



OTAUA SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Term 3, Week 3, Wednesday, 7 August

Dear Parents and Whanau

Our coldest weather so far with more forecast to come our way!

Cross Country

Our school Cross Country is scheduled for Tuesday 13th at 1pm (weather permitting). Ms Smith is organising this and we expect that all students will "have a go". The save day is Wednesday 14th - we will see how we go. Group Cross Country is meant to be Tuesday August 20th at Awhitu Regional Park and those concerned will be notified accordingly.

Conference

Mrs Kelsey and Mrs Roden are both attending the Education Administrators Conference at Waipuna Lodge on Thursday for the day. (Please don't bring anything too challenging to our office!)

Professional Development

Ms Brodie and I are meeting with a Literacy facilitator on Friday looking at our data and starting to put together an application for centrally funded PLD for 2020.

Forest

We have tried really hard to acquiesce to the students wishes to allow the building of "bases" in the forest and I have to admire some of the creations made. Unfortunately there has been "materials stealing" going on Junior to Senior and Senior to Junior and all sorts of friction has been created. Therefore we have decided that from now on there will be no building of bases in our forest. This is a shame as it gave the kids an opportunity to be creative and make up games. However as it has caused many problems we have decided to call it a day.

Uniform

We are finding lots of unnamed uniform items left lying around at school. This has worsened over the last couple of weeks with spare clothes being brought for cross

country training (a really good idea). Please remind your child/ren to look after their belongings and please name their clothing so it can be returned when found. There are also non-uniform items being worn to school. Our uniform is the red polo and polar fleece and black bottom halves.

MOE Funding

The BOT and staff have begun looking at what we might do with the \$800,000 the MOE has allocated us for new building. This is a tricky one but an exciting prospect. We are allowed 91sqm (roughly the size of two classrooms) "new build" for non teaching space and cannot be refurbishment of existing buildings. Progress is being made on the renovation of Rooms 5 and 6 and they are still on track for completion the first week in September. They will then start on Room 7's upgrade.

Stardome Trips

The PTA has very generously given \$1500 to each of the junior / senior teams towards their proposed trips to Stardome in a couple of weeks. This trip ties in with what has been happening in classrooms across the schools and the PTA's donation has kept the cost right down for families. There are heaps of parents wanting to go and not everyone will be able to go. Teachers are working on this at present. Thank you for your support.

Pantomime

The four junior classes are also going to the Waiuku Pantomime again this year. The "Outer Space" name is very topical for us!!

Netball

We will be holding a practical session for staff and interested netball coaching parents on August 20th 2.30 - 4.00pm run by Northern Netball, here at school. This is linked to the four 30 minute sessions our children will have beginning next week. Please let us know if you would like to join us for the afternoon session on the 20th.

Life Education

We have had to postpone the Life Education caravan this term due to the building work as the caravan plug is not accessible. We have rescheduled this and will keep you informed.

Please note

Please let us know if you have any worries / concerns. We can't do anything about things we don't know about. See your child's teacher or me if you have any concerns / queries.

Term calendar

Mon 12 August	Yr 7 & 8 tech	Tues 13 August	Cross Country
Wed 14 August	CC Savings Day	Thurs 15 August	R1,2,3 & 7 to the Pantomime

Fri 16 August	Seniors trip to Stardome (4,5,6 & 8)	Tues 20 August	Junior Poetry Group Day Cross Country
Thurs 22 August	Otago Problem Solving	Friday 23 August	Kids Can Mufti Day
Mon 26 Aug	Yr 7 & 8 tech	Wed 28 August	Zone Cross Country
Thurs 29 August	Juniors trip to Stardome (1,2,3 & 7)	Fri 30 August	Mrs Whyte & Ms Brodie away at a conference
Mon 9 Sept	BOT meeting 6pm	Mon - Wed 9 - 18 September	Matua X Man in school working with classes
Mon 9 September	Yr 7 & 8 tech	Thurs 19 September	MATHEX (seniors)
Fri 27 September	Calf Club prep	Sat 28 September	Calf Club

There are other things happening that staff are involved in throughout the term making this a really busy one.

NATIONAL DAY OF SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPALS - FRIDAY 9TH AUGUST

The teachers and support staff of our school are joining with their colleagues all over the country on 9th August to call on the government to give primary and intermediate principals a fair deal. And we need your support as we stand up for our principal, and all principals.

Teachers recently won pay parity with their secondary colleagues, because a teacher is a teacher, regardless of the age of their students. But the government refused to give primary and intermediate principals parity with principals of comparable sized secondary schools, or any support for growing workloads. In small schools, principals are doing a complex job but often without any extra support, and while teaching as well. And these principals are often paid less than some teachers in large schools.

We're calling on the Government to do the right thing by principals. It's only fair.

On 9th August, we'll be dressing in green - wear a green wig, green socks etc in support of Mrs Graham and her colleagues!

Please come out and support the principal's of Aotearoa, who do such a vital job leading the teaching and learning in our schools.

Kids Can Crazy Mufti Day

We will be holding a Crazy Mufti Day to support Kids Can on Friday 23rd August. To shake things up and make it a little more interesting we have the following **Idea Generator**

Take the first letter from your first and last name - e.g. Mrs Kelsey will wear Marvellous Knitwear

A - Amazing	A - Apron
B - Bizarre	B - Bow Tie
C - Crazy	C - Cardigans
D - Dotty	D - Dress
E - Edgy	E - Earmuffs
F - Fantastic	F - Flip Flops
G - Glittery	G - Glasses
H - Hilarious	H - Hat
I - Intriguing	I - Instrument
J - Jolly	J - Jacket
K - Kooky	K - Knitwear
L - Loud	L - Leggings
M - Marvellous	M - Mittens
N - Neon	N - Necklace
O - Odd	O - Onesie
P - Purple	P - Pyjamas
Q - Quirky	Q - Quilt
R - Radical	R - Raincoat
S - Stripey	S - Socks
T - Tremendous	T - T-Shirt
U - Unique	U - Umbrella
V - Vintage	V - Vest
W - Wacky	W - Wig
X - Exciting	X - Xray
Y - Yellow	Y - Yachtie

