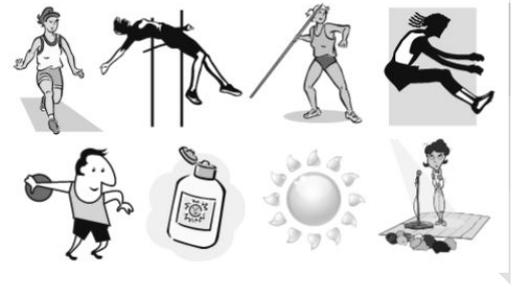


# Year 4/5/6 Term 1 2019 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers/Pupils,

Welcome back to the new school year. We have lots of exciting things planned for this term including a trip to Pukeiti, swimming, beach clean up and a focus on education outside the classroom.

A big welcome to our three new teachers in the Year 4,5 & 6 team – Megan Batley in room 8 who has returned to Oakura School after spending time at home with her two sons, Amy Buick in the Tawa Room who has moved here from Christchurch with her partner and Julie Salisbury who has joined us from Spotswood Primary School and will be teaching in Room 6. We also welcome our new students: Chloe Fisher in Room 7, Triston Priest in Room 8, Ella Stockman-Fowler in Room 6 and Brandon Sera in Room Tawa. We are very excited to have you all in our team.

We will be utilising our strengths and interests across the team through collaboration. We are in the unique position this year to collaborate across two teams. Your child will spend time learning with all of our teachers in Tawa, R6, R7 and R8 and also split into their year levels for certain events and activities.

## Topics we are covering this term:

<b>Writing</b>	Personal recounts, captions and report writing
<b>Reading</b>	Guided reading groups and reading related activities
<b>Mathematics</b>	Place value, addition, subtraction and measurement
<b>Inquiry</b>	Environment focus – centred around an insect/bugs inquiry Heroes – what qualities do 'heroes' have and how do we relate to these?
<b>Art</b>	Portraits, observational drawings, pastel techniques, music
<b>Physical Ed.</b>	Swimming, athletics and ball skills
<b>Health</b>	Sun smart/Friendship skills/mindfulness
<b>Maori</b>	Treaty of Waitangi, personal mihi, the history of Parihaka, revision of numbers, colours and days of the week

## Important dates:

Parent Information evening – February 14th at 5:15pm  
Pukeiti day trip – Room 6 – 18th February, Room 7 – 19th February, Room 8 – 20th February and Room Tawa – 21st February  
Parent interviews – the week starting Monday 25th February  
Beach Clean Up – 26th February  
Swimming Sports (Yr 4-8) – to be confirmed  
Coastal Athletics – Wednesday 20th March (PP 21 March)  
Interschool swimming (Selected students Year 6) – Tuesday 2 April  
Marae Visit – To be confirmed



## Starting the day

Please remember that school starts at 9:00am. All children should arrive no later than 8:50am so they have time to get organised for the day. Children should not be arriving earlier than 8:30am unless they have travelled by bus. Those who arrive after the bell must report to the office to sign in.

## Beach clean up

Our annual beach clean up will take place on the 26th February. If you are able to supervise the walk and swim on the day, please complete the notice which will be sent home shortly.

## Homework

This term's homework will focus on the setting up of positive work habits with every child asked to complete a reading log, learn spelling words and the basic facts. At times, there may be an extra activity related to inquiry. Also all students are signed up to Studyladder. As it is a free programme students can only do 3 activities a day outside of school. These activities will be mostly maths and related to their class learning.

## School hats

This term students are required to wear their black or red school hat. If your child has misplaced their hat, a new one can be purchased from the school office. Our sunsmart policy asks students to either wear their hat or stay in the shade during outdoor activities, interval and lunch breaks. Please ensure your child has their hat at school so that they contribute fully to all activities. We have sunscreen available in each classroom and we also recommend that pupils apply this before they come to school.

**Drink bottles** Please ensure your child remembers to bring a named water bottle to school everyday.

## Library

Classes will visit the library each week. Pupils will need to bring their library books back to school on their class library day. Library visits will start next week.

Room 6 – Friday

Room 7 – Friday

Room 8 – Wednesday

Tawa Room – Friday

## Skateboarding and scootering

Year 6 pupils have the option to use their scooter or skateboard before school, during morning tea and lunch break every Friday in the designated area.

## Swimming

Due to the number of classrooms we will be having 45 minute swimming lessons two – three times a week in the school pool. This is part of our physical education programme and all students are expected to participate. If there is any reason your child cannot participate please send a note to your child's teacher. Pupils will need to bring named togs, towel and a swimming cap every day, as even if there is not a classroom lesson, the pool will be open over lunch time for a free swim. Swimming goggles would also be beneficial. Swimming caps are compulsory and can be purchased from the school office.

The aim of our school swimming sports, held at the Okato pool, is for all students to participate fully. We have a range of events to cater for all abilities. The results will determine the interschool swimming teams for Year 6 and above students. More details, along with a permission slip, will be sent home closer to the time.

## I.C.T./Bring Your Own Device (B.Y.O.D)

Please encourage your child to bring their device to school every day, ensuring it is fully charged. Each student has been issued with a new B.Y.O.D. agreement. Could you ensure this is returned promptly. Finally, a reminder about the important messages given by John Parsons several years ago at our cyber safety workshop – to ensure we protect our children by making sure they have no access to R18 online games and to put devices in the living area over night for charging. Thank you.

## Let's Go

This is the perfect time of year to be walking, biking, skating or scootering to school. Remember, if you live too far away you can drop your children off on South Road or behind the Four Square and they can walk from there. The main road crossing is supervised before and after school to help children cross. Pupils who walk, bike, skate, scooter or bus to school every day go into a prize draw which is drawn at our school assembly each week. Please remind your child/children of their safe walking and biking routes, covering topics such as hidden driveways etc. Thank you.

Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any concerns or queries regarding your child or school work.

Kind regards, Judy Zieltjes, Megan Batley, Julie Salisbury and Amy Buick