

KOKAKO NEWS

OROPI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TERM 4 WEEK 9



From The Principal

For the final newsletter of 2018, I am taking this opportunity to share the feedback from our Community Consultation as we look forward to 2019. We have a lot of ideas to develop our curriculum opportunities for the children. Have a safe, happy and relaxing Christmas and summer break and we look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

Te Reo & Tikanga Maori

The children at Oropi School are receiving a good amount of coverage in these areas. Ensuring we grow and develop what happens in Te Kokako Otanewainuku is important, and that they are included in wider school activities like any other class, without being labelled "the Unit". Future programme considerations:

- Marae trips

- Ensuring waiata is known school-wide
- Children learning pre-european New Zealand history
- Having a Bilingual Maori class in the junior school
- Having a Junior Kapa Haka Group for Year 1&2s
- Aim to engage more children in kapa haka

Intercultural Education

Learning about other cultures represented in the school community is important. We have lots of cultures to celebrate and learn about. Having a multicultural festival to recognise this would be a good thing. However, Mandarin is a great language for the children to be learning for the future. Parents need to be given some information about the language so they can learn too because children are saying phrases at home parents don't understand.

International links with other schools overseas is good for learning about other cultures. Likewise, having children involved in humanitarian projects to help groups in communities and grow understandings about caring for and being empathetic to others is important.

Digital Technologies and ICT

It is important that our children have access to computers and devices and the balance seems about right now. Not overdoing screen time is very important. Having 1:1 devices in a google platform is fine for Year 7&8. But before providing more for Year 6s, it would be good to know what other schools are doing. We do not need 1:1 devices for children younger than Year 6 and the junior school do not need much computer time at all. 67% of the community agree 1:1 Chromebooks are not needed in year levels other than Year 7&8. Increasing the amount of devices such as ipads in Year 1-6 is generally agreed (67%) Using devices for videoing of experiences, project based work, coding, making movies, animation, and internet access is fine, but for a specific purpose in relation to learning or recording learning. There is no need for computer games or passive watching of Youtube. We all know too much screen time is not good for anyone. We need to remember that handwriting is still important.

New classrooms 2019 Project

First and foremost, it is important to note that additional rooms is not to enable future growth but to cater for current numbers. We will not be needing to use school field space, the gully, Kokako Garden, or Astroturf Courts to place these rooms.

Somewhere that 'clusters' the ages of children is important. Having another block near Korimako would be good as they are quite isolated. But if we wanted to expand our astroturf courts in the future, we wouldn't want new rooms where the current PE shed is. The following areas could be considered:

- The grass area at the front of the school near Pukeko and the Junior Playground
- Can we buy some of the neighbours land?
- Maybe the office and staffroom area can be moved to a new building at the front of the school and the current office / staffroom as classrooms
- Not too far away from other classrooms
- Be mindful of the entry point of the school for welcoming visitors at Powhiri
- All weather outdoor space is important

Gully, Kokako Garden, and Garden-to-table Programme

Having more children involved regularly in this programme is valued. This is what we are aiming for in 2019. In fact, we will be one of only three schools in the country that involves the whole school. Garden-to-table is a highly rated programme and resource for the school which needs to grow and be supported. Getting some kitchen facilities in classrooms, such as ovens, could help; as well as having the planned kitchen.

The Gully is a very important feature of the school and so this needs to be sorted out. The community does understand that at present it is quite dangerous, but it needs to be prioritised. The school will be getting the initial retaining wall requirements of the top footpaths sorted out before the start of the new year so we can minimise the amount of time children are not permitted in some areas of the gully. In Term 1 2019, we will be involving the children in projects about the use the gully.

KRSA (Rural School Cluster with Pyes Pa and Kaimai School)

It is generally agreed that we do not need this cluster anymore for Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country. This is because Oropi School now has enough competition within year groups to select children for the Western Bay Interschool events from our own school-based events. Therefore, we will not be scheduling KRSA events for 2019. NOTE: Tall Poppies for Year 7&8s remains.

