



Welcome

I would like to welcome the following children and their families to our wonderful school:

Ann Luong, Tony Ivanov, Emma Ye, Koringo Watford, Ian Sun, Aaira Yousufi, Daniel Kim, Belle Esterhuizen, Carter Lee, Divandre Bruwer, Ella Kim, Jennie Wang, Alayna and Sireen Ahmed, Eugene Lee, Inaaya and Zayan Gazi, Heiji Burt, Eliana Hwang, Isabelle Fan, Ben Huang, Emma Montgomerie, Michaela Divanisova, Jane Huang, Isabella Li, Ethan Dai, Hasali Abeysoonya, Woojoo Yang,

Upcoming events

15 June **BOT Meeting via Zoom**

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

Welcome Back

It is a long time since our last newsletter on the 3rd March and a lot has happened since then. We have had a slow start back to school over the past 3 weeks since Alert Level 2 started, and we still do not have all our children back at school.

There were many positive things to come out of Lockdown for teachers and children. While we understand that learning from home was difficult for some children and parents, teachers were able to explore new technology and learnt many new skills that they are going to continue using in the classroom to help support children in their learning.

Having said that, we are all grateful that we can come back to school and return to some old ways of doing things, unlike many countries who are still being ravaged by the impact of COVID-19.

As a staff we have used this as an opportunity to review the way we do some things at school and will keep you informed of any changes that affect you.

I would like to reiterate my thanks to all of you for your support over this time. Some of the restrictions and changes we had to make under Alert Levels 3 and 2 have meant you have had to do some things differently, and this can be challenging at times.

Looking for the silver linings, teachers of our Year 1 and 2 children have noticed a huge increase in the independence of children coming into school and the classroom.

We have all missed the face to face contact with parents and caregivers and appreciate your understanding of the restrictions we had to put in place to keep your children and all of our staff safe.

We will keep you informed of changes as we move into Level 1 and know more about what Level 1 restrictions are.

Staff News

I would like to welcome Mrs Nicola Faulkner who is teaching in Room 15 Year 5/6. Nicola and her family arrived from the UK just before lockdown. Nicola has been teaching in the UK for several years and started at the beginning of term 2. She is loving teaching at our school, and she and her family have settled into the kiwi lifestyle quickly.

This term we have started up two New Entrant classes to cater for all the children who turned 5 since the Lockdown on 25 March. Mrs Nicole Rose has started up a New Entrant class in Room 6.

I would also like to welcome Miss Clarisse Harman who has set up our second New Entrant class. Miss Harman has taught in New Zealand for a year, and then overseas in the UK, before returning home early this year. She is in Room 32, which is the Multi-Purpose Room.

Mrs Illing from Room 5 has moved up to the Multi-Purpose Room and her room is now known as Room 31. Mrs Illing will be supporting Miss Harman, and this gives the new children the opportunity to play and learn with the Room 31 children as they arrive.

You will recall that Miss Jenna Butler was due to get married at the end of March. Unfortunately, she and her partner Chris had to postpone their wedding, until next year. Miss Butler will be known as Mrs. Coote from now on.

We are excited to announce that two of our teachers are expecting babies in August. Mrs. Caitlin Winter and her husband Andrew are expecting their first child. Caitlin has taught at our school since January 2019. Mrs. Sammy Beadle and her husband, Scott are expecting their second child, a brother for Siena, also in August. Sammy has taught part-time at OVS for several years. We wish them and their families all the best. We are in the process of finding teachers to replace them both.



Family Fun Night

The Family Fun night seems a long time ago, however I would like to thank the PTP for organising this, especially to Danielle Burdett, Fatima Juthan, Anna-Lee Perkinson and all the other parents and staff that supported this night. It was a great success and we raised \$5,200.

I would like to thank the following sponsors: Hilton Brown Swimming, Clip n Climb, Pupuke Golf Club, L'Oréal, Spur, Pak n Save, New World, My wonderland, Farro, Glenbrook Vintage Railway, The Merchant, Mama Loco, Go Breakers Basketball, The Cheesecake Shop, Blues Rugby Jersey (sponsored by Suzanne Peel) All Day Trader, Alfie McNeil's Family, The Body Shop, Gilmours, Pamper Medical Pack (sponsored by Suzanne Janse Van Rensburg) My Munchbunch Bags, Anna Lin (Link Business Broker) and Pinehill Bakers Delight.

Thank you all so much for your generous donations.

