



Welcome

I would like to welcome the following children and their families to our wonderful school: Tay Mun, Ignacio Lopez Garay, Elyse Fam, Jason Chen, Bailey Hoogerbrug, Oliver Baek, Matthew Jin, Ronnie Yin, Ibraheem Forooqui, Harrison Hua, Rohan Hoffmann, Peter Zhang, Gregory Zimin, Victoria Wang, Jeffrey Liu, Eleanor Lubbe, Ethan Schneider, Jennifer Wu, Haejoon Moon, Joshua Gao, Winnie and Avery Han, Alex Demkin, Rebecca Li, Rico Ling, Ellie Kim, Rebecca Leitch, Cynthia and Milla Zhang, Rayan and Radin Madani Novin, Aram and Aramesh Hashem Zadeh Saadat, Shawn Han, Adiv Allen, Azaray and Lyric Gardiner, Jack Gibson, Makayla Jung, Henrique Bettgea Mairesse, Arianna Padayachee, Geoff Rogers, Avery and Winnie Han

Upcoming events

15 February 2023	Meet the Teacher 5.00 p.m.
20 February 2023	BOT Meeting 5:30
21-23 February	Class and Individual photos
24 February	Whānau Friday – Year 1 and 2 – 8:45am

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



Welcome Back

Welcome back to Term 1! The last few weeks have been challenging ones for all of us. I hope all of you and your families are now safe and well. The extreme weather events have been very traumatic for many people and our thoughts and best wishes go out to those of you who suffered damage. Fortunately, our school was not affected at all, unlike many other schools.

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all new children and their families. We are very excited about the new year and the things we have planned. Term 1 is always one of our busiest terms of the year so make sure you read our notices, check the school calendar so you know what is happening and when.

Staff News

Unfortunately, we had a last minute change of teaching staff as Mrs Nicola Faulkner resigned over the Christmas holidays, and we are sad to lose her, but I am pleased to welcome Mrs Tracey Beckett, who is going to be teaching in Rm 13. I am also delighted to welcome two other new teachers: Miss Kealan Munro, who is teaching in Rm 1 and Mr Jacob Moorhouse who is teaching Rm 19.

Tracey, Kealan, and Jacob attended professional development and organisation meetings over the holidays, so they all have a good understanding on how we do things at OVS. I know they are all very enthusiastic and looking forward to getting to know all the children in their class and team.

Ms Bex Wills who led the Year 5 teaching team in 2022, is going to lead the Year 5 & 6 teaching teams this year. She will explain how that will work to parents, when we have our 'Meet the Teacher' on Wednesday 15 February.

I would like to welcome back Mrs Kirstin Craggs to the OVS team as she returns from maternity leave. I would also like to welcome Mrs Jessica Ke, who will be working part-time in the school office.

Staff/Team Organisation

This year we are continuing to develop and extend our Collaborative teaching models across all year levels. We saw many positive outcomes for all children from what teachers and teams did in 2022, and we are really looking forward to continuing this progress. Your child's teacher, or Team Leader can talk to you in more detail about this, if you have questions, or would just like to know what it is.

As many of you will know, we introduced our 3 new school Values: *Aroha*, *Pākiki*, and *Māia* last year. These are the key Values that we want all our children and staff to know, and purposefully 'live' each day. You will have noticed the 3 feathers in the walkway between Rms 31 and 32 and Pod 1, displaying visual representation of them.

In alignment with our Local Curriculum and our desire to reflect the place of our school in Aotearoa New Zealand, we have developed new names for our 6 teaching teams. They are all native birds (to tie in with our Values feathers). Your children will do activities and learn about their particular bird name.

We have made the bird names according to the size of each bird, so our Year 1 bird is the smallest, and the Yr. 6 bird the largest:





These are the names of our teams:

Yr. 1	Pīwakawaka - Rms 1,2,3,31,32
Yr. 2	Hihi - Rms 5,6,7,8
Yr. 3&4	Ruru Rms 9,10,11, 12
Yr. 3&4	Tūi - Rms 27, 28, 29, 30
Yr., 5	Kererū - Rms 13, 15, 16
Yr. 6	Whio - Rms 17, 18, 19, 20

Teacher Call Back Days

We had planned two Teacher Only Days for all teachers to come together for Professional Development. Unfortunately, due to the impact of the weather, and the Ministry of Education's decision to close all Auckland schools we were not able to go ahead with these at school. We held some meetings online and will have to make up the rest of the material we needed to cover, in after school meetings.

