



Welcome

I would like to welcome the following children and their families to our wonderful school: Damir and Ravil Sarsembayev, Zia Mun, Aeris Leung, George Chen, Dylan Tian, Chris Wei, Mila Farac, Sophie Juthan, Michael Posadas-Brunt, Ka Long Tsang, Jessica Zhao, and Jacinth Argao

Upcoming events

3-14 May	Kiwisport - Dance
17th May	BOT meeting 5pm-6pm
21 May	Pink Shirt Day
4 June	Teacher Only Day- School Closed
7 June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday- School Closed

Upcoming events are also on our calendar on our website: www.oteha.school.nz

Welcome Back

Nau mai haere mai. I hope you all had a good break and were able to have quality family time. Term 1 was a little unsettled with two Lockdowns and we all needed a break by the end of it. We have a lot of exciting things planned for Term 2, so please take note of events on our calendar, and make sure you are receiving our Mailchimps, which keep you informed of any new and upcoming events.

Staff News

I would like to welcome a new teacher.

Becky Jackson – Becky Jackson was a foundation teacher at Oteha Valley School in 2004. She left to have her family and has lived overseas. Since she has been back, Becky has been doing some relieving work here and she will now teach 3 days a week. Becky is replacing Mrs Steph Kennedy who left at the end of Term 1.

I know you will join me in warmly welcoming Becky back to OVS.

Kiwisport

In weeks 1 and 2 of Term 2, we are delighted to welcome back Omar from New Zealand Dance. All children will have 2 weeks of dance lessons with Omar, and this will culminate in a couple of performances for parents- date and time to be advised.

All of you who were able to come and watch the performances in Term 4 last year, will appreciate how much our children learn from this experience and how much they enjoy it. You will also remember that parents are invited to dance with the children at the end, so get practising now! If you haven't paid for Kiwisport yet, please do this via Kindo.

Pink Shirt Day

Oteha Valley School has joined the Pink Shirt Day movement to Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

On **Friday 21 May** we're **pinking** out the school to show our commitment to creating an environment that is safe, welcoming, and inclusive of all students.

Aotearoa has the second-highest rate of school bullying out of 51 countries. Many studies show people who are bullied are more likely to experience mental health issues, such as depression, anxiety, and even suicidal thoughts. With your help we can turn this around by ensuring our school celebrates diversity and is a place where everyone can feel safe, valued, and respected.

Pink Shirt Day is a national bullying prevention campaign run by the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand. **Pink** Shirt Day began in Canada in 2007 when two students took a stand against homophobic bullying at their school after a new student was bullied for wearing **pink**.

While all young people can be the target of bullying, some are more likely to be targeted. These are often people that are perceived as different in some way from the mainstream "majority culture".

Bullying is:

- Deliberate – harming another person intentionally
- Involves a misuse of power in a relationship
- Not a one-off – it is repeated
- Involves behaviour that can cause harm

We'll be celebrating **Pink** Shirt Day by holding a pink mufti day on **Friday 21 May**.

Children and staff will be encouraged to wear something pink- the pinker the better and to bring a gold coin which will be donated to Pink Shirt Day



Kāhui Ako ANZAC Poetry Competition

Along with the other 6 schools in the Oneroa Kāhui Ako, our children were busy writing poems about ANZAC Day. The standard of the entries from our school was very high and it was a difficult job for the judges, but I am pleased to announce the following children's poems were our finalists and were sent to our local MP, Erica Stanford, who judged the poems and selected the category winners as well as an overall winner.

Year 1-3 Zion Han Rm 1, Bowen Hu Rm 28

Year 4-6 Daniel Lu Rm 17, Andy Yang Rm 13

Erica was very impressed with the quality of the poems from all schools. I am delighted to announce that Andy Yang from Rm 13 was the Year 4-6 category winner from all the 5 Primary Schools in the Kāhui Ako.

Andy's poem is called "*The Journey of the Gun*"

There was also a prize for the best poem overall from all categories. This was very difficult to judge as there were entries from children aged 5 years – 16 years.

The overall winner: Andy Yang, Oteha Valley School

Erica's comment about Andy's poem was that she chose his poem because [Erica chose this as the overall winner](#) because she found it incredibly creative to share a story from the gun's perspective. It painted a vivid picture of the moment and the descriptive words Andy used added a beautiful depth.

This is an outstanding achievement. Congratulations to Andy! He wins a \$50 Westfield Voucher.