However, we do not want to lose our connections with Pyes Pa and Kaimai School. For the future, Kaimai School could be invited to participate in the above events with Pyes Pa or Oropi School. Both Pyes Pa and Oropi School are now much bigger, so are at an unfair advantage to Kaimai children. It is important to still retain some level of connection such as the Pyes Pa Sports Exchange which will continue and we can think of other ways to engage with these schools for the future. The "Tall Poppies" Cluster for Year 7&8 children still remains so that they can interact with other Year 7&8 children in full primary schools and compete with them before the Western Bay Events, as our Year 7&8 numbers are small compared to the Intermediate.

The school will be able to save on the bus and event costs and this frees up time in our already very busy calendar for such things like more Garden-to-Table sessions and school based sporting activities.

PTA

This is an amazing group of parents who do a great job to support the school. Nothing much needs changing because they serve a purpose to support the school with 'community building' and social type events which is important. Their coordination of Calf Club Day is brilliant.

If they can help with fundraising in the future, that is a bonus, on such things as camps not just Year 7&8 camp fundraising) and specific school projects such as the Gully and Garden-to-Table programme. It is generally agreed that minimising fundraising involving sugary foods is important.

Music

This is still a very important and valued part of the curriculum. Being able to involve more children and minimising costs is important so all children can benefit. Having music in the classroom program would be good, using instruments more for example, because we have the equipment. Having some sort of musical or event would be great and including dancing lessons would be a bonus.

The good news for 2019 is that Music will continue! I am meeting with a new part time teacher, Nicole Miller, who will join is in 2019, one day per week. She has skills in Ukelele, Guitar, Singing and Rhythm / Percussion. I will meet with her to work out an overview and programme for 2019 which will include a mix and spread over the year, for classes and small groups. I will be consciously minimising costs for lessons out of the classroom.

Music lessons with Mrs Southee will still continue and she will be able to offer individual and small group music tuition in Keyboard, Piano, and Guitar. These lessons will still cost, because they are specifically for children with an interest in growing their music capabilities significantly further, as they also learn musical theory.

It has been a memorable, exciting and fun year at Oropi School to look back on. We can all be proud of the thriving community that is Oropi. Have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break with lots of memorable family time. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year. And to our leavers, we wish you all the very best for your future schooling and education in other places. Keep in touch.

This Week

Kids on Camp



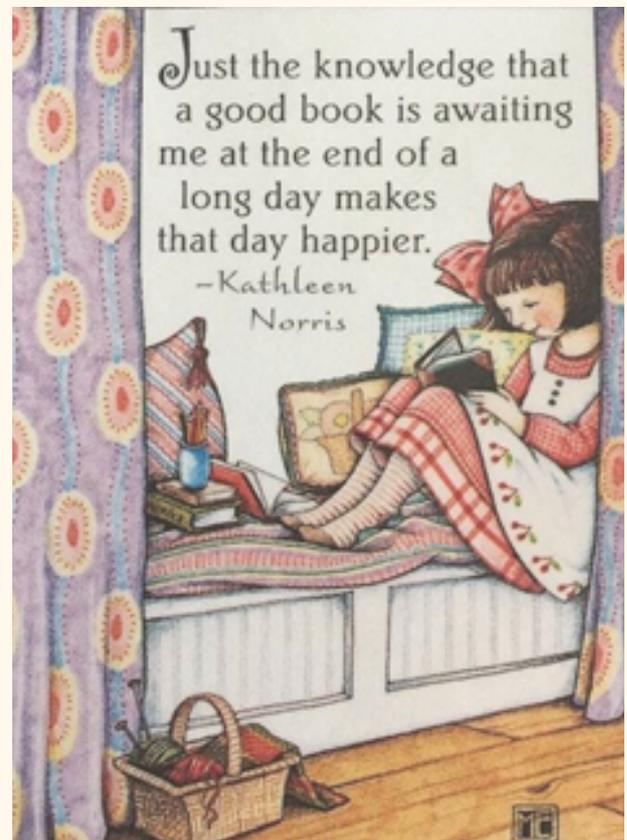
Update From the Library

Thank you to all the parents and children who have registered for the ZAP Summer Holiday Reading programme. I have 40 registrations - 20 more than anticipated - so I am delighted.

By Tuesday afternoon, 23 ZAP Packs had gone home with some excited young readers.

Thank you for your support through this last year. I'm sure you're looking forward to a restful Christmas and New Year holiday time.

Enjoy, and don't forget those books just waiting for you to take a moment to 'put your feet up'.



Voicemail

Due to a technical glitch the absentee messages have not been coming through to the office. This issue has been sorted and we thank you for your patience while we got this back up and running.

Garden to Table



Kakariki has been the leading colour served up by Pukeko, Te Hokioi, Ruru, Te Kokako O Otanewainuku and Te Ohanga this term! With creations such as "Glorious Green Ice Blocks", Kale Chips and Broad Bean and Mint Risoni, if they didn't before, they have definitely got green fingers (and tummies!) now!

The Kokako Garden stand (in front of the office) is bursting with fresh beetroot, silverbeet, bunching onions and mesclun lettuce so bring coins for a donation and help yourself. All veges are grown at school and are spray-free !

If you need meal inspiration these holidays, check out the 'Garden to Table' tab of the school website www.oropi.school.nz

Sport Update



Here is a team photo of Fast Football team Oropi Kiwaka after their last game....for first time players it was great to see their enthusiasm and improvement over the season. Thanks to Brett Hogue who was referee for most games and to all the parents, grandparents, and siblings who supported the players from the sidelines.

Reminders

Week 10

Monday 17 Reports home today for Senior School

Last Day of 2018

The School will end on Tuesday 18 December at midday. Buses will be running at this earlier time.

2019

The 2019 School year starts on Thursday 31 January 2019.

The office will be open on the following days for confirming classes and purchasing stationery packs.

23 January 9 am - 2 pm

24 January 9 am - 2 pm

29 January 9 am - midday

30 January 9 am - 3 pm

Music Lessons in 2019

Music lessons will be continuing in 2019 with Peg Southee and Nicole Miller. More information will come home early term 1 for how to sign up for small group lessons in Ukelele, Guitar, Singing and Rhythm/Percussion.

Absences

Remember to call the office to report your child's absence.

Call 543 1479 and leave a message or email office@oropi.school.nz.

Please include the class your child is in AND the reason they are absent.

School Bank Details

Preferred payment is made via Kindo. Alternatively payment can be made into the School account. Oropi School
ASB 12-3440-0087772-00 - Please use your surname as a reference.

Hats in Term 1 & 4



School hats are compulsory for Term 4. You can order in Kindo or call in to the office to purchase one. Available in one size at the moment. More mini sized hats will arrive at the end of Term 4.

Friday Lunch & changes for 2019



Pita Pit now on School Shop – Available Thursdays! Commencing 7 February 2019

In 2019 you will be able to order your Pita Pit lunch through the School Shop. Just one login for every school payment. Simple and easy!

If you have funds on your existing Lunchonline account, you can request return of funds from Lunchonline and have the account closed.

However, as of 2019 you will only be able to order Pita Pit through the School Shop!

You can order (or cancel) any time before 9am on the day or schedule in advance. Lunch will be delivered to the school in time for lunch.

Click the link below for the menu.

https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/pdf/school/oropi_school/Menu.pdf

Orders are made online through your myKindo account. One account for the whole family! Get started now... Go to www.mykindo.co.nz to start ordering!

Help? Visit support.mykindo.co.nz or tel. 0800 4KINDO (0508 454636) weekdays 8am-4pm. Please note the helpdesk will close 1 pm 20 December and will reopen again 9 January 2019.

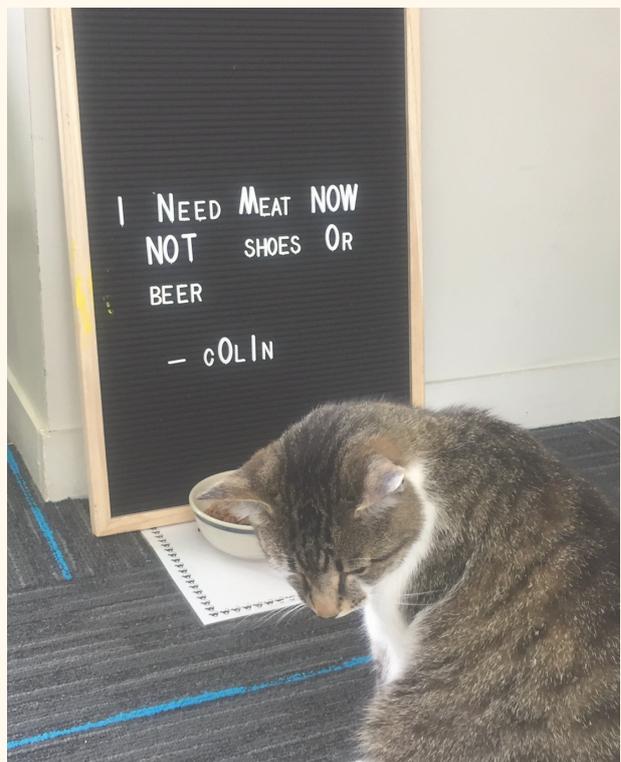
www.mykindo.co.nz

www.ezlunch.co.nz

Colin's Corner



Colin would like to invite the Oropi School community to donate some cat food for his Christmas dinner and New Year celebrations. Cat bickies or meat can be delivered to the office. Colin thanks you in advance and wishes you all a Very Merry Christmas 🐱🐱



Stationery 2019

Packs are available from the School office

Office Hours
23 January 9am - 2pm
24 January 9am - 2pm
29 January 9am - midday
30 January 9am - 3pm

**School starts Thursday 31
January 2019**

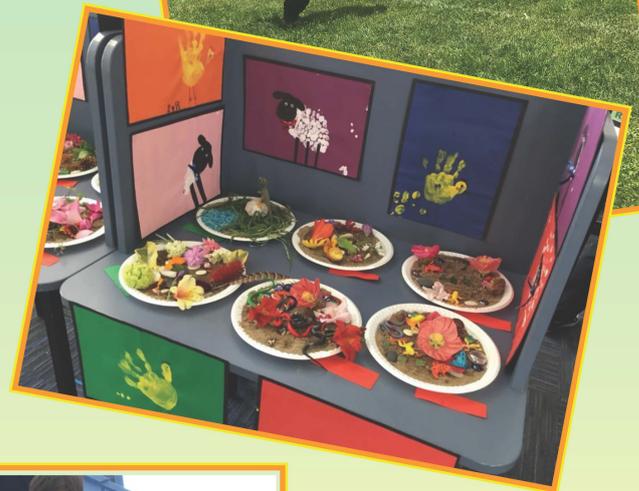
**Payment options: Kindo,
Internet banking, or cash.**





PIWAKAWAKA TERM 4

It has been another busy but fabulous term in Piwakawaka! From calf Club Day in week one, our trip to Waitotapu and our Fun Sports Day, there has been a lot to be excited about!



Look at this crazy bunch!!
I know I have been so lucky to have been a teacher at Oropi School! Thank you to everyone who has made my time at Oropi so special and so much fun!!
Lucy Elliot



What's on at Oropi School Term 4 2018

Week	Dates	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10	17 Dec – 18 Dec	Senior Reports home today	Last Day of School Finish @ midday			

What's on at Oropi School Term 1 2019

Week	Dates	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	21 Jan – 25 Jan			Class Lists available at School from today Office Open 9am – 2pm	Office Open 9am – 2pm	Office is Closed today
1	28 Jan – 1 Feb	Auckland Anniversary Day	Office Open 9am – midday Staff offsite from midday	Teacher Only Day Office Open 9am – 3pm	School Starts Today 	
2	4 Feb – 8 Feb		NE School visits		NE School visits	
3	11 – 15 Feb		NE School visits	Kiwi art gallery trip 12:30-2pm	Year 3 & 4 Camp Totara Springs Kiwi art gallery trip 12:30-2:30pm	Beach Ed Te Ohanga Year 3 & 4 Camp Totara Springs Piwakawaka Weston Art Gallery trip 12:30-2:30pm
4	18 – 22 Feb	Beach Ed Pukeko	Beach Ed Te Kokako/Te Hokioi NE SCHOOL VISITS	Beach Ed Korimako	Beach Ed Tui/Ruru	Piwakawaka Fleury Art gallery trip 12:30-2:30pm
5	25 Feb – 1 March	Life Education Staff Meeting	BOT Meeting 4:45pm NE SCHOOL VISITS		Kiwi Beach Ed trip	Piwakawaka Beach Ed