

# ŌTĀHUHU INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Te Kura Takawaenga o Ōtāhuhu

**WEDNESDAY 13th November 2024**



**Kava ceremony at the Official Opening of our  
Bilingual classes**

**Our school newsletter - communicating with our school community**

22-24 Luke Street, Ōtāhuhu, Auckland 1062

09 2766421



Otāhuhu  
**Intermediate**  
School

@Ōtāhuhuintermimateschool

[www.Ōtāhuhuint.school.nz](http://www.Ōtāhuhuint.school.nz)

# NEWSLETTER 13/11/2024

## THIS IS THE NEWSLETTER OF:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ROOM: \_\_\_\_\_

*Greetings, Kia Ora, Fakaalofa Lahi Atu, Bula Vinaka, Malo e lelei, Talofa Lava,  
Taloha, Kia Orana, Ni Hao, Buenos Dias, Chao, Malo Ni, Habari Dobar Dan,  
Namaste, Salam, Mauri*

## OUR SCHOOL VALUES

*Respect, Personal Responsibility, Passion*

## OUR SCHOOL VISION

EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

## OUR SCHOOL PEPEHA

Ko Tainui te waka

Ko Hoturoa te tangata

Ko Waikato te iwi

Ko Te Manukanuka o Hoturoa te moana

Ko Te Kura Takawaenga o Ōtāhuhu te kura

Ko Te Huarahi o Nga Waka te whare

Tihei mauri ora

# FROM THE ASSOCIATE

Term 4 is a time for both celebration and reflection. We've had the opportunity to celebrate the incredible opening of our bilingual classes, showcasing the rich culture within our kura. Alongside this, we've honoured language weeks, Diwali and many other special occasions. It truly is a blessing to celebrate all our cultures at OIS with passion, and it reminds us of how lucky we are and how far we have come.

As the year draws to a close, our students can be proud of their achievements. More importantly, they have the opportunity to look forward to the future. With less than five weeks remaining, our Year 8 students are approaching the end of their time at Ōtāhuhu Intermediate. This is their last chance to make lasting impressions. I encourage all Year 8 students to stay focused, continue doing their best, and live by our school values as they finish the year.

For our Year 7 students, this is a time to step up and take on leadership roles, preparing for 2025. There is no time for rest at OIS. We can all look forward to the upcoming Syndicate Trips, Year 8 Graduation, Student Led Conferences and Prize Giving as we wrap up 2024.

Our families will also have the opportunity to get involved with our end-of-year Haka Waiata performances, where we will once again celebrate and demonstrate the rich cultural capital of our kura. I hope to see all our whānau that can be involved attending.

Mr Buys

Associate Principal Pastoral Care



# ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

We love having your children here at school! They bring a happy smile and energy! Whilst we know that some days we have appointments, family events and celebrations, we feel sad when students miss out on school unnecessarily, so we wanted to share these facts with you:

If your child misses:	That equals:	Which is:	And over 13 years of schooling, that is:
1 day every 2 weeks	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years

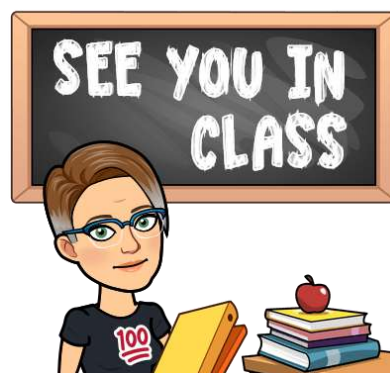
*“How about 10 minutes late a day? Surely that won’t affect my child...”*

If your child misses:	That equals:	Which is:	And over 13 years of schooling, that is:
10 mins per day	50 mins per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 mins per day	1 hr 40 mins per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
30 mins per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years

Not only does lateness affect a child’s education, but it also has an impact on our office staff, who need to meet with these students and adjust the morning register. This takes them away from completing other important tasks that benefit our students.

Instruction starts at **8:45am** each day. But classes are open at **8.30am** each day. All students must arrive at school before then to prepare for the day.

Please do your absolute best to ensure your child arrives at school on time. Get in touch with us if you have special circumstances, so we are aware of what is happening for your whānau.



# TERM 4 2024 CALENDAR

Please note that there maybe some new events that need to happen at late notice due to unforeseen circumstances. However, we will do our best to update the term calendar regularly.

