



## OWHIRO BAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 10

21 April 2010

### Important Dates To Remember

• Board Nominations Close	23 April
• Music Presentation at Assembly—2.40 pm	26 April
• Board of Trustees Meeting	4 May
• Board Election Date	7 May
• ERO team visits Owhiro Bay School— Powhiri 9.00 am	17 May
• Band and Music Tuition begins	25 May
• Orchestra Concert & visit to Te Papa/Sea Museum	28 May
• Queens Birthday Break	7 June
• School Planting Day	11 June
• Sportzone Soccer Tutoring (at school)	14 June

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Kia ora, Nameste, Shalom, Talofa, Konchiwa, Guten Tag, ni Hao, Kia orana, Hello, Hi

Welcome back to term 2. I hope that you enjoyed the break from school with your children - especially with the warm, balmy weather Wellington provided. It is great to see our students and teachers looking so well again, refreshed and ready to work together on some further exciting learning this term.

A big thank you to our student council and staff who helped organize such an enjoyable and successful Water Tabloids on the last day of term. It was great to see so many students, staff and parents/caregivers taking part in this event, even if they looked a little damp at times.

Constable Duncan was in school yesterday working with teachers and your child/ren at the beginning of our whole school focus on the 'Kia Kaha' programme. He is coming to assembly on Friday and will be in the school again during the next few weeks. We have scheduled this programme earlier in the year due to feedback from you and your children. At Owhiro Bay School we continually work to encourage positive, non-violent interactions and a peaceful, co-operative learning environment for all our students and staff. We appreciate it when students, parents/caregivers and staff let us know of anything that they notice that does not fit with this. We strive to help students develop good relationships with those around them both for their present happiness, and to ensure they have the best chance of a positive adult future. This is why we teach the 'Kia Kaha' programme biannually and the 'Keeping Ourselves Safe' programme on the alternate years. Both of these programmes support our school focus on building confident, capable, connected learners who are resilient and able to actively engage in life-long learning.

Please note that we are very proactive in working with you and your child/ren on any issues that arise. It is really important to contact your child's teacher, myself or Wendy in the office whenever your child (or you) are worried about something – no matter how trivial you feel it may be. If it is something that you or your child is concerned about then please contact the school to help clear this. Often it can be a misunderstanding or a small matter to put it right, but it can make the world of difference for your child.

At Owhiro Bay School we believe that bullying is a community issue. Our school definition of bullying is...

**“Bullying is unacceptable, deliberate, hurtful behaviour”**

Continued.....

(Cont'd)

We have zero tolerance for any disrespectful or bullying behaviour at our school. When working with our students, staff and community we have developed the following main themes for our school.

**At Owhiro Bay School we have zero tolerance for any disrespectful or bullying behaviour. We do not tolerate:**

- 1. damage to property or taking other peoples things**  
eg: graffiti, littering, defacing others work
- 2. physical hurting or violence**  
eg: poking, pinching, pushing, inappropriate touching
- 3. play fighting, weapons or war toys**  
eg: using sticks as swords, guns, pocket knives
- 4. hurting with words**  
eg: put downs, swearing, racist comments, gossip, yelling inside
- 5. threatening words or body signs**  
eg: fingers, rolling eyes peer pressure

Thank you for helping support the removal of such behaviours in our learning community.

Have a great week and remember written reports come home with your child **next Friday**.

Ka kite  
Karen



### Welcome

To Jack Graham, Camila Lister, Roshan Jeram and Amy Grover who joined children in Room 5 this week. Welcome also to the families of Jack, Camila and Roshan to our school community. Amy has a brother in Room 6.

### Thanks

To the Wallace/McIntyre family for the kind donation of tennis racquets and hockey sticks for our school. We all really appreciate your kindness....especially those avid hockey players in the junior school!

### EDUCATION REVIEW OFFICE (ERO) VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

A reminder that next month an ERO team is visiting our school as part of their regular cycle of visits.

The team are in our school the week beginning 17 May. Our review team is lead by Claire Cockburn and she is accompanied by Beverley Steele, and Christine Austin. All parents and caregivers are welcome to join students and staff to help us welcome these visitors and to speak with them about our school. The Powhiri will be on the morning of 17 May at 9.00 am.

Education Review focuses on education improvement. ERO reports are designed to help schools see what they are doing well, where they need to improve and what they should do next. They support our school's own self review processes and programme. We welcome the Review Team and their feedback on how we can continue to improve what we do to promote student learning and achievement at Owhiro Bay School.