Meet The Teacher

We warmly invite all parents to an 'informal' Meet the Teacher evening on Wednesday 15 February. Teachers will introduce themselves and talk about their class and team expectations. There will be opportunities for you to meet your child's class teacher as well as the other teachers in the team, as all teams are working collaboratively, and so children will have the benefit of working with all the teachers.

Meetings will be held in classrooms and awhina spaces at the following times:

Year 1 & Year 2	5.00 – 5.25 p.m.
Year 3 & Year 4	5.30 – 5.55 p.m.
Year 5	6.00 – 6.25 p.m.
Year 6	6.30 – 7.00 p.m.

If you are unable to make the meeting time you are welcome to email your child's teacher for a copy of the notes they will be giving parents.

We will have more formal 1-1 Teacher-led Parent Conferences at the end of Term 1.

At any time during the year, you are encouraged to email or message your child's teacher if you have any questions, concerns or wish to discuss something.

Here is our school Learning and Management system and this allows all parents and caregivers the opportunity to see ongoing progress your child is making on their learning progressions.



School Apps – Communication App

To ensure you receive the appropriate notifications, please update your SchoolApp preferences with your child(ren)'s **new year levels and room numbers**.

We have sent an alert which will guide you through the process. If you have not already signed up to SchoolApp we urge you to do so. To download the app on your phone, click this link -

<https://otehavalley.apps.school.nz/install/>

School Donation

Along with most other schools the Board of Trustees asks parents and caregivers for a donation to assist with providing additional resources and activities that are not provided for in the funding given to schools by the Government.

Schools are funded for operational costs, such as staffing of teachers (not Office or Property staff, or any Learning Assistants)), power, gas, water, telephones, insurance, basic classroom resources. We are also allocated a nominal amount for ICT and Sport provision. This is based on the number of students we have enrolled.

In addition, schools receive a small amount of funding to help provide for the needs of children who have identified special needs as well as children whose first language is not English. The formula for this changed in 2022, when the government scrapped the decile system and introduced a new system called "Equity Index Funding". Unfortunately, our school will receive significantly less money to support children with additional learning, behaviour, and other needs as a result of our Equity Index number being very high.

Our ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages) funding is based on the number of ESOL children we have who meet the Ministry of Education criteria.

Most schools are not able to offer the kind of services, support and resources expected by parents, by just relying on the money allocated from the Government. Many schools enrol International Students, charging them large amounts of money for them to attend school, to help bolster funds.

Our school was going to apply to become a Signatory to the Code of Practice for International Students in 2020, but we did not proceed with this, due to COVID.

The Board also agrees to provide a range of devices, such as Chromebooks and iPads in all classrooms, so that parents are not required to provide a device for children. The costs of providing for constant access to a range of technology for students is an enormous part of our budget. This is just one area that your school donation goes towards.

School 'fees' are classified as 'donations' by the Inland Revenue Department and qualify for a tax rebate when you complete your 'Claim for Personal Tax Rebate form.'

Our donation level remains the same as in 2020:

One child: \$48.75 per term, or \$195 for the year,

Two children: \$97.5 per term, or \$390 for the year

Three or more children: \$125 per term, or \$500 for the year.

Any contribution you can make towards the donation is much appreciated.

We understand that the beginning of the year is a very tough one for families buying uniforms and stationery and we are very happy to accept ongoing payments of the donation throughout the year.

To pay the donation, please pay via Kindo. If you don't have an account, please see the instructions further down.



Activity Costs 2023

We appreciate how difficult it can be to budget for school activities and we have put together a list of planned activities for the year and the approximate cost to give you an idea of when we will be asking you to pay for activities. Please note that some of these costs are estimates and exact amounts will be published closer to the time.

Kiwisport \$20 for the year for Kiwisport coaching. Once again we are having two weeks of dance instruction by Omar from Dance Curriculum. Children, staff, and parents have all enjoyed participating in these lessons and we look forward to welcoming Omar back in Term 2.

Swimming—In past years all our Year 2-6 children attended swimming lessons for a two-week block at a swimming pool, as our school does not have one. A number of years ago, the children attended lessons at Northern Arena, and teachers and children found these to be very well run and the swim teachers were very good. Unfortunately increasing bus costs meant we were unable to keep bussing children to Silverdale. When the Albany pool opened we booked for our Year 3-6 children to attend lessons there, but these were interrupted by COVID and lockdowns in 2020, 2021, and 2022. This year we have managed to book our Year 3&4 children only, into a series of 6 lessons at Millennium pool. These lessons are going to be an introduction to swimming for children who are unable to swim, and a bit of extra coaching and tuition for those children who can already swim.

The cost of swimming to be confirmed.