Here is Andy's winning poem:

The Journey of the Gun **by Andy Yang**

I go, country to town, town to city,
in my master's hands,
sweaty and trembling with fear.
The journey continues, through rivers and rocky
terrains, until we finally reach the trenches.
The signal is told and we charge.
The ammo enters, through my hatch and up to my
barrel,
a trusted comrade, gone with a BANG of my trigger
into the endless wind.
The same action, the same bang repeating.
Bullets go through me,
continuously out my front end,
to somewhere on the other side until finally, I am dry.
The kill comes fast and steady,
like a sizzling bolt of lightning.
Enemy ammunition going through my tough skin
and thudding into my master's life force.
I drop, from the cold, bloody hands,
to hit the ground
as my dutiful spirit leaves me
my body splitting in two.
I hear the sound of men running and yelling for the
last time
as my essence evaporates like steam.

Northern Bays Cluster Arts Festival

Every two years our school participates in the Northern Bays Cluster Arts Festival. This year the Festival is combining Visual and Performing Arts in a show at the Bruce Mason Centre, Takapuna, on Wednesday 16th June. Miss Harman and Mrs Craggs are working with our Performers.

Our school will also be exhibiting some special Art pieces done by children as well as performing a dance item at the evening show. Information about how you can purchase tickets and view the artwork will be sent home soon.

Cluster Swimming

Some of our Year 5 & 6 children represented our school at the Northern Bays Cluster Swimming event held at the Millennium. We had some great results, and our school was placed second overall. Congratulations to the following children who were placed first in their events: Terry Zhang, Pharrell Logo, Lucas Qian, and Kyle Zhang.



Moana Production



Year 5 and 6 children will be performing **Disney's Moana JR.** in Term 3, on 28th, 29th and 30th September. This is a 60-minute musical adventure and is based on the 2016 Disney film Moana.

You'll love this thrilling and heart-warming stage adaptation of the coming-of-age tale of Moana as she sets sail across the Pacific to save her village and discover the truth about her heritage. She and the demigod Maui embark on an epic journey of self-discovery and camaraderie as she learns to harness the power that lies within. Adapted for young performers, this musical includes favourite songs by Tony®, GRAMMY, Emmy, and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Lin-Manuel Miranda, Opetia Foa'i, and Mark Mancina, such as "How Far I'll Go," "Shiny," and "You're Welcome." With its empowering message of bravery, **Moana JR.** is sure to awaken your inner hero!

Tickets will be available through Kindo and we will also advise the cost and all other details closer to the time.

Kāhui Ako ECE Collaboration

The Oneroa Kāhui Ako (Oteha Valley School, Glamorgan School, Sherwood School, Torbay School, Long Bay Primary, Northcross Intermediate and Long Bay College) has worked with local Early Childhood Centres (ECEs) through two hui, to establish how working more closely will improve transition from all ECEs into our Primary Schools. We are now at the final stage of seeking approval from the Ministry of Education for ECEs who have significant numbers of tamariki coming to our Kāhui Ako Primary Schools, to join us. If you have any questions about this collaboration, please contact the co-principals of the Oneroa Kāhui Ako: Janet Pinchen (Glamorgan) and Rose Neal (Oteha Valley School).

Sign Language Week 10-16 May

Each May, Deaf Aotearoa runs New Zealand Sign Language Week, celebrating one of New Zealand's official languages. NZSL Week raises awareness of New Zealand's Deaf community and provides a platform for deaf people to proudly promote their language and culture.

We are fortunate to have children and teachers from Ko Taku Reo on site at our school in Rm 14.

Thank You

We are very grateful to **Bunnings, Constellation Drive** who donated a kitset shed and vouchers to the school. The shed is going to be used for PE equipment so that there is more gear available for children to use at lunchtime.

May Events to Diary

Term 2 will commence on **Monday 3rd of May at 8:50am.** It ends on **Friday 9 July.**

We have several exciting events happening in Term 2.

On **Friday 21 May** we will join with hundreds of other schools and organisations to celebrate **Pink Shirt Day**. This is a day that symbolises a stand against bullying. Children will be able to wear a pink shirt (or something pink) to school that day.

Friday 28 May the PTP are running two Discos- **Year 1 & 2** from 4.45 – 5.45 p.m. and **Year 3-6** from 6.00 – 7.00 p.m. More information about these will be sent home soon.