WEEK	DATE	EVENT
7	Wednesday 27th November	Haka Waiata - 11.30am - 1.05pm
8	Wednesday 4th December	End of Year Celebration Trips
	Friday 8th December	Year 8 Graduation 6pm - 8pm
9	Tuesday 10th December	Student-Led Conferences 8am - 8pm
	Thursday 12th Dec	Prize Giving
	Friday 13th December	Last Day of Term - School finishes at 12:30pm

“ IT'S NOT THE FIRST, BUT  
THE LAST **STEP** IN THE RACE...  
THE LAST **SHOT** IN THE BASKET,  
THE LAST **VOLLEY** IN TENNIS  
THAT MAKES  
THE **LASTING DIFFERENCE...**  
FOR THAT IS WHERE  
THE **GAME IS WON AND**  
THAT IS WHY  
YOU MUST ALWAYS  
**FINISH STRONG.**”

GARY RYAN BLAIR



# Official Opening of our Bilingual Classes

On Friday, 1st November, Ōtāhuhu Intermediate celebrated the official blessing and opening of our two bilingual classes.

- Our Tongan bilingual class is now called “Lupe Kafa I Loto Tonga”. ❤️ 🤍
- Our Samoan bilingual class is now called “Fatu O Le Alofa I Ōtāhuhu So’o Le Fau I Le Fau”.  
ws ❤️ 💙

It was an amazing day filled with culture, food, and a great turnout of people. A huge thank you to the families of these two classes for their support in making this day such a success. We are very proud to play a part in Ōtāhuhu in supporting students on a bilingual education pathway.





# Official Opening of our Bilingual Classes





# Official Opening of our Bilingual Classes





# Official Opening of our Bilingual Classes





# Official Opening of our Bilingual Classes





# Contributing Schools Visit

At the end of Term 3, we had our Year 6 contributing school's students from Ōtāhuhu Primary, Fairburn, and Panama Road Schools joining us. It was a fantastic morning for our potential 2025 Year 7's to explore our school and experience a range of activities. Thank you to the Year 6 students for showing us your beautiful manners and for getting involved and giving things a go! A big shout-out to our OIS students who helped out and demonstrated great leadership. Year 6 students, remember to get your 2025 enrolment forms into OIS!





# Niuean Language Week

During assembly on the 16th October 2024, students performed to celebrate and acknowledge the culture of Niue. The 2024 theme for Niue Language Week was '*Leveki mo e Feaki e Vagahau Niue ma Anoiha*', meaning "Protect and Nurture Vagahau Niue for the Future." It was a fantastic way to honour the language and traditions of Niue!





# Celebrating Diwali

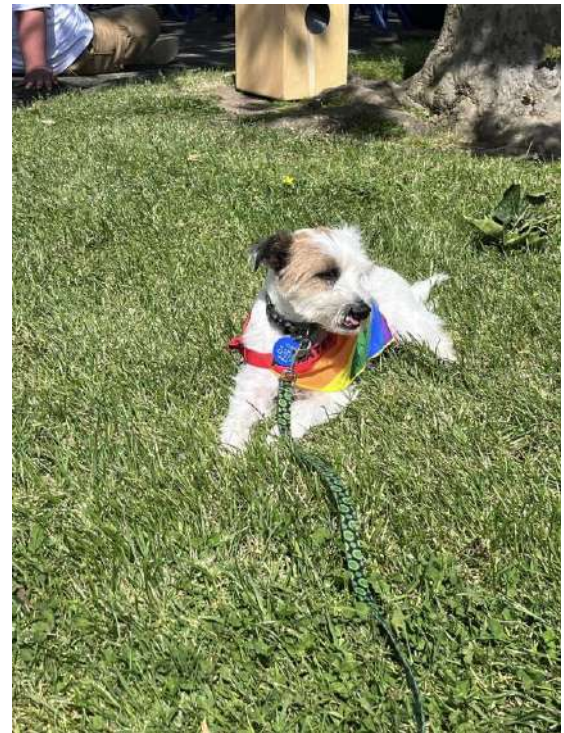
Ōtāhuhu Intermediate celebrated Diwali, symbolising the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance." At assembly, we enjoyed bright and vibrant performances from our students and staff. Both staff and students dressed in traditional clothes to mark this special occasion. After school, we had a beautiful Diwali feast prepared by some of our amazing staff. Buh-Hut dhanyavaad!