### PRINCIPAL/PARENT CUPPA & CHAT

Please remember Karen is available on Monday mornings at 9.00 am for a cuppa and a chat.



If there is anything you would like to discuss/chat about or wish to have clarified—please join her then or feel free to speak to Wendy and make an appointment to come and see Karen at another time if the Monday morning does not suit you.

### A note from Rowena

Do you have any unwanted large plastic paint pots you longer require. We wish to use these to further our enviro work for the shifting of soil.. Also plastic shopping bags would really be appreciated. Thanks

**A NOTE FROM WHAEA LISA AND  
WHAEA KAHU**

Kupu Hou (new word for the week)

**Ko wai au? = who am I?**

**Pronunciation :**

**Koh why ow?**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is on Tuesday 4 May at 7.00 pm. Please note that the minutes of these meetings are available to read in a folder in the foyer in the office.

**PARENTLINK**

**Entertainment Books**  
Owhiro Bay School is pleased to be offering the new edition of the Entertainment Book to parents/caregivers/friends/relatives as part of our fundraising campaign this year.

Entertainment Books contain hundreds of 25-50% off and two-for-one offers from popular restaurants, cinemas, hotels, the arts and leisure activities. The sale of each book will raise \$12.00 for Owhiro Bay School and contribute much needed funds to our fundraising targets for this year. We have a limited amount of pre-sale bonus offers worth over \$150.00 including offers from Lone Star, Reading Cinemas, Sierra Café, Mondo Espresso, La Marche Francois, The Hurricanes.

Please contact Jennifer Dunn to place your order and snap up these bonus offers. Email [kevjendunn@paradise.net.nz](mailto:kevjendunn@paradise.net.nz), Phone 934.2179 or text 0274 449679.

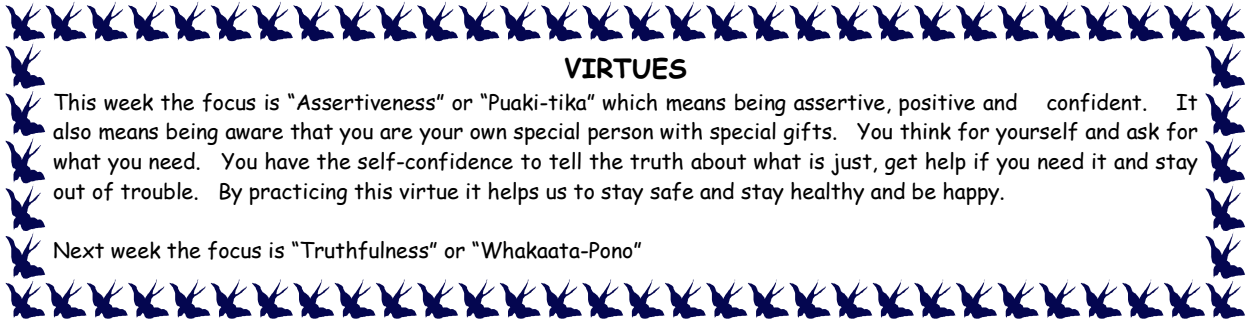
**Next Meeting:**  
The next meeting of Parentlink is held at 2.00 pm in the staffroom on Wednesday 28 April. All very welcome. Hope to see you there.

**Music in Term 2**

A reminder that we are welcoming Jonathan Crehan later this term. Jonathan has recently finished his music degree and is currently setting up the Mozart Young Academy for young musicians. Jonathan taught private piano/keyboard to students from 7-12 years in Taranaki, and is currently working with small groups and individuals in Samuel Marsden and Clifton Terrace Schools.

Jonathan is available part way through term 2 to start work in our school and provide private tuition. He is planning a presentation at our music assembly next Monday 26 April at 2:40pm. Please come along to hear him play, meet and then speak with him after the performance. After his presentation he will provide information to parents and caregivers who may like to pay for their child's private tuition at school on Tuesday's.

We are hoping to start this 'music day' from Tuesday 25 May with Jonathan taking a band, a percussion group and private lessons for those students whose parents/caregivers organize this with him. Information packs, music lesson options/fees and enrolment forms for the Mozart Young Academy will be available after his presentation on 26 April.

