

Kiri te Whānau Newsletter

Term 1 2023

Wed 1st February/Hui-tanguru - Thurs 7th April/Paenga-whāwhā



Kia Ora e te Whānau

Welcome back to the new school year. We hope you have had a fun and relaxing break with family and friends. We are looking forward to the year ahead and have lots of exciting things planned. A warm Oakura welcome to our new students and their families: Lily Laird and Callan Monley in Miro, Poppy Prasser in Kahikatea, Arlo Matchett and Haile Gonzalez-Prado in Tī Tawhiti and Eamonn Prasser in Tawa.

Important Dates for Term 1

Mon 6th Feb - Waitangi Day

Wed/Thurs 8/9th Feb: **Poolside session with Brooke**

Thurs 16th Feb: **Parent Info Evening**

Mon 27th Feb: **Beach Clean Up**

Mon 13th March - Taranaki Ann. Day

Tues 14th March - Teacher Only Day

Thurs 24th Mar: Year 4 'O' Sports

Tues 4th April - Yr 6-8 **Interschool Swimming Sports**

Fri 7th April - **Easter and School Holidays start**

Dates to be confirmed: **Marae Visit and Govett Brewster Visit, Year 4-8 School Swimming Sports**

Our Teaching Team/Kaiako



Left to right back row:

Mr Richard Rudman richard@oakura.school.nz

Kahikatea: Mrs Allan sophie@oakura.school.nz

Tī Tawhiti: Miss Malu gabriella@oakura.school.nz

Front row:

Miro: Ms Sommai Lightbourne sommai@oakura.school.nz

Rewarewa - Mrs Megan Batley meganb@oakura.school.nz

Tawa - Mrs Judy Zieltjes judy@oakura.school.nz

Communication/Whakawhitiwhitinga Kōrero

The majority of our team communication (event information, permission slips, class/team notices) will be sent via email. At times there may be a hard copy of notices sent home.

Library/Whare pukapuka

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 start in Week 2 (7th Feb).**

- Miro: **Monday/Rāhina**
- Kahikatea: **Wednesday/Rātū**
- Rewarewa, Tī Tawhiti and Tawa: **Friday/Rāmere**

The library staff have asked if families could please visit the library and link their child's school account to theirs to help keep track of books.



Inquiry/Pakirehua (Science/Pūtaiao, Digital Technology, Art/Mahi Toi, Health/Hauora, Tikanga Māori)

This term we are focussing on:

- Ko wai koutou - Who are we? /Whanaungatanga (relationships) which is part of our Hauora (wellbeing) curriculum.
- We will continue to develop our knowledge about our local history, whānau culture, the Treaty of Waitangi, understanding the meaning behind our class rakau and team name as well as understanding marae protocols to be ready for our marae visit this term.
- Integrated throughout this we will continue to develop our visual art, dance, and drama skills.

Literacy - Pānui/Tuhituhi

Through our reading, writing and oral language programmes we will be focussing on:

- Reading strategies (activating prior knowledge and self monitoring) through our guided and independent reading sessions, novel study and school journals.
- Recounts, 'All about me' and research writing are our focus for term one.
- Developing and broadening our vocabulary skills and knowledge.



Mathematics/Pāngarau

This term our focus is on:

- Developing skills and understanding in place value, addition and subtraction and statistics.
- Further developing our number knowledge, strategy and problem solving skills.

PE/Hākinakina

Throughout the term, we will be focussing on fitness, aquatics skills including water safety, ball skills and showing good sportsmanship.

Homework/Mahi Kainga

Homework will begin in Week 2 with a focus on completing a reading log, spelling words and basic facts. At times there may be an extra activity related to our inquiry learning.

Starting the day

School starts at 9:00am and it is beneficial for children to 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. Please sign in at the office if it is after 9:00am.

Swimming/Kaukau

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. Swimming goggles would also be beneficial. Swimming caps are **compulsory** and can be purchased from the school office for \$6.00.

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. We have found that Chromebooks are the most user friendly and we can also work with iPads/tablets. Phones are not user friendly.

School hats/Pōtae

This term students are required to wear their black or red school hat. 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 can contribute fully to all activities. We have sunscreen available in each classroom but we also recommend that pupils apply this before they come to school. If your child has misplaced their hat, a new one can be purchased from the school office for \$10.00.

Drink Bottles/Wai

Please ensure your child remembers to bring a named water bottle to school every day.



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.

Ngā Mihi

Megan Batley, Judy Zieltjes, Richard Rudman, Sommai Lightbourne, Sophie Allan and Gabi Malu