



OTONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Te Kura o Tihīōtonga

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

18 December 2018

Newsletter 40

Term 4 Diary

(Please refer weekly as dates may change)

18 Dec	Leadership Assembly 11am
19 Dec	Meet the Teacher (students only)
20 Dec	Last Day - School Finishes at 12noon



Term Dates 2018

Term 4: Mon 15th October – Thurs 20th December

Term Dates 2019

Term 1:	Wed 30 th January – Fri 12 th April (Easter 19 th – 21 st April)
Term 2:	Mon 29 th April - Fri 5 th July
Term 3:	Mon 22 nd July - Fri 27 th September
Term 4:	Mon 14 th October – TBC



Season's Greetings to all of our families

This is the last newsletter of the year and we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and joyous holiday.

We finish school at noon on Thursday 20th December and we start back in the New Year on Wednesday 30th January. Mrs May will be back with us on the 29th January 2019 for new enrolments.

We wish a fond farewell and all the best to the staff who are leaving us: Miss Krystal Honig (Room 9) and Mrs Paulina Romero (Room 4) who is moving to Golden Sands School in Papamoa. Thank you both for the great job you have done for our children. We wish you all the very best for the future.



Many thanks to our parents for their support. This has been a really busy year with a large number of highlights. There have been some great successes with inter-school events, wonderful performances, fantastic trips and sporting events, and we have maintained our great academic results. We could not do these things without your support as coaches, helpers, volunteers and at home backing us up. A very sincere thank you to you all. Thank you also for supporting our leaders and classes as they raised funds for others - it is not just about us.



We would like to acknowledge our Otonga School Support Group (OSSG). This amazing group of parents have worked tirelessly yet again this year to fundraise and organise events to bring our school community together. We appreciate the selfless efforts of these tremendous few, for giving up valuable family time in order to benefit us all. This small group have organised the Kids Creations Calendar Art, Year 6 Tea Towels/Wall Hangings, Junior/Middle & Senior school discos, and the fantastic Quiz Night & Community Craft Market. They have also purchased for our school Sunscreen for every class, items for class prize boxes, C-Pen readers, souvenir pens for our year 6 leavers and \$2000 worth of Lego for our Lego Club and prizes for our Summer Reading Challenge. Your contribution to our school is invaluable. Thank you so much!

Thank you to the Board of Trustees, who have attended long meetings over the course of the year and for their valuable input. They are coming to the end of their three-year term, with the elections coming up in June next year. Our school has changed dramatically over the course of three years with some impressive projects completed, currently underway, and more work planned for 2019 and beyond.

Our entire staff also deserve to be thanked. Teachers, Management, Teacher Aides and all our Support Staff, you have given your best to make this another fantastic year for our students and their families. Your efforts do not go unnoticed. Thank you.

To our students leaving to go to other schools - we wish you all the best in making new friends, and we hope that you will continue to take advantage of every opportunity offered to you. We believe that we have helped to make you a strong person who will do well wherever you go. To our returning students – have a well-deserved holiday and we look forward to providing you with more fantastic opportunities in 2019.

Our love goes with you.
To everyone - thank you and happy holidays.



OTONGA SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

The School Office will be open Tuesday 29th January from 8:30am – 3:00pm for enrolments and enquiries. Stationery can be purchased online at www.myschool.co.nz or at OfficeMax Fenton Street. Pupils commence school on Wednesday 30th January at 8:55am.

PARENT PORTAL

If you haven't already done so, please check the parent portal to see where your child is in relation to the curriculum levels.

The portal closes on Thursday 20th December.

You can access your child's information by clicking on the link you were sent in your email on Monday. Please contact the school before Thursday 20th December if you have any difficulties.



ANZ BLACK CAPS COIN TOSS KID

Congratulations to Lilly Madden (Room 11) on being the ANZ Black Caps Coin Toss Kid for the ODI match against Sri Lanka at Mount Maunganui on the 3rd January 2019 at 2pm. Hopefully it doesn't rain. Not only does she get to toss the coin she also gets to meet and greet the Black Caps and wears the new 2019 ODI game shirt.