Each class also has an EOTC event. We are still finalising details for these in an effort to reduce costs where we can. We are pleased that we have been able to secure bookings at an Auckland Camp for our Year 5 & 6 children in September. Year 5s will attend for 2 days and 1 night, and then Year 6s will attend for 2 days and 1 night at Carey Park in Henderson. Our Year 6s were fortunate to be able to go to this camp last year, and it was a huge success. I am sure the Year 5 & 6 children will be looking forward to this. . Costs will be confirmed as soon as possible, and you will be informed so you can start putting aside some money.

Teams/classes may organise an additional trip linked to a curriculum area, and you will be given plenty of notice before being asked to pay for this.

Pick-Up/Drop Off Zones/Kea Crossing

To ensure the safety of children and adults coming to and leaving our school we have some very important rules about parking, dropping off and picking up your child.

Our school driveway is closed for all vehicles, except staff and business vehicles, such as couriers, throughout the day.

If you are dropping off or picking up your child you need to find a carpark on one of the adjoining roads around the school and walk down to the school gate.

If you are dropping off/picking up your child from SKIDs before or after school you need to do the same—**please do not drive down the Fields Parade drive either before or after school.** This is the exit for staff and business vehicles only.

We have a Kea Crossing outside the Fields Parade gates and Year 6 children are trained to be Kea Crossing monitors by the local Police Education Officer. They are in action every morning before school from 8.30—8.50 a.m. and after school from 2.45—3.05 p.m.

Please make sure you cross on the crossing and follow the instructions of the Crossing monitors. Our children are very good at using the crossing correctly. Unfortunately, many of our parents/caregivers/family members are not good role models and cross anywhere on the road or do not follow the crossing rules. Please be a good role model at all times.



We need parents to monitor and supervise our Kea Crossing before school each morning, as teachers are busy getting organised for the day. Miss Hannah An is our teacher in charge of the Kea Crossing and she would love to hear from you if you can help out, even if it is only one morning a week or fortnight. You can contact Hannah by emailing her: hannah@oteha.school.nz

Communication

We believe that effective communication between home and school is very important. We keep you informed through our newsletter which is sent electronically once a month as we use other means to communicate daily or weekly messages and information to you.

The newsletter will be uploaded on to Hero on the first Wednesday of each month.

Our website has a school calendar so you can look ahead and see what events are coming up.

We have a school app that I really encourage you all to download free to your phone. It is called School Apps and you just search for it in the App Store on your smart phone.

We use this app to notify you of any urgent messages. If the school had an emergency, such as a lockdown, earthquake, tornado etc we will use this app to keep you informed. This app is also used to let you know if there is a delay with buses from school trips or to remind you about mufti days or other events such as swimming.

There may be times during the year that you wish to communicate with your child's teacher. All teachers have a school email address (on the attached staff list), so please email the teacher to make a time to speak to them. Teachers have meetings and other commitments after school and preparation to complete before school so will not always be available to talk to you if you just 'pop in.'

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns about your child's academic or social progress at school your child's teacher is the first person you need to speak to. If you have spoken to the teacher and would then like to discuss the matter further you are invited to contact the Collaboration Leader- a list of these is included on the staff list.

If you still have questions please contact Mrs. Prangle or Mrs Gregory. If you have questions or comments about whole school matters, they can be directed to me, or the Board of Trustees for governance matters.

We acknowledge that we don't always get it 'right' so if you have a problem or issue with something please let us know straight away so we can sort it out quickly.

It is also lovely to get feedback from you about things we do well. If we do something well please tell others but please give us the opportunity to 'fix up' something first by talking to the appropriate person if we get it wrong.

Growing Independent Learners

One of the Key Competencies we work hard to develop with all children is Self-Management, and carrying their own bag, coming into class, getting out their belongings, and getting ready for the day is an important part of this.

You are welcome to walk your child down to the classroom or pod, but we ask that you let them come into the classroom on their own in the morning. If your child is just starting school you are welcome in the classroom for the first few days to help settle them in, but we ask you leave at 8.45 a.m. so the teacher can get the class ready for the day.



Stationery 2023

Stationery for 2023 can be ordered using the online service offered by Office Max. Go to: <https://www.myschool.co.nz/otehavalley> Orders are delivered to your home or work at a time that suits you.

We do ask that you use the products and quantities which we have selected as these have been specifically requested by teaching staff. If, however, your child has any unused items from the most recent school year, you are welcome to bring these.

Please note that we will not be selling stationery items from the school office until the end of February.

School Donations and Kiwisport payments can now only be made through Kindo. These will be loaded next year and can be paid from the beginning of Term 1.