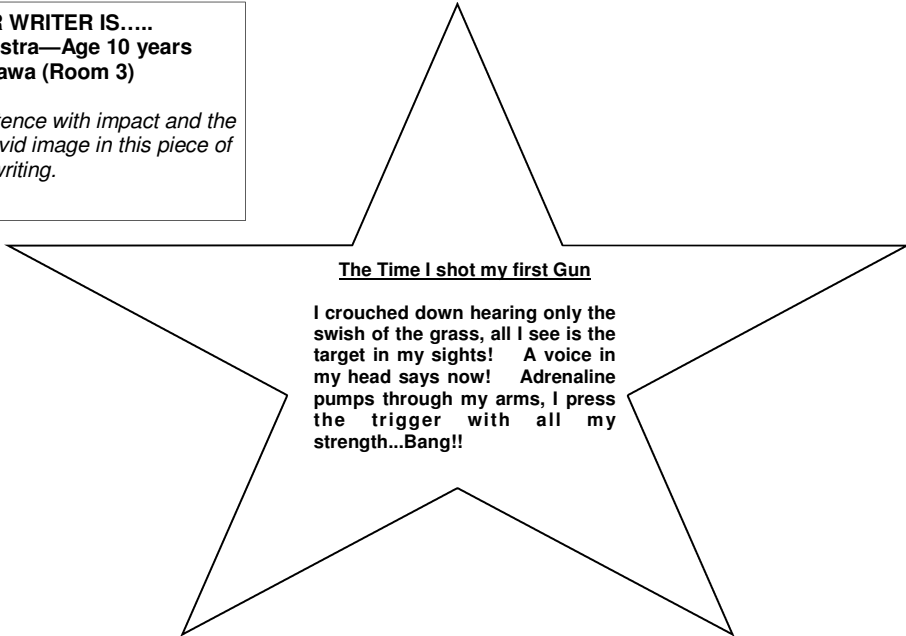


### VIRTUES

This week the focus is "Assertiveness" or "Puaki-tika" which means being assertive, positive and confident. It also means being aware that you are your own special person with special gifts. You think for yourself and ask for what you need. You have the self-confidence to tell the truth about what is just, get help if you need it and stay out of trouble. By practicing this virtue it helps us to stay safe and stay healthy and be happy.

Next week the focus is "Truthfulness" or "Whakaata-Pono"

**OUR STAR WRITER IS.....**  
**Solomon Feenstra—Age 10 years**  
**Pohutukawa (Room 3)**  
*For an opening sentence with impact and the way he created a vivid image in this piece of writing.*

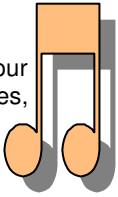


#### The Time I shot my first Gun

I crouched down hearing only the swish of the grass, all I see is the target in my sights! A voice in my head says now! Adrenaline pumps through my arms, I press the trigger with all my strength...Bang!!

**A NOTE FROM JOCELYN**  
**"music from other cultures"**

As part of our music listening programme this term and our school focus on 'Who am I?' and where our families come from, I would like to expose the children to a variety of music from other cultures, particularly those represented in our school. If your family has a favourite piece of music from your culture (or a song we could learn later in the year) that you would be prepared to share with us in some way (CD or live performance) I would love to hear from you. If it is a CD with a particular track, perhaps you could label it carefully and send it along to school for me to look at when I am there on either a Friday or Monday or alternatively please ring me on 4724.097 if you would like to talk about it. Thanks Jocelyn.



**Kia Kaha - Be strong, Be calm**

Over the next three weeks of term 2 the whole school is involved in the Kia Kaha programme. This continues our promotion of a safe community where bullying is not tolerated.

We are working closely with the NZ Police to continue to promote eliminating violence and intimidation in our school community. We always encourage positive, non-violent problem solving for issues. Our 12 wonderful Peer Mediators have begun work in our playgrounds to help care for all students and support peaceful resolutions to any problems that arise each lunch break.

The Kia Kaha programme reflects the spirit and intention of the New Zealand Curriculum and Te Aratika o te kura o Owhiro – Owhiro Bay School Pathway (Curriculum).

Please note that there will be some Home Learning activities suggested in Learning Links this term. These are designed to help you to share in your child's learning, to enable you to reinforce the skill development and focus on building important competencies through these programmes.

### School Trustees Board Elections

A reminder that nominations close at midday on 23 April for election to the Board of Trustees. Spare nomination forms are available from the school office.

The new Board will be elected in May for the next three year term. Maybe you would like to be part of this team or you know of someone else who you think would be great in the role; if so please encourage them to think about standing for our Board.

#### What's Involved?

The role of the Board of Trustees is to guide and support the Principal, teachers and our community to provide a fantastic learning environment for all our children.