LIBRARY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE NEWS:

Annual Stocktake and Return of Library Books:

Thank you everyone for the great response to return Library books, we now have 63 books that have not been returned from students or Classroom Library sets. There is an amnesty in place so during the summer holiday please check at home for any school Library books or Readers that may be lying around (they will have an 'Otonga School' stamp inside). We would love to see them back at school at the beginning of Term 1, 2019! I would like to give a special '**Thank You**' to all the wonderful volunteers who have assisted during stocktake and Junior Library throughout 2018 - we couldn't do it without you!

Summer Reading Challenge:

Did you know that if a child stops reading over the summer break, it is common for their reading to slide. Children can lose as much as **six months** of reading gains over the summer holidays! So, that means that for at least the first term, that child may only be catching up on where they were at the end of the previous year. This summer holiday we are encouraging all of our children to **read, read, read!**

We are sending out a pack with tips for parents and children on how to achieve this. This week children will receive a pack (to bring home) designed to keep them reading even though they're not at school. There are fabulous prizes to be won and then when their completed '**Summer Reading Log**' is returned to school after the holidays they will be entered in the draw to win one of the many prizes the OSSG have helped to purchase - the **Major Prize** will be a **Chrome Book!** So, please ask your child for their **Summer Reading Pack** and encourage lots of reading.

If you have not already done so you can enrol your child at the Rotorua Public Library for free - they have a great Summer Reading Programme for children. Details are on the Parent/Caregiver hand-out sheet to parents/caregivers included with this week's newsletter. Thank you all, and best wishes for the holiday season.
Mrs Pauline Atkinson, Library Manager

LOST PROPERTY

Pictured below are all the items that were in our lost property shed last Friday. If your child has lost an item of clothing this term, please check the lost property shed before the end of term.



OTONGA SPORTS:

Please could any outstanding sports bags, equipment and shirts be returned to the office ASAP.
Neil Carrington & Craig Walden, Sports Coordinators

KINDO - PAY SCHOOL FEES ONLINE 24/7

* **NOTICE FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS**

If your family is leaving our school and moving to another school that does NOT use Kindo for school payments, you will need to CLOSE your account. If you're not sure if the new school uses Kindo - Log in, go to *My Details* and click on the list of schools, scrolling to find your new school. If your new school is NOT on the list, you WILL need to CLOSE your account. You can do this by sending an email to hello@mykindo.co.nz requesting to close your account.



This request will need to:

1. Be emailed from your mykindo account email address
2. State the current balance on the account
3. Provide the bank account number for refunding the balance (or ask for it to be forwarded to the school)

Refunds and account closures will be actioned during January/February.

If you have any questions, go to support.mykindo.co.nz or email hello@mykindo.co.nz or call the Kindo helpdesk on freephone 0508 4 KINDO (0508 454 636).

2019 BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

BOT Elections will be held next year. If you are interested in standing as a Parent Representative in the 2019 Board of Trustee Elections, please contact Antonia Magness our Returning Officer at amagness@otonga.school.nz



2019 BRING YOUR MANAGED CHROMEBOOK

Otonga School is moving towards students bringing their own managed Chromebooks. Next year is a transition time when we are strongly encouraging Year 4 & 5 students to bring a Chromebook. However, Year 3 & 6 students are also welcome to join this initiative. For more information please click on the [information flyer](#).

2019 CAMP - ADVANCED NOTICE

Year 5 & 6 Camp is currently being organised for next year. The camp will be at Tui Ridge Park in Term 2 next year and will be for two nights between 20th - 29th May. Exact dates for each class will be confirmed closer to the time – please watch this space!

The *approximate* cost of the camp is likely to be **\$170** but we will verify this in the New Year. If you would like to set up an automatic payment to reduce the cost for next year, please contact the Office.

2019 COHORT ENTRY DATES

For each New Entrant (5yr old) cohort:

Term 1: 30th Jan or 11th March

Term 2: 29th April or 4th June

Term 3: 22nd July or 26th August

Term 4: 14th October or 18th November



2019 NEW ENROLMENTS

If you have a child who is IN ZONE and turning 5 in 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. Enrolment packs are available at the school office.