On **Friday 4th June** we have a **Teacher Only Day and school is closed.** We have a facilitator, Tamsin Hanly, who is going to work with teachers on developing our understanding of NZ History from a Bi-Cultural perspective. From 2022, all schools are required to teach NZ History as part of their local curriculum.

If you wish to book your children into SKIDS, for the Teacher Only Day, please follow the instructions below:



Go to Aimy website at <https://skids.aimyplus.com/>

1. Register parent account and add child details (if new to sKids)
2. Load booking – select Special Day as booking type.

For assistance with booking, please email otehavalley@skids.co.nz.

Monday 7th June is a public Holiday to celebrate Queens' Birthday weekend, so families can take advantage of the Teacher Only Day on Friday as well, to have an extended weekend with the family.

Kia kaha



Rose Neal
Principal



Community Notices

Guitar Lessons at Oteha Valley School

Hi, my name is Phil Moore and I have been teaching guitar at Oteha Valley School since 2012. Students learn a range of traditional and contemporary styled songs and techniques **during school hours on Wednesdays**. The lessons are group classes in which students play and sing together a group and take turns to play to the group as individuals. It's a really fun format and is popular at the four schools I teach at on the North Shore.

To view some of my students in action, click on the following link...

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLOpLvAhe58NIYaXS5FBZrQMV5xbDwUdrD>

To find out more about the



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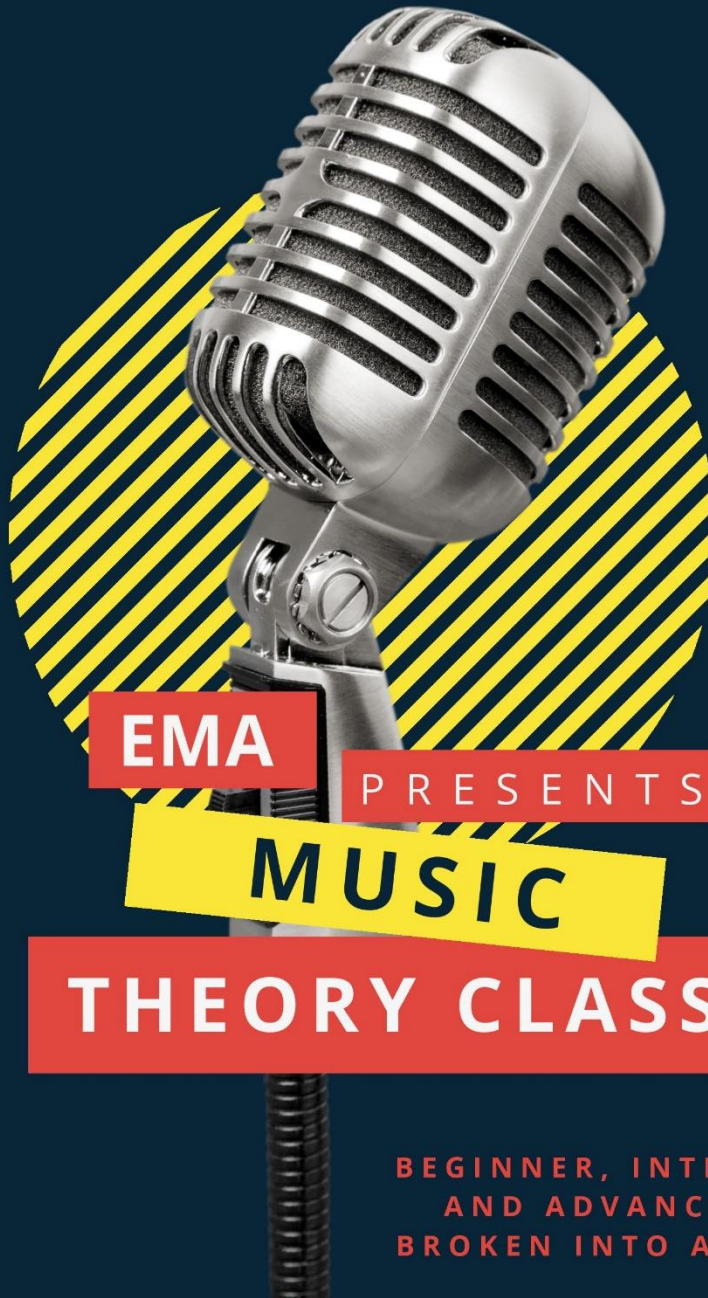
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05/20



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