

# KŌKAKO NEWS

OROPI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2023 TERM 1 WEEK 4



## Kia ora Whanau

Our first group of classes start their Beach Education sessions on Friday. This is a very important aspect of our PE curriculum at Oropi School which all our children participate in every second year.

Fortunately, we are now able to fund this from the School Donations Amendment Bill funding we receive. As a Surf Lifeguard myself I am passionate about educating our tamariki on beach and water safety as an

essential life skill for living in New Zealand. Thank you in advance to the parents, support staff and teachers for helping out with this initiative.

On Tuesday we had our first Board Meeting for the year where we were able to confirm our 2023 plans as set out in the Strategic Plan and Budget. We have an exciting year ahead with a major re-design of our three

oldest classrooms in the school (Ruru, Te Hokioi, Kea) once we have completed the junior toilets upgrade in March. You will notice the Junior Playground replacement project is happening at the moment and we are also getting a new bore water supply to the school due to the age of our current bore system, which needs replacing. In light of recent events nationally, we are also going to purchase a Generator for the school should we be affected by a natural disaster in the future and to ensure if we have a power cut, we do not need to close the school so that the water and effluent systems can continue working.

In terms of the curriculum, we are working on a number of areas this year. The biggest project is the implementation of Structured Literacy across the school. Teachers are now implementing this and testing children. We have spent a significant amount of funds on ensuring we have all the resources we need to implement this effectively at Oropi School. Parents will be further informed about our progress of this through team based information sessions; a session for junior, middle, and senior school parents. This way we can tailor the information better to the area of school your child is in. Behaviour Management processes are also a focus this year where we are committed to making sure our systems and communication in relation to behavior matters is strengthened, along with having

school-wide consistency of approach. Part of this is ensuring we have "Notices Assemblies" every Monday where children hear of reminders and expectations. We are also reinstating celebration assemblies. Our Bilingual Strategy & NZ Histories Curriculum work are key curriculum areas we are paying close attention to this year.

As a Board we have discussed our school bus networks. We have discussed concerns raised by our parent community and have decided to form a sub-committee to review our whole bus network, numbers of students, and routes in place. It is time to give a 'big picture' analysis of the scenario. Important to note is that nothing will change to the current set up for Term 1&2 and no decisions have been made about changes, if any, either. We will keep you informed and will no doubt have opportunity for parent input on our buses. The sub-committee is made up of myself, Kate Carlye, and Heather Salmons.

Ngā mihi nui

Andrew King

Principal | Oropi School

# Garden to Table

For last week's GTT with Pūkeko, Te Kōkako and Kōrimako Lewis we had a bit of this and a bit of that when it came to vegetables after all that rain.

So we made Okonomiyaki, the Japanese savoury pancake that can be made with a range of different veggies. We picked cabbage, spring onion, carrot and courgette. For our baking we used some frozen feijoas from last autumn and to make feijoa and chocolate mini muffins.

This week, after a whole week of lovely, sunny weather, we had more produce to choose from. On the menu were courgette and kumi kumi tacos, pesto, guacamole and coconut slice with lemon syrup. Our lemon tree was very prolific last winter, so we froze a lot of lemon juice.

In the garden last week, Te Kōkako and Pūkeko groups went on a bug hunt, trying to find and identify some of our most common creepy-crawlies. By observing what they are doing, eating

and where they are living, we worked out that most of our bugs are 'good guys'; each having an important job to do in the garden environment.

Kōrimako and Kōtare have planted and sowed yet more vegetables including zinnia flowers, potatoes, rainbow silverbeet, cabbage, spring onions, cauliflower, broccoli, radish and dwarf beans.

Harvesting the first kamo kamo pumpkins was fun and they also fertilised the citrus and feijoa trees and weeded the gardens. Kōtare T pruned back the pineapple sage and the non-mathematical measure of 'Zoe's elbow' as the height to prune to!

Kōrimako P sorted through their donated New World seed kits and chose some to sow at this time of year. They have taken the prepared pots back to class to tend and keep an eye on. We wonder which varieties will pop up first!



## **Attending School**

Oropi School is committed to ensuring that all of our students get the most out of their education, and wants to support our students to maintain regular attendance.

Students who attend school regularly learn more and achieve better results.

As parents, you have an important role in ensuring that your child attends school whenever it is open, unless there is a good reason for his/her absence. Acceptable reasons for absence include sickness or serious family circumstances, such as bereavement. Where there is a good reason for absence, please contact our school to let us know as soon as possible.