# Gumboot Friday

On October the 31st, we celebrated Gumboot Friday a day early, on Thursday! This event was organised through the "I am Hope" foundation, and our students and staff supported it magnificently. A special thanks to Vinnie, our school dog, who helped us fundraise by selling delicious gingerbread gumboots! Yum! Ōtāhuhu Intermediate raised an amazing \$500 for this great cause! 🙌❤️





# Tupu Maia

The Warriors Foundation has an initiative called the Tupu Maia Programme. This programme is designed to empower our Year 7 & 8 girls fostering leadership resilience, and personal development through a series of engaging activities. A group of our girls have been chosen to participate every Wednesday afternoon for the month of November. A massive thank you to the Warriors Foundation. Up the Wahs!





# ACTIVITES AROUND SCHOOL

## Rock Climbing



We had the Bigfoot Adventures Rock Climbing Wall at our school the last few weeks. It was awesome to see our students trying out new activities and challenging themselves. Thank you, Bigfoot Adventures, for this fantastic experience!





# ACTIVITES AROUND SCHOOL

## Warriors Foundation

On 9th October we were thrilled to welcome the Warriors Foundation to our school for a day of fun and learning. They helped boost our students' confidence by teaching them essential league skills.

- **Session A:** Passing and throwing a league ball into a giant inflatable.
- **Session B:** Learning to defend and side-step.

Every student participated with enthusiasm, and it was fantastic to see everyone enjoying the activities. A huge thank you to the Warriors Foundation for an awesome day with our kids! Up the Wahs! ❤️💚💙





# Water Care Visit - Science

This term our Science inquiry has been “The journey of a water droplet “💧. We had Watercare come into school and support us with our learning. Heaps of hands on experiments and heaps of learning about water! Massive thank you to Mrs Nathaniel for organising this! We love your passion for Science 🧪 🍲 🧬





# Sports - Zone Basketball

On the 23rd October one of the last tournaments for the school sports calendar for 2024 had our Girls Basketball team playing in the South West Zone Girls Basketball competition.

It was a tough day at the office for the team, however the girls showed resilience, respect and passion in giving it their all.



On the 24th of October, the very next day, our Boys Basketball team competed in the South West Zone Boys Basketball competition. The boys faced a tough challenge against some strong competition. However, they showed plenty of resilience and passion, making us all proud. 🏀 🙌





# Sports - Zone Volleyball

On the 30th of October, our Girls competed in the South West Zone Volleyball tournament. They demonstrated great sportsmanship and skill, winning some tight games and battling hard in the others. Their passion throughout the day made us all proud at OIS.



On the 31st of October, the very next day our Boys competed in the South West Zone Volleyball tournament. They played with great determination and teamwork, tackling every challenge head-on. Although they faced tough opponents, the boys performed well throughout the day, showing improvement and great sportsmanship. The boys kept their heads held high all day.





# Learning in the classroom

OIS kids love hands-on learning! Room 10 showed how they could work out the rules for patterns in Algebra. Flash! Thank you, Mrs. Prasad, for your passion for Math! You rock!





# Learning in the classroom

In Room 6 they have been learning about procedural writing and its features. To put their learning into action they decided to make pancakes! Room 6 had so much fun and it was a great learning experience for all of them! The kids look forward to more Master Chef sessions in the future 😁 🍰 👦 🔍 👨‍🍳



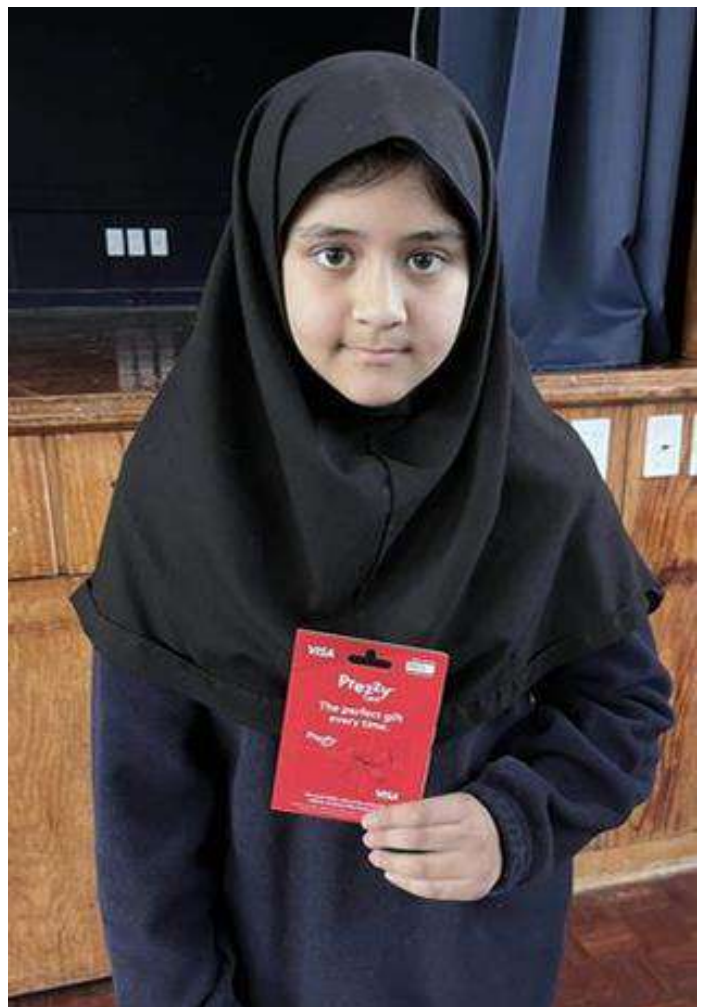


# Attendance Matters

At the end of each term, we celebrate the students who have been at school every day. We also randomly select one student for the term and one student who has attended school every day so far this year.

Congratulations to our Term 3 winner, Lineti Tualua from Room 11, who won a \$50 Prezzy Card. A huge congratulations also to Zahra Najafi from Room 6, who was our year-to-date winner of the \$150 Prezzy Card.

To be in to win, you need to be at school every day! I wonder who will win the overall attendance prize – a \$200 Prezzy Card – at the end of the year?





# Honours Badge

## First Honours Badge Recipients:

Charlotte Vanavana from Room 1



Jayden Namoa from Room 5



**Creating Future Leaders**



# Armistice Day

On the 11th of November, our school went and commemorated Armistice Day at Ōtāhuhu cemetery. We are grateful to be able to share in such a momentous historic event that affected so many people. It was a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by countless individuals during World War I. Lest We Forget.





# SCHOOL UPGRADES

You might have noticed the construction work happening at our school entrance. We are revamping the entrance to make it more welcoming. Due to the extra hazards, it is crucial that we ensure the safety of our tamariki. **Please do not drive into the school grounds to pick up your child.**

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.





# IMPORTANT NOTICE

## Important Attendance Information:

### Getting Your Child to School on Time

A good start to the school day sets the tone for learning! Here's a reminder about our arrival times:

- **Doors Open:** Students can arrive at school and enjoy Breakfast Club offerings from 7.45 AM.
- **First Bell:** The bell rings at 8:30 AM. Students can head to their classroom.
- **Formtime:** The school day begins promptly at 8:45 AM. Any student arriving after this time will be marked as late.

### Consequences for Late students:

We understand that unforeseen circumstances can sometimes cause your child to be late. However, consistent lateness affects students learning. Here's how we address lates:

- **Two Lates in a Week:** Students with two unexplained late arrivals in a week will be assigned beautification during break times.
- **Three or More Lates per Term:** Students with three or more late arrivals per term will also complete break-time beautification.
- **Continued Lates:** When students continue to be late after they have received consequences already, teachers will arrange a meeting with whānau to discuss any underlying issues and find solutions together.

### Working Together for Success:

By working together, we can ensure all students arrive on time and are ready to learn! Let's make every minute count at Ōtāhuhu Intern





# IMPORTANT NOTICE

## OTAHUHU INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Students may bring their mobile phones to school, but **MUST** hand them in at the start of the day to the Office Manager's office ensuring their name and room number is on the paper provided. Students must also ensure they collect their mobile phones at the end of the school day from the same place.

Students who have their mobile phones on then during school hours will have to do beautification duties around the school, their phone will also be confiscated and it will need to be collected by a parent or caregiver.

*We take no responsibility for stolen or lost mobile phones if students do not follow the rules.*

## STUDENT'S MOBILE PHONE POLICY





**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

# **Haka Waiata**



**Otahuhu  
Intermediate  
School**

**27 November 2024  
from 11.30 AM - 1.05 PM**

**Whānau are welcome to  
join us for the day**



# IMPORTANT NOTICE

## STUDENT LED CONFERENCES



**WHEN: 10 DECEMBER 2024**  
**TIME: 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM**

**MORE DETAILS TO COME**





# IMPORTANT NOTICE

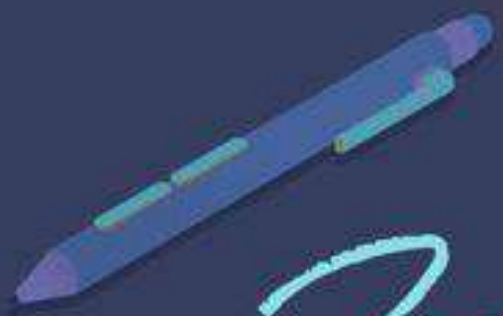


**SCHOOL  
ENROLMENTS  
2025**



Year 8 students please make sure you enrol  
for high school.

Do this as soon as possible!  
Start 2025 one step ahead.





# IMPORTANT NOTICE



Otahuhu  
**Intermediate**  
School

## *Breakfast Club*

IN THE SCHOOL HALL

COME AND HAVE SOME KAI TO  
SET YOU UP FOR THE DAY!

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EVERY MORNING FROM 7.45AM - 8.25 AM



# IMPORTANT NOTICE

## Ka Ora, Ka Ako Healthy School Lunches Programme



The Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunches programme aims to reduce food insecurity by providing access to a nutritious lunch in school every day. Around a million lunches are provided each week.

**Otahuhu Intermediate** is part of the healthy school lunches programme. Meaning that your child will receive free lunch when attending our Kura this year.





# IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please do not come up the school driveway at the end of the school day to collect your child. It is dangerous to have so many cars driving on the driveway while our students AND staff are trying to make their way to the front entrance.

Also, can I please remind you that it is illegal to park on any yellow lines and across driveways. Once again this is incredibly dangerous and illegal.

Our students and staff safety is paramount. The staff and students of Ōtāhuhu Intermediate thank you for your co-operation with this.

KEEP OUR  
**KIDS**  
SAFE





## FOR YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY

PLEASE DO NOT CALL YOUR CHILD ACROSS THE ROAD AT THE END OF THE DAY. WE EXPECT OUR STUDENTS TO USE THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY!

IF WE ARE OUT ON THE FRONT GATE AND WE REMIND YOUR CHILD TO USE THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING INSTEAD OF RUNNING ACROSS THE ROAD TO GET TO YOU, PLEASE DON'T BE OFFENDED. WE ARE LOOKING AFTER YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY AND WELL-BEING!

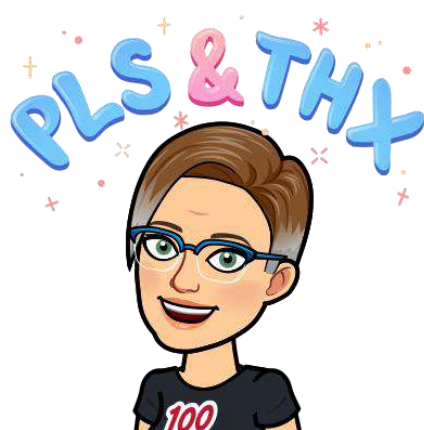


## YOUR CHILD NEEDS TO STAY AT SCHOOL ALL DAY!

STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO STAY AT SCHOOL THE ENTIRE SCHOOL DAY.

PLEASE DON'T BE OFFENDED IF WE ASK THE REASON WHY YOU WANT TO HAVE YOUR CHILD RELEASED EARLY. COMING TO GET THEM BEFORE THE END OF THE DAY IMPACTS

NEGATIVELY ON YOUR CHILD'S







Otahuhu  
**Intermediate**  
School

## PLEASE CHECKOUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

‘Ōtāhuhu Intermediate School’



Please **LIKE** us so you get to see all the awesome things we are doing at our school. Our Facebook page is also a great way for us to keep you updated with important information.



# GENERAL SCHOOL NOTICES & REMINDERS

## PLEASE NAME IT

We make every effort to see students' personal items are secure. It would make our task considerably easier and would drastically reduce levels of stress for students if ALL ITEMS – INCLUDING ALL UNIFORM ITEMS, PE UNIFORMS, SHOES, SPORTS EQUIPMENT, JACKETS, JERSEYS, LUNCHBOXES, WATER BOTTLES, BAGS etc. WERE ALL CLEARLY NAMED!!

## SMOKE AND VAPE FREE ENVIRONMENT

In accordance with legislation I remind parents/caregivers and students that our entire school and boundary is Smoke and Vape Free.

## OPEN DOOR POLICY

Ōtāhuhu Intermediate has an "Open Door Policy". This means that should you have any questions or concerns about anything please do not hesitate to contact us. Don't be a stranger, but pop in anytime you can. We'd love to see you!

If at any time you wish to see any of your child's teachers about something specific please telephone the school to organise an appointment. At times there are bound to be issues that crop up and we encourage you to air your concerns but ask that you speak to the person involved first. If you have done this and feel there has been no success, you are more than welcome to see the Syndicate Leader, the relevant senior staff member or myself.

If you are wanting information on your child's progress, it is advisable to book a time to see the class teacher. This will enable the teacher to give you the time you deserve to have the proper conversation. Classrooms are busy places in the mornings before school and immediately after, and it is not always possible for the teacher to give full attention to your queries if you do not book in advance.

## MESSAGES FOR/FROM STUDENTS

We accept there will be occasions when students need to contact members of their family during the school day. With the approval of their classroom teacher, students are able to use a school telephone to do this. Because of the demands of school management and school activities, these calls will be restricted to important matters – not to have forgotten homework, lunch etc. dropped off or to arrange an after school social occasion! If things are forgotten then children will need to learn to accept the consequences for their actions. Likewise, the school accepts with today's busy schedules there will be occasions when parents need to get important messages to their children.

The school will make every effort to forward these messages, if received before 2.30pm. However, the administration staff cannot accept responsibility if a student does not receive a message.

## ABSENCE

If your child is absent from school please call the office on 276 6421 or online to our School Website - Ōtāhuhu Intermediate School, to report an absence before 8.30am.

## UPDATE OF INFORMATION

If there have been any changes to the custodial arrangements, change of address, change of telephone number, change of emergency contact numbers, or any other changes we would be very grateful if you would inform us as soon as possible, so our records can be corrected.

## OUR SCHOOL VALUES

Respect, Personal Responsibility, Passion.

## LATENESS

All students who are late (i.e. arriving at school after the 8.45am bell) report to the office before heading to class. This is to ensure we keep a track of attendance and student safety. We appreciate your support with this!

## MONEY

Money is not to be left in bags, desks or clothing when not being worn. Hand to the office or class teacher for safe keeping. If the procedure is not followed and money is 'lost' or 'stolen' we will not waste any time following up. Owner beware - follow the procedure!

## NO!!

iPod, game, fizzy drinks, lollies, chocolate or chewing gum are to be brought to school. If a student has any of these, they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day! We look forward to your support with this. AND lunches are provided free to every child so no need to do drop offs.

## MOBILE PHONES

If students bring cellphones to school they are left at the office before school and collected after school. If students keep them on them or in bags during the day and they are 'lost' or 'stolen' we will not waste any time in following up. Owner beware - follow the procedures!

## MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

No medication should be kept in your child's school bag. If your child has antibiotic/medication that needs to be administered during the school day please ensure you have handed it in at the office. No medication can be administered to your child without approval.

## VISITORS

Whenever you visit the school please do so via the office so you can be checked in, instead of going directly to the classroom. Thank you for your cooperation.



### **SCHOOL PROPERTY**

The school has a policy of “abuser pays”. Students who carelessly or wilfully damage school property or equipment will be asked to meet the cost of the repairs, or at the very least pay a fair share of the replacement. We hope this will become a rare occasion at Ōtāhuhu Intermediate, however when this does occur, parents/caregivers will receive an explanatory letter and a tax invoice to cover costs. In addition to the fact that schools operate on very tight budgets, we see the development of personal responsibility as an important outcome of our school programmes.

### **INTERNET SAFETY**

We are well aware that the internet is a wonderful educational resource, but we all know there are dangers.

As you know, to use the information and communications technologies resources, including accessing the internet at school, students and their parents are required to sign an ACCEPTABLE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES AGREEMENT. This agreement spells out very clearly what is acceptable and what is not acceptable both in terms of use and internet site access. This is done at enrolment.

Students use individual logons and our system records for audit all logons, the date and time of the logon, the location of the computer and a list of all searches attempted and sites accessed. Please discuss with your child the appropriate use of the internet. Teachers also do this on a regular basis.

### **DRINK BOTTLES**

Students are encouraged to carry water bottles with them in class. A common sense approach and one we will remind all children throughout the term! Your support with this is much appreciated in the form of naming drink bottles and providing them! We encourage all children to drink water regularly throughout the school day.

### **SCHOOL HOURS**

Students are expected to be in school before 8.30am, ready for an 8.45am start. The school day ends at 3.00pm. All students leave school at the end of the day. The Leadership Team are at the front gate every afternoon to ensure the students safely leave the school grounds.

### **STUDENT AND whānau SUPPORT**

We are very lucky to have the services of our very own SWIS and Counsellors. Their roles are incredibly important and are here to support students and whānau (to some degree). Please see the office if you need any information on this.

### **PARK SAFELY AND KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE**

Drivers who stop in the wrong place to drop off and pick up passengers put the safety of children at risk. Please do not park on the yellow lines outside the school.

Please park legally to keep our children safe and to avoid being ticketed. Before and after school is a busy time for everyone. Parking rules help protect our children and keep them safe. Drivers who park illegally put our kids at risk.

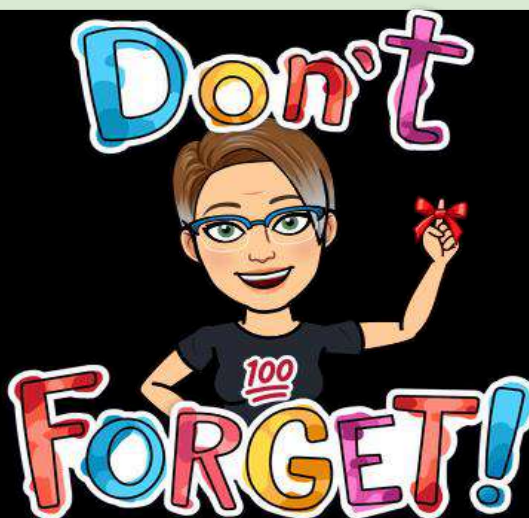
Please **do not** call your child to cross the road before or after school to where you are parked. There is a pedestrian crossing on Luke Street outside the school. Encourage your child to use the pedestrian crossing!

Please also be mindful of your speed, other vehicles and the students if you are using the school driveway to drop off and pick up your child(ren).

### **HOME STUDY/HOMEWORK**

Our stand on home study is that it is useful and helps develop good work habits but can also be a contentious and emotional issue, that can cause much conflict in the home and at school. There is always a wide range of views on the subject with some parents wanting more and others wanting less.

We believe that home study at this level gives students practice at managing their time to do some self-directed learning and therefore, encourage the importance of reading. Reading is crucial in all areas of life. Our children need to learn to read for sustained periods (at least 15 minutes at a time) – so if your child says’ “I don’t have any homework” hand him/her a good book!



# **OTAHUHU INTERMEDIATE - EXCELLENCE FOR ALL**

# OTAHUHU INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Te Kura Takawaenga o Ōtāhuhu

WEDNESDAY 13 November

***Have a go at these brain teasers***

<p><b>1. Riddle Me This</b></p> <p>I come once in a minute, Twice in a moment, But never in a thousand years.</p> <hr/>	<p><b>2. Riddle Me This</b></p> <p>I always run, but never walk. I have a bed, but I don't sleep. I have a mouth, but I don't eat.</p> <hr/>
<p><b>3. Riddle Me This</b></p> <p>When you put this in a heavy wooden box, the box will become lighter.</p> <hr/>	<p><b>4. Riddle Me This</b></p> <p>You hear my sound, you feel me when I move, but see me you never will.</p> <hr/>



I have received and read Newsletter 13/11/024

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent of \_\_\_\_\_ Room: \_\_\_\_\_

Whānau, please **circle** which syndicate your child is in and return this to your child's teacher for your child to be in the draw for a \$10 Tuck Shop voucher.

**KOWHAI**

**KAURI**

**RIMU**