



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 whakatupu 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: 16th August 2023

Newsletter No: 25

Term 3 Diary:

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

16 Aug	Rhythm Interactive
17 Aug	Y1 & 3 Tennis in Schools – Give Tennis a Go
17-30 Aug	Life Education
18 Aug	Y2 Tennis in Schools – Give Tennis a Go
21 Aug	New Entrant Cohort 6 Starts School
22 Aug	Whānau Hui – Staffroom 6-7pm
24 Aug	Rugby 9's
	R15 Multicultural Lunch 11:30am-1:30pm
25 Aug	Rotorua Junior Tough Guy & Gal Challenge
	Hui a Kura 11:45am-12:20pm – Hosted by Room 11 Ako Kiwi
28 Aug	Y5-6 Bike Safety Eke Haumarū Starts
	Y4 Ako Korerū – Museum Trip
29 Aug	Y6 Ako Korimako – RIS Orientation Visit
	9am-12:30pm
	Golf Fluro Fun Day
	BOT Meeting
29 Aug	Y6 Ako Korimako RIS Orientation 12-2:30pm
31 Aug	Otonga PTA Meeting 6-7pm Staffroom
1 Sep	Y4 Ako Korerū – Museum Trip 9:30-11:30am
6 Sep	Wig Wednesday – Child Cancer Fundraiser
8 Sep	Hui a Kura 11:45am-12:20pm – Hosted by Room 3 Ako Korerū
	School Disco 5:30-8:30pm
13 Sep	CBOP Winter Sports Field Day

Term 3 Diary continued:

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

15 Sep	MIGS Gymnastic & Trampoline Competition
19 Sep	Rip, Grip & Whip Mountain Bike Event
21 Sep	Y3 Ako Ruru – Whakaue Marae Maketu Trip
22 Sep	Y5-6 Bike Safety Eke Haumarū Ends
	Hui a Kura 11:45am-12:20pm – Hosted by Room 5 Ako Tui
	Last Day of Term 3 – School closes at 3pm

Term 4 Diary:

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

9 Oct	New Entrant Cohort 7 Starts School
21 Nov	Rotorua Primary Schools Ahurei
13 Dec	Last Day of Term 4 – School closes at 3pm

Term Dates 2023:

Term 3: Mon 17th July – Fri 22nd September

Term 4: Mon 9th October – Wed 13th December

(Labour Day – Monday 23rd October)

(Teacher Only Day (TOD) - Monday 13th November)

New Entrant – Cohort Start Dates 2023:

TERM 3	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 3 WEEK 5

Kia Ora Koutou - Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Māori Educational Success

As required by the Education and Training Act, Otonga School's board ensures that every student at Otonga School is able to achieve their highest possible standard. Otonga School is also committed to te Tiriti o Waitangi and gives effect to te Tiriti by achieving equitable outcomes for ākonga Māori (Education and Training Act, s.127).



In order to help realise the purpose of Te Mātaiaho, embrace Te Reo and Te Ao Māori and to do things better, these are **some** of our achievements over the past three years:

- In 2021, our school made new history by joining The Rotorua Central Kahui Ako (RCKA) Community of Learning. Our Principal is now the co-lead Principal and leads the governance group with his colleagues from Glenholme School, RIS, Boys' High, Girls' High, Malfroy School, Ngakuru School, SDA School. This enables us to be part of Achievement Challenges, one being Culturally Responsive Pedagogy.
Our Leader of Māori works closely with the across school leaders from the Kahui Ako.
- Strategic planning in line with the National Education Learning Priorities (NELPS) for connection and growing relationships with Māori whānau to support involvement in our school.
- Employed culturally responsive staff who put relationships at the centre of learning and who value students' prior knowledge, culture, language and ways of making sense of the world.
- Introduced effective Teaching and Learning Through Play Pedagogy that honours Te Ao Māori and creates opportunities for Māori to be Māori. It recognises akonga as holders of taonga and mātauranga in the context of their learning. Kaiako, in the context of effective pedagogy, can bring rangatiratanga of Māori learners to the forefront, so that akonga are comfortable in bringing their iwitanga into their learning.
Play ensures equitable access to the curriculum, and values different world views, perspectives, experiences and measures of success.
- Eliminated streaming and put in its place a personalised, flexible model where all tamariki can progress and achieve at their own level and pace no matter where they start in their learning journey.
- Transformed our learning, assessment and reporting to formative practices using Otonga Progress Plans (OPPs) that value who our tamariki are, where they come from, what they bring to the learning and what their whānau aspirations are for learning, wellbeing and progress.
- Appointed a Leader of Māori and team with a strategic plan to lead this important kaupapa.
- Engaged tamariki with waiata and kapa haka (Junior and Senior Ropu) to perform at Ahurei. Tamariki enjoy schoolwide weekly Waiata practice.
- Started using [the Wai Ako](#) Resource schoolwide to ensure all students are learning Te Reo Māori.
- Enabled and supported our Teachers to enrol for [Te Ahu o te Reo Māori – Te Taumata O Ngāti Whakaue](#)
- Connection to Te Tiriti o Waitangi is evident through our school values. Our school values are Māori values. These concepts are a shared language across our kura and linked to our graduate Year 6 student profile. These values are New Zealand values for all citizens.
- Our kura now uses He Pātaka Kōrero o Ngāti Whakaue as part of our Aotearoa NZ Histories Curriculum.
- Appointed a Leader of Aotearoa NZ Histories to bring this learning alive from 2023.

