



# OTONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Te Kura o Tihiōtonga Pānui



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

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

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2023

Newsletter No: 26

### Term 3 Diary:

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

- 17-30 Aug Life Education
- 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
- 15 Sep MIGS Gymnastic & Trampoline Competition
- 19 Sep Rip, Grip & Whip Mountain Bike Event
- 21 Sep Y3 Ako Ruru – Whakaue Marae Maketu Trip

### Term 3 Diary continued:

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

- 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 17<sup>th</sup> July – Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> September

**Term 4:** Mon 9<sup>th</sup> October – Wed 13<sup>th</sup> December

(Labour Day – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October)

**(Teacher Only Day (TOD) - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November)**

### New Entrant – Cohort Start Dates 2023:

- TERM 3 Cohort 6:** Mon 21<sup>st</sup> August
- TERM 4 Cohort 7:** Mon 9<sup>th</sup> October
- Cohort 8:** 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Term 1, 2024 (TBA)

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – TERM 3 WEEK 6

Kia Ora Koutou - Dear Parents and Caregivers,

### Breaking News - Principal for the Day

Congratulations to **Mr Karki** who will be the Principal for the day on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> August.

Aahaan raised **\$1,120** and won this awesome experience.



In a statement today Aahaan said, "I feel a bit nervous but excited". "I would like students to play all day and bring a favourite toy."

Our Colour Run was a hugely successful event raising \$16,792 in total, which will be put towards shade sails outside the Year 2 and 3 area. Many thanks to those who promoted it and for the sponsors who donated to our school.

**Kind regards**  
**Gareth Cunliffe**



## Whānau Hui

It was awesome to see so many whānau at our hui last night. We shared fantastic ideas about what we can be doing to progress within the Māori space at Te Kura o Tihiōtonga.



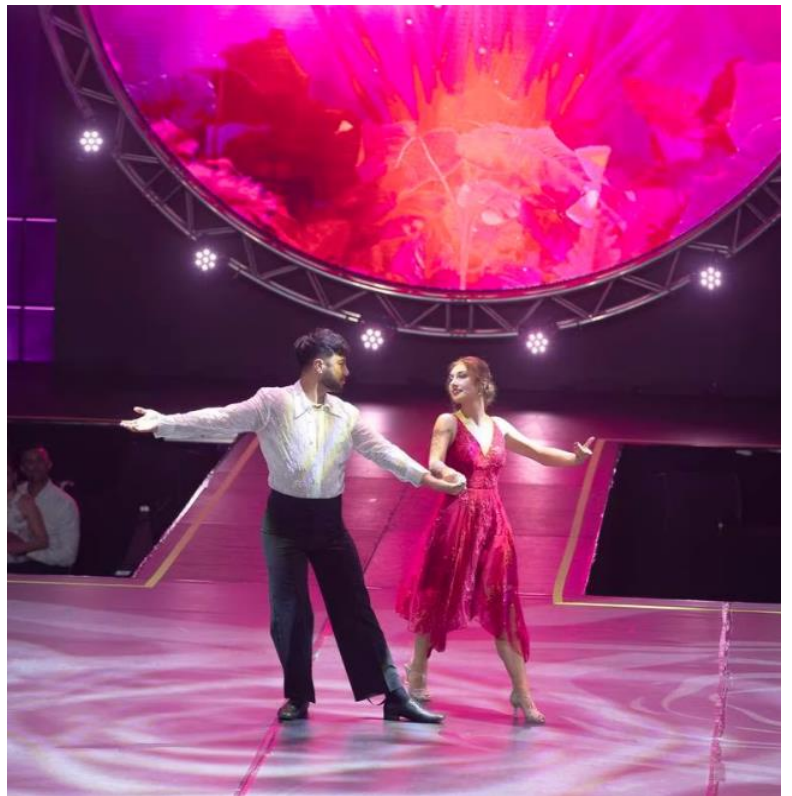
## Congratulations Nathalie Macfarlane

We are thrilled to share the exciting news from last Saturday night's Harcourts Dancing for Hospice event held at the Rotorua Energy Events Centre. Our very own Nathalie Macfarlane took the stage by storm with her dance partner George Taurua, making us immensely proud.

