



e tipu e rea In our children lies our future

NEWSLETTER



ISSUE NO 17, 11 June 2015

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Rooms 1 & 3 Trip to Te Papa	12 June
Parentlink Sausage Sizzle	12 June
Enviro Group Meeting 7.00 pm	16 June
Matariki begins	18 June
Parentlink AGM 7.00 pm	18 June
Stream Planning & Preparation	21 June
Kidscan Fancy Dress Up Day	25 June
Movie Theme Disco	26 June
Enviro Day	26 June
Last Day of Term 2	3 July

COMING UP

Term 3 School Production

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Kia ora, Namaste, π pevet, Shalom, Talofa, Konichiwa, Guten Tag, Vanakkam, ni Hao, Kia orana, Buenos Tardes, Assalamulaikum, Salam, Hello

The blue sky and sunshine this morning means our students can make the most of our fabulous playground. Many thanks to Parent Link for their generous donation, in having the courts repainted, from the proceeds of last terms bake sale. We appreciate your continued support. Tomorrow it's sausage sizzle day and the disco is fast approaching. We would love for our new families to get involved in these events, just ask any of the staff, and we will put you in touch with Jill and Michaela.

The teaching of maths has been in the news and a hot topic on social media. It's disappointing to have the expertise of our teachers questioned in this way.

The New Zealand Principal's Federation responded with the following media release.

MATHS REPORT DOESN'T ADD UP

'The latest research on the state of mathematics teaching and learning released by the business group NZ Initiative, may have reached quite different conclusions had it sought critical input from education's academic and professional sector,' said Denise Torrey, President of the New Zealand Principals' Federation (NZPF).

The author of the report, Rose Patterson, who is qualified in marketing and psychology, used international student achievement league tables, *Trends in International Maths and Sciences (TIMSS)* and *Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)* as measures by which she concluded that New Zealand children were slipping in maths performance, that the Ministry's numeracy project had failed and we needed to return to teaching basics. She further concluded that teachers lacked the capacity to teach mathematics and recommended that a teachers' certificate in mathematical competence be developed by the new education council, EDUCANZ.

'It's a huge leap to conclude that there is a causal link between an international league table ranking and the failure of a numeracy project, decline in the standards of mathematical teaching competence and decline in children's knowledge of basics,' said Torrey, 'It's an even greater stretch of credibility to suggest that New Zealand's TIMSS and PISA rankings can be lifted by introducing a certificate of mathematical competence for teachers,' she said.

'NZPF would welcome a robust study conducted by qualified professionals and academics in mathematics, to identify the benefits of on-going professional learning development opportunities for mathematics teachers,' said Torrey.

'It is much more likely that the removal of specialist expert maths advisors has impacted on students' maths results, not the removal of learning basics by rote,' she said.

For more information:

NZPF Spokesperson: NZPF President, Denise Torrey: 021 262 5557

As you know the teaching and learning of maths is one of our learning improvement goals for 2015. We have been collaborating with other local schools through the Learning and Change Network and utilising our in-house expertise to improve student achievement outcomes in maths. Tuesday night's Maths Together session was another opportunity to work in partnership with parents as together we can achieve so much more for our students. If you are looking for ways to

help your child with maths check out www.nzmaths.co.nz, find the families section and have some fun together.

Ngā mihi,

Tineke and the team

HELP

Do you have access to some 40 gallon/50 litre plastic blue drums? We wish to have these cut in half to make PE gear storage bins.

BIRTHDAY WISHESTO:

Joel van der Hoorn 12/6

Jacob Taafuli 17/6



STREAM PLANNING AND PREPARATION AFTERNOON

Come join us at the **Learning Stream on Sunday 21st June 2015 2-4pm** for a planning and preparation afternoon. We need people to help with light weeding by the stream and along the track.

One week later on Friday 26 June, Owhiro Bay School Enviro Day, 150 plants will be planted and we need to prepare the area beforehand for this planting to take place. So bring along your gloves and help us get ready!

It will also be a great chance to explore the area now that a track runs along the stream past the whole school.

Jess, Jude and Michaela
Wednesday Gardening Group

ENVIRO DAY – FRIDAY 26 JUNE

Enviro Group Meeting - Tuesday 16 June 7pm at Owhiro Bay School

Wow, what a great year it has been down the stream already! The track is looking great and the Wednesday weeding group has enjoyed having school children down by the stream at morning tea to help and explore. The next event for the children is Enviro Day on Friday 26th of June.

There will be a meeting of the Enviro Group on Tuesday 16 June at 7pm. Any other adults who are interested are most welcome to come along too. The meeting will be to confirm arrangements for this next lot of planting and Enviro Day, and to continue to look to at our developing plans and what's next.

For any queries or to register your interest, please contact Rowena Johnstone (Classroom Teacher Room 6 Tawa), Jess Allen (parent), Jude Maich (parent) or email office@owhiro.school.nz.

