

Momona te Whānau Pānui (newsletter)

(JUNIOR TEAM YEARS 0-3)



Tēnā koutou e te whānau,

Welcome back to the new school year. It is great to see everyone back from holiday looking rested and ready for a wonderful year ahead. We are excited to welcome Miss Matisse Begg into our junior whānau this year. Matisse has been teaching in Auckland for the past 4 years. We also welcome the return of Miss Louise Bain to the Gecko room. Miss Bain will be teaching on Thursday and Friday whilst Mrs Page is fulfilling her Assistant Principal duties. Our team name has also changed to Momona te whānau and we have 2 new classes in our team, Kawakawa (Mr Kenny) and Karaka (Whāea Leanne).

A great big welcome to all our new families this term. We look forward to getting to know you and working with you.

Important dates

- Monday 6th Feb - Waitangi day
- Thursday 16th Feb - Parent information evening & BBQ 5:30 - 7pm
- Tuesday 7th March - Momona te whānau Triathlon 9:30-10:30
- Wednesday 8th March - Triathlon PP
- Monday 13th March - Taranaki Anniversary
- Tuesday 14th March - Teacher only day
- Wednesday 23rd March - Yr 1/2 O sports @ Omata school
- Thursday 24th March - Yr 3/4 O sports @ Omata school
- Thursday 6th April - Last day Term 1
- Friday 7th April - Good Friday

Starting and ending the day

Please remember that school **starts at 9am**. Children should arrive between 8:30 and 8:50 so they have time to organise themselves for their day and have some time to play inside with their friends. The junior playground is out of bounds before school, so children must play inside with their classmates for this short time.

In order to get settled for the day, we will be ringing a bell at approximately 8:50am which will be a signal for the children to pack up what they are doing, say goodbye and to come down to the mat ready for some mindfulness and breathing.

Children should not be arriving earlier than 8:30 unless they are bus children. We cannot guarantee supervision of your children if they are here before 8:30am due to meetings. If your child arrives after the 9:00 bell you will need to report to the office to sign your child in.



Class names

Our names have changed to represent rakāu (trees) that are located in and around our school.

Tōtara - Miss Des Forges - Yr 1/2

Makomako - Miss Barrett - Yr 1/2

Nīkau - Miss Begg - Yr 1/2

Kawakawa - Mr Kenny - Yr 3

Karaka - Whāea Leanne - Yr 3

Room Penguin and Gecko remain the same.

OUR TERM PLANS

School Values – Whakaaro Pai: respect, Pono: honesty and Manawanui: perseverance. We look in depth at each value and what it means for us as a class and school – What does it look like, sound like and feel like?

Te Tiriti o Waitangi – What this holiday means to us and symbolises for New Zealand. Making links with partnerships within our classroom, school and community.

Whanaungatanga - relationships and identity - connecting to culture and what makes us who we are. Through this inquiry we will look at our culture, whānau and class treaty. We will focus on getting to know one another by building relationships and developing our strong class culture. We will be sending a letter home to gather information about your whakapapa which will inform our work around personal pepeha, so keep an eye out for this.

Rākau (trees) & Manu (birds) - During the second half of the term we will be researching our new class tree names and native New Zealand birds.

Reo Matatini (Literacy) - Daily reading and writing. Developing independence and mechanics of writing. Individual reading and writing goals.

Pāngarau (Numeracy) - Number knowledge (reading and writing numerals along with counting forwards and backwards) and strategies, measurement - length, addition and subtraction, statistics - data handling.

Kauhoe (Swimming) – Water confidence and flotation. Please ensure your child brings **named** togs, towel and swimming cap in a reusable bag. If your child is unable to swim due to illness please send a note to their teacher. Please see your child's teacher for the class swimming timetable.

Homework and book bags

In years 0-2, each child needs a book bag to carry notices, home reading, library books and homework to and from school. Please bring your book bag to school each day with your child's reading notebook, reader and any notices that need to be returned to school.

In year 3, each child needs a book bag to carry notices, home reading, library books and home learning to and from school. Please bring your book bags daily as they protect our school's and the library's pukapuka from being damaged in school bags. We encourage daily reading for 15-20 minutes, along with practice/revision of basic facts ([prototec](#) is a great website to utilise), and revision of spelling words (which will be posted on Seesaw weekly). If you have any questions about this, please contact your child's kaiako/teacher.

Library Days

Makomako & Nīkau - Rāhina (Monday)

Tōtara, Penguin and Gecko - Rātu (Tuesday)

Kawakawa & Karaka - Rāapa (Wednesday)

Please would you ensure your child brings their pukapuka (books) in their book bag each week on their library day. ***It would be helpful if you could pop into the library and add your email address onto your child's school card.*** This way any reminders or return notices will be sent directly to you rather than the class teacher.



Poetry and Nursery Rhymes

In years 0-2, on Friday children will bring home a poem folder for reading over the weekend. These are to be returned to school on Monday. It is important that you read this poem/nursery rhyme with your child, as you would a reading book. Poetry and nursery rhymes help children with their reading fluency and phrasing.

Parent Help

We welcome parent help in our classrooms. As we are busy setting up routines and expectations in the first few weeks of school this will commence later in the term. Please see your classroom teacher if you would be willing to help in class. Parent help can take a variety of forms e.g. tidying/cleaning resources, making resources, supporting children with learning.

Communication



Please ensure you have downloaded the school app to stay up to date with school wide announcements and newsletters. Weekly school newsletters will also be emailed to you, so please ensure we have an updated email address for you.

All of our classes use the program 'Seesaw' as a way to communicate classroom specific learning and information with you. We will be sending out a notice that explains Seesaw further, as well as information on how to connect to your child's individual learning journal on Seesaw. It is our goal to have 100% of whānau connected on Seesaw this year as we feel it is a fantastic way to share learning and information between home and school. Please talk to your child's teacher if you have any questions about this.

Any trip notices or permission slips will be sent via email as a google form to help reduce the use of paper notices.

Sunhats, drink bottles, sunblock and swimming caps



We are a sunsmart school and all children must have a black or red school hat to wear every day. These can be bought from the office. Please apply sunblock at home in the morning. Please also make sure children have a named drink bottle every day. There is filtered water available in each room for topping up drink bottles. Swimming caps are compulsory during our swimming sessions and can be purchased from the office. Please name all children's clothing to avoid lost property.

Toys at school

We encourage students to leave their toys and personal items at home. At times, we may request that the students bring in something from home to share but this must be given to the teacher for safe keeping. We would appreciate your support with this, as bringing toys to school can cause issues in the classroom and we do not want the children's special items to get lost or broken.

We are all excited about the learning the tamariki will do this term. If you have any questions feel free to email us.

Ngā mihi,
Ulla, Louise, Julie, Helen, Mikayla, Matisse, Josh & Leanne.

Ulla Page (NE)	Gecko	ulla@oakura.school.nz	Mikayla Barrett (Yr 1/2)	Makomako	mikayla@oakura.school.nz
Louise Bain (NE)	Gecko	louise@oakura.school.nz	Matisse Begg (Yr 1/2)	Nīkau	matisse@oakura.school.nz
Julie Salisbury (NE)	Penguin	julies@oakura.school.nz	Josh Kenny (Yr 3)	Kawakawa	josh@oakura.school.nz
Helen Des Forges (Yr 1/2)	Tōtara	helen@oakura.school.nz	Leanne Shaw (Yr 3)	Karaka	leanne@oakura.school.nz