



# OTONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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*Te Kura o Tihiootonga*

*"To build sound foundations for our children's future"*

07 August 2018

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## Term 3 Diary

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 14 Aug     | BOP Rugby 7s.  |
| 15 Aug     | <b>School Closed</b>                                       |
| 16 Aug     | Tough Guy/Gal Challenge                                    |
| 27 Aug     | OSSG Meeting 7.00pm staffroom                              |
| 28 Aug     | Rotorua Intermediate School Orientation Day<br>BOT meeting |
| 30 Aug     | School Fundraiser (Run by student council)                 |
| 5 & 6 Sept | Middle Team Science Roadshow                               |
| 8 Sept     | OSSG Quiz Night  |
| 11 Sept    | Rotorua Speech Competition                                 |
| 14 Sept    | Senior Disco   |
| 17 Sept    | Rotorua Intermediate Testing                               |
| 18 Sept    | Rotomaths  |
| 20 Sept    | Spelling Bee at JPC  |
| 21 Sept    | Gym Competition  |
| 25 Sept    | Winter Field day<br>BOT meeting                            |
| 27 Sept    | Market day   |
| 28 Sept    | Last Day of Term 2 – School finishes at 3pm                |

## Term Dates 2018

**Term 3: Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Fri 28<sup>th</sup> September**

Term 4: Mon 15<sup>th</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup> December

## Term Dates 2019

Term 1: Wed 30 January – Fri 12 April (Easter 19 - 21 April)

Term 2: Mon 29 April – Fri 5 July 05211

Term 3: Mon 22 July – Fri 27 September

Term 4: Mon 14 Oct – TBA

## Quiz Night - Saturday 8 September

Team registration opens on Wednesday 8 August, 7.30pm school hall. Teams can have up to 6 members, \$10 per person, \$50 for a team of 6. Payment can be made in the office, no payments on the night. Adults only, **no children permitted**. BYO drinks & a plate to share.

Registration closes on 31 August. Limited number of tables available so get in quick! Registration forms available at the office.

## Teacher Strike - 15th August - Otonga Road Primary School CLOSED

A stop-work meeting (strike) has been planned for Wednesday 15th August. The current offer is not addressing the key issues of the teacher shortage, burnout of teachers and the lack of funding for children with special needs.

New Zealand has a problem. Enrolments in teacher training have dropped 40% between 2010 and 2016 while there are growing school rolls.

This is affecting Rotorua right now!

**The unattractiveness of the profession has led to a drop in applications to train as a teacher, to the extent that BOTH local teacher training options are planning to close up in Rotorua.**

Both Canterbury University and Te Wananga o Aotearoa are planning to close their training options in Rotorua, unless there is a radical increase in the number of applicants. Anyone wishing to train in Rotorua will need to do so on-line, or travel to another city. The face to face component now offered will cease in 2020.

This has huge negative implications for the schools in Rotorua after 2020. The reality is that from 2020 we will be unable to staff all of our classrooms. We will be unable to get relieving teachers for professional development, teacher illness and the huge extra burden for Rotorua teachers called to jury service. It will be detrimental to the learning of our children, if we cannot staff our school.

On 15th August 2018 Otonga Road Primary School will be CLOSED due to insufficient teachers being available to supervise.

We apologise for the inconvenience, but the situation is dire.

We must act to retain our excellent teachers.

We must act to keep our local training facilities open to ensure the availability of good teachers in our area.

We must act to ensure the needs of all our students are met, particularly our special needs children.

We appreciate the support of our Otonga families in our effort to value our staff and your children's education.

## TOUCH RUGBY

Registrations are open to all Year 1-6 boys and girls interested in playing Touch Rugby in Term 4. The games will take place on **Wednesday** evenings, starting **19<sup>th</sup> September 2018 from 3:45pm onwards** at the Westbrook Fields. You will need to be able to take and pick up your child. A registration fee of \$25 is payable upon registration. **Registrations need to be completed before Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018** – no late entries will be accepted. **We also need coaches to take teams, or parents will just have to take the teams on the days.**

Registration forms are available at the office or can be completed online through Kindo select 'Touch Rugby 2018 – Term 4' under 'SPORT'. Any questions please contact the school office.



## NEW ENTRANTS TERM 4 2018 & 2019:

If you have a child who is **IN ZONE** and turning 5 in Term 4 2018 and 2019 could you please let us know as soon as possible. We need to know numbers well in advance of their start date in order to plan for staffing and resources etc. Please get their enrolment forms in as soon as possible.

## 2018 ACTIVITY FEES – TERM 3:

Term 1, 2 & 3 Activity Fees are now due. Please ensure your child's Activity Fees for the year are up-to-date.

A minimum payment of \$75 is now due (being \$25 for Terms 1, 2 & 3).

Please ensure this is paid in order for your child to be able to attend the various shows, trips & other activities which will take place this term.

If your child's Activity Fees are not up-to-date please register/login to KINDO and pay online anytime 24/7. Payment can also be paid into our bank account 06 0413 0155342 00 (please remember to put your child's name in the reference) or by eftpos/cash at the office.

## ENVIRO TEAM NEWS

This term's focus is on recycling Oral Care products. We will be collecting these outside of Room 5. Thank you!



## Library and Information Technology Centre News:

**OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS:** Thank you to everyone who returned library books last week, unfortunately today there are still 189 overdue library books outstanding.

Although Rooms 1 & 2 are temporarily relocated in the Library & Information Technology Centre the Library is open to classes and at lunch time so pupils have every opportunity to return and borrow books. All books issued prior to the end of Term 2 should be returned or renewed promptly.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB:** *Reminder that Book Club Offer 5 closes on Tuesday 14th August.*

Thank you for your support.

*Mrs Pauline Atkinson, Library Manager*



## REQUEST FOR MATERIALS



If you have any spare **NEWSPAPERS** and **PLASTIC SUPERMARKET BAGS** please bring them along to Rooms 20 and 21. Many thanks.