Your role in ensuring your child's regular attendance is so important that if you allow your child to miss school without a valid reason, you can be prosecuted under the Education Act 1989. While Oropi School does not want to prosecute any parent for their children's absence, we do take regular attendance seriously. We will be monitoring all unexplained absences and if students frequently miss school without an explanation being provided, we will be contacting parents to request a meeting and to work with you to encourage better attendance.

If the unexplained absences persist, we will send a formal warning letter, and may involve other agencies, such as the Truancy Service, to follow up on the reason for the absence.

Please work with us to support your child to attend school regularly.

Attendance is important and every day counts.

## **Junior Parent Structured Literacy Evening**

We would like to invite you to a parent information evening regarding Structured Literacy in the Junior School for 2023.

Andrea Ford from Clarity Education will be leading this session for you. We are running on a tight schedule so we would like you to leave questions until the end.

When: Tuesday 28th Feb

Where: Multi Purpose Room next to the Staffroom

Time: 4:30 - 5:30pm

## **Teacher Union Meetings**

Teachers Paid union meetings are happening on 02nd March. The school will remain open but children will be split into buddy classes on this day.

## **Keeping your contact details up to date**

Remember to keep your contact information up to date with the office. We must be able to contact parents and caregivers if necessary, especially if your child is unwell. This includes your phone numbers, physical address, and email address.

## Closing Gates

To ensure the safety of all children on site, please ensure the gate you enter and exit is securely closed once you pass through.

## Playing sport in Term 1

Rochelle, our sports co-ordinator, has done a fabulous job of setting up term 1 sports teams. Please remember to notify the office if your child is not on the bus due to training after school or a game. Bus pick up details can be emailed to Josie directly: [josiet@oropi.school.nz](mailto:josiet@oropi.school.nz)

## Music with Katy

Music lessons are up and running. All fees are due now for term 1 music. Please make payment in Kindo.



# Nuts & Bolts 2023

## ADMINISTRATION

Josie Third and Kylie McHannigan make up the amazing admin team. Office hours at 8.30am to 3.30pm

View further information on our school website:

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

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/OropiSchool>

## ACCIDENTS AND ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

Teachers are on duty at all times during the morning and lunchtime breaks.

Accidents of minor nature are treated at school in the sick bay/medical room.

Parents, or a nominated adult are contacted if an accident is of a serious nature. If parents and designated emergency contacts are unable to be contacted, the school will use discretion in obtaining medical aid. Parents will be notified if their child becomes ill and needs care at home.

## ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school, please notify by HERO, email or phone to the school office by 9.00am on the morning of the absence.

School office: (07) 543 1479

Email: [office@oropi.school.nz](mailto:office@oropi.school.nz)

## LOST PROPERTY

It is amazing how quickly the lost property box fills up with unnamed brand new clothes and shoes.

Please remember to clearly name all items of clothing. Unnamed articles of clothing can be found in the lost property bins outside some classrooms.

## SIGN IN AND OUT

In case of an emergency and for our Health and safety reasons we need to know who is on the school grounds. We therefore ask that you use the ipad at the school reception desk to sign in and out.

Reasons you need to use the ipad:

- Child/ren are late. Sign in.
- Child/ren are leaving school for an appointment or because they are sick during school time. Sign out.
- Parent/friend/family member is helping during school hours or attending a class event. Sign in and out.
- Child/ren returning from an appointment. Sign in.

## KINDO

Working together with Kindo, Ōropi School offers you a fantastic way to view and pay for all your child/children's school needs online. No cash, no paper, no hassle!

You can:

- view and make full or part payments on your family account

- register and pay for sports events and trips
- support fundraisers
- order school lunches.

More information can be found on our website.

### **SUN SAFETY**

Ōropi School is a Sunsmart Accredited School. In accordance with our Sun Protection, regulation school sun hats are to be worn during break times in terms 1 and 4. They can be purchased from our school office. Children without sun hats will be directed to stay in designated shaded areas.

### **UNIFORM ITEMS**

We have uniform items that are available to purchase through our school office.

Sun hat \$20.00

Polo shirt \$35.00

Hoodie \$65.00

Jacket \$60.00

### **START OF SCHOOL DAY**

We understand that students are keen to arrive at school and this is encouraging; however, before school, teachers use this time to meet and prepare for learning. They are not actively supervising students in the playground. Please consider the time you are dropping your child/ren to school and this is not to be before the first school bus at 8.15am.

### **SWIMMING**

Swimming is a mandatory part of the Physical Education