



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: 6th September 2023

Newsletter No: 28

Term 3 Diary:

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

- 8 Sep Hui a Kura 11:45am-12:20pm – Hosted by Room 3 Ako Kererū
SUPERHEROES & VILLAINS DISCO:
Years 1-3 from 5:30-6:30pm
Years 4-6 from 6:45-7:45pm
- 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
- 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 Dates 2023:

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

Term 4: Mon 9th October – **Thu 14th December**

(Labour Day – Monday 23rd October)

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

New Entrant – Cohort Start Dates 2023:

TERM 4 Cohort 7: Mon 9th October

Cohort 8: 1st Day of Term 1, 2024 (TBA)

Term 4 Diary:

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

- 9 Oct New Entrant Cohort 7 Starts School
- 13 Oct Y3 Ako Ruru – Ngakuru School AG Day
- 21 Oct Hui a Kura 11:45am-12:20pm – Hosted by Room 6 Ako Tui
- 23 Oct Labour Day Public Holiday – School Closed**
- 31 Oct Book Week – Book Swap Day
- 2 Nov Book Week – Book Character Parade 9:15am
- 3 Nov Hui a Kura 11:45am-12:20pm – Hosted by Room 7 Ako Tui
- 13 Nov Teacher Only Day (TOD) – School Closed**
- 17 Nov Hui a Kura 11:45am-12:20pm – Hosted by Room 8 Ako Tui
- 21 Nov Rotorua Primary Schools Ahurei
- 30 Nov Celebration of Learning Day
- 1 Dec Road Patrol Fun Day
Hui a Kura 11:45am-12:20pm – Hosted by Room 4 Ako Tui
- 6 Dec Y6 Ako Korimako Graduation Assembly 5pm
- 12 Dec Leadership Assembly 11am-12pm
- 14 Dec Last Day of Term 4 – School closes at 3pm**

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – TERM 3 WEEK 8

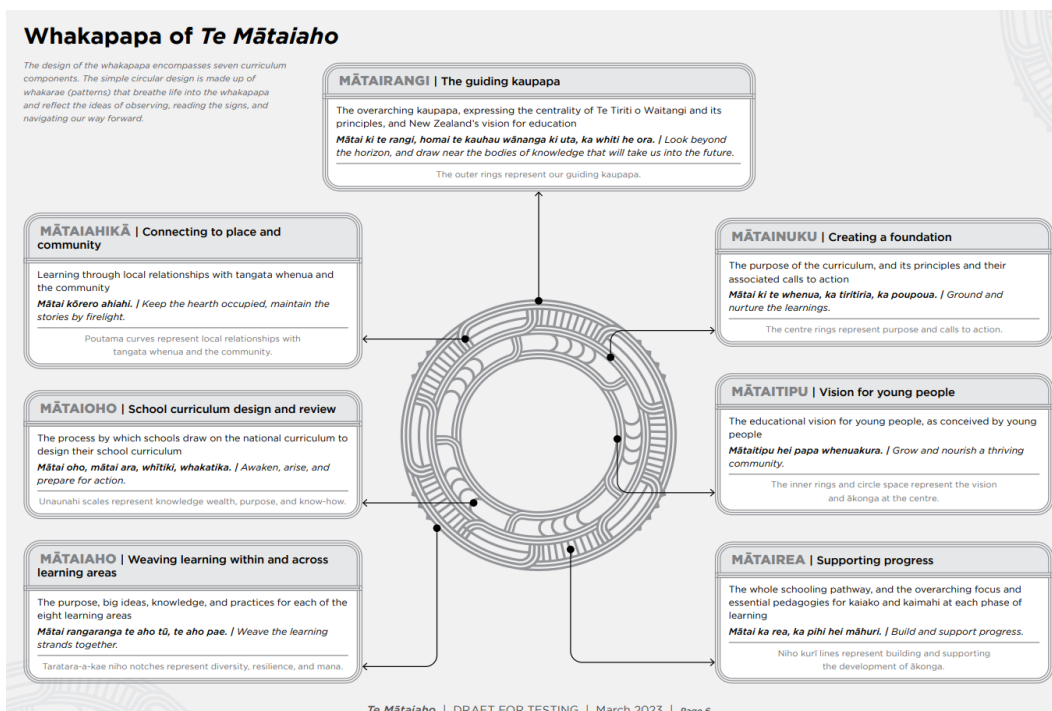
Kia Ora Koutou - Dear Parents and Caregivers,

NZ Curriculum Refresh Te Mātaiaho

The Ministry of Education is two years into a six-year programme to refresh The New Zealand Curriculum.