Break Times and Lunches

We have decided to continue with separating break times for our Year 1-4, and Year 5-6 children again this year four days a week. The reason for this is a logistical one, as our school continues to grow it is very hard when all children have the same break times and are sharing our very small hard-court space. Once our new classroom block is completed and the temporary classrooms in front of it-Rms 21-24 are removed, we will be having additional playing spaces and some landscaping on there, and we may be able to have the whole school out at the same time every day. We do have one day a week, and this will be Friday this year, where we have everyone with the same break times, so that children can play with younger or older siblings and friends. On the other 4 days Year 1-4s have different break times to Years 5-6. On **Fridays** lunches can be ordered through EZLunch.

Break Times:

Monday – Thursday

Yr 1-4 10am-10:30am 12:30-1pm

Yr 5-6 11am-11:30am 1pm-1:30pm

Friday - all classes 10:30-11am – 1-1:30pm

Building Update

Work has continued over the holidays on our new classroom block. The windows are now in, and they are starting the cladding on the back of the building. We still do not have a definitive date that the building will be finished as there are ongoing delays due to material and staffing issues. We are hoping we will be able to move in for the start of Term 3.



PTP

The PTP is the Parent/teacher Partnership set up to hold fundraising and events. This term we will be organising a Family Fun Night to get our community together. If you would like to join our PTP and help organise this and other fundraising and events, please email Sherrylp@oteha.school.nz.

Congratulations

The Ballers (grade A) and the Giants (grade B) both won the year 4 finals for their grade at the end of last year. Well done.

In other great news Alisa Mikuta from Room 5 last year will have her funny story about her dog published in the March School journal. Well done!

2023 Term Dates

Term 1	Tuesday 7 th February – Thursday 6 th April
Term 2	Wednesday 26 th April – Friday 30 th June
Term 3	Monday 17 th July – Friday 22 nd September
Term 4	Monday 9 th October – Tuesday 19 December

Public Holidays

Friday 7 th April	Good Friday
Tuesday 25 th April	Anzac Day
Monday 5 th June	Queen's Birthday
Friday 14 th July	Matariki
Monday 23 rd October	Labour weekend

Teacher Only Days

The Ministry of Education has granted all Primary schools two Teacher Only Days to help support the implementation of the revised New Zealand Curriculum. Schools are given a short time frame in which these days must be taken.

The first Teacher Only Day in 2023 is **Monday 24 April**

The Ministry of Education has not informed us when the second Teacher Only Day must be taken.

School events are listed on the calendar on our website.

We endeavour to give you as much notice as possible of upcoming events and will put reminders in the newsletter where possible.



I have been Principal of Oteha Valley School for almost 12 years now and it is a real privilege to be part of this school and community. I have seen many changes in our school and community over that time and love the diversity and support we have here. Diversity is a real strength and a feature of our school.

We have passionate and enthusiastic staff, wonderful children and parents, family and whānau, and a very supportive Board of Trustees.

I am really looking forward to a positive and exciting 2023!

Ngā mihi nui



Rose Neal, Principal



Community Notices

A promotional poster for guitar lessons at Oteha Valley School. The background is orange with a blue banner at the top. On the left and right sides, there are partial images of an acoustic guitar and an electric guitar respectively. In the center, there is a photo of a group of children playing guitars.

LEARN THE GUITAR at Oteha Valley School

*Would you like your child to learn the guitar?
Do you prefer in-school lessons with experienced teachers?
Then why not join the guitar lessons at Oteha Valley School!*

We have quality tutors teaching a full, varied and structured curriculum. Students learn a range of traditional and contemporary styled songs and techniques during school hours on Wednesdays.

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

MUSIQHUB
PLAY SMART



Drum tuition

In school group lessons
\$16.50 per session
One on one available on request

Enquire with Ethan today!

Lloydsdrumtuition@gmail.com





Scan to
enrol

bricks 4 kidz

STEAM EDUCATION

AFTER SCHOOL LEGO® STEAM CLASSES

Oteha Valley School

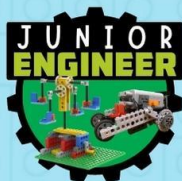
Discover a world of fun and learning

Learn real-
world
concepts!

Explore
Science,
Technology
Engineering,
Art & Maths

Inspiring problem solving & creativity

Fun hands-
on learning
with LEGO®



Junior Engineer (Year 0-6)

Experience the fun of
hands-on model building to
develop engineering &
problem solving skills



Junior Robotics: Coding Introduction (Year 0-4)

Combines your child's model
building & engineering skills
with WeDo "drag and drop"
coding and robotics

SPORT SCIENCE

Let's dive into the science
behind sport!
Each session students will
discover the fundamental
physics which lie behind the
movement and motion in
sports.