**Kind regards
Gareth Cunliffe**



BOT NEWS

Hello to all our parents and caregivers,

Just a courtesy message that at our last board meeting I stepped down as presiding member. This was a rewarding role but due to other commitments it was one that I felt I was unable to give my all to.

Werner Naude was elected as replacement. He is a fantastic leader and has my full support. The school is in a fantastic space and as a board we continue to work hard for you and your whānau.


See our BOT here: <https://www.otonga.school.nz/our-bot/>

Thank you
Jonathon Brady


IMPORTANT SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Safety First: No U-Turns and No Walking Through the Teacher's Carpark!

Safety is a top priority of ours and the well-being of our students, staff, and visitors. To ensure a safe and secure environment for everyone, we kindly request your cooperation in two important matters:

 **No U-Turns:** We kindly remind all parents and drivers dropping off or picking up their children to please refrain from making U-turns in front of the school. U-turns can lead to congestion, confusion, and potential accidents. Instead, we encourage you to find a **safe and legal** spot to turn your vehicle around, such as down Kiwi street or McDowell street or the top end of Otonga Road well clear of the school and neighbouring houses. This small effort will go a long way in maintaining a smooth traffic flow and ensuring the safety of our tamariki.



 **No Walking Through the Teacher's Carpark:** Our teacher's carpark is designed to provide a safe and convenient parking space for our dedicated staff. We kindly request that students and parents refrain from using the teacher's carpark as a shortcut. Please use designated pathways and crossings to safely move around the school. This will help prevent any accidents and maintain a secure environment for everyone.



We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in these matters. By working together, we can create a safe and nurturing environment where each student can thrive!



Otonga is taking part in **JUMP JAM 4 StarJam 2023** on **Friday 18th August**. This exciting event will be held at Otonga to raise awareness around disability and promote health and wellness in our community. Please show your support and donate a gold coin and receive a cool StarJam wristband. All funds raised will go to StarJam so they can continue to help young people with disabilities to unleash their potential through the magic of music, dance and performance.



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 or after 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 info.otonga@osprograms.co.nz



OTONGA
Before & Aftercare

OASCP changes to OSP from 26 June 23

Before care
\$8
per hour
7:15am to 8:15am
BREAKFAST INCLUDED

Aftercare
One child \$9 per hour
Two children \$8.50 per hour
Three children \$7.50 per hour
3 pm to 5:30pm
AFTERNOON TEA INCLUDED

Leandri - 027 348 7707 Sharon - 0274 866 148
info.otonga@osprograms.co.nz
Please contact Leandri for the Before care and Sharon for Aftercare. Leandri will be taking all after hour calls. Thank you.

OTONGA PTA – CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Exciting news! Our chocolate extravaganza is in full swing, and your sweet tooth is in for a treat. The scrumptious Whittaker's chocolate bars have been a hit at just \$2 each – a true delight and a contribution to a wonderful cause.

A big shoutout for your amazing efforts! You've been simply fantastic so far. Thank you for your incredible enthusiasm and support.

We're rounding up all the money and any unopened bars of chocolate with open arms until **Friday, 25th August**.

So, it's not long now until the class with the highest chocolate-selling mojo will claim their crown of glory.