Te Mātaiaho, the refreshed curriculum will support every ākonga (learner) to experience success in their learning. It will give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and will be inclusive, clear about the learning that matters, and easy to use from year 0 to year 13.

Te Mātaiaho will continue the same eight learning areas as in the existing 2007 Curriculum.



What's different from the existing curriculum?

Te Mātaiaho, the refreshed NZ curriculum includes:

- the whakapapa of Te Mātaiaho
- Mātaaitipu - vision for young people – this was written by young people
- a purpose statement to ensure equity and inclusion for all ākonga.

Mātauranga Māori will sit at the heart of the learning areas, with key competencies, literacy, and numeracy explicitly woven into each learning area.

This will help ākonga understand a dynamic and evolving knowledge system unique to Aotearoa.

The refreshed curriculum will be progression-focused, rather than outcomes-focused.



Curriculum levels and achievement objectives will be replaced with five phases of learning: Y1-3, Y4-6, Y7-8, Y9-10 and Y11-13.

Read more about it here:

[Refreshing The New Zealand Curriculum | Curriculum Refresh \(education.govt.nz\)](#)

[Learning at Otonga School](#)

Gareth Cunliffe
Principal

[2023 Leavers and New Enrolments for 2024](#)

Please let us know if your child/ren will **not** be returning for 2024 or if you know of any **new enrolments** for 2024. You can do this by emailing otonga@otonga.school.nz. This notice does not apply to our year 6 leavers.

2024

[Last Day 14th December 2023](#)

Please be advised that our last day of school this year will be Thursday 14th December. School will finish at 3pm as usual on this day.

[Notice of TOD on 13th November 2023](#)

There will be a Teachers Only Day on Monday 13th November. School will be closed on this day.

[Introducing – Whaea Tracy](#)

Kia ora, my name is Whaea Tracy, and I'm thrilled to become a part of the Otonga community in the upcoming term. My husband, Craig, and I relocated to New Zealand from South Africa nearly six years ago with our two boys, Benjamin and Mathew. Our family has a deep love for the outdoors and enjoy exploring the natural beauty of New Zealand. As a beginner teacher, I look forward to sharing this learning journey with the remarkable tamariki joining us in our Room 16 new entrant startup class and getting to know their whānau. Whaea Tracy





OTONGA SCHOOL

**SUPER
HEROES AND
VILLAINS**

DISCO

8TH September 2023

\$2 entry

Year 1-3

5.30-6.30

Year 4-6

6.45 - 7.45



Chips - \$1

Glow Sticks 3 for \$1

Chocolate \$2

Sausage Sizzle \$2



**This disco is fundraising for
large outdoor loose play
resources!**

Please Remember your permission slip on the night



We take Play Seriously!

Ako Kiwi Year 2

Last Rāmere (Friday), Ako Kiwi invited our whānau in for an afternoon of sports fun!



There was a range of sports equipment for us to choose from, such as tennis rackets and tennis balls, rugby balls, basketballs, hoola hoops, eggs and spoons, nets and cones to set up our own games.

We had a huge game of mastertag on the field... it was hard to tell who took the game more seriously; the adults or the children!

It was a wonderful afternoon with the sun shining! Everywhere we looked, there were adults and children with big smiles plastered on their faces. What an awesome way to finish the week - playing with our favourite people! This is a moment we know our tamariki will remember forever!



Take a look at these photos; they really do speak for themselves!