New model each week!

TUESDAYS

Junior Engineer

Start date: 7 Feb 2023

Class: 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: Awhina Space

\$23 per session



Join us for Junior Robotics as
we explore and harness
energy of our own!

Code & build your very own
Windmill, Water Wheel,
Sailboat and much more!

New model each week!

FRIDAYS

Junior Robotics Level 1: Coding Introduction

Start date: 10 Feb 2023

Class: 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: Awhina Space

\$28 per session

www.bricks4kidz.co.nz | 0800 LEGO 4 K | info@bricks4kidz.co.nz

EMPOWERING TODAY'S STUDENTS TO BECOME TOMORROW'S PROBLEM SOLVERS AND INNOVATORS





WIN A VOUCHER!



Order **ezlunch** for delivery dates
13 – 24 February to enter the draw!

Every order goes in the draw for a chance to win. Three chances per order. Winners will be drawn on Friday 24 February 2023 and will be notified by phone or email. No correspondence will be entered into.

Visit ezlunch.co.nz or order through the mykindo app.

★ to do something
you love ♥



SIGN UP FOR TERM ONE TODAY!

Evidence-based social skills club
for LEGO fans (ages 8-12)

Brick Club!

This group offers a opportunity for young people to engage with peers and improve social interactions through collaborative Lego building.

Specifically designed for kids who struggle with understanding or using appropriate social skills.

**WARKWORTH
&
TAKAPUNA**

referrals@psyched.org.nz



(09) 320 3086

www.psyched.org.nz





DESIGNED BY SUE
ART STUDIO



2023
TERM 1

ADULTS

ACRYLIC PAINTING COURSE
WED: 10AM-1PM

OBJECTS DRAWING COURSE
THU: 10AM-1PM

TEENS

ACRYLIC PAINTING/
DRAWING OBJECTS COURSE
FRI: 3:30PM-5:00PM

KIDS

ACRYLIC PAINTING COURSE
THU: 3:30PM-4:30PM

PAINTING IS FUN COURSE
THU: 5:00PM-6:00PM

DESIGNEDBYSUE.CO.NZ



OUR COMMUNITY CONTACTS



ERICA STANFORD

Member of Parliament for **East Coast Bays**

*Proudly representing
our amazing community*

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



(09) 478 0207

office@ecbelectorate.co.nz

EricaStanfordECB

www.EricaStanfordMP.co.nz

Emma Torres
Franchise Owner

Stella Maris / Oteha Valley / Waitoki

T. 09 443 8446 • M. 021 165 1310

E. emma@skids.co.nz

www.skids.co.nz

skidsnewzealand



Pform.nz

Saturdays
Pinehill School's hall

Call us for your **FREE** trial
0800 736 766

DANCE • www.pform.nz • **DRAMA**

• RESIDENTIAL • LIFESTYLE

Harcourts Cooper & Co

• LAND DEVELOPMENT • FUTURE URBAN

CALL US TODAY TO TALK
ABOUT THE CURRENT
VALUE OF YOUR
PROPERTY.



YOUR
Trusted
AWARD WINNING
SPECIALISTS



Tracey **HOWE** ☎ 021 330 751

Looie **JAMES** ☎ 027 706 5790

FREE trial swimming lesson
for new customers

Call us now to book:
Newmarket – (09) 529-0177
One Tree Hill – (09) 582-1111
Albany – (09) 414-5484
Hobsonville – (09) 666-0240

Hilton Brown
SWIMMING
Lessons for life



We welcome
your visit

Monday - Friday:
7:00am - 6pm

Ph 09 479 5432

admin@thejunctionelc.co.nz
www.thejunctionelc.co.nz

Your Property Management

Specialists

Our award winning team concentrate exclusively on the management of residential properties and this allows us to deliver a tailored service to you.

Get in touch with our awesome team to have your property managed by the best, then sit back to enjoy the rewards of your best investment!

0508 TO RENT

www.cooperandco.co.nz

Contact us now!
Call
021 067 633

MUSIC FOR LIFE
Improve (or Discover) Your Musical Talent

Email: admin@eliettesmusicacademy.com
6/28 The Avenue, Albany, Auckland
www.eliettesmusicacademy.com

Northern Arena

Life's Safer
with Northern Arena

Swimming lessons for the family
www.northernarena.co.nz
09 421 9700

BOOK NOW!

8 Polarity Rise, Silverdale
info@northernarena.co.nz

If you want to be one of the community contacts, please contact Newsletters Unlimited, Ph/Fax: 09 817 3867, or Email: newsletters@xtra.co.nz

