



OTAUA SCHOOL

55 Maioro Road, RD 2, Waiuku. 09

235 2741,

admin@otaua.school.nz,

www.otaua.school.nz



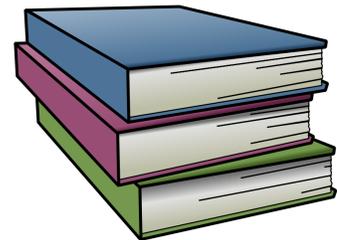
Newsletter

Term 1, Week 6, Wednesday 13th March

Dear Parents and Whanau

BOOK FAIR

The books on sale are on display in the school library and this is open each day between 2pm and 3pm. It will also be open till 7.00pm tomorrow evening while interviews are on.



BOOK WEEK

This week all classes have been working on this theme looking at either a particular author, genre or series of books. After second snack break daily we have been going into other rooms and reading stories to the children and on Friday we will have a book **character dress up day**. This can be any book character at all but the children must know who the character is and what book/story they are from. We will have a parade at Assembly.

ASSEMBLY

There will be a whole school assembly this Friday the 15th March. We will revert to having our school assemblies on alternate Friday afternoons at 1.50pm instead of in the mornings to see how this goes. Our term timetable has gotten a bit out of kilter with swimming etc but should settle soon.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Many thanks for the returns we have in - there are heaps! Please note these will be tomorrow - **THURSDAY 14 March**.

Some teachers have very few gaps - if you would like an interview and forgot to send yours back , I suggest you contact the teacher and make a time for a different day. Your child is welcome to attend the interview with you - if you need to have a confidential chat they don't need to.

Don't forget, BOT members will be available until 6pm should anyone wish to have a chat with them about what's involved joining the Board of Trustees at the forthcoming elections.

I will be available if anyone needs to see me, except for when I shoot into Waiuku to pick up the staffs' dinner.

SWIMMING

Calee Dally, Briar Roden and Samuel Morriss represented the Waiuku Group at the Franklin Zone Swimming competition in Pukekohe yesterday. We have Monty Shuker. Sarsha Farley, Chandler Griffiths and Eva Muir going on Friday to the Waiuku Pool for the Year 6 & below Zone competition. Thank you to the parents who helped out (and will be helping) with transport, timekeeping etc.

RENOVATIONS

Small progress has been made. We have met with our project manager about the tenders that were received. There is a bit of "fine tuning" to do and hopefully we will see some progress. Watch this space!



PB4L - Positive Behaviour for Learning

Currently, we are reviewing our school values and the kinds of behaviour we would expect to see in our classrooms and our playground to align with the values we have. We have plenty of kids who model these values well and have a genuine empathy for others.

We have a small minority who make life difficult for us and for themselves, just in the way they treat, how they speak and what they do and say to others. Please can I emphasise that it is only a minority. If your child is on the receiving end of poor treatment from others, **PLEASE** tell your child's teacher or me. **Often we find out when things have escalated more than they would have had we known earlier in the piece.** Please be cautious too, of using the word 'bullying'. It is a term that is used loosely to describe a whole bunch of things yet it really means to describe repeated, ongoing, negative events occurring on a regular basis.

We have a clear idea of what is and isn't acceptable behaviour and the majority of Otatau kids are well within that range. We do deal with the ones that aren't - just because it's not on public display, doesn't mean we do nothing.

If you have any concerns, please let me know.

PAID UNION MEETING - NZEI

This is scheduled for Wednesday March 18th. Please see the separate note about this. We will do as we did last year - if you are able to collect your children at lunchtime (12.45 - 1.00pm) please do so. There will be a couple of staff remaining here so children will be supervised if you are unable to collect them early. There will be return slip on the bottom of the NZEI newsletter - please return it so we know what you intend to do.

Kind regards

Carol Graham

MEASLES

Kia ora whanau. Many of you may already be aware that there have been a growing number of Measles cases in Canterbury. We have recently had a confirmed case of Measles in one of our local schools.

Measles is a highly infectious viral illness that can be very serious. It is prevented by the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination.

Measles is caused by a virus and is easily spread from person to person. Both children and adults can get measles, and it can be very serious. A third of people with measles get ear infections, pneumonia (an infection in the lungs), or diarrhoea (loose, watery poo). Very bad cases of measles need treatment in hospital and some people can die from measles.

Your family / whanau's best protection against measles is to be immunised against it. Protection from measles is part of the free MMR vaccinations given to children at 15 months and four years of age. If you think you or your child may not have had these vaccinations, see your doctor.

If you are concerned about measles call Healthline on 0800 611 116 or contact your doctor or practice nurse.