2019 STATIONERY

From **Thursday 20th December** stationery for next year can be purchased online at www.myschool.co.nz, in-store at OfficeMax on Fenton Street or by phone 0800 724 440. Every purchase from OfficeMax earns School Rewards, so if you purchase in-store or via phone, please remember to mention that your child attends Otonga Road Primary School. [Click here](#) to view the OfficeMax – Back to School flyer.

OfficeMax MySchool You'll find your child's school stationery list online at myschool.co.nz It's easy to shop online, in-store or by phone.

Back to School made easy

Earn SCHOOL REWARDS for our school!

FIND YOUR LIST



Community Events, Notices & Services

END OF YEAR School Holiday Programmes

Please find below links to some of the December 2018/January 2019 School Holiday Programmes available to you.

Edventure – Active Outdoor Educational Holiday Programmes:

Book at www.edventure.co.nz or email mark@edventure.co.nz

Grace Stables Holiday Camp:

Ph 0278641339 (Cindy) or visit us on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Grace-Stables-1560374864222588/>

International Culinary Studio – Junior Chef Programme:

Visit <https://www.internationalculinarystudio.com/junior-chef-programme/> or email tracy@internationalculinarystudio.com

Lakes Performing Arts Studio:

Ph 0212568345, email: rebecca@lakesperformingarts.com or visit www.lakesperformingartscompany.com

Mid-Island Gym Sports (MIGS):

Ph 349 3108, email: migsholidayprogramme@outlook.co.nz or visit www.facebook.com/MIGSRotorua/

O'Neill Surf Academy New Zealand – Mt Maunganui:

Email surf@oneillsurfacademy.co.nz or visit www.oneillsurfacademy.co.nz

Playtopia:

Ph 350 1341 or visit www.playtopia.co.nz

Safe Kids in Daily Supervision (Skids) – Rotokawa

Email: rotokawa@skids.co.nz or visit <http://www.skids.co.nz/locations/rotokawa/>

The Arts Village:

Visit www.artsvillage.org.nz/shp or Facebook www.facebook.com/RotoruaArtsVillage

The Rotorua Public Library:

Visit <http://www.rotorualibrary.govt.nz/what-we-offer/children/Pages/default.aspx>

Totara Springs:

Ph Jen (07) 888 4700 ext 217, email: jen.burt@totarasprings.org.nz or visit www.totarasprings.org.nz



from all the staff here at Otonga Road Primary School





the summer reading slide!

Parents/Caregivers did you know that if a child stops reading over the summer-break, it is common for their reading to slide?

Children can lose as much as *six months* of reading gains over the summer holidays. So, that means that for at least the first term, that child may only be catching up on where they were at the end of the previous year.



There is one sure fire way to stop the summer reading slide...

KEEP READING!

Here are some simple ways to help your children to keep reading:

- * Make sure that their reading is fun and enjoyable.
- * Little and often makes a big difference.
- * Visit the public library together and join the Public Library Summer Reading Programme. Membership is FREE! Check out the link on the Public Library web page. <https://www.rotorualibrary.govt.nz/what-we-offer/children/whats-on/Pages/Summer-of-Fun-School-Holiday-Activities-.aspx>
- * Read aloud to your children – kids of any age love to be read to.
- * Be a reading role model – sit down, relax and read a book/magazine/newspaper...
- * Get your children to take advantage of every opportunity to read – the TV guide, cereal box, recipes, websites, street signs...
- * Try to ensure that there is plenty of reading material at home.
- * Talk to your children about what *you* are reading, why you like it, what you've learnt from it, and ask them the same questions about their reading.
- * Help your children to choose books that they will love.
- * Connect reading to other activities. If you are doing something special over the holidays, read about it beforehand from brochures, books or on websites.
- * Introduce your child to a new series, and one book suddenly becomes four!
- * A selection of good sites is shown on the student sheet attached or find other websites or books that your children will enjoy.



Fill in the Holiday Reading Log with your child and he/she could be in the draw to win one of the many prizes the OSSG have helped to purchase. The Major Prize is a chrome book with heaps of other prizes available in the school draw in 2019.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer, and **HAPPY READING!**