Manga High Certificates

During the Lockdown many of our Year 3-6 children completed Maths activities on Manga High. Our school did exceptionally well, coming 4th overall-behind three large Intermediate schools.

Congratulations to the following students for all the activities they completed over the Lockdown:

Faizah Khan – 1st place

Adina Song – 2nd place

Justin Ren – 3rd place

Tyler Pou – 4th place

Hunter Pou – 5th place

Gary Gou – 6th place

Eason He – 7th place

Jashmitha Maddala – 8th place

Charm Moon – 9th place

Elsie He – 10th place

Well done to you all!



Kiwisport

Our Term 2 Kiwisport Dance programme had to be postponed but I am delighted to let you know that Dean will be returning again in Term 3 for our whole school Dance programme. If you have a child who was at school last year you will probably know all about Dean and the dances that he taught all year groups. This culminated in dance performances for the parents, which were hugely popular.

We are waiting for the date to be confirmed. The cost of Kiwisport is \$20 for the year. If you have not paid for this already we would appreciate you paying this as soon as you are able to.

Kindo is Coming Soon!

Before Lock down I mentioned that Kindo will be coming to our school. Kindo is a software programme designed to make it easy for you to manage school payments and complete school forms for your whole family through our website. For those of you who already use *Ezlunch*, this is an extension of this, and you will be able to use your existing login details. This will be available through *Quick Links* on the school website.

You will be able to login by creating your own account or existing account to see what is owing and pay for everything online. Kindo can be used on Apple phones and they are developing an app for Android phones later this year.

Kindo will be linked to our Student Management System which enables parents to pay and print receipts including donation receipts. The school will no longer be issuing receipts once we transition over to Kindo, so it will be important if you don't already have a login to *Ezlunch* that you create a login.

Closer to the time we will give you instructions of how to make your child's account.

Friendly Friday

Last Friday we celebrated the end of our second week back at school with a Rainbow mufti day. Children could wear any bright colours to represent the colours of the Rainbow. We asked them all to bring a can of food that would be donated to the local Salvation Army, to help families in our community who are in need.

We also had a Dance- Off, where each pod or team of teachers and children learnt a dance to perform. As we weren't able to have any live audiences, due to Level 2 restrictions, each team performed their dance in the hall, and this was live streamed to all the other classes.

I was so impressed with the dances that the children learnt in a very short time. Thanks to all the teachers for their hard work getting the dances choreographed.

Congratulations to Rooms 17,18,19 and 20 who were declared the winners for their very energetic and well-choreographed dance.

Some of the children from Rooms 13-16 performing their dance





Room 10 with some of the cans and tins they donated for the Salvation Army

Property Update

The board of Trustees is still working with the Ministry of Education and Architects from GHD on our new 3 storey, 18 classroom block. We have experienced many frustrating delays and setbacks during the process, and we still do not have approval for the design that was submitted.

Our very small site has made the placement and design of the building very difficult, as the Board of Trustees were adamant we would not build on our fields. We also feel very strongly that our vision for our school needs to be represented in the final design.

In the past I have given you several dates that we expected work to start, and none of these dates have been accurate. We feel it is unlikely that any work will start on the buildings in 2020, which is very disappointing and frustrating, but we need to continue to engage with the Ministry of Education and the Architects to ensure we end up with a building that we are satisfied with and we feel will meet our current and future needs.

Cancellation of Activities

Unfortunately, several school and Cluster events have been cancelled as a result of COVID-19. Some Cluster sports events have been cancelled: Swimming, Cross Country, Year 5/6 Winter Sports Day. The Rippa tournaments have also been cancelled for the remainder of this year.

Our Kāhui Ako Teacher Only Day had to be cancelled, and we cancelled our proposed school Teacher Only Day that was to have been held on June 2.

The Kāhui Ako Matariki Festival was cancelled, and we are looking into whether we will be able to reschedule this to later in the year or will have to cancel it and plan for a bigger and better Festival in 2021.

The Onepoto Cultural Festival has been cancelled also, so we are looking for other opportunities for our Kapa Haka to perform.

We are hopeful that some of the other events that were planned for later in the year might be able to go ahead.

We have postponed some of our school events that were to be held at the end of Term 1, or during Term 2: Year 5/6 Positive Puberty Programme and Parent Information evening has been postponed to Term 3. Our Kiwisport Dance programme has also been postponed to Term 3.