Over the past 16 weeks, Nathalie poured her heart and soul into preparing for the event and her hard work truly paid off. As the night drew to a close, Nathalie and George found themselves in a thrilling dance-off. The couples spectacular rumba performance was a showstopper, captivating the audience and judges alike.

We are delighted to announce that Nathalie and George secured the title of runner-up for the evening, showcasing their incredible prowess on the dance floor. This achievement is a reflection of their dedication, discipline and passion for both dance and supporting the vital cause of Hospice Rotorua.

We would like to applaud Nathalie for her outstanding accomplishments and her contributions to this charitable endeavour. Her journey is an inspiration to us all, reminding us of the power of perseverance and the joy of giving back to our community. Congratulations Nathalie!







# Cancer Society Daffodil Day

It is **Daffodil Day** this **Friday, 25th August**. We would love our tamariki to wear **yellow and dress up** to show our support to the Cancer Society.

We will be collecting **gold coin donations** for those who wish to bring koha and will have some yellow fabric daffodils to sell.

Thank you everyone.

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## OTONGA PTA – CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Our chocolate extravaganza is coming to a close this Friday. Please be sure to bring all money raised and any unopened bars of chocolate to the office this week. The last day to do this is **Friday, 25th August**.



Thanks to our fantastic PTA helpers for volunteering their time to hang out in the office every morning, collecting your moolah and any leftover chocolate treasures. They have been a brilliant bunch!

Thanks also to everyone who has done their part to support this PTA fundraiser!  
Keep up the great work!



Thank you to everyone who came along to **JUMP JAM 4 StarJam 2023** last Friday. Our school raised **\$368** for this worthy cause, which would not have been possible without your support.

# We take "Play" Seriously!

Ako Korimako Year 6

## DRAMA

In Room 20 we have been doing drama. We have been looking at the elements of drama and applying them. We have been playing with some of the conventions of drama such as creating freeze frames. We have created fictional character descriptions in our writing and then been able to play that character in role. We also created a whole class freeze frame. We will continue to integrate our drama and writing together over the coming weeks.

## Mokoia Island and Catfishing

The Year 6 students have the opportunity to visit Mokoia Island to continue their work around making New Zealand pest free. We emptied the traps at Mokoia Island and caught seven mice last week. It was also the first time to empty catfish nets at Lake Rotorua where we caught one catfish and the children were able to ask great questions to Keely from Te Arawa Lakes Trust and have a real hands on experience with the creatures in the lakes.



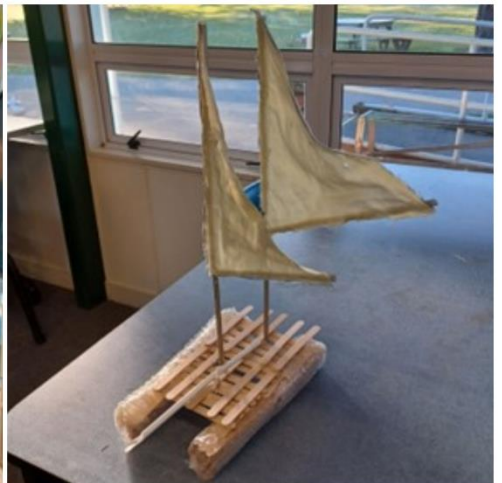


## Rakau and String Games

In room 22 we have been exploring and playing Maori games. Room 19 came and taught us how to play with rakau which was great fun but very noisy. We also discovered many interesting string patterns which we used to tell stories like Ihenga.



