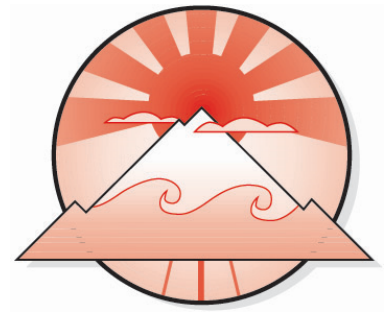


INTERMEDIATE 2020

NEWSLETTER



Term 3, 2020

WELCOME!

Dear Whānau,

Welcome back to Term 3. We hope whānau have had a restful break, hopefully without too many ills and chills.

We have a small change in our team's teaching staff this term. Hayley Tito will teach in Rm 10 to release Tori Goble every Thursday. We welcome Hayley to our intermediate teaching team.

We ask for your help and support in ensuring that your child/ren have all of their necessary stationery at school with them. Your child will make a note in his or her diary if there is anything that needs to be restocked.

Other items that students should bring to school every day, as well as their diary, are running shoes and water bottles. We will be having our school cross country in Week 5 and have started training already. It is important that students can be as successful as possible at this by being prepared and having a positive attitude.

This term also includes other sporting events such as Indoor Bowls, Hockey Skills and our Interschool Winter sports events.

COMMUNICATION

We now prefer to and regularly use email as our main form of communication. We will also continue to use Google forms for permission and information for events. We encourage you to download the Oakura School app for up-to-date notices. This term we return to having a busy school calendar, with competitions, sports events and a range of learning experiences. It is vital that students have their diaries at school daily and it is helpful if you ask them about these on a regular basis.

Our email addresses are:

natasha@oakura.school.nz

rachel@oakura.school.nz

tori@oakura.school.nz

jay@oakura.school.nz

hayley@oakura.school.nz

LEOTC

As well as students having the opportunity to participate in various sports events both in our local community and further afield in Taranaki, there will also be academic opportunities, competitions, and a range of learning experiences offered to different groups of students depending on their learning choices. Students are always expected to have shoes on when leaving the school grounds.

Some of these dates are in this newsletter, or they will be emailed to you with permission requested, and will be in students' diaries.

CHANGES AT PUBERTY

We are teaching Changes at Puberty this term. This is a biennial inquiry unit in which students learn about the physical, social and emotional changes that occur during puberty.

We use a range of teaching resources and experiences for students to participate in this learning to become self-confident

and knowledgeable about these changes maintaining a positive self-image.

We have emailed each whānau a link to a quick survey about interest in us holding a parent information session about the content being taught in this inquiry.

Transition to High School

This term students and their families start to think about high schools and the next milestone in life. We have already had Spotswood College, New Plymouth Boys' High School and New Plymouth Girls' High School visit this week. We encourage students to attend the schools Open Evenings over the next couple of weeks. The next step for Year 8 students and their whānau is to have interviews with the high school staff later on this term. In Term 4 Year 8 students will be invited to visit the high schools and students will spend time learning about strategies to help them be successful and have the confidence to start high school. A separate email has been sent home to parents with specific dates for transition.

TERM 3 LEARNING

Maths

Probability, computation strategies (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division)

Reading

Reading for information - skills for research, integrated into our health inquiry

Writing

Writing workshops based on specific needs, speech writing

Inquiry - (Health and Science)

Changes at puberty

STEAM - (Science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics)

Students have chosen either the Kiwi Trust project, coding and programming or technology challenges

Te Reo

Tinana and hauora - body and health

PE

Cross country, hockey skills, indoor bowls, Interschool Sports Tournament

Performing Arts

Students have chosen either dance, songwriting, clay or digital art

Languages

Japanese, Spanish or Mandarin



EXTRA OPPORTUNITIES

It is excellent to see how many of our students have been participating in new learning and taking on the challenges of the some of the extra learning experiences we offer here at Oakura School. We continue to 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 term we have the following extra opportunities available for students to participate in:

Taranaki Science and Technology Fair: Many students have entered observational drawings, scientific photographs, journalism and/or posters into this competition. This year the fair and competition is all online and we will communicate with prize winners as soon as we know.

Debating: Our debating teams will participate in debates against each other and against Mangorei and Omata Schools later on in the term.

Kids' Lit Quiz: These two teams will compete in the quiz during the last week of school this term.

Indoor Bowls: All students will participate in learning bowls with the Oakura Bowls Club in the second half of the term. Some students will then be selected from these lessons to participate in an Interschool Tournament at the beginning of Term 4.

Chess: Our chess players will be selected to participate in either the Chess Power competition and/or the Taranaki Chess Competition, both in Week 5 of this term.

EPRO8: The EPRO8 competition was postponed in Term 1 and will take place in a different format in the last four weeks of this term. Students will be selected to participate in this competition.

Cross Country: Our school cross country is scheduled for Wednesday 19 August. It is expected that all of our students participate in this. Students who have a strength and/or interest in running can then choose to compete in the Coastal Cross Country on Thursday 3 August. Traditionally the Taranaki Cross Country is held on the last Wednesday of Term 3, but we have not been notified about this as of yet.

Interschool Winter Sports Tournament: All codes - football, netball and rugby, will compete in Inglewood on **Tuesday 18 August**. Trials will begin this week. Please contact Natasha if you'd like to help coach or manage any of these teams.

Other dates to calendar:

Taki Rua Performance for Year 7/8s at Oakura Hall - Monday 3 August, 9:30am

Envirokura Planting at Matekai Park - Thursday 6 August

Open Afternoon for Learning Conferences - Friday 7 August

Learning Conferences - Tuesday 11 August and Wednesday 12 August