Ideally, trustees will have a mixture of skills, knowledge and experience. The sort of attributes that are desirable include financial know-how, communication and consultation skills, minute-taking skills, strong community links, and experience in working as part of a team.

Previous Board experience is useful, but not essential. However, trustees do need to understand and accept that their role is to guide and govern. Day to day management is the responsibility of the Principal; teaching is to be left to the teaching professionals.

#### How many Trustees are needed?

Under the Education Act, a state primary school board can have between 3 and 7 parent/caregiver representatives, plus a staff representative and the principal. The precise number of parent/caregiver positions between 3 and 7 is up to each school to decide.

Owhiro Bay School has always sought 5 parent/caregiver representatives at election time and the current Board has decided to stay with that number this year.

If you would like to find out more about what being on the Board entails, please feel free to contact me on 021 534 010

Regards  
Chris Roberts  
OBS Board Chair

#### Nominations

Board nominations close **on 23 April** and may be accompanied by a candidate's statement.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours. There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

As there are now more than five nominations there will be an election with the poll closing at noon on **7 May 2010**.

For your information, nominations have been received for George Theodorou, Karen Sommerville, Jenny Smith, Kathryn Hazlewood, Joanne Leggett and Karin Keith.

If you have any questions about the election process, our returning officer is Jan Bergquist, 029 9347147.

### Written Progress Reports – Friday 30 April

Just a reminder that next Friday your child will be bringing home a 'follow up' written report from their Three Way Conference at the end of last term. This report is the first of two written reports from the school during the year. This first one outlines current achievement levels and goals at the beginning of the year as discussed with you last term. The second one is our usual written Progress Summary Report at the end of 2010. Please note that in line with the new National Standards this Beginning of Year Progress Report focuses on how your child is doing in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. It is a record of the learning conversation you had with your child and their teacher at your Three Way Conference so includes:

- their current level of achievement in Reading, Writing and Mathematics
- their goal/next learning steps in each of these
- ways that you can help support these learning goals at home

However the End of Year Progress report outlines your child's achievements in Reading, Writing and Mathematics **as well as** other areas such as Health, PE, Science, Social Sciences, Technology, The Arts, Te Reo and Social/Personal Development.

When reports come home next week we welcome you letting us know if they are clear, informative and give you direction for supporting your child's learning goals. We need to know will how effective these reports are in letting you know how your child is achieving in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. A feedback sheet will be included with the report. You can send in your written feedback to the school on this, or may wish to talk directly to your child's teacher, Karen, Wendy or a board member about the new reporting format. We are keen to hear your ideas so please let us know your thoughts in the way that best suits you.

## 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 guaranteeing the goods or services advertised.*

### SUNDAY DIVING

Are you aged 7-11, flexible, fearless & up for a challenge? This weekly session will show you the basics of diving in a professional but fun environment.

It includes gym work, using trampolines & gym mats & time in the pool learning how to dive. Sunday Diving is an introduction to an exciting & challenging sport. It's also about keeping fit & having some fun.

Pay as you go \$10 per session, 2pm-3.30pm starting Sunday April 25 at Ponoke Rugby Club Gym & Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre, Kilbirnie. (and for mum and dad, this could be the perfect time to go for a walk, a bike ride or just enjoy a flat white in peace and quiet.)

**If you've watched the divers at Kilbirnie pool & thought you'd like to give it a try....now's your chance!**

For more information contact: Wellington High Performance Aquatics (WHPA) Ph: 021 443-984 [whpa@clear.net.nz](mailto:whpa@clear.net.nz)

### PILATES FOR KIDS—Fun for you and your kids

Have a great afternoon with the kids getting fit, improving your posture with Pilates-based activities while having lots of fun.

Classes are taught by an internationally qualified Pilates Instructor and personal trainer who works at Victoria University and as a coach for Kelly Sports.

The programme is especially designed to help children maintain good posture and learn good breathing techniques. Improve health, make friends and let your kids play and learn!

April Classes            Tuesday 3.30 pm, Thursday 3.30 pm

At the Dojo, 12 Kent Terrace, Mt Victoria

Booking essential—call now while places are still available. For more information and to register phone: 021 1496173, 04 3829.111

### TRANQUIL HOMES

#### **A special Communications Course to enable you to make your house your haven**

Reduce conflict at home, learn the keys to conflict resolution, learn how to develop a sense of peace in your home, learn how to communicate your needs and respond to others.

Mastering Communication

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