



OTONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Otonga Road • Rotorua 3015 • Phone (07) 348-6443 • Fax (07) 346-0437 • Principal: Linda Woon
Email otonga@otonga.school.nz • Website www.otonga.school.nz

Te Kura o Tihīōtonga

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

20 February 2018

Newsletter 03

Term 1 Diary

20-22 Feb	Senior school EOTC - Education Outside the Classroom
22 Feb	Junior football
23 Feb	Pacifica dress up day. Fundraising for people affected by the cyclones in the Islands.
1 March	Junior football
6 March	RATS duathlon
8 March	Top School
13 March	House day
22 March	Joe Chambers TV Presenter Poetry Year 1-4
29 March	Year 1 Grandparents day
30 March	Good Friday – SCHOOL CLOSED
2 & 3 April	Easter break – SCHOOL CLOSED
13 April	Friday LAST DAY OF TERM 1

Term Dates 2018

Term 1: Wed 7th February – Fri 13th April

Term 2: Mon 30th April – Fri 6th July

Term 3: Mon 23rd July – Fri 28th September

Term 4: Mon 15th October – TBA

WALKING SCHOOL BUS

Thank you to all of you who are making the effort to collect your child by 3:10pm. There are some teething issues which we need your help to solve.

1. Jackson Park kindy are BEGGING us to not park in their car park. They close at 2:45pm and they have a number of heavily pregnant mums collecting toddlers who are not appreciating that we seem to have parents parking in their carpark from early on. Please avoid going in their carpark until after 3pm.
2. We leave school at 2:55pm, and so the Green Walking bus will be at Nikau St by 3:05pm. We have 125+ kids walking this bus route and they really spread out.
3. Please do not park over the footpath outside the Kindy because it makes it difficult for everyone else to use the footpath safely or the driveway.
4. Please collect your children by 3:10pm or you will have to meet your child back at school by 3:20pm.
5. If you know that 3:20pm is the normal time you can get here - then just have your child wait at school for you. We are trying to ease congestion on the roundabout and stress on us.
6. The Walking School Bus is taking an additional 45 minutes for Mrs Herbert, Mrs Nielsen and myself each day. We do it for your children's safety. Please appreciate that we can only do our best.
7. We will NOT allow children to wait unattended at the drop off points - sorry if this inconveniences you have your child wait at the front of the school.
8. There are plenty of parks available on Moncur Dr if you wish to change your pick up point. At the moment only 3 or 4 cars wait there.

Linda Woon, Principal

SCHOOLGEN COMPETITION – VOTE DAILY

Our school has been entered into the Schoolgen competition Energising young minds. We have the chance to win part of \$50,000 worth of prizes all you have to do is vote! You can [click here](#) to vote **EVERY DAY** or visit <http://www.schoolgen.co.nz/voteforyourschool/> You can use the same link to view the 'Schools Leaderboard'- let's try and get Otonga to the TOP.



BALLOT ENTRY FOR SIBLINGS AND OUT OF ZONERS

In the Ministry of Education zone review last year we learned that we have to hold a ballot, even for siblings. I should have known that. Therefore, this notice is to inform you that we are holding a ballot for Term 2 cohort New Entrants. **This is strictly for children born from January 2013 to July 2013.** All siblings currently registered with us will automatically be included in the ballot. If you are not sure if your child is entered, please check with the office. Siblings have first right of entry. We have 25 spaces available. Unfortunately we do not have spaces available in any other level of the school.

Linda Woon, Principal

REQUEST FROM YR1 TEAM

The Year 1 team are in need of the following items for discovery time: garden stakes, ice cream containers, old cardboard boxes, sheets, clothes drying racks, dress ups, old dolls house or imaginary play stuff, shoe boxes, plastic bottles (clean) no milk bottles. If you have any of these things spare, please send them along to Rm5.