If you're hungry for more chocolaty goodness, you're in luck! More boxes have just arrived!

Got questions? Need a high-five? No worries! Our fantastic PTA team will be hanging out in the office every morning, eager to collect your moolah and any leftover chocolate treasures. We've got your back!



We take "Play" Seriously!

Ako Kārearea Year 5

During our Matariki celebrations we made a collaborative manu tukutuku. Some children chose to follow the construction urge and design and build their own kites. This involved much trial and error and experimenting with different designs, materials and test flights on Jackson Park. Through this play children were actively exploring concepts such as aerodynamics, balance, lift, weight and durability.

Soap Carving

Children were inspired by the carvings in the Wharenuī at our recent overnight stay to Ōwhata Marae. Children were given the opportunity to sketch the carvings in the Wharenuī. When we returned to school a number of children discussed the idea and desire to create their own carvings. This activated the idea of soap carvings and the urge of play through **Transformation** (turning something into something else). Children were given the chance to create their own soap carvings while experimenting with a variety of different tools.



Whai (String Games)

Children were given the opportunity to experiment with traditional string games in preparation for our Marae visit. Children excelled in the art and were able to tell stories, create amazing designs, communicate and inspire others. They also demonstrated Tuakana-Teina by teaching the younger children. This demonstrates the play urge of **Transformation and Patterning**.



Minecraft - Design a Wharenui



Wharenui Design - Following on from our recent Noho Marae Trip, Students have designed and created their own Wharenui as a **response** to their experience. Using the maths skills learnt in our recent



geometry and **measurement units** they have shown their resourcefulness using recycled materials to build their individual piece. They soon learnt working in pairs **Problem solving / collaboration** helped the process, rethinking and remaking many components until their structure were robust enough to paint and add extra details. A work in progress



BAKE SALE!

Fundraising for the S.P.C.A.
Please tell us if you have allergies

Cookies



\$1.50

Pupcakes



\$2

Kittycorn



\$1.00

Pupcorn



Bun-Bun
Slices



\$1.50

23rd August

Year 12, 13 and 14

Start 9:30 year 4, 5 and 6's 11:00

If you have any Towels, blankets or toys
Please donate. All proceeds will go
to the S.P.C.A.

Please be Patient and Kind to your hosts

Whānau Hui

Kia Hiwa Ra! Kia Hiwa Ra!

Kia ora e te Whānau

In response to feedback received from our community collaboration survey, we have used the information to identify where we would like to build on what we do in the area of Cultural Māori Educational Success.

Te Kura o Tihiōtonga would like to hold a whānau hui and we welcome all whānau to come along on **Tuesday 22nd August at 6pm**. We will provide kai in the staffroom and get together in a relaxed setting, to discuss how we can best support our learners in Te Ao Māori and to ensure success for Māori as Māori.

Together, we can nurture our cultural responsiveness as teachers and learners and we would love to have our whānau come along and be part of these discussions.

To RSVP and to ask any questions, please get in touch with Whaea

Arihi aharvey@otonga.school.nz or Whaea Sheena ssearle@otonga.school.nz or Mr Gareth Cunliffe gcunliffe@otonga.school.nz

Kei te tumanako mātou ki te kite i a koutou. We look forward to seeing you there!

CELEBRATING CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Year 6 ESOL Group and Friends Embrace Traditional Indian and Pakistani Cuisine.

In a heartwarming display of cultural exchange and culinary exploration, the Year 6 English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) group, along with friends, recently came together to embark on a flavourful journey through the Indian and Pakistan cuisine. Led by the talented Dilshan Dhillon from room 20, the students made 'Pronthey' a traditional Indian and Pakistan food.



OTONGA SPORTS & COMPETITIONS – Registrations Now Open:

Golf Fluro Fun Day - Year 1 to 6

This event is open to year 1-6 boys and girls.

Event Date: Tuesday 29th August 2023

Venue: Rotorua Golf Club

Time: 9:00am to 11:30am

Cost: \$5 per player

This is a fun day out to learn new skills and enjoy a day out with your friends! Teams of 4 students, Fluro Dress-up, Great Spot Prizes.



Please read the registration notice for this event, which includes important information on the format for the day, what to wear and bring etc and how to register & pay via Kindo. This is available under 'Notices' on the SchoolApp or on SeeSaw.

