

Otorohanga South School
Newsletter No. 1 – Thursday 3rd February 2022
2 Rangipare Street, Otorohanga – Phone 873 8530 – 027 9110819



COMING EVENTS

February

Monday 7th

Waitangi Day Observed

Swimming Sports – Date to be advised

WELCOME BACK

Kia ora koutou.

Welcome back to the new school year. The term has started off really well, students have settled into their new classrooms and are re-establishing friendships. Our swimming programme begins today, please refer to classroom newsletters about when swimming is happening for your child.

On Wednesday morning we welcomed our new students and our new teachers, Miss Emma Taylor (Rm 9), Miss Maria Cameron (Rm 17), Miss Kaitlyn Cunningham (Rm 12) and Mr Matt Roets (Hard Materials – Technology) into our school. We reminded students about the Sun Safety message of Slip, Slop, Slap and to seek shade.

Unfortunately, we will not be holding a Gala this year. We will still plan to have a 'gala style day' for our students within school time so that they get to experience some of the same activities and events. We will keep you posted about our plans.

The Otorohanga South School Board of Trustees invites applications from parents who wish to enrol their sons and daughters at the school for Terms 2 - 4 of 2022 and Term 1 2023. Details of our enrolment scheme and pre-enrolment application forms are available from the school office or on our website. **Please note as part of this process we require all existing families of the school to let us know if they are planning on enrolling their child.**

The deadline for receipt of applications for out of zone places is Thursday 10th March 2022. Completed pre-enrolment applications should be addressed to the enrolment officer or emailed to admin@otosouth.school.nz

Parents of students who live within the home zone also need to notify us by this date to assist the school to accurately plan available spaces. The exact number of places available will depend on the number of students who live within the school's home zone.

If the number of out-of-zone applications exceeds the number of available places, students will be selected by ballot on Tuesday 15th March. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within three school days of the ballot being held.

I would like to take this opportunity to re-assure our families that students **can** come to school if they are not vaccinated. I would also like to state that our school will **never** give consent for any child to be vaccinated – that is a parent's absolute right.

Ngā mihi,
Scott Lincoln
Principal

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Please ensure your child gets to school with enough time to be ready for the start of the day. Ideally this time is between 8.30am and 8.50am. This enables teachers and students to prepare for the day. Students who turn up earlier than this time are not supervised and must remain around the bus shelter area and wait for the 8.30am bell before entering the school.

STAFF:

Scott Lincoln	-	Principal		
Gillian Dampney	-	Deputy Principal (on leave during 2022)		
Cheryl Hickford	-	Acting Deputy Principal		
Angela Nield	-	Senior Teacher	R1	Y7/8
Carmen Harnett	-	Teacher	R2	Y7/8
Andy Bruce	-	Teacher	R3	Y7/8
Ayla Goddard	-	Teacher	R4	Y5/6
Dannielle Williams	-	Teacher	R5	Y5/6
Briar Dampney	-	Senior Teacher	R6	Y5/6
Roanna Mahutonga	-	Senior Teacher	R7	Y3/4
Kaitlyn Cunningham	-	Teacher	R12	Y3/4
Sunita McPhee	-	Teacher	R14	Y3/4
Christie Millin	-	Senior Teacher	R8	Y1/2
Emma Taylor	-	Teacher	R9	Y1/2
Mary Kenealy	-	Teacher	R10	Y1
Adelle Morris	-	Teacher	R11	Y1
Maria Cameron	-	Teacher	R17	Y2/3
Karen Bell	-	Release Teacher	R8/9	Y1/2
Karen Bruce	-	Release Teacher	R12/17	Y2/3/4
Faith Miller	-	Teacher	R13	
Christine Melville	-	Technicraft Teacher Food and Fabric		
Matt Roets	-	Technicraft Teacher Hard Materials		
Barbara Jones	-	Technicraft Teacher Food and Fabric		
Sandra Rattray	-	Librarian/Enrolments Officer		
Jody van der Hoek	-	Office Manager		

Mainstream Teacher Aides:

Tanya Edwards, Andrea Grainger, Anna Aikman

Room 13 Teacher Aides – Special Education:

Christine Mitchell, Angie McPhee

Marls Connolly	-	Cleaner
Adrin Norozi Iranzad	-	Caretaker/Cleaner
Dayna Keyte	-	Hall Cleaner
Tahereh Norozi Iranzad	-	Cleaner

TERM DATES FOR 2022

TERM 1	Finishes on Thursday 14 th April
TERM 2	Monday 2nd May to Friday 8th July
TERM 3	Monday 25 th July to Friday 30 th September
TERM 4	Monday 17 th October to Thursday 15 th December

CAR PARK & AFTERNOON PICK UP Walking pace only please. The quick drop off zone has a **1 minute limit**. Please use the parking area if waiting longer than 1 minute or wishing to come into school. Please avoid double parking and expecting students to run between cars to get to you. The driveway has to remain clear and this is for staff/taxis and freight. Please make every attempt to have your child picked up by 3:10pm at the latest. Please ring ahead to inform the office in the rare event that you will be delayed in picking up your child.

SWIMMING Reminder to all parents that it is swimming season and that children are required to bring togs to school as this is part of our curriculum. Your child must have a note from a caregiver to excuse them from this activity. Too many people drown in New Zealand each year to ignore swimming instruction opportunities.