Room 21 has been exploring the way that Maori came to New Zealand. We read the story of Kupe's voyage and investigated what he used to get to Aotearoa New Zealand then we researched and made our own models of Waka Hourua. We had a lot of fun testing our models to see if they would float and whether they could carry a weight of 200 grams and two lego people.





## LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE NEWS

### Please Return Overdue Library Books:

There are more than 130 books that should be returned to the Library asap. Thank you.



### Scholastic Book Club:

Issue 6 brochures will be circulated to classrooms today for hand-out to children. This offer has a great selection to choose from.

**Orders will close on Thursday 31st August.**

**On-line Ordering:** All Classrooms are registered for Loop on-line ordering. 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). For those Parents & Caregivers new to the school, items purchased through Scholastic Book Club earn the school reward points that are used to purchase further reading and teaching resources.

Thank you for your support.

*Mrs Pauline Atkinson, Library Manager*



## OTONGA SPORTS & COMPETITIONS – Registrations Now Open:

### 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 16<sup>th</sup> October** and finishes on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> September.**  
(No late entries will be accepted).



## Rip, Grip & Whip

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

**Event Date/Time:** Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 8:30am onwards

**Venue:** Waipa Mountain Bike Park

**Cost:** \$5 per student



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

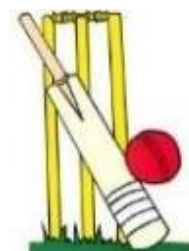
Please read the registration notice for this event, which includes important information on what to wear and bring, course information and how to register & pay via Kindo. This is available under 'Notices' on the SchoolApp or on SeeSaw.

**Registrations need to be completed via KINDO by 9am Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> September.**  
(No late entries will be accepted).

## Touch Rugby – Term 4

**GRADING Day** will be held **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October** and the **competition starts** at the Westbrook fields **from 3:30pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October** for **Years 5-6** and **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** for **Years 1-4**. There is a Touch Rugby registration fee of \$25 per player payable upon registration.



Please read the registration notice for this event, which includes important information on when & where 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 Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September.**  
(No late entries will be accepted).

## Rippa/Rip Rugby – Term 4

The Bay of Plenty Rugby Union will be running a 6-week module for year 0-6 Rippa/Rip Rugby in term 4, **starting on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023**. These are mixed teams of girls and boys. Games will be held at Kaitao Intermediate on Thursday afternoons from 4pm.




Please read the registration notice for this event, which includes important information on when & where 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 22<sup>nd</sup> September.**  
(No late entries will be accepted).

## 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!



## 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](mailto:info.otonga@osprograms.co.nz)

A colorful poster for Otonga Before & Aftercare. It features a sun icon in the top left and abstract colorful shapes in the background. The text is organized into sections for 'Before care' and 'Aftercare' with pricing and contact information.

**OTONGA Before & Aftercare**

**Before care**  
OASCP changes to OSP from 26 June 23  
**\$8 per hour**  
**7:15am to 8:15am**  
BREAKFAST INCLUDED  
**Leandri - 027 348 7707**

**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  
**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.



## KINDO HELPDESK – Phone 0508 454 636

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

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



- A STEM WANA TRUST KAUPAPA -

# TAURANGA STEM Fest

IS BACK!



THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS



TAURANGA WESTERN BAY COMMUNITY EVENT FUND



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TAURANGA



**FREE TICKETS**

**SUNDAY  
01 OCT  
10AM-4PM**

GIGABYTE SPONSORS



Get your free tickets online: **stemfest.nz**

 Book Now

OPEN 3 JUNE - 16 OCTOBER



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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](http://www.rotorua-intermediate.org.nz)

Please contact Stephanie Chand for further information [stephaniec@rotorua-intermediate.org.nz](mailto: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/](http://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](http://WWW.CHESSPOWER.CO.NZ/PAGE/EVENTS)

FOR ENQUIRIES, CONTACT US AT [Genni951@gmail.com](mailto:Genni951@gmail.com) (NICK)