Team Ako Kiwi



Whānau Hui Follow Up

Kia ora e te whānau

We held our first whānau hui on the 22nd August and it was wonderful to engage with our whānau to discuss the needs of our tamariki Māori. One of two matters arising was the need to form a subcommittee to ensure the aspirations discussed are actioned. If you feel this is you, please contact Whaea Arihi aharvey@otonga.school.nz and I will send you details when that hui will be held.

The second matter is that our kura needs the services of a kaikorero and a kaikaranga to represent us when our kaumatua and kuia are unavailable. If you know someone who can tautoko us, please make contact. Ngā mihi maioha.

Kua raranga tahi tātou he whariki mō āpōpō. Together we weave the mat for future generations

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE NEWS

Winners of the NZ Book Awards for Children & Young Adults:

The winners of the 2023 NZ Book Awards for Children & Young Adults were announced last month and I am pleased to let you all know that the *Winning Book Titles* are now on display in the Library for our students to browse through and enjoy. These awards are a unique celebration of the contribution New Zealand's children's authors and illustrators make to building national identity and cultural heritage.



Awards in the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults are made in six categories: Picture Book, Junior Fiction (the Wright Family Foundation Esther Glen Award), Young Adult Fiction, Non-Fiction (the Elsie Locke Award), Illustration (the Russell Clark Award) and te reo Māori (the Wright Family Foundation Te Kura Pounamu Award), NZSA Best First Book Award.

2023 Winners are listed below:

Margaret Mahy Book of the Year Award also Elsie Locke Award for Non-Fiction

Te Wehenga: The Separation of Ranginui and Papatūānuku, written by Mat Tait. This was the first time a bilingual book has been awarded the top prize at the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults.

Picture Book Award Winner

Duck Goes Meow, written by Juliette MacIver, illustrated by Carla Martell

Wright Family Foundation Esther Glen Award for Junior Fiction

Below, by David Hill. *Below* is a powerful read, from one of Aotearoa's most exceptional storytellers.

Young Adult Fiction Award (not on display)

Iris and Me, by Philippa Werry

Russell Clark Award for Illustration

A Portrait of Leonardo, written by Donovan Bixley. This book is an illustrated biography of Leonardo Da Vinci and creates a vibrant historical read..

Wright Family Foundation Te Kura Pounamu Award for te reo Māori

Kua Whetūrangitia a Koro, written by Brianne Te Paa, illustrated by Story Hemi-Morehouse. This title is also available in English 'HOW MY KORO BECAME A STAR'.

NZSA Best First Book Award

The Lighthouse Princess, written by Susan Wardell, illustrated by Rose Northey. The Lighthouse Princess takes the reader to an escapist hideaway on a rocky coast inhabited by creatures both real and imagined.

The New Zealand Book Awards for Children & Young Adults are made possible through the generosity, commitment and vision of funders and partners, one of those being HELL PIZZA who sponsor a major nationwide Reading Challenge. This is a great incentive to encourage children to read and many of our students entered into the reading challenge this year.

You are welcome to call into the Library before or after school to view the winning books on display.

Mrs Pauline Atkinson, Library Manager

OTONGA PTA – CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser.

Our PTA are still collecting money and unsold chocolates. If you have been contacted we ask that you please reply to the Otonga PTA via PTA@otonga.school.nz.



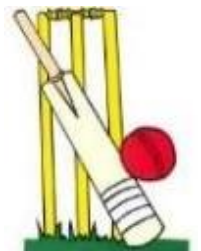
If you are unable to make it into the school office, the PTA request that payment be made directly into their bank account 12-3155-0004181-00.

OTONGA SPORTS & COMPETITIONS – Registrations Now Open:

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).

Touch Rugby – Term 4

GRADING Day will be held **Saturday 14th October** and the **competition starts** at the Westbrook fields **from 3:30pm on Tuesday 17th October** for **Years 5-6** and **Wednesday 18th 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 20th 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 26th 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 22nd 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.

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

A colorful poster for Otonga Before & Aftercare. It features a sun icon in the top left and a large green splat in the center. The text is arranged in two columns: "Before care" on the left and "Aftercare" on the right. The background is a mix of purple, green, and blue with abstract shapes.

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
info.otonga@osprograms.co.nz

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

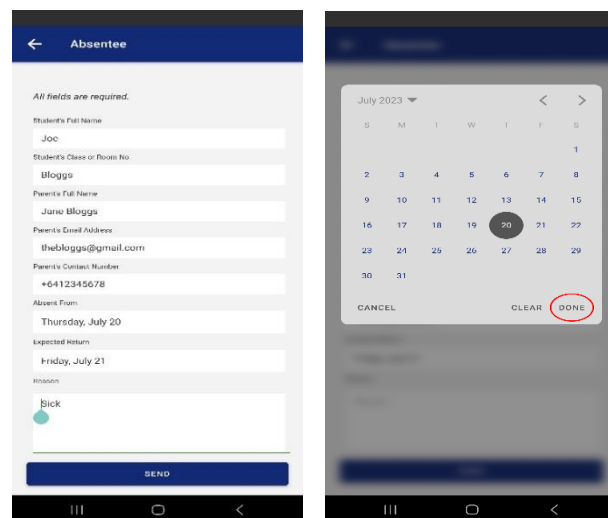
Kindo recommend that if you are having a problem using KINDO either on your computer or on the mobile phone app, that you contact the Kindo Helpdesk straight away. This way you can explain the exact problem you are having and KINDO can troubleshoot the issue while you are on the phone.



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

BOT NEWS

If you would like to view our BOT Minutes, please contact Antonia Magness our BOT Secretary via amagness@otonga.school.nz.



The poster for Tauranga STEM Fest features a vibrant purple and blue background with colorful geometric shapes. At the top left, the 'STEM Wana' logo is displayed. The main title 'TAURANGA STEM Fest IS BACK!' is prominently featured in large, bold, white letters. To the right, a circular inset shows children engaged in a STEM activity, building structures with sticks and beads. The event details 'SUNDAY 01 OCT 10AM-4PM' are enclosed in a large white curly bracket. Below this, a green speech bubble contains the text 'FREE TICKETS'. The location 'DURHAM ST TAURANGA' is marked with a location pin icon. The poster also includes logos for various sponsors and funders, such as 'BAY OF PLENTY', 'TAURANGA WESTERN BAY COMMUNITY EVENT FUND', 'HEADLINE SPONSOR MANAWA ENERGY', and 'GIGABYTE SPONSORS' including Zespri, Ballance, and The University of Waikato. At the bottom, a pink banner reads 'Get your free tickets online: stemfest.nz'.

TAURANGA STEM Fest IS BACK!

SUNDAY 01 OCT 10AM-4PM

FREE TICKETS

DURHAM ST TAURANGA

Get your free tickets online: stemfest.nz

MARG'S SWIM SCHOOL
St. Marys Primary School.
Heated Pool

Learn to swim recommences Monday 16 October 2023

Non Confident – to – Confident Swimming and Water safety

Phone Marg. 0274599286

email: boiellm@hotmail.com

Please include your phone number with an email.

EDVENTURE active outdoor holiday programmes

Edventure Young Explorers Camp
(8-12 year olds)
Mon 2nd-Fri 6th October
(2nd week of the holidays)
\$525

We have an amazing week lined up with bush walks, archery, air rifle, rock climbing, fire building and cooking, hut building, orienteering, team building and confidence activities, & night activities. Located at the base of the Kaima Ranges at Aongatete Lodge- near Katikati, BOP.

Bus Pick-up/Drop off from Hamilton & Tauranga OR drop-off/pick-up @ Venue

Day & Over-night options available.

For more information:
Todd Burton
todd@edventure.co.nz
0275349949



Click: Edventure Tauranga Facebook Page

EVERYONE WELCOME

FREE EVENT

AT ROTORUA TENNIS CLUB
& PARTICIPATING CLUBS NATIONWIDE
10 SEPT 10AM-4PM



Find a club near you

Come give tennis a go!
All equipment provided.
Prizes, giveaways, BBQ & more.

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



love tennis
www.lovetennis.kiwi

ROTORUA BMX CLUB

Host have a go day **FREE EVENT**

BMX is for the **WHOLE** family
and not just the kids!

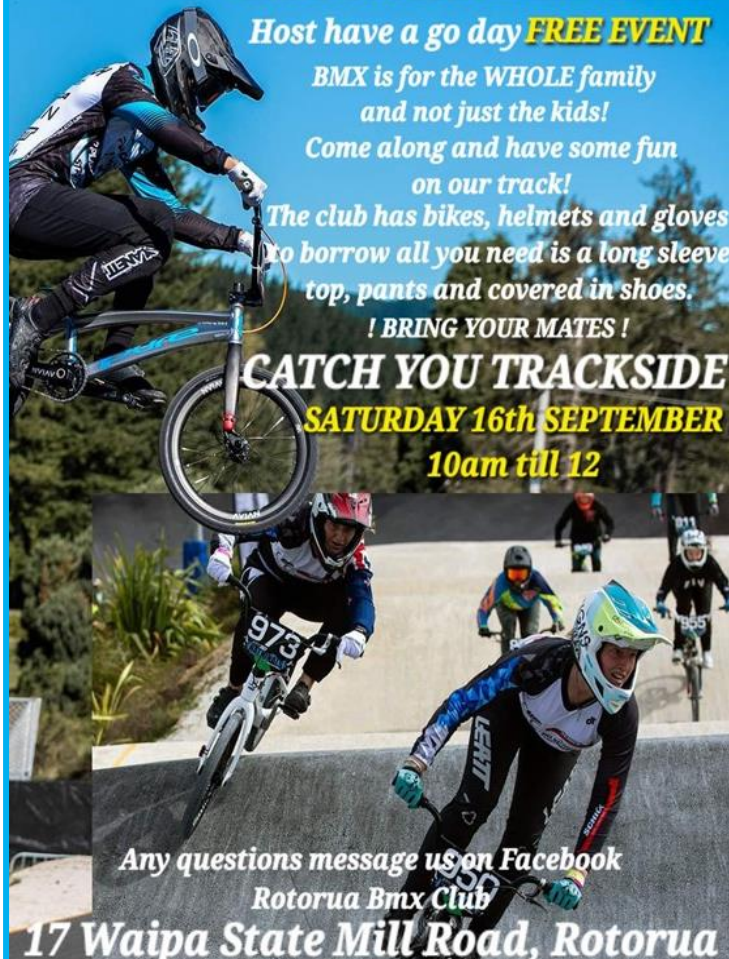
Come along and have some fun
on our track!

The club has bikes, helmets and gloves
to borrow all you need is a long sleeve
top, pants and covered in shoes.

! BRING YOUR MATES !

CATCH YOU TRACKSIDE

SATURDAY 16th SEPTEMBER
10am till 12



Any questions message us on Facebook
Rotorua Bmx Club

17 Waipa State Mill Road, Rotorua

Wednesday Evenings 4:00pm to 5:30pm
Venue: Rotorua Badminton Hall | 24 Tarewa Place, Rotorua

BADMINTON JUNIORS & YOUTH

Hosted by:



Learn to play Badminton!

Wednesdays 4:00pm to 5:30pm
(during school terms)

Age: 8 years to 14 years
(under 8 welcome with parent help)

\$7 per session or
\$50 per school term

Rackets and shuttles provided

For more information contact
Chris - 0273009277 | Talita - 0224704033
Email: club@rotoruaadminton.org.nz
www.rotoruaadminton.org.nz



The September/October holidays are quickly approaching, and Otonga School Programs are now accepting enrolments. Our upcoming program promises to be packed with fun activities, and we would love for your children to join us. To enrol, simply click on the link provided below or reach out to us at info.otonga@osprograms.co.nz or contact Leandri at 027 348 7707 for more information. Here is the link: <https://forms.gle/98ttyTxjgKNJbpM5A>

