

OAKURA SCHOOL
'A QUALITY LEARNING COMMUNITY'

Kia ora koutou katoa

13.12.2018

Over the next couple of days we are having two of our new 2019 staff visiting our school – Renee Nightingale and Amy Buick. We are looking forward to introducing them to our students. We did originally say that Richard Rudman was leaving as he was pursuing a career change – but this has changed slightly and Richard will be working at our school for two days a week next year in the year 3-6 area of our school. Allan Whatt will also be coming back one day a week to take drum lessons – if your child is interested in these lessons a flyer can be picked up from the school office.

Our year 7 & 8 staff and I took the year 8s out for dinner this week – and the evening is a great reminder of why we do this job. This group of wonderful young people know how to enjoy themselves, are caring and inclusive, and are well-mannered and appreciative. What more could we ask for? We wish them all the very best as they move onto secondary school. I know they will make the most of the many opportunities that will be available to them.

FINAL DAY FOR THE YEAR: Our school finishes at 12:00 midday on Tuesday 18th December. The school bus will operate in the morning on the 18th but will **not** be picking students up at 12:00. Parents of children who normally travel on the bus will need to make alternative arrangements for their children to get home that day.

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY EVERYONE! Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution to Oakura School during 2018. A special mention to....

- Our wonderful **students** who have had another successful year academically, culturally and in the sporting fields. We are very proud of them all.
- Our hard working **staff** who genuinely care for our students and put 100% effort into providing a rich curriculum and a wide range of learning opportunities.
- To our **staff who are leaving** – thank you for the contribution you have made to our school while you have been here. We wish you all the very best for the future.
- We heard this week that **Kylee Burgess** (RG) has just won a position at Marfell School. We will be sad to see Kylee go but we thank her for her contribution and wish her all the best for her new position.
- Our **Board of Trustee members** who continue to lead our school into the future with exciting plans and projects. Our next exciting property project is our outdoor learning area (in front of Room Tawa). Concept plans will be on display early next year.
- **Friends of Oakura School (FOOS) committee members** who work so hard to fundraise for extra resources for our school and to make our new families feel welcome. A big thank you to **Emily Faragasso and the committee members**.
- Throughout the year we have asked our **community** for support in many ways and your response has been tremendous as usual. Thank you to everyone who has been so supportive of the staff and school. We see the education of your children as a partnership between home and school and we really appreciate your support.
- The **Oakura Junior Sports Club (OJSC)** has once again provided a wide range of sporting opportunities for our pupils this year. I would like to thank **Susan Eagar (OJSC**

Chairperson) and the committee members, the coaches, managers and supporters for organising the teams and celebrating our students' successes.

- Best wishes to students who are leaving Oakura School this year and to the families who have their last child leaving Oakura School and moving on to other schools. Thank you for your support over the years and we look forward to catching up with you all sometime in the future.

Y8 GRADUATION ASSEMBLY: This will be held in the Oakura Hall on Monday from 1:00pm-2:30pm. Parents and family members are very welcome to attend.

2019 SCHOOL YEAR: We are looking forward to seeing all our students back on Monday 4th February. On the first day they will need to bring their stationery, swimming gear (togs, hats, towels), sunblock and school hats. We will be having a pōwhiri on the first day for new families and staff – the time will be sent out on the school app in January.

2019 STATIONERY: The 2019 stationery list will be available on the school website and app - so items can be purchased over the school holidays. If you need a paper copy you can pick one up from the school office. Your child's school stationery list is now loaded and ready for you to start shopping on Office Max and Warehouse Stationery websites. For Office Max - You can shop online at myschool.co.nz, at your local OfficeMax store or by phone.

FUN RUN & WHĀNAU LUNCH DAY: This event takes place tomorrow and is split into two sessions. A morning session, from 9:30 to 11:45, is for Years 0 - 4. An afternoon session, from 12:30 to 2:45, is for Years 5 - 7. You are welcome to come and support your kids and join us for this great day. FOOS will be running a Pizza lunch and Bake Sale to raise money for the school. Donations of baked goods will be happily accepted and can be dropped in the staff room on the morning of 14th December. Pizza pre-orders will be available on Kindo from Thursday, 6th December until Thursday, 13th December at 12pm.

SURF COMPETITION: Congratulations to the following students who gained placings at the recent surf competition: Yr 5 boys – 1st **Campbell Donovan**, 4th **Drew Florence**. Yr 5 girls – 1st **Darcy O'Sullivan**. Yr 6 girls – 1st **Carys Read**, 2nd equal, **Chloe Fenning** and **Maia Schafer**, 4th **Stella Johns**. Yr 6 boys – 3rd **Adam Sousa**, 4th **Jason McGregor**.

THANK YOU METHANEX: Staff from Methanex dropped off a brightly coloured outdoor 'buddy bench' this week. This is to be used for children to go to if they need help finding a friend to play with – a wonderful idea! We look forward to installing it next year.

SYMONS: The Symons Group have generously offered a fundraiser to schools. If you book a service with Symons Transport our school will receive \$50 towards a project of our choice. How to book: phone 06 7519221 or dispatch@symongroup.co.nz. **Our school promo code is Oakura50.**

Happy holidays!

Ngā mihi, Lynne Hepworth – Principal

Kia ākona te manako me te manaaki - Learning to Think, Learning to Care