PITA PIT \$2 PROMO DAY

This Friday 23rd February Pita Pit are running a special promotional offer of **\$2 Pita's**. Don't miss out on this fantastic offer – give Pita Pit Friday a try this week. For those of you who have already used www.lunchonline.co.nz - you just order as per normal though you will notice that the price per Pita has reduced to just \$2. For those of you who haven't registered yet, you can do so via www.lunchonline.co.nz and at the same time take advantage of this special promo day deal.

Remember you can order anytime during the week and up until 9am on the day of delivery being FRIDAY each week of term.



KELLOGG'S BOOKS FOR ACTIVE MINDS

Once again this year Otonga has signed up for the Kellogg's Books for Active Minds Programme. We would like your help to get more great books for our school.



- Step 1 - purchase any 2 Kellogg's products with the Free Book artwork on it in the same shop
- Step 2 - Register at <https://freebooks.kelloggs.com> (you'll only need to do this once)
- Step 3 - Upload your receipt by taking a photo of it
- Step 4 - Select 'Otonga Road Primary School' to receive the book pack

And that's it you're all done!

Upload as many receipts as possible before the **END OF FEBRUARY** - each upload counts towards the school's book pack numbers. Plus each receipt counts towards an e-Card for the registered person as well. Please ask your family and friends to upload their receipts too when they buy 2 Kelloggs products at their supermarket visit. Thanks for your support

RATS DUATHALON

The team at RATS are organizing the 8th off-road duathlon event for **Year 3-8** students.

When: Tuesday 6th March 2018

Where: Waipa MTB Carpark

Cost: \$10 per student

Two course options:

Short Course 500m run – 3km MTB – 500m Run

Long Course 1.5k run – 8km MTB – 500m Run

There are NO Team entries this year.

All athletes will compete as individuals.

Parents will need to drop children and bikes and pick them up.

Please pick up a registration form from Mr Carrington Room 22 or download and print [here](#). Forms need to be returned ASAP with payment to the office.

Neil Carrington, Otonga Sport



OTONGA PASIFIKA DAY PERFORMANCE

Talofa lava, Kia Orana, Malo e Lelei, Malo ni, Bula. To celebrate the different Pasifika cultures within Otonga School, we will be putting in a group of children to perform in the Rotorua Pasifika Day held on **Saturday 24th March**. This day is all about showcasing and celebrating the many Pasifika Cultures within Rotorua. There will be entertainment, there will be food, it's the perfect way to spend time with your fanau (family) and it's for everybody. The children will start practices this Thursday at lunch time. Any parents who would like to help, we are happy to have you on board. Please see Mrs Waititi in Room 2 or email twaititi@otonga.school.nz



ACTIVITY FEE = \$25 PER TERM

Activity Fees are set for the extra-curricular activities that we provide at each level of the school. They pay for school visits and for performances coming into school, as well as costly extra programmes that we can run, such as water safety at the Aquatic centre. These activities are not compulsory and alternative provision is made for families that choose to not pay the term activity fee.

We are asking if you could possibly pay this term's activity fee of \$25 before the end of February. Our preferred payment method is via Kindo – please refer to the note below regarding Kindo registration & payment.

Parents of students in years 5 & 6, we have adjusted your annual fees to just \$75 because you will have EOTC this term which is \$110.

Linda Woon, Principal

PAY SCHOOL FEES ONLINE – ANYTIME 24/7

2018 Activity Fees & EOTC Fees are now ready for payment through our online KINDO shop.

Please be aware that you can choose to part-pay your ACTIVITY FEE if you wish. Kindo is set-up to allow this.

* NEW USERS ...

If you do NOT have a Kindo account already (at this or another school), visit our [school website](#)



and click on the 'Kindo – First Time Users Register Here' icon (as pictured) or [click here](#) or click on this link below to get started:

<https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/handshake.shtml?shop=Otonga%20Road%20Primary%20School>

* ALREADY HAVE A KINDO ACCOUNT ...