We had to cancel our Term 1 3-Way Conferences due to the Lockdown. We had scheduled further Learning Conferences at the end of Term 2, but will postpone these till Term 3, when teachers have had more time to transition back into more regular class routines and programmes.

At this stage we are still hopeful we can have the Life Ed Caravan on site in Term 3 for our Health programme.

We were in the early stages of planning a school-wide Cultural Festival over several days to celebrate all the cultures in our school. We are hoping we can proceed with this in Term 3.

We had also planned a Grandparents Day for the end of Term 1, and we will let you know if we are going to reschedule this.

We know that you are all as disappointed as we are that many of these events cannot go ahead this year, but we hope that our good progress in fighting COVID-19 continues, and we can run some of these activities and events later on.



Kāhui Ako



Congratulations to Miss Kristie Daniels who became a Within School Lead just before lockdown. Miss Daniels will join

Mrs Rose, Mrs Yang and Ms Rich from our school in promoting best teaching practice and strengthen the use of an inquiry approach to teaching and learning, in order to achieve the shared achievement challenges.

They will also work with other teachers from our Kāhui Ako to help identify challenges and support the Kāhui Ako goals and objectives.

Entertainment Books for Sale!

Once again Entertainment books are for sale. This year all Entertainment Memberships are available **ONLINE only**. To purchase your 2020 Entertainment Membership, visit

<https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/100d152>.

Each copy that is sold, 20% proceeds will come to the school. Please help support this.

Rose Neal
Principal



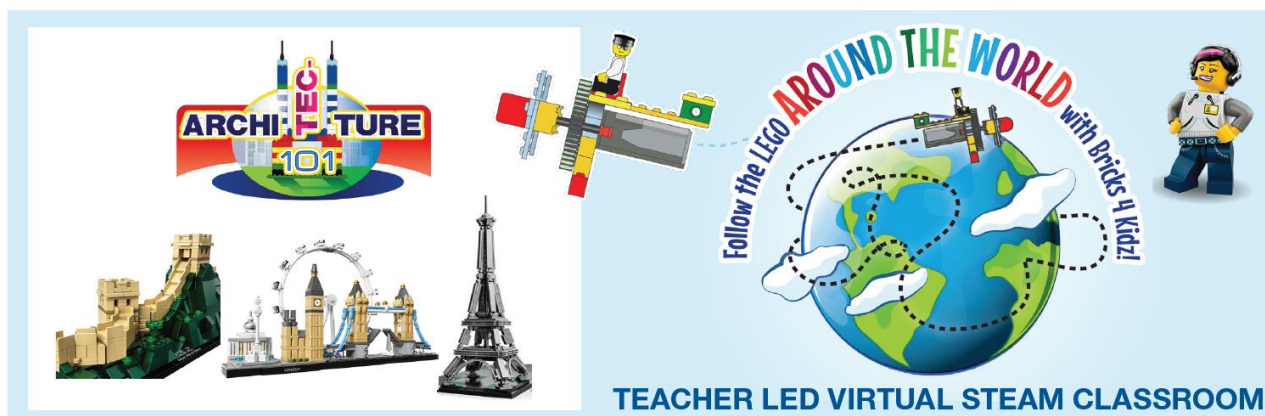
Community Notices

Guitar Lessons at Oteha Valley School

Musiqhub offer guitar tuition to students at Oteha Valley School with experienced tutor Phil Moore. 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. This format creates a fun environment for students and is hugely popular in schools around the country.

Phil has been teaching the guitar at OVS and four other North Shore Schools since 2011. You can see some of his students in action at www.youtube.com/philmooreguitar





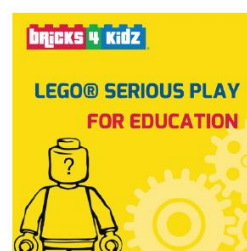
ARCHITECTURE AROUND THE WORLD

Join us as we travel back in time to discover Architectural marvels across the globe.

In each lesson we will uncover the when and why these landmarks were built, looking at the History and Technology available at that time.

And we will question how well the building achieves its purpose, and discuss how technology available at that time changes how building were built, and explore the Architectural and Engineering concepts behind the landmark.

This learning is reinforced through a LEGO Building Challenge, where the students become the architect of their own masterpieces, and present their build to the class, aiming to develop a student's own creative solutions and build on the students' presentation skills.



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Student Age: 5-6, 7-9 Yrs
Class Duration: 60 mins
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05/20



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 3 June 2020

Breathing life into learning
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