



OWHIRO BAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

www.owhiro.school.nz

Issue No. 35

9 November 2011

Important Dates to Remember

◆ Owhiro Bay Community Country Fair	26 November
◆ Pack the Bus	29 November
◆ Walk and Wheel Day	30 November
◆ End of Year Reports come home	7 December
◆ School Picnic	8 December
◆ End of Year Trip (Rooms 5 & 7)	12 December
◆ End of Year Trip (Rooms 1 & 3)	13 December
◆ Cushion Concert and Farewell to Year 6's	14 December
◆ Last Day of Year—2.00 pm finish	15 December

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

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

A very big **thank you** to all the parents who supported Shelley and the athletics competitors at yesterday's Southern-zone event, especially those of you who helped with running the quoits station, transported/supervised students and thanked Shelley for her hard work on behalf of our students. It was wonderful to see our students' enthusiasm (and their parents'/caregivers)... and there were some outstanding results! These will be shared through the newsletter when the confirmed results are forwarded on to the school. Students who have made it into the Inter-zone will also be notified once these results arrive. Well done to all our students who competed and were excellent ambassadors for our school at this event.

Last Saturday was **World Teachers Day**. This is an internationally recognized day which is dedicated to thanking teachers for their efforts when working with and encouraging our young people to become confident, connected, actively involved life-long learners. I would like to acknowledge and thank each and every one of the teachers in our school. Our teachers really do 'go the extra mile' to include all our students in a wide range of learning experiences that are adapted to individual learning needs. At this time of the year the teachers are extremely busy and working long hours with end of year requirements, along with preparations for 2012. They are engaged in many additional hours outside of school - activities such as processing end of year assessments, writing individual student reports, collating data and compiling end of year target group progress reports, supporting school events like fundraising and community liaison meetings, organising school based events ... and much more. I appreciate that much of this is 'unseen' work and would like to thank them for their ability to do all of this while continuing to work so proactively with their students and their learning programmes. What a wonderful, professional team of teachers we have in our place of learning.

Currently all our teachers are preparing child/rens end of year reports. These reports are a summary of progress for the year and will come home to you on 7 December along with your child's class teacher, room number and stationery lists for 2012. At this time of year we look at the number of children in each year level and make decisions about class placement for the following year. We aim to construct classes that best provide for students within the number of classes we have. The number of classes depends on the Ministry of Education staffing entitlement which comes from the number of students we have in the school. Composite classes (ie classes which have two year levels in them) are common in our school as they help even out class sizes. We very rarely have a class with one single year group, as we rarely have numbers that create a group of an appropriate size for a class.

The challenge for schools is to assess children's needs and to meet these for all students in the class, regardless of each child's achievement pattern, or the class they are in. For example a year 3 student who is in a year 2/3 composite class will differ only slightly from the learning in a year 3/4 composite class. The central concern is not the mix of year levels but the quality of teaching that allows for each child's learning.

...Con'td

Please note that there are many important factors that are taken into consideration when placing students in a class. These include:

- Needs and the child's achievement
- Peer relationships
- Learning Friendships
- Age
- Gender balance and number of children
- Siblings in the adjoining year.

We would like parents and caregivers to know that we take these factors into consideration when placing students. It can make the task a challenging one but we are committed to making the most appropriate placement after consideration of all factors. If there are any factors you feel need to be considered in placing your child next year, please contact the school over the next two weeks. Also, if you know of any students who are likely to be starting at our school or leaving our school in the immediate future this would be helpful to us when organizing class placements for 2012.

Have a great week.

Ka kite
Karen



Sports Board A friendly Reminder

Please return all sports t-shirts to the school as soon as these have been washed.

Thank you

Shelley Berry
Sports Co-ordinator

INTERZONE ATHLETICS OUT OF SCHOOL TRAINING SESSION

Once confirmed results from the southern zone athletics have come to hand, out of school training sessions will be available.

Kathryn Hazlewood has offered to co-ordinate these practice sessions and will contact parents once the confirmation has come through to the school. If you wish to contact Kathryn with a view to helping or volunteering/ sharing your expertise, contact her either by email, kathryn.hazlewood@tec.govt.nz or phone 027 470 1786

VIRTUES

The focus for this week is "Detachment" or "Wehenga Ke" which is experiencing your feelings without allowing your feelings to control you. It is choosing how you will act in a situation rather than just reacting. With detachment you are free to do only what you choose to do. Detachment is using thinking and feeling together,, so you can make smart choices.

Next week the focus is "Loyalty" or Pumau".

If you are interested in finding out more about The Virtues Programme developed by Linda Kavelin Popov try looking up www.virtuesproject.com

Thanks

To all the Room 6 parents/caregivers who were able to make it along to the Oceania Field Trip last week. Hope you all enjoyed your day as much as the students did.

To all the parents/caregivers who transported, supervised and helped run stations at the Southern Zone Athletics day yesterday. Your help was really appreciated.

To Paul Sommerville who has offered to plant the remaining two donated trees. Kia ora Paul.

To Chris Roberts and NZOG for the donation of a PC This will be put to very good use—thank you for thinking of the school.

PACK THE BUS—29 November 2011

The Student Council, along with The Breeze and Wellington City Mission are organizing this collection of gifts for children at Christmas again in 2011.

Please note that the organizers advised that they are seeking only:

- new toys (unwrapped)
- non-perishable food items this year, e.g., small Christmas cakes, jelly, Christmas mince pies, Christmas puddings, tinned fruit, Christmas crackers, confectionery (lollies, candy canes, chocolates), tinned meat.

Thank you for your support



PRINCIPAL/PARENT CUPPA AND 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 does not suit.



SUMMER TERMS AND SUN PROTECTION

Just a reminder that in Term 4 and Term 1 each year, children need to wear a sunhat when outside or in the playground. Please can you help them locate one and name this for use at school this term. The school does not provide sunhats so if your child does not bring one to school they will need to play under the shade cloth during breaks in Term 4.

We also encourage students to wear sun block and sunglasses when they are outside during the summer months to keep them safe from the sun's harmful rays.

The annual fair is to be held in 2 weeks and 3 days!

Date: Saturday 26 November 10.30-2.00pm

Thank you to everyone who has signed up or contributed to the fair build up. There are still plenty of ways to contribute. Every child in the school and kindergarten will benefit from this so let's give it heaps! Many hands make light work.

If you haven't done so already, have a look at this list below and please put your name down for any and all tasks that you and or your family can help with. Please return to the school office or email it to ishanipeter@yahoo.co.nz

Drop off times:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri : 2.45-3.15

Wed: 8.30-9am

Sat 12 and 19th Nov: 10-11am

Equipment/people required:

- Pump to blow up balloons - Drop into Simone at Kidsco after school programme in the hall
- Hair ribbons & beads for Hair braiding - Drop off at the kindy
- Models for the fashions show - Contact Anthea ph: 972 6672
- Photographer for photos with Santa - Contact Anthea ph: 972 6672
- We require 200 shopping bags (folded nicely please) - Drop off at garage
- Fancy / biodegradable shopping bags for the baby boutique - Drop off at the kindy

Donations still required: Wine/grape juice, children's lucky dip, plants, clean soft toys, clothes, bric a brac etc!

If its tidy and clean - Bring it down!

Raffles: We have over \$5,000 worth of prizes on offer and have sold around \$1,000 worth of tickets to date. All ticket sales are pure profit so we urgently need to sell the majority of the tickets to before the fair. If you can do an hour or so at New World or sell to family/friends/colleagues - please contact Donna Graham asap. ph: 976 -8444.

Helicopter rides: We need to sell a minimum of 30 tickets by the next Tuesday (15th) to ensure that this activity is viable. If you are thinking of booking a flight please do so asap to ensure we can confirm the helicopter.

Cost: \$60 per person **Children under 4:** Are FREE when sitting on the knee of an adult. If you'd like to take a flight without the kids - childcare can be arranged. - Contact: Rachel Roberts ph: 383 9557

Contacts:

Fair Co-Ordinator: Ishani Noble	ph: 3838-555	ishanipeter@yahoo.co.nz
Raffles: Donna Graham	ph:976 8444	jazzgraham@yahoo.com
Entertainment: Sharon Leamy	ph: 977 1693	sharon.leafy@clear.net.nz
Garden/Plants: Klare Bray	ph: 383 8727	klare.braye@matuaraki.org.nz
Advertising & signage: Matt Kyne	ph: 383 5223	mattandhelen@xtra.co.nz
Books & Toys: Yvonne Trask	ph: 383 5946	yvonneyvonnevitch@gmail.com
Helicopter rides \$60pp: Rachel Roberts	ph: 383 9557	outlookmedia@xtra.co.nz
Fashion Show: Anthea	ph: 972 6672	anthea@ecofabric.co.nz

Next meeting: Tuesday 22 November @ 84 Happy Valley Road (Back section) 7.30pm





Helicopter Rides – \$60 per person

Know someone who deserves a treat? Need a present idea? Tell your friends and Family!

Weather permitting. Bookings essential to ensure the helicopter comes. Please add your name and contact number below – A school representative will contact you to confirm your details.

Want a top of the world experience. What are you waiting for?



Flights begin at 11.00 leaving from the fair.
e-mail Rachel Roberts – rachandchris@xtra.co.nz
see www.owhiro.school.nz for details.



Helipro are offering short flights for \$60. Imagine—flying out over Owhiro Bay and Island Bay—climbing to 1500 feet—taking in the view of the Kaikoura Ranges, airport, Wellington harbour and CBD and if you live locally spotting your house. Make your contribution to fundraising for Owhiro Bay Learning Community exciting!

Owhiro Bay Country Fair
26th November



PARENTLINK

Mulch

We are still selling bark mulch to raise funds for the school. This is a great time of year to give your garden some TLC so please purchase this and tell your family/friends that it is available from the school at \$5.00 per bag., 5 bags for \$20.00 or \$45.00 trailer.

Sausage Sizzle

The last Sausage Sizzle for the year is **FRIDAY 2 DECEMBER**— children can have a sausage wrapped in bread with yummy tomato sauce for just \$2.00. Students need to bring their order to school in an envelope with their name, classroom and number of sausages required which needs to be written on the outside of the envelope and the correct change inside. Profits go towards a new computer cow and laptops

If you can spare an hour or so to help at a sausage sizzle—any first Friday of every month—please contact Rachel 3839.557 or email rachelandchris@xtra.co.nz.



A note from Whaea Lisa

Kupu Hou (new word for the week)

Pu puhi te hau = windy

Pronunciation : poo-puhee-tea-hoe

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.

Catchment Community - We'd love to hear your feedback.

As you may be aware, for the last few months Friends of Owhiro Stream have been working together with a group of creative locals to come up with an exciting proposal for a new public space for people and nature beside the old bagel factory on Happy Valley road.

We'd love to hear your thoughts on our proposal so far.

On Thursday 17th November from 7-8.30 pm we will be holding a public meeting at the Brooklyn Community Center (18 Harrison Street) where we will update you on the background of this exciting project, share our proposal and give you a chance to tell us what you think. We will also be showing a short film on the fascinating lifecycle of the longfinned eel.