



11 April 2024

Ka mihi nui ki a koutou katoa - Greetings to you all.

WHAKATAUKI/PROVERB:



NGĀ MIHI NUI

I did not want to let this opportunity go by without saying thank you. There is a long list of people I'd like to thank as I end this part of my career in education:

The staff that make this school such a truly warm and caring place for tamariki to learn and grow, the many kaiako that I have worked with over the years, the leadership team who work incredibly hard across the school and all of the support staff that contribute so much to our kura.

The whānau that I have gotten to know over the many years here, for their continuing support of the school in so many ways – FOOS, OJSC, Parent Help, Transport and everything else in between.

The various Boards of Trustees that have been in tenure whom I have had the privilege to work with, who set the strategic direction of the school and volunteer so many hours in this governance space.

The students – what an incredible bunch of young people, now and in the past, that I have had the privilege to teach and work with. Their smiles, their perseverance, their truly deep sense of respect and their kindness are a reflection of the strong community they live in.

My whānau – my husband Nick, and my three children Maya, Quinn and Emma. They are sometimes last on my list, my own doing unfortunately. They have had to give up their wife and mother at times, and haven't grumbled about it too much. They have been my unwavering support crew and they have never been short of a hug, a quip to lighten the mood and some wise words of advice – even when I was teaching the three of them in year 7 & 8.

I have loved getting to know so many people through my job here, and look forward to staying in touch with many of you. Ngā mihi nui, and mā te wā.

Ngā mihi nui, Natasha Jackson – Tumuaiki/Principal

FAREWELL NATASHA JACKSON

On behalf of the Board of Trustees we wish our Acting Principal, Natasha Jackson all the very best and thank her on behalf of the community for her 10 years of service to Oākura School.

Natasha is a very passionate educator and extremely loyal to Oākura School. She has excellent curriculum knowledge and pedagogy, backed up by an incredible work ethic. She has created many great and lasting relationships for our kura and of particular note is that of our strong relationship with our hāpu.

Her passion for te ao māori is inspiring and as a result we have implemented many exciting new initiatives.

Over the last eighteen months she has stepped up for the kura in accepting wider responsibilities in the role of Acting Principal. We are extremely grateful for the way that she has led and supported our students, staff, whānau and the wider Oakura community over this time. On behalf of the BOT, the teachers, whānau and tamariki, thank you for your tireless contribution to Oākura School.

We wish you and your family all the best in your future endeavours.

Ngā mihi

Oākura Board of Trustees

POROPOROAKI FOR TASH

On the 12th of April - the last day of term 1, Natasha Jackson finishes her time with us here at Oakura School. Tash has been at Oakura School for ten years in her role as Deputy Principal and most recently, Acting Principal. During this time her impact on our kura has been significant. She has been the driving force behind many initiatives and her passion and commitment to our kura has been immense. We feel very fortunate to have worked alongside her and she will be greatly missed.

FEELING GOOD AND LEARNING WELL

We are currently focussing on students expressing gratitude to others, both at school and out in the community.

OAKURA SCHOOL VALUES



Jennie Aitken-Hall from Hall of Design has developed beautiful designs using her extensive knowledge of Māori imagery and symbolism. We are incredibly grateful and



thankful of the time and energy she has invested in this mahi for our school.

We would also like to thank Cathie Buttimore, Keith Manukonga and Sharron Steen, for their time and ideas offered throughout the consultation process to ensure that the representations uphold the mana of Ngāti Tairi.

The window manifestations in the the C Block (year 4-6 whānau), are now installed and they look stunning.

KIDS' LIT QUIZ

Yesterday two teams of students participated in the Taranaki Kids' Lit Quiz, a really fun event where students get to show off their knowledge of literature and books. Well done to **Rhēma Shearman, Lyla Sheffield, Tawhiri Bailey, Noah Stanley, Matilda Kitson, Joe Veric and Ana Shlosberg** for being selected for this event. They competed really well.

We are holding a poroporaki to farewell Tash at **12pm on Friday 12 April**. This will involve staff and students, iwi representatives, colleagues from the wider education sector and her whānau.