Please note adults will need to take children to and from the event, plus each team must be accompanied/supervised by an adult throughout the duration of the event.

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Friday 18th August.
(No late entries will be accepted).

Netball – Term 4

Open to year 1-6 boys and girls who are interested in playing Netball in Term 4 this year. **This tournament is 6 games and will be held on Monday afternoons at the Rotorua Netball Courts on Malfroy Road. Game times start from 4pm.**

The **Year 1-2 grade** is 4 aside and played on a modified court with portable goals.

The **Year 3-4 grade** is 5 aside and played on a full court with portable goals.

The **Year 5-6 grade** is 6 or 7 aside and played on a full court with portable goals.

The season starts on **Monday the 16th October** and finishes on **Monday 27th November**.

Please read the registration notice for this event, which includes important information on coaches, umpires, what to wear, rules to abide by and how to register & pay via Kindo. This is available under 'Notices' on the SchoolApp or on SeeSaw.

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Wednesday 6th September.
(No late entries will be accepted).



Rip, Grip & Whip

This a mountain bike event available to year 4-6 boys & girls.

Event Date: Tuesday 19th September 2023

Venue: Waipa Mountain Bike Park

Time: 8:30am onwards

Cost: \$5 per student



IMPORTANT NOTE: All children that registered for the Rip, Grip & Whip event which was meant to be held on the 9th May 2023 are automatically registered for the new date of 19th September 2023. Please do not register again. **This is an opportunity for anyone that didn't register the first time to register now.**

Please read the registration notice for this event, which includes important information on what to wear and bring, course information and how to register & pay via Kindo. This is available under 'Notices' on the SchoolApp or on SeeSaw.

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Wednesday 6th September.
(No late entries will be accepted).

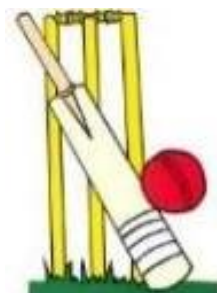
Cricket – Term 4

Incrediball Cricket (Year 3 to 5):

- Games held **Thursday, 3:45 pm till 5 pm** (approx.) at **Smallbone Park**, Devon Street.
- Starts on **26th October** through until **14th December 2023**
- **Cost is \$35 per player.**
- Incrediball teams are **required to have a coach and someone to score/umpire.**

Harrow Hardball Cricket (Year 4 to 6):

- **HARD** cricket ball, wooden bats and protective gear (helmets, gloves, batting pads etc) are used.
- Suited for children who have already played Incrediball Cricket or who have well-developed hand-eye coordination.
- Begins on **27th October** until **14th December 2023** and **resumes in late January 2024** (2024 start date tbc).
- The cost for hardball cricket is **\$70 per player** for the whole Summer 2023-24 season.
- Teams are **required to have a coach and someone to score/umpire.**



Please read the registration notice for this event, which includes important information on what to wear, when games will be played etc and how to register & pay via Kindo. This is available under 'Notices' on the SchoolApp or on SeeSaw.

Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Friday 8th September.
(No late entries will be accepted).



Harcourts Rotorua

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Auctioneer Shane Cortese

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A little effort from all of us helps move a mountain, or in this case - creates a cellar!

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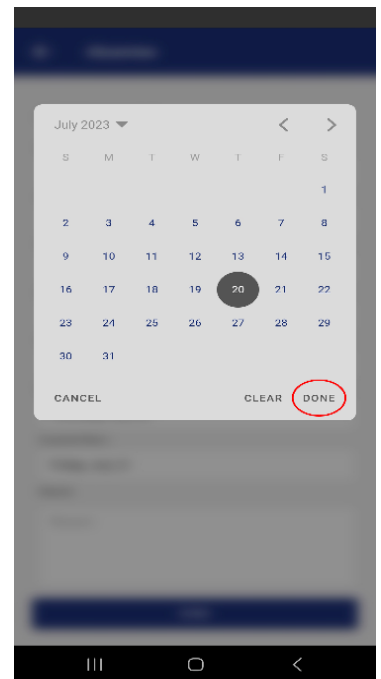
Kindo recommend that if you are having a problem using KINDO either on your computer or on the mobile phone app, that you contact the Kindo Helpdesk straight away. This way you can explain the exact problem you are having and KINDO can troubleshoot the issue while you are on the phone.