If you have already registered with Kindo and want to pay your school fees, please visit our [school website](#) and click on the 'Kindo - Open 24/7 School Shop' icon with the 2 owls (as pictured) or [click here](#) or click on this link below:



https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/user_home.shtml?session=alse&shop=Otonga%20Road%20Primary%20School

Kindo now offers payment by **American Express, Mastercard, Visa or China UnionPay**, by **internet banking** or by **Account2Account** (managed internet banking). **POLi** is coming soon! Card payments cost 50c+2.5% (a slight increase on last year) but other methods remain free of charge. You are welcome to add funds to your account regularly or in advance, or just pay as you go.

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).

SCHOOL APP



Our handy, user friendly school app is available to download for FREE to your android or iPhone at <http://onelink.to/gg92jk>. You can send absentee notes via the app, receive alerts, view our newsletters, check term dates & events, contact our staff, and view our classroom blogs & favourite links.

SCHOOL BANKING

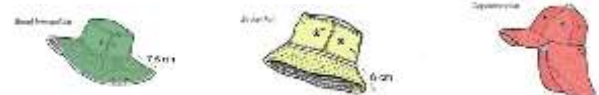
First Credit Union provides a school banking service to all pupils at Otonga. Getting started is easy - just pick up an application pack from the school office, fill in the application form and return it to the banking box in the school office. Collections are every Thursday & returns on Friday weekly.



GREEN

SUN SAFE

Term 1 is summer, so we ask all children to wear a broad-brimmed hat. Please name it, or children who lose their hat will just "borrow" any un-named hat they find, in order to avoid having to play under the soccer field trees.



OTONGA SCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP (OSSG/PTA) MEETING

Our first meeting of the year will take place at 7pm on Monday 5th March in the Staff Room (beside the office). Everyone is welcome.

Ever wondered what the Otonga School Support Group (PTA) actually does?

The OSSG was set up to support the school with fundraising. Our aim is to raise money to help the school to provide extra resources for our children. We generally do this by hosting events throughout the year.

These are a mixture of child focussed and community events and have previously included:

- School Discos
- Community Craft Market
- Sausage Sizzles
- Artwork Calendars
- Selling Chocolate
- Summer Gala

Some of the items we have funded recently are:

- New Obstacle Course Playground
- Sunscreen in every classroom
- Wet weather games and resources for every classroom
- New readers for Year 1 classes
- Identification signs for native trees
- Skipping Ropes
- Jump Jam DVDs
- Costumes for J-Rock
- Mobilo & Lego Sets for Junior classrooms
- Buses to School Camp
- Memento Pen for every Senior leaving the school

In order to continue our fundraising efforts, we rely on volunteers. We would like to extend an open invitation to all Otonga parents and caregivers to get in touch, find out more, maybe join us at a meeting or see how you could help out.

We meet at 7pm in the staffroom (beside the office) on the first Monday of the month, meetings usually go for about an hour and are very informal. Our meetings are a great way to meet people if you are new to the area or just want to keep up to date with what is happening throughout the school.

If you can't make the meetings, there are plenty of other ways to get involved. If you would like to find out more please get in touch with:

Julie Willers Denise Byrne
Chairperson Secretary
027 371 6900 021 250 7036

ossg@otonga.school.nz



Community Events, Notices & Services

Parenting Helpline

we can help with your parenting concerns

get support, advice and practical strategies

Call 0800 568 856
9am - 11pm Monday to Sunday

www.parenthelp.org.nz

Can Your Child Swim & Survive in Water?

Marg's Swim School – Quality programme for all ages. Experienced teachers. Starting from 12th February 2018. St Mary's Heated School Pool. Specialty classes for 4-7yrs water confidence. Beginner swimmers to advanced. 8 lessons for \$100. 'Our guarantee is your child's gift for life'. Phone 0274599286 or boielllem@hotmail.com (Please provide a contact phone number).

FREE SUNDAY GOLF 10-11AM

Location: Pro-drive (Government Gardens Driving Range). No gear necessary, just good shoes and a drink. These sessions are step one in the GJGC (Geyserland Junior Golf Club Inc) programme to give students a chance to try golf. Step 2 is to join the GJGC as a member and attend after school golf. It's about creating pathways for youngsters to learn golf and grow positive life long habits. To learn more please visit the website www.juniorgolfclub.co.nz or contact Ant Barkley – GJGC Coordinator on 0272519937.