If you would like to be a part of this farewell please let Amanda know at the office. Sandy Taylor

INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS

19 students did a fantastic job of competing at the Interschool Swimming Sports last week. It was a big afternoon of swimming, with some students competing in more than 8 events throughout the competition. These students did exceptionally well and placed:

Year 6 Girls

Mia Farrant
3rd 25m Backstroke
3rd 25m Breaststroke
3rd 50m Freestyle
2nd Ind. Medley

Year 6 Boys

Luke Mottern
1st 25m Backstroke
2nd 25m Breaststroke
1st 50m Freestyle
2nd Ind. Medley
Cade Dickey
3rd 25m Freestyle

Year 7 Girls

Arya Pettit
2nd 25 m Breaststroke
1st 50m Freestyle
1st Ind. Medley
Zoey Kerr
3rd 50m Freestyle

Year 7 Boys

Eli Anderson
1st 25 m Freestyle
2nd 25m Backstroke
1st Ind. Medley
Maxi Wahlen
2nd 25m Freestyle
1st 25m Backstroke
1st 25m Breaststroke

Year 8 Girls

Amelia Ander
2nd 25m Freestyle
2nd 25m Backstroke
3rd 25m Breaststroke
2nd Ind. Medley
Lyla Termath
3rd 50m Freestyle

Year 8 Boys

Koa Gillespie
3rd 25m Freestyle
2nd 50m Freestyle
Aidan Peacock
3rd Ind. Medley

COP21 SYMPOSIUM

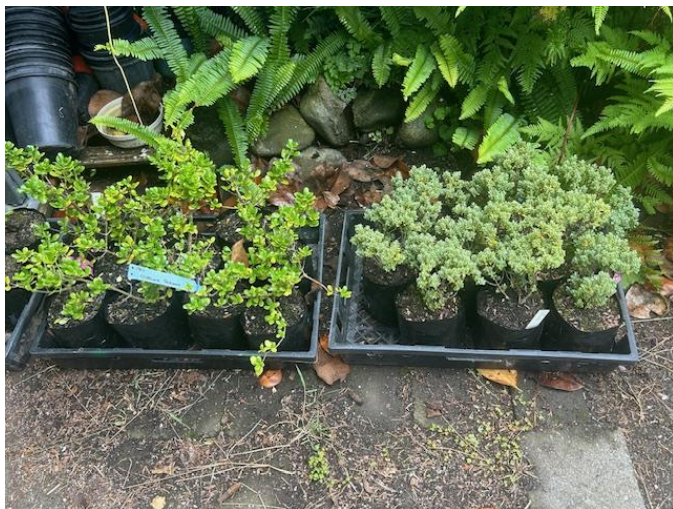
A group of year 8 students attended New Zealand's first ever COP21 Symposium at the Green School on Tuesday. The symposium had a range of speakers and events for students to develop their knowledge and capability to be positive changemakers in the environmental space. The students were able to choose from a range of workshops throughout the day, such as Offshore Wind, Beekeeping, Food Sustainability and Climate Change to name a few. This was an amazing experience for our rangatahi and we look forward to seeing the impact this learning has on our school learning, culture and environment. The students who attended were **Max Looney, Brennan Leach, Jackson Burnnand, Bode Poulton, Matilda Kitson, Lyla Sheffield, Ziv Carmi and Alessia Albamonte**.





PAPER4TREES

Our school has been part of a project called Paper4Trees, led by the Envirokura and kaiako to ensure that we improve our recycling practices. Another aspect of the Paper4Trees programme is the donation of rakau/trees to our school made possible by funding from OMV. Recently we had 38 trees delivered as part of the programme and a group of students planted these yesterday throughout the school gardens. They are beautiful young trees and we are grateful for this donation.



We also erected a new shadehouse this week which was gifted to us through the Te Ara Taiao project our school and tamariki are involved in. We look forward to looking after trees and plants in the shadehouse that will be planted in the community when they reach maturity, as well as growing some kai for our school maara/garden.



PŌWHIRI

We are planning on holding a pōwhiri on **Monday 29th April at 10am** to welcome our new Principal, Dave Smith. Dave's family, pupils from his previous school and invited guests will be joining us and we welcome our school community to be a part of this special occasion.

If the weather is fine, the pōwhiri will take place outside the year 7 & 8 block and if wet it will move to the Pohutukawa Centre. As the Pohutukawa Centre has limited space, you may need to bring an umbrella and be prepared to stand outside if necessary.

We look forward to you joining us in this welcome.

LET'S GO UPDATE

Our Main South Road crossing continues to be supervised every morning from 8:25am to 8:55am by the following parents:

Gavin Stanley, Tash Lewis, Amanda Down, Vicky Jury, Joanna Cambie, Matt Peacock and Liz Walkin. We also have Wibke Termath who makes herself available on a casual basis. These parents play a very important role in helping our students get themselves actively to school and we thank you very much for your time and effort.

Every afternoon the school staff help our Year 6 and 7 students patrol the pedestrian crossings. The students do a great job. Remember pedestrians on Donnelly Street have priority at the end of the school day so that they get quickly down to the Main Road and cross safely in large groups. Therefore, it will often be quicker to pick your child/ren up at one of the Park and Walk areas than to drive up to the school gate. Thank you for your cooperation and patience around our school roads.

If you are able to put your name down on a casual basis for our morning crossing roster could you please leave your details at the school office. Thank you.



BIKE TRACK UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who helped their child/children complete the homework related to establishing a bike track at Oakura School. I read through each family's responses and really appreciated the ones that were well thought out, giving constructive comments on the pros and cons while considering the whole school community. These will be passed on to the Board of Trustees to consider.

BUS STOP

Our bus stop is noticeably less congested ensuring better safety for the students of Oakura School. We appreciate your co-operation in this.

30KM SPEED LIMIT

You may have seen the article from Matt Stone in the latest edition of the Oakura Post requesting that drivers obey the 30km speed restriction on Donnelly Street. As soon as you turn into Donnelly Street off the main road, you should notice the sign. Please slow down. Too many whānau are speeding beyond 30km, especially in the mornings. We have also let the traffic team at NZ Police know of our concerns and they may pop out to enforce the speed limit.

Judy Zieltjes
Let's Go Co-ordinator

PREDATOR FREE TARANAKI

A reminder that we have rat traps for sale here at school, they are \$15 each and can be picked up from the school office

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – Term 2

Monday 29 April – First day of Term 2. Pōwhiri for Mr Dave Smith, 10am

Tuesday 7 May – FOOS Hui, 7pm in the Staffroom

Thursday 9 May – OJSC Hui, 7pm in the Staffroom

Thursday 9 May – FOOS School Disco

Wednesday 15 May – Board of Trustees Hui, 5:30pm in the Kauri Room

Thursday 16 May – School Photos

Tuesday 28 to Thursday 30 May – Year 6 Swim Safety at the Aquatic Centre

Monday 3 June – King's Birthday, Public Holiday

Tuesday 4 June – Teachers' Only Day – school is closed

Wednesday 19 June – Board of Trustees Hui, 5:30pm in the Kauri Room

Friday 21 June – Community Puanga Celebration

Wednesday 26 June – School closes at 12:30pm for Learning Conferences

Thursday 27 June – Learning Conferences, 3:30 – 6:00pm

Friday 28 June – Matariki Public Holiday

Friday 5 July – Last day of term

Pickleball for kids!!

Come along for heaps of fun.
Wednesday, 17 April at Oakura hall.
Ages 7-12 from 3-3:45pm
Ages 12+ from 3:45-4:30pm



OAKURA SCHOOL



Current Committee Members

Sports Coordinators

Hockey - Pip Butterworth

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+hockey@gmail.com)

Netball – Hailey Foster-Ander

Netball (Y1-2) - Pip Butterworth

Netball (Y3-4) - Kerry Peacock

Netball (Y5-6) - Rebecca Le Prou / Talei Barron

Netball (Y7-8) - Hailey Foster-Ander

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+netball@gmail.com)

Basketball - Julia Darling

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+basketball@gmail.com)

Football - Stephanie Smit & Tania Kilian (until the end of Term 1)

(ojscfootball@gmail.com)

Touch Rugby - Shylah Jones

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+touchrugby@gmail.com)

Cricket - **Still vacant (2024/2025 Season)**

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+cricket@gmail.com)

Volleyball - Shylah Jones

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+volleyball@gmail.com)

Chair

Shylah Jones

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+chairperson@gmail.com)

Treasurer

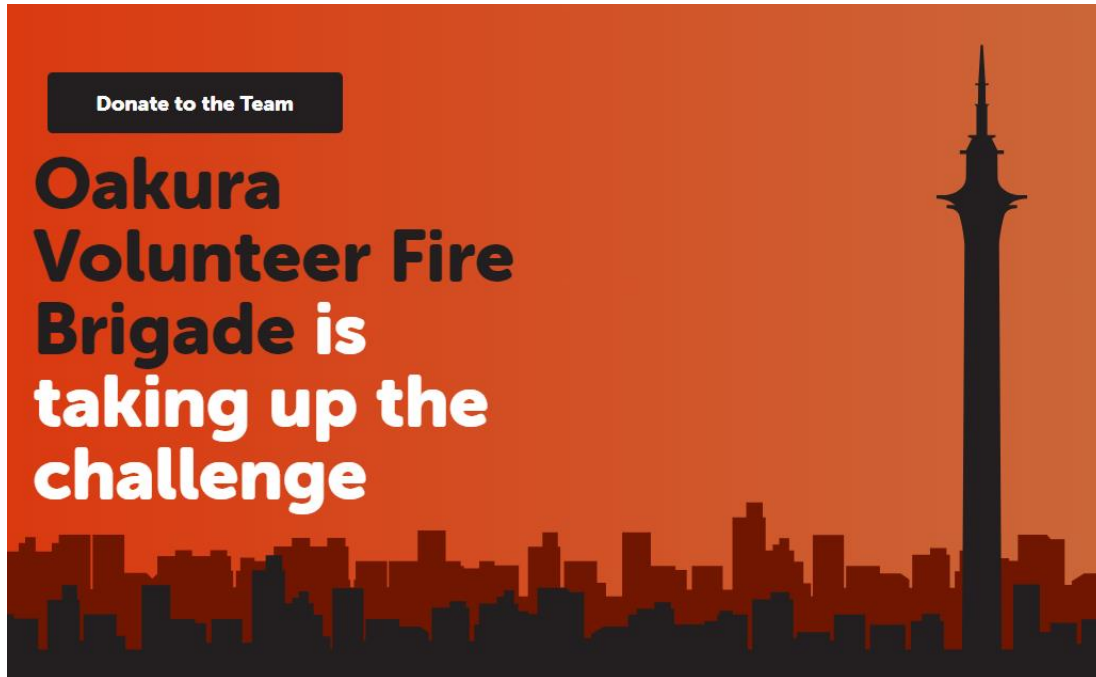
Rachel Volcani

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+treasurer@gmail.com)

Secretary

Rebecca Le Prou

(oakurajuniorsportsclub+secretary@gmail.com)



A crew from our local fire brigade are taking on the Sky Tower Challenge again this year in May. We have started our training and need to kick off our fundraising effort too.

Most of us are parents of kids at the school.

Here is our team this year, we have James Page, Manaka Cant, Andrew Butterworth and I as part of the school whanau plus a couple of other local legends, Rebecca McDonald and Fergus Robertson.

<https://firefighterschallenge.org.nz/t/oakura-volunteer-fire-brigade>



OAKURA SCHOOL
"Learning to think, Learning to care"

EXCLUSIVE OFFER
20% OFF ALL MONTHLY MEMBERSHIPS
AT MANIFOLD ŌAKURA FOR THE FIRST 3 MONTHS*

MANIFOLD
*Excludes Flex Pass

Parents and staff can claim the offer just by reaching out to us at hello@manifold.co.nz.



Together we can make a difference in the fight against climate change, rising energy costs, and power cuts.

Introducing solarZero - an affordable renewable energy and battery storage subscription service for homeowners.

Delivering cheaper, cleaner, more reliable energy for the next 20 years.

With solarZero there are \$0 upfront costs to install the solar panels and smart battery system, instead you pay a fixed monthly fee over 20 years. solarZero installs a solar system on your home, and actively manages it for you. While you enjoy cheaper energy, you're also protected from rising electricity costs and have the certainty of backup power for 20 years.

Your school has made the move to solar and we have created a referral program for them. For every system installed by the school community, the school will receive **\$1,000**.

1. Request the referral code from your school. Feel free to share the code with friends and family.
2. Visit www.solarzero.co.nz, add in your details and the referral code provided by your school.
3. Your school will earn \$1,000 cash for every new installed customer who uses the school code.

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OAKURA SCHOOL



NP WINTER FUN STICKS

SAT 4 MAY - 22 JUN 2024 (7 WEEKS)

8.00 AM - 9.00 AM

NEW PLYMOUTH TURF

\$ 40 PER CHILD

Register via www.taranakihockey.org.nz



Fun Sticks is a progressive program that will introduce your child to hockey through basic fundamental skills and fun hockey games. This program is developed for children in year 1 & 2 at school and 4 - 6 year olds.



Edventure Holiday Programmes.

These holidays we are operating from Fitzroy School in New Plymouth & St Patricks School in Inglewood.

Edventure Everyday: 8.00am - 5.30pm, starting from \$50 per day, 5-13 yr olds

Our services include OSCAR availability, engaging activities and themed days

For more information and to make bookings, please visit our website at www.edventure.co.nz.

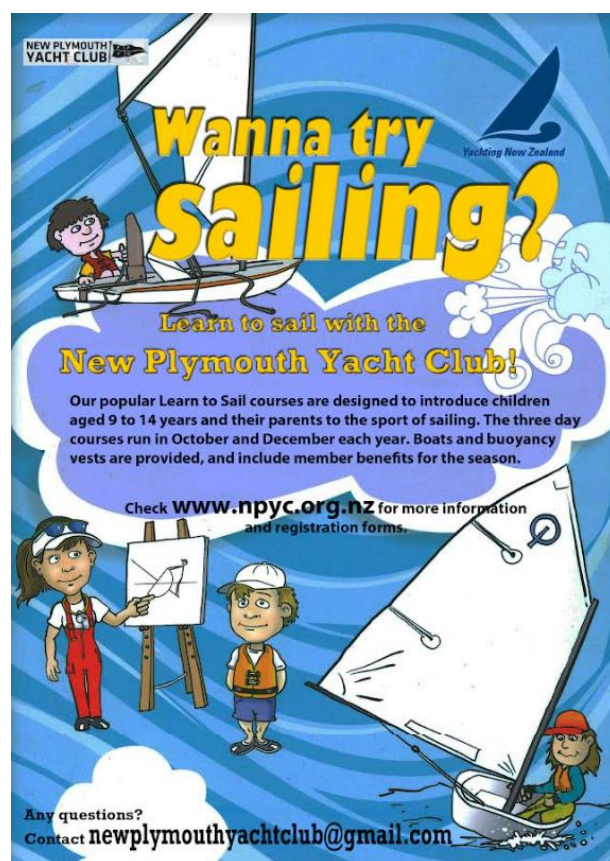


CAPE EGMONT VIRTUAL HALF MARATHON 2024

Want to walk or run in your own time, but also be part of a fantastic event? Then we would love you to join us.

The Cape Egmont Virtual Half Marathon offers three distance options - 5 km, 10 km and 21 km. Which can be completed any time anywhere from the 1st to the 31st of July 2024. Simply record your time via Strava, Map my run, Fit Bit or screenshot and upload through our website. Every finisher receives a medal and all money raised goes to the Taranaki Cancer Society and the Taranaki Men Can Exercise Group. To help those in our province affected by cancer.

ENTER AT: www.capeegmonthalf.com **ENQUIRES** capeegmonthalf@gmail.com





OAKURA SCHOOL



Ferdie Fun School Holiday Session

Monday 15th April	Tuesday 16th April	Wednesday 17th April	Thursday 18th April	Friday 19th April
		Opunake Sandford Event Centre	New Plymouth Boys High School	Pātea Domain
Monday 22nd April	Tuesday 23rd April	Wednesday 24th April	Thursday 25th April	Friday 26th April
Waitara High School	Stratford High School	Hāwera- TSB Hub		

9:00am- 11:00am - 5-13 YEAR OLD: FUN HAVE A GO EVENT

1:00pm-2:30pm - 9-13 YEAR OLD: RUGBY SKILLS SESSION

FREE FOR ALL CHILDREN

NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP!

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: bens@trfu.co.nz