SPORT SPOT

Southern Cross Country:

Just a reminder to those people who have not returned their Owhiro Bay Tshirt, please return them (washed) to either Miss Mills or Wendy

SZ Swimming:

SZ Swimming will be held at Kilbirnie Pool on Thursday 2nd July. Students who will be representing the school at this event will be bringing home a notice next week.

VIRTUES

We are continuing to focus on "Service" or "mahi-pono-mo katoa"

I am practicing Service when I...

- ☺ Want to make a difference in the world
- ☺ Look for opportunities to be of service to others
- ☺ Think of thoughtful things to do to help my family and friends
- ☺ Work with enthusiasm
- ☺ Don't wait to be asked when something needs doing
- ☺ Do my part to care for the earth; recycle, reduce and re-use.

I look for opportunities to be of service. I do not wait to be asked. I am thoughtful of others. I make a difference in the world.

Winner of the virtue voucher last week went to Nicky Mellas for "Kindness".

TE KUPU O TE WIKI

āe = yes

PARENTLINK

Entertainment Books

Support our school with the brand new Entertainment Book

Current Entertainment Books are about to expire - **buy your new book or digital membership today** and help our kids to look like a team with their Owhiro Bay Rocks T-shirts when they represent our school community at events such as Kapa Haka, Art Splash etc. .



Entertainment Books are available from the school office now. The books cost \$60 each and the school makes \$12 for every book sold.

You can pay either by: 1. Credit card: order online at <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/105h108> and then pick up your book from the school office. 2. Online banking: make the payment to Owhiro Bay Parent Link 06-0577-0112365-00; then contact Wendy Abbott on wabbottnz@gmail.com or 027 344 1151. 3. Cash: pay in cash at the School Office (exact change please).

Digital version: The digital version of the book is a great option. Multiple family members can log in to the same membership meaning you can still share the book with your family. If you pay by credit card online you can simply select the Digital Membership option.



Disco fever is coming with a Movie Theme!

The disco is just around the corner on 26 June. There will be a movie theme, so kids, come dressed as your favourite movie character!



Sausage sizzle tomorrow

Don't forget the next sausage sizzle tomorrow, June 12. Orders to Wendy in the office by 9am on Friday, June 12.

Parentlink AGM

The next Parentlink meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on June 18 at 7pm in the staff room. We will look back at the year's events and fundraising achievements, elect committee roles (nominations and suggestions welcome), and make some plans for 2015/16. Everyone very welcome!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

(Every effort is made to present accurate information. The Board of Trustees does not accept responsibility for any inaccuracies. The Board is unable to accept responsibility for goods or services advertised).

DOLLS HOUSE RAFFLE – FUNDS FOR NEPAL

Thanks everyone for all the wonderful support. The raffle will be drawn on 12 June at assembly, so still time to put your name down and support this very worthy cause. You can register your name at the school or kindergarten.

PRIDELANDS BEFORE SCHOOLCARE – BERHAMPORE

Programme Schedule: 7am – 9am, Monday to Friday. We provide adventurous activities and homework assistance during the Before School Programme. A Healthy Breakfast is provided as well as a shuttle service before 9 am to the required schools in the following areas: Berhampore/Mornington/Brooklyn/Miramar/Seatoun Mt.Cook/City Centre/Mt.Victoria/Hataitai/Te Aro/Owhiro Bay/Newtown/Kilbirnie/Lyall Bay/Island Bay Finally, we are OSCAR approved and WINZ subsidised. For further information please contact us on 0800PRIDE4U or check out Our website! www.pridelands.org.nz

Incredible Families is now accepting enrolments for the following FREE courses

Mt Victoria- Morning class

Starts Friday 14th August

9:30am – 12:00 noon

St Joseph's Church

152 Brougham St, Mount Victoria

Johnsonville – Evening Class

Starts Monday 10th August

6:30-9:00 pm

Johnsonville Community Centre, 3 Frankmoore Ave

How long is the course?

The Incredible Years Parenting Programme consists of one session a week for 14 weeks. Before the course begins a facilitator will ring each participant to set up a visit to complete pre-course paperwork and discuss their needs.

How much does it cost?

This programme is free to participants. Our new courses are funded by the Ministry of Education. Assistance with paying for childcare and transport may be available depending on our funding and your personal circumstances.

Can anyone attend?

To attend this course you need to:

Owhiro Bay School Bank A/c details are as follows: BNZ, Wellington South Branch – 02 0576 0101736 00.

- Care for at least one child that is aged 3 – 8 years old. We are not funded to provide places for participants who don't care for children in this age range.
- Have access to the child. Participants practise the skills they learn in course sessions at home with their child. If you have only limited access to your child please let us know when you enrol so we can discuss whether the course is going to be useful for you.
- Priority will be given to those with a community services card and also to those families who have a child with a formal diagnosis.

Enrolment

If any parents/caregivers are interested in attending one of the above courses, please complete the enrolment form (available from the school office) and get them to send to jane@edresources.co.nz – Post to: Incredible Families, PO Box 19259, Courtenay Place, Wellington 6149
