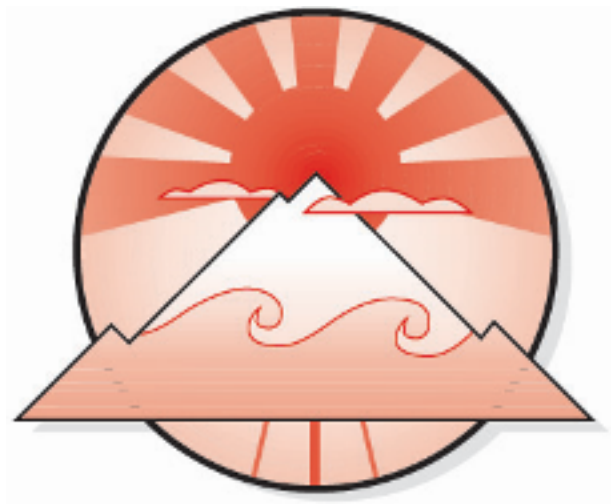


INTERMEDIATE 2019 NEWSLETTER



Date: February 7 2019

WELCOME!

Dear Whānau,

Welcome back to school and the start of Term 1, 2019. We hope our students, and their whānau have had a great summer break.

We extend a warm welcome to Cheryl Knapp, our new teacher in Room 10, who has come to Oakura School from Auckland. We also have two new students and welcome them and their whānau to our team this year. They are Aiden Hocking in Room 11 and Reid Hickey in Room 10.

This term we take full advantage of the weather and our local environment and plan for students to participate in a range of physical, social and outdoor learning experiences. It is important that our students make use of their diaries to be properly prepared for these events. We expect students to have their school hats to wear when out of the classroom and they must wear shoes when leaving the school. We provide sunblock for students but if your child has sensitive skin we request that they bring their own sunblock. Students should also always have their own water bottles at school.

COMMUNICATION

We endeavour to use email as our main form of communication and would appreciate being able to email information and requests to you. We'd really appreciate it if you could email us so that we have up to date email address/es for whānau. We also encourage you to download the Oakura School app for up-to-date notices as well. Students also use their diaries for important dates and it is helpful if you ask them about these on a regular basis.

Our email addresses are
natasha@oakura.school.nz
cheryl@oakura.school.nz
jay@oakura.school.nz

TECHNICRAFT

Students will attend Technicraft lessons on a Friday morning at Devon Intermediate. They will take part in metalwork, woodwork, cooking and Digitech lessons. The bus leaves early on a Friday morning so students need to be at school by 8:30am. Students also need to wear covered shoes and long hair needs to be tied up. Fees for Technicraft are paid to our school office, the cost of these are to be confirmed. The bus is paid for by the Ministry of Education.



CAMP WELLINGTON KEY DATES

Camp week

Monday 25 March to Friday 29 March

Information Evening

Included in our Intermediate information evening next week, Tuesday 14 February at 5:45pm.

Fundraising Bake Sale and Sausage Sizzle

Friday 22 February

Fundraising Whānau Adventure Race

Thursday 7 March 3:30 - 7:00 pm

Parent Help Information Hui

Thursday 14 March 5:30pm

TERM 1 LEARNING

Maths

Place Value, geometry and problem solving

Reading

Guided reading, reading for information, integrated into our Heroes inquiry

Writing

Personal writing and reflections, report writing

Inquiry

Social Sciences - Heroes; How can I be a hero?

Science

Student choice of Stream Study, Kitchen Science or Earthquakes

Te Reo

Ngā mihi - Introductions and pepha, Te Marae

Health

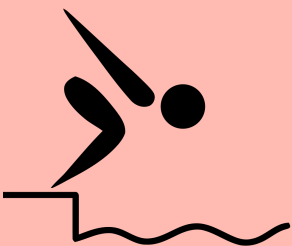
Kia Kaha

PE

Swimming, athletics, summer sports

The Arts

Pastel, Ukelele, Drama skills, Dance skills



EXTRA OPPORTUNITIES

We believe in a holistic, well rounded education for our students. With this in mind we provide a wide range of learning opportunities both within our normal classroom programs as well as opportunities for students to engage in events or competitions in which they have strengths, need extension or they are passionate about. This is an important element of being in the Intermediate area at Oakura School. We also provide special programs and learning experiences that cater for our students with different learning needs. This term we have the following extra opportunities available for students to participate in:

EPRO8 Tech Challenge: 12 students will be selected to compete in teams in an interschool tech design competition on **Thursday 28 February**.