Issues can arise for various reasons, usually they have to do with the web browser (Firefox/Safari/Google Chrome etc) or the app platform (such as Apple iPhone/Android Google Play) being used. Because of this the issues can be quite different and not the same for everyone.

OTONGA SCHOOLAPP - ABSENTEE EMAIL FUNCTION

A number of parents have contacted us to advise that they are having issues with our SchoolApp Absentee function, not being able to scroll down further on the screen to be able to type in a reason for the absentee. It seems this problem occurs if you are using an out-of-date version of our SchoolApp or if you are using an **iPhone**. Please make sure you are using the most current version of the SchoolApp, you may need to go to the Apple App Store or Google Play to download this. If you have an iPhone, when entering an absentee email, you need to select an 'Absent From' Date and click DONE before it will allow you to scroll further down. The 'Absent From' date automatically appears in the box, however you still need to click on this box, select a date and then click 'DONE'. If you have any further problems, please let us know.



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 3 review topics

Curriculum and Student Achievement

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| • Inclusive Education | Board review |
| • Māori Educational Success | Board review |
| • Learning Support | Board review |
| • Learning Support Coordination | |
| • Identify Learning Support | |
| • Gifted Learners | |

 - A STEM WANA TRUST KAUPAPA -

TAURANGA STEM Fest

IS BACK!



THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS



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YEAR 6 TRANSITION TO ROTORUA INTERMEDIATE

School Orientation Visits

Year 6 students will visit Rotorua Intermediate on Tuesday 29th August or Wednesday 30th August.



Open Evening

Thursday 31st August 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the RI gym - for year 6 students and their whanau.

Year 6 Entrance Testing

Takes place at primary schools during August/September. Catch-up testing is at Rotorua Intermediate on 21st September at 9am.



Enrolments

Enrolments can be done online or in person, these are due in by the end of term 3 - Friday 22nd September.

Whanau Meetings

10th or 11th October - establishing a working and supportive partnership and getting to know your child.



Visit our website www.rotorua-intermediate.org.nz

Please contact Stephanie Chand for further information stephaniec@rotorua-intermediate.org.nz

Children's fishing days

Catch Your First Rainbow Trout - learn how to fly fish!



This fun opportunity, run by the Rotorua Anglers Association, is available to children 6 to 14 years old at Fish & Game Eastern Region, 1130 Paradise Valley Rd, Rotorua.

2023 Fishing dates:

Sunday 6th, August
Sunday 3th, September
Sunday 8th, October
Sunday 5th, November

PRE BOOKING YOUR SPOT IS ESSENTIAL

Bookings, information and news at: www.fishandgame.org.nz/eastern/news/childrens-fishing/



All this for a suggested donation of only \$5.00 per child to help fund the event. Note Eftpos is NOT available - please bring cash

We provide top quality specially designed fishing tackle, a plastic bag to take your catch home, safety glasses and a certificate to celebrate the anglers achievement.

Catch a tagged trout in the pond and WIN a spin rod and reel set from KILWELL.

Ample parking is available on the grass area as you enter the grounds. You are welcome to further explore the grounds via the walkway.

Drinks and barbequed sausages are available to satisfy hungry anglers and parents.

Observe safety rules at all times and DO NOT leave children unattended

Note Eftpos is NOT available - please bring cash



MONTHLY CHESS TOURNAMENTS FOR JUNIORS

A FUN, SOCIAL CHESS TOURNAMENT OPEN TO ALL PLAYERS AGES 4 TO 18 HELD ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH!

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS)

VENUE: ROTORUA BRIDGE CLUB, NEIL HUNT PARK

TIME: 1:00PM - 5:30PM

ENTRY FEE: \$20 (IF REGISTERED BEFORE THE DAY)

- 7 ROUND SWISS TOURNAMENTS WITH A TIME CONTROL OF 15 MINUTES FOR EACH PLAYER.
- 3 DIVISIONS BASED ON RATING.
- CERTIFICATES FOR EVERY PLAYER IN ALL DIVISIONS.
- SPECIAL PRIZES - TROPHIES, MEDALS AND BADGES

TO REGISTER OR FIND MORE DETAILS, GO TO

WWW.CHESSPOWER.CO.NZ/PAGE/EVENTS

FOR ENQUIRIES, CONTACT US AT Genni951@gmail.com (NICK)