0800 WHAT'S UP
is a SAFE place for you
to chat about ANYTHING
at all.

0800 What's Up is a counselling helpline for 5 to 18 year olds. Our counsellors are available from 1pm to 11pm, 365 days a year, and it's free to call, including from a mobile phone.

OfficeMax
0800 942 8787
whatsup.co.nz

**KAHUKURA JUNIOR RUGBY
REGISTRATION DAYS**

Kahukura JAB are holding their registration days for all past,current and new players who wish to play rugby this upcoming 2018 season at the Clubrooms on Pukuatua Street on the following dates and times:

Saturday 3rd March 9.00 am to 12 noon
Wednesday 7th March 4 pm to 5.30 pm
Saturday 10th March 9.00 am to 12 noon.

Registration fees are **\$40.00** per player
\$35.00 for subsequent family members
Cash or Sportypay accepted

Free mouthguard for all players who register and pay at muster

Club socks will be available for purchase.
If you require any further information please contact Tasha Williams 021 125 8152
Feel free to register online at www.sporty.co.nz/kahukurarsc

Do you know a girl who would like to have fun and learn new skills as part of an up to date organisation in your local area?

If so, GirlGuiding NZ is here:
Pippins: 5 & 6 year olds
Brownies: 7 – 9 ½ years old
Guides: 9 – 12 ½ years old
Rangers: 12 – 17 years old



For further information please contact:
GirlGuiding New Zealand
www.girlguidingnz.org.nz
Ph 0800 22 22 92
info@girlguidingnz.org.nz

STS | Start Your Journey

Become a Host Family

Welcome another part of the world into your home. Let your children learn about how students in other countries live and look on the world.

Right now, we are looking for families to host our exchange students that are arriving July 2018.

They are excited to be coming here and to embark on the adventure of their lives, but to make this happen we need your help!

If you feel that you would like to host a student from another country and contribute to a successful exchange year by sharing your home and traditions, your interests and commitment, then please contact us.

A weekly utility allowance is paid to STS Host Families.

Host a student! Get friends for life! Take part in a new culture!

Call your local STS agent Erin Austin, on 027 949 7020
What are you waiting for?
www.sts-highschool.com | sts@stsnz.co.nz

Rotorua
CHILDREN'S WEEKEND 2018

Celebrating Children Around the World
Saturday 3 March
10am - 3pm

Redwoods Children's Day
Sunday 4 March
1.30pm - 4.30pm

As part of Rotorua Children's Weekend celebrations there are a wide range of free family activities hosted in various venues around Rotorua over two fun-filled days.

Celebrating Children Around the World

A range of community groups and organisations will work alongside council staff to celebrate children from around the world. Enjoy a wide range of activities with an international flavour including:

- crafts
- games
- face-painting
- music
- story-time
- swimming and much more!

This year we are celebrating many diverse cultures and families. Participants will follow a map around central Rotorua collecting stamps from each 'country' on your event passport. Start at any flag shown on the map and complete activities at each of the six locations to receive a 'passport stamp'. Collect three passport stamps to go in the draw to win a great prize pool including family passes and vouchers from a range of Rotorua attractions, art and gift packs and much more. Locations and activities will be announced closer to the time. For more information on the events visit rotorualakescouncil.nz/childrenswkend or follow facebook.com/rotorualakescouncil

Redwoods Children's Day

Fun at the Redwoods Children's Day. Free creative activities for under 10's with their family and friends. From art to music, stories to bush adventures there is something for everyone rain or shine!
To find out more follow us on [facebook.com/thetravelingrotorua](https://www.facebook.com/thetravelingrotorua)




20 hours FREE for 2 years to school age
* conditions apply



Central Kids
Kindergartens

66 Springfield Road, Rotorua
P: 07 348 1979
E: jacksonpark@centralkids.org.nz

Jackson Park