Debating: Judy Hanline trains and coaches our debaters. We will have a Year 7 and a Year 8 debating team. Trials for these will begin next **Thursday 14 February**.

Kids' Lit Quiz: Students are selected to compete in teams of four in a national quiz about literacy, eg myths, novels, poetry etc. Judy Hanline and Natasha will select the teams and training will take place in the next couple of weeks. The quiz is on **Thursday 9 May**.

Interschool Surfing Competition: This will be held at Fitzroy Beach on **Wednesday 6 March**. All keen surfers may enter.

Otago Maths Problem Solving Challenge: Students will be selected to take part in this mathematics extension opportunity. There are five challenges throughout the year and our top students will be invited to enter into a national challenge at the end of the year.

Band: Students who are keen to be part of the Intermediate Band will start practicing with Sam on **Monday lunchtimes**.

Interschool Swimming Competition: Students who win our school championship events will be invited to compete against swimmers from other local schools on **Tuesday 2 April**.

KAINGA - HOMEWORK AND SWIMMING

Students will be asked to do regular home learning. This will be issued on a Tuesday and is to be returned on a Monday morning. Home learning will involve learning spelling words and/or extending students' vocabulary knowledge, basic facts practice, regular reading and an extra activity that helps in line with our current inquiry learning. If you wish for your child to be exempt from homework, please contact his/her classroom teacher.

All Intermediate students will participate in swimming lessons at the Aquatic Centre on a Wednesday afternoon. The cost for the bus and pool entry fee is provided for by the Board of Trustees. Swimming lessons will focus on stroke, survival skills and general confidence in the water. Students will need to bring swimming caps for these lessons. A note from parents needs to be provided to excuse students from these lessons.

EXCELLENCE AWARDS AND CITIZENSHIP

Excellence Awards

The Excellence in Achievement Award system is designed to recognise and encourage students to participate in a range of activities and learning across the curriculum and to strive for excellence. It is a two year program with awards in the four areas of Citizenship, Cultural, Academic and Sports. Students are then able to apply for their overall Excellence Award. Parents are most welcome to attend these assemblies.

Citizenship

Intermediate students are provided with opportunities to promote students' positive engagement in the school and wider environment. This empowers them to become active citizens, problem solvers and great communicators. Year 7s develop these skills in the Peer Mediation program in Terms 1 and 2. They will then participate in cybercitizenship learning in Terms 3 and 4. All Year 7s are also rostered onto Road Patrol duties throughout the year, and most Year 8s continue to volunteer to do this. Students will have dates for their rostered patrols in their diaries.

Year 8 Leadership

All year 8s have been selected for their leadership roles this year. We look forward to developing their understanding of different styles of leadership and ability to work co-operatively through their leadership learning and as they develop activities that put these skills into practical use. These include: Head Pupils, Enviro Leaders, Manukura Leaders, Art Leaders, Sports Leaders, ICT Leaders, Student Mentors and Media Leaders.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parent Information Evening

We look forward to meeting you and sharing some of the key elements of our intermediate learning program with you next **Thursday 14 February, 5:45**, in Room 11. We will also share key information about Camp Wellington during this information session.

Beach Clean Up

Our annual Beach Clean Up day will take place on **Tuesday 26 February**. We will be asking for parent help for supervision of the walk and river swim closer to the time. We have adapted our program this year for it to be a morning event so that students are out of the worst of the heat, returning to school by lunchtime.

Senior Swimming Sports

The date for our Senior Swimming Sports at Okato Pools are yet to be confirmed. We encourage all of our students to participate fully. We provide a range of swimming races and activities to cater for all abilities, with our Year 8 students having the opportunity to compete for the Swimming Championship Cups. More details, along with a permission slip will be sent home closer to the time.

Coastal Athletics

Our students travel by bus (paid for by the activity fee) to Coastal School and compete in athletics events against Coastal and Omata Schools. This will take place on **Tuesday 19 March**.

Immunisations

These will take place on Wednesday 20 March. Year 7s will receive their Boostrix and Year 8s will have Gardasil vaccinations. More information and consent forms will come home prior to these.

CONTACT

We welcome any feedback, questions or help when it comes to working together to provide the best possible education for your child. Please feel free to come in and discuss your child's education by emailing or calling to make a meeting at an appropriate time. Teachers will be in meetings on Monday mornings, and Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. We look forward to getting to know our new Year 7s and their families and continuing to build our connections with our Year 8 families. We look forward to a great year of learning in 2019.

Natasha, Cheryl and Jay