HEADLICE This is an ongoing problem at this time of year. There will be a full school headlice check next week. Simple precautions such as not sharing towels at swimming; not using others' sunhats and keeping hats separate; vigorous brushing daily of the hair; girls wearing their hair tied up, all help to prevent headlice. If discovered, please treat immediately to prevent the spread. Treatment is available free of charge from your child's family doctor. Please do not be offended if you receive a letter informing you that your child has headlice.

JEWELLERY (bangles, necklaces, anklets, rings) are not considered appropriate for school. Ear rings (other than studs) are most unsuitable for school due to danger in play and should not be worn. Studs, sleepers & watches only. All other piercings and facial make up, are deemed to be inappropriate for school time.

PARENTS COLLECTING CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL TIME Should you require to collect your children early please write a note to the teacher, or contact the school office by phone as early as possible to lessen the disruption to staff and students. Should there be legal non access restrictions regarding your children please advise school in writing - unless there is a non-access order both parents have equal rights. Picking up children for Special Appointments All children are to be collected from the office. Please phone ahead of time to organise this.

BUSES All bus children will be picked up from South School between 3pm and 3:10. Each bus group will be guided by a senior bus warden.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Presiding Chair:	Mr David Brown
Parent elected trustees:	Ben Connolly, Kirsty Fare, Kerry Harty, Lauren King
Staff trustee:	Christie Millin

STATIONERY LISTS The lists are available on our Facebook page and website as well as at Paper Plus in Otorohanga. We would appreciate you buying the required stationery as soon as possible.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS Every Thursday there will be a school newsletter on green sponsored paper, given to the oldest member of the family. Please check your child's bag. It is also uploaded to the school's Facebook page. Be sure to 'like' our page to stay up to date.



Otorohanga South School

@otosouth · Primary school



SCHOOL TIMES School starts each day at 9:00am, interval 10:40 to 11:00am, lunch 12:30 to 1:25pm, end of day (for the children) at 2:55pm.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE If your child is going to be away then please phone the office, or text 0279110819 stating child's name and reason for absence. If you get the answer phone then please leave a suitable message. It is a Ministry of Education requirement that a reason for absence is recorded on the electronic roll, if no reason is given the absence is classified as unjustified. Frequent un-notified absences are referred onto the Truancy Officer.

VISITING SCHOOL During the school day (9.00am – 3.00pm) all visitors to school (including parents) have to go to the school office first to sign in. Covid Tracer signs are on display at the school office. We have different access under the Traffic Light System. Currently we are encouraging parents to come in until Friday the 11th to settle their children if necessary.

ROAD CROSSING We have a patrol crossing across Te Kanawa Street (SH 31). This means that we can stop traffic for 20 minutes in the morning and afternoon opposite the Glendon Place walkway. Please encourage your child to use this crossing.

WALKING TO SCHOOL Children should use the footpath and patrolled crossings. All classes will be going over basic safety rules - buses, bikes, pedestrians. You can help by following up basic safety rules.

BIKING TO SCHOOL Cycle helmets are compulsory. We strongly advise students using scooters to wear helmets also. Do not let your child bike to school unless they put their helmets on in an approved manner. Children generally do not have sufficient road knowledge skills to ride to school until they are eight years old.

SCHOOL LUNCHES Please drop off any late lunches to the school office. If your child has healthy food and drink everyday it's good for their attention, behaviour and sets them up for learning. We encourage students to have healthy lunches consisting of sandwiches, fruit, veges and low sugar content snacks. Lollies and fizzy drinks are held until the end of the day. Very few children go home for lunch. If your child only goes home occasionally, please provide a note or phone the office. Free school lunch begins next Tuesday the 8th. We have a new catering company – Libelle who will be working on-site. Please look out for the monthly menu that they provide.

SCHOOL CLOTHING Collared polo shirts are available @ \$32 each. Round neck T-shirts are \$28 each. Please order at the office. Hats are also available. These items can be viewed at the office. All clothing should be named so that we can return lost property promptly.

SUNHATS/SUNBURN Reminder to all that in summer we have a No Hat No Play Policy. All children must wear a hat outside during Terms 1 and 4. All classrooms have their own supply of sunscreen, which children can apply before going outside.

DENTAL THERAPISTS If you wish to attend a family dental appointment with your child/ren please phone 021487914 to make an appointment. Alternatively you can phone 08008255833 (0800 TALK TEETH) and ask for Mobile Dental Unit 10 in your area.

SPORTS GEAR – Students are able to bring their own **clearly named** sports gear to school if they wish. We provide a wide range of equipment for break time and class lesson usage. We would like to have this option available for students and stress that is at their own risk and they must take full responsibility for storing and caring for the equipment. Please ensure gear is named and that you as the parent are aware of equipment your child may be bringing to school. Unnamed gear will be taken by the teacher and returned to the child at the end of the day.

PHONES

If your child needs to bring a phone to school for after-school arrangements, it has to be handed in to the office each morning and collected again at the end of the day.

BOOKCLUB

Scholastic Bookclub order forms will come home from time to time. If you wish to order and pay by credit card you may now do this online at mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz. Just select Otorohanga South School, select your child's class, enter their name and enter your order.

Welcoming our new teachers



Emma Taylor, Kaitlyn Cunningham, Matt Roets and Maria Cameron