



Welcome

I would like to welcome the following children and their families to our wonderful school: Samantha Vunipola, Liva and Rose Esekiele, Benny Liang, Sophia Parra Hernandez, Kyla de Beer, Justin He

Upcoming events

3 June	Teacher Only Day – school closed
6 June	Queen's Birthday – Public holiday-school closed
9 June	School Cross Country
15 June	Mathex Competition – Northcross Intermediate
16 June	Rippa Rugby Tournament

20 June	BOT Meeting 5:30pm via Zoom
23 June	Matariki at Long Bay College
24 June	Matariki – Public Holiday-school closed
27 June	Teacher Only Day – School closed
29 June	Cluster Cross Country

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

COVID Update

We have enjoyed seeing many of you back before and after school, and we appreciate your support in staying out of classrooms and pod spaces, while we still deal with COVID cases across the school. This term we have had positive cases among students each week, but not in large numbers. Our staff have been affected more this term than in Term 1, with several isolating because they are household contacts or have tested positive. Many other North Shore schools are experiencing the same and it has made getting relievers more difficult. On days where we can't find a reliever for a class we have been buddying that class up across the other classes in the same year level. Because classes have been doing a lot of teaching collaboratively this year, it has made it less disruptive when we have to split classes, as the teachers know the other children in the classes, and the children know them.

We have not had to make the decision to ask you to keep children at home, yet and we hope we can continue to manage COVID cases among the staff without having to do so, as it would be a last resort. However, if we had insufficient staff to safely have the school open, we may need to do that. In that scenario, teachers would flip to on-line learning again, so children could continue their learning at home, until staff numbers stabilised enough for us to re-open the school.

We would let you know via HERO if we needed to close the school for all classes or certain year levels, so please make sure you are signed up to HERO and check your notifications and notices daily.

Masks

We are strongly encouraging all children to wear a mask at school, and thank you for your support in ensuring your child has a mask.

Staff are all wearing masks and we ask that all parents/caregivers/family members wear a mask when you come into the school office.



Children's Birthdays

We know that all children love celebrating their birthdays but ask that you do not bring cakes, party bags, lollies for other children in the class. It is a lovely gesture but many parents do not allow their children to eat sweets/chocolates and we have several children with food allergies. Please keep birthday celebrations at home. Thank you.

Matariki

Matariki is the Māori name for the cluster of stars also known as the Pleiades (or Subaru in Japan). It rises in mid-winter and for many Māori, it heralds the start of a new year.

Traditionally, it was a time for remembering the dead, celebrating new life, and planting new crops. In the 21st century, observing Matariki has become popular again as a cross-cultural celebration. Kites, kai, balloons, and fireworks help mark the occasion.

Iwi across Aotearoa celebrate Matariki at different times according to when its return is observed from their rohe (area). To some iwi the new year in mid-winter was signalled by the dawn rising of Matariki (the Pleiades), while to others it was the rising of Puanga (Rigel in Orion). Matariki or Puanga can be seen pre-dawn in the north-east of the sky, just above the horizon from mid-June to early July.

All classes are collaborating with another class in the school on some Matariki activities for two weeks. This is culminating in a Matariki Art Display in the hall on Friday 1 July. Our Kapa Haka will be performing at a Kāhui Ako Matariki event at Long Bay College on Thursday 23 June. This will be the first time this year our Kapa Haka has been able to perform and I know that they are looking forward to the celebration.

On Tuesday 28 June we have invited our Māori and Pasifika children to a special Matariki breakfast before school. Due to COVID restrictions, we are unfortunately not able to invite parents or whānau to this but hope to be able to have a whānau hui later in the year.

Whānau Fridays

Last year teachers loved being able to invite parents, family and whānau in to classes on a Friday from 8.50 – 9.20 a.m. on our Whānau Fridays. We are going to start this up again on Friday 10th June. To help reduce the number of adults in the school we are going to have 2 year groups only at a time.

On **Friday 10th June, parents of Year 1 & 2 children** will be invited by the teachers to come into classes and pods to see some of the wonderful learning activities your children are doing. This is not just for you to come and observe, we want you to participate and get involved. Your child's teacher will let you know what activities the children are going to be doing beforehand.

Other year groups are planned for:

Friday 17 June Year 3 & 4

Friday 8 July Year 5 & 6

We look forward to seeing some of you in classes for Whānau Fridays.



Teacher Only Days

There are two Teacher Only Days coming up soon. We appreciate that Teacher Only Days are not always convenient for parents, but we hope that by tagging them to an existing long weekend, that some families may be able to have some extra family time.

They are on **Friday the 3rd of June and Monday 27th June**. These days are part of the Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement settlement with MOE. All schools need to have used the 8 days that were negotiated by 30 June 2022. We had days scheduled in 2021 but had to postpone these due to Lockdowns. On **Friday 3rd June**, all teachers will be working at school on our collaborative practice and reviewing and planning new collaboration activities.

On **Monday 27 June** we have planned some Te Reo and Te Ao Māori PLD for staff to support our school-wide focus on improving Te Reo of our staff and children across the school.

Working face-face on professional development is essential for teachers to have time to review and learn new skills and share ideas to improve their practice and ensure consistency across year levels.

SKIDS will be open to supervise children on both days and if you want to book your child in to SKiDs, the steps are:

1. If not yet registered with Enrolmy sKids, please go to <https://enrolmy.com/login>.
2. To load a booking, go to <https://enrolmy.com/skids-cheery-kids-limited> and select the Teacher Only Day for 3 Jun or 27 Jun.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Last term we offered Parent-Teacher Conferences via Zoom, due to COVID restrictions. This term we hope to be able to have face-face conferences for parents who prefer that option. There will also be the option for on-line conferences, which we know suit some people better, due to work commitments. Details will be sent home in the next few weeks, as we see how the impact of COVID continues to affect our school and community. At this stage conferences will be held **on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th July**.

Mathex

Mathex is a challenging and fast-paced mathematics contest where schools from across Auckland compete against each other in teams to answer questions as quickly as possible.

This year we will be represented by 3 teams of Year 5 & 6 students at our local Mathex event on June 15th at Northcross Intermediate.

Mrs England and Mrs Coote are currently working with our possible contenders on their maths knowledge and problem solving.

Last year we were the overall winning school for Mathex, with teams from Oteha Valley School coming 1st and 3rd out of over 40 schools from the North Shore and Hibiscus Coast. While it is great to win such a prestigious event, we acknowledge that competition is always very tough, and we wish our children all the best and hope they enjoy the competition and learn from the experience.



Kāhui Ako Student Leaders

We are proud to announce this year's Kāhui Ako Student Council Members. They will be joining Mrs. England, one of our Across School Leads, and student leaders from other local schools on projects across our Community of Learners. Ka pai Alex Montgomerie and Lorraine Yin.



Vice House Captains

We recently announced our new House Vice Captains. All these children have consistently demonstrated our school values and show respect and a willingness to help others and take risks. Congratulations to the following children:

Batten - Sharon Song

Hillary – Eason He

Rutherford -Chloe Run

Sheppard - Jerry Cui

School Cross Country

All classes are busy training for the annual school Cross Country, which is being held at school on **Thursday 9 June**, with a Saving Day on **Tuesday 14 June**. With our growing roll we have had to make changes to the organisation of Cross Country. Due to parts of our school grounds closed while construction of our new classroom block occurs, the courses are different to previous years.

Times:	9am-9:40am	Year 5/6
	9:40am-10am	Year 3/4
	1140am-12:15pm	Year 1/2

Parents are welcome to attend but you may not park in the school carpark. You will need to park on the street.

The Cross Country is always a great event, and we would love to see as many parents as possible, caregivers and grandparents here to support the children. From the Cross Country results, we select a team to represent our school at the Cluster Cross Country.

There will be a coffee van available (morning only) if you would like to have coffee while you watch your children.

Baby News

We have two new little additions to our Oteha community. On 12th May Mrs Kirstin Craggs and her husband Danny welcomed Sofia May Marihi Craggs into their family. The name Marihi means precious one.

On Sunday 13th May Mrs Monique Holding and her husband welcomed Lilly Holding. Lilly has a very proud older brother.

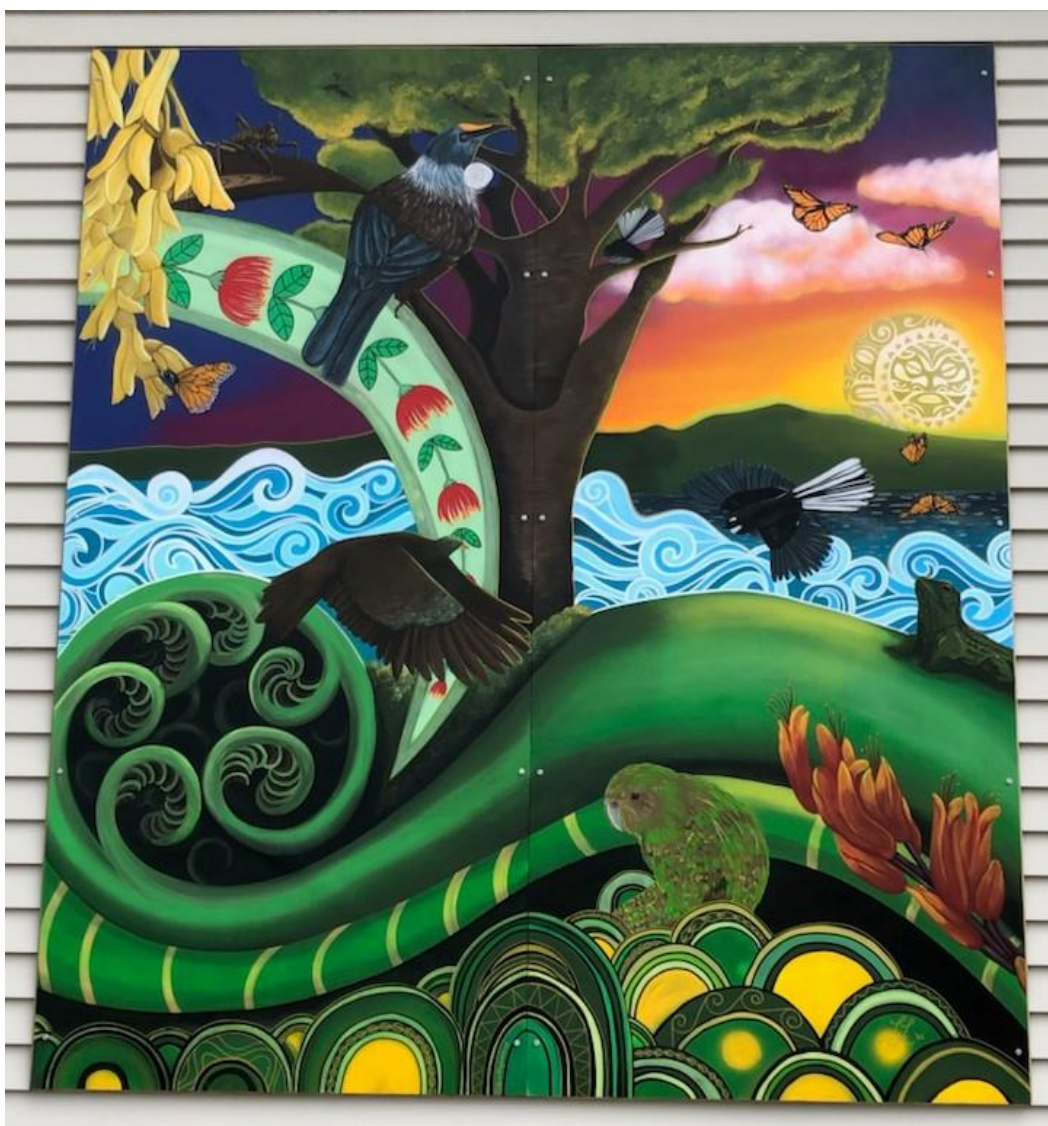
Both the babies look calm and content in the photos. We are looking forward to being able to see both of them 'in person' when it is safe to do so.



Our Mural

If you have been on site at school this term, I hope you have seen and admired the new mural on the side of the hall. This was painted by a local artist, Lucia Laubscher, and is a pictorial representation of the history of the area in the very beginning of Oteha. Next time you are at school please come and look at it if you haven't already and see how many of the features and history of our community and local environment you know and recognise.

You will have all seen our Oteha waka next to the Year 3-6 playground, and our new Values feathers on the pathway between Pod 1 and Rms 31 and 32. These are all part of our vision to create a physically attractive environment that represents our place as a kura in Aotearoa New Zealand.



Supporting Kids Can




Supporting other children through Kindo

Kindo is adding a new feature to your mykindo portal enabling you to gift to others, starting with KidsCan. You will be able to buy lunch, shop and pay for our school items as normal, and you will now see some KidsCan donation offers on the checkout page.

Kindo will provide the donation receipts so you can claim back the 33% tax rebate – or sign up to TaxGift of Supergenerous to gift the rebate too.

If you have any questions or feedback, please email hello@mykindo.co.nz

Find a way to give back this Winter

 FOOD Donate 2 Weeks of Breakfast KidsCan is New Zealand's leading charity dedicated to helping Kiwi kids \$20.00 Add to order	 CLOTHING Donate a Pair of Gumboots Help give Kiwi kids living in hardship the opportunity for a better future. \$15.00 Add to order	 CLOTHING Donate Jacket, Shoes and Socks KidsCan help NZ children experiencing hardship. Your \$50 \$50.00 Add to order
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Rose

Rose Neal, Principal



Community Notices

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For more information please contact **Phil Moore**
Email: phil.moore@musiqhub.co.nz for Guitar lessons

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PLAY SMART

My name is Calvin Wootton from Future Basketball Academy. My team and I offer high quality basketball coaching to students 5 – 15 years+

We would like to offer coaching resources including coaches to help at practices if you need help. We also help develop coaches through Harbour Basketball and Basketball New Zealand's framework.

About Us - We're based at Northcross Intermediate. Our Head Coach Aik Ho has a high pedigree of coaching and is Tall ferns / Otago Nuggets Assistant coach. He has won numerous awards for coaching and we are very lucky to have him and his team with us.

To get in touch visit our website www.fba.co.nz





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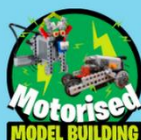


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Oteha Valley School

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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Robotics Class: 3:00 – 4:00pm
Creative Package: 4:00 – 5:00pm
Location: Pod 4
From \$25 per session

Start date: 13 May 2022
Robotics Class: 3:00 – 4:00pm
Creative Package: 4:00 – 5:00pm
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TOURING AOTEAROA THROUGH JUNE-JULY 2022 DURING TERM AND THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!

The Glow Show's fabulous, giant-scale, glow-in-the-dark puppets are back, touring all of Aotearoa!

The magical MATARIKI GLOW SHOW is coming to a theatre near you, during Term 2 AND the July school holidays.

61,000+ tamariki, educators and whānau have already seen our Glow Shows... this year, join us in an exquisite celebration of our very first, nationwide Matariki holiday.

The MATARIKI GLOW SHOW tells the gorgeous story of te kāhui whetu ō Matariki (the star cluster/whānau of Matariki) as they gather to light up the skies for Te Tau Hou Māori (Māori New Year). But where is the smallest star Waipuna-a-rangi? Could she be lost in the moana?

The show brings this mythical magic to life with its unique puppets, which glow under UV lights in a black box theatre and intrigue tamariki wherever they go.

Delightfully told in te reo Māori and English, the MATARIKI GLOW SHOW educates as it entertains, with its cutting-edge concept, upbeat original soundtrack, and themes of whakawhānaungatanga, friendship and togetherness.

The show is touring to 40 venues, from Kaitia to Invercargill, most locations, staging two different shows - a concise version for ages 5 and under, and a longer version with Q&A for 6-12 year olds. Shows sell out so book your tickets fast!

The Matariki Glow Show will be at Orewa Arts & Events Centre, June 11!

Weekend Show

11am (0-5 years) - \$16.50pp + fees

1pm (6-12 years) - \$18.50pp + fees

One day only, so don't miss out! Book at www.glowshow.co.nz/bookings

You can email us for more info at hello@glowshow.co.nz



The Matariki Glow Show is proudly presented by Little Green Man Productions

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OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS



ERICA STANFORD

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Authorised by Erica Stanford, 95 Beachfront Lane, Browns Bay, Auckland 0630



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