023 Rotorua Mini Marathon.



Image 11 of 27: Rotorua Mini Marathon Benjiman Ye (left) and Bailey McLeod from Otonga School. Photo / Andrew Warner




ROTORUA Daily Post

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Photos: Rotorua Mini Marathon

Young runners were out in force taking part in the 2023 Rotorua Mini Marathon.



Image 8 of 27: Rotorua Mini Marathon Ryleigh Kiore-Turner from Otonga School. Photo / Andrew Warner




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Photos: Rotorua Mini Marathon

Young runners were out in force taking part in the 2023 Rotorua Mini Marathon.



Image 20 of 27: Rotorua Mini Marathon Evelyn Fiske from Otonga School. Photo / Andrew Warner

ARRIVAL TIMES AT SCHOOL & BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

Students may only come to school at 8:15am please as any time before that creates a health and safety issue as there are no teachers available before this time unless in exceptional circumstances. Children will not be allowed into the classrooms until **after 8:15am**. Students arriving early need to be enrolled in before school care. If you need care before school, this service is provided in the hall. To enrol your child or for more information please contact **Leandri** on **027 348 7707** or email otongasp@gmail.com



**OTONGA
BEFORE SCHOOL CARE**

Otonga Primary School Hall

For further details, contact us:

Leandri - 027 348 7707

otongasp@gmail.com

SCHOOL FUN RUN

This Friday we will be launching our School Fun Run. Your child will bring home a letter and a sponsorship booklet. Please follow the instructions and create a profile and share, share, share! The class which creates the most profiles in the first week will get to run first on the event day. We hope you'll support our school and students in fundraising for shade sails and astroturf.

Mr Neil Carrington, Assistant Principal



TUESDAY 27TH JUNE

OPPs (OTONGA PROGRESS PLANS) and 3WAY GOAL SETTING MEETINGS

We will be holding Otonga Progress Plans and 3Way Goal Setting Meetings with you and your child on:

Wednesday 7th June 3:30-6:45pm - last booking at 6:30pm

Thursday 8th June 3:30-5:30pm - last booking at 5:15pm

Tuesday 13th June 3:30-6:45pm - last booking at 6:30pm

Please log in at <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/y2gea> to book your interview or scan the QR code.

Please note Room 20 will book direct with Mr Doyle on different days.

 School Interviews



SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS RESULTS

The CBOP School Swimming Sports were held at the Rotorua Aquatic Centre on 5th April 2023. There were approximately 230 competitors including a small but enthusiastic contingent from Otonga. The Otonga swimmers also saw some success in the following events:

100m Freestyle

Year 5 Boys: 1st – Eli Cyca

50m Backstroke

Year 5 Girls: 2nd – Paige Bedford

Year 4 Boys: 3rd – Zach Lovell

25m Freestyle

Year 5 Girls: 2nd – Nina Cochrane

50m Freestyle

Year 5 Girls: 2nd – Paige Bedford

Year 5 Boys: 3rd – Eli Cyca

50m Butterfly

Year 5 Boys: 1st – Kian Lovell

50m Breaststroke

Year 5 Girls: 1st – Violet Thomsen, 3rd – Paige Bedford

Year 5 Boys: 2nd – Eli Cyca.



Congratulations to all participants on a successful day's swimming!

AWESOME EFFORT

AUTHORSHIP

Our professional development in authorship focuses on working with our learners, from the inside out. Using the internal and external lives of our students, we lead our learner-writers to develop the ability (the behaviours, habits and skills) to produce pieces crafted with precision, sincerity and personal voice driven by a clear understanding of audience and purpose. Please enjoy these authors' pieces from Room 21! They have worked hard to use internal monolog while describing a moment from school camp.

Mrs Rebecca Scott

LULLABY

YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE. WHEN YOUR
BODY GOES SIDE TO SIDE. YOU THINK
WHAT IF I FALL OFF THEN I DON'T
MAKE IT BACK UP? I THEN WENT BOOM
BOOM BOOM CLANK AW I THOUGHT
THAT IT WAS PAINFUL. MY BODY HIT THE
GROUND. BARK CRUNCHED ON MY FACE.
'THAT HURT.'

BY MORGAN-LEXI

ROCK JUMPING

YOU SCRAMBLE UP THE ROUGH EDGES OF THE ROCKS, CAREFUL NOT TO SLIP ON THE WET
SURFACES. AS YOU MANAGE TO CLIMB TO THE JUMPING ROCK, YOU PEEK OVER THE EDGE AND
INSTANTLY REGRET IT.

THE WATER GUSHES ALL AROUND YOU, FOAMING AND BUBBLING. THEN THOUGHTS ENTER YOUR
MIND SAYING

'OH NO! WHAT HAPPENS IF I HIT THE BOTTOM'
AND 'WHAT IF I CAN'T SWIM TO THE SURFACE?'

WHATEVER YOUR FEELINGS MAY BE IT'S TOO LATE NOW AS YOUR FRIENDS ARE CHATTERING
BEHIND YOU PRESSURING YOU TO GO. YOU JUMP... IN THOSE FEW SECONDS WHERE YOUR FEET
LOSE CONTACT WITH THE GROUND, IT FEELS SO PEACEFUL AND SERENE YOU FLOAT FOR A SECOND
AND PLUNGE INTO THE ICE COLD WATER

BY HOLLY

The Burma Trail...

The teacher gathered all the kids together,
As we were walking along the path the teacher said "oh no we went
the wrong way" the other kids ran off screaming "AHHHHHH" that
left 4 of us.

Nerves slowly crawled up my back as I heard something in the bush.
The wind took my breath away in a second. I wasn't scared,
'something is coming...' I thought
I stepped in the dark path knowing there was no turning back.

By Kiriana

Zipline

You know what it's like.
Going up the ladder,
you look down and your body shakes.
Your grip tightens and your feet
ground themselves into the steps.

You see people coming up behind you.
'why am I here?' You say to yourself.

You jump off. It's too late to go back
now. You race down to the ground
crying like a waterfall.

By Damon

Fantastic Writing



First Credit Union provides a school banking service to all pupils at Otonga School.

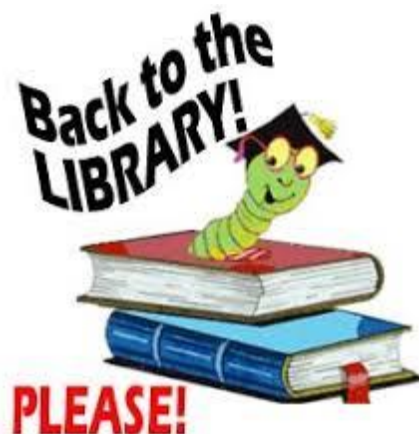
Getting started is easy - just pick up an application pack from the school office, complete the application attached and bring it in to First Credit Union Kawerau Branch along with your child's original birth certificate or passport. If your children are already doing school banking, remember that the school banking is collected on Wednesday each week.

LIBRARY & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE NEWS

Overdue Library Books:

Thank you to everyone who returned a Library book during the past week. Today we have 110 overdue books borrowed by students prior to the school holidays! **Please return these to the Library 'RETURNS' box as soon as possible.**

Some **Reading Kit books** are still missing so please also **RETURN any SCHOOL READERS** sent home during Term1.



Scholastic Book Club:

Issue 3 brochures have been circulated to classrooms and orders close on **Monday 15th May**.

On-line Ordering: All information for Parents/Caregivers is on the Scholastic website www.scholastic.co.nz All Classrooms are registered for Loop on-line ordering if you have any problems with the web page please phone Scholastic for assistance. You can also choose to order a gift (please mark this clearly on the order form) and if ordering on-line, select 'Library gift for child' parents will be contacted when the gift arrives.

Payment: Parents can also order and pay at school (cash or EFTPOS accepted).

Order Form: Please complete the paper order form on the back page - remember to write in your Child's Name, Room Number and the Item No.

Items purchased through Scholastic Book Club earn the school reward points that are used to purchase further resources. Thank you for your participation and support.

Mrs Pauline Atkinson, Library Manager

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**

SchoolDocs Policies and Procedures Instructions for Reviewers

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 2 review topics

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)

- **Education Outside the Classroom** Board review
- **EOTC Planning and Review**
- **EOTC Risk Management**
- **EOTC Coordinator**
- **EOTC External Providers**
- **EOTC Staff Competence**
- **EOTC Event Categories**
- **EOTC Communicating with Parents**

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



Taekwondo Term #2/ 2023 **Olympic martial art sport (& self-defence)** **(Join @ New members welcome)**



*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)

Class/Term **Otonga school** Hall: Start date: **Monday 1st May 2023**

Class/Term **Westbrook school** Hall Start date: **Friday 28th April 2023**

Enrolment /Contact / Information:
Email: Taekwondo.Training.m@gmail.com
Text: 02040 797219



**Attending both sessions are highly recommended, however enrolling for one selected session is acceptable.
@ WTF style uniform can be purchased from online stores like Trademe or Budokan in lake road Rotorua.*



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.



Inland Revenue
Te Tan Taake



Whānau Golf Fun Day

LAKE VIEW GC | SUNDAY 4TH JUNE | 9:30AM
\$20 PER WHĀNAU

Join us for the Futures Whānau Golf Day, where teams can be made up of a mix of mum, dad, siblings, or grandparents!

Team Golf is an excellent opportunity for young beginner golfers to get out on the course and play with friends. Play shortened holes as a team and enjoy a fun Whānau day out!

The It's OK relaxed rules ensure it's all about everyone having fun!

For more information or to register please contact:
Sam Kendall, sam.kendall@golfnz.org



techweek2023



ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL

Digital Wellbeing: Keeping your kids safe online

A workshop for parents and whānau on wellbeing, mental health, social media, online bullying, toxic gaming and inappropriate content - what to do and where to go for help

Tuesday 16 May
6.30pm - 7.45pm
Digital Natives Academy,
1251 Fenton Street,
Rotorua

Kindly facilitated & supported by



Digital Natives Academy

NATIVE tech.



MADISON BLUES MARCHING

LEARN TO MARCH



Whether you're aged 7, 27 or 57, marching could be the sport for you. Come along and take part in our free Learn to March Programme.

No experience needed and no obligation to join.

Register your interest today for more details.



FACEBOOK: @MADISONBLUESMARCHING
EMAIL: MADISONBLUESMARCHING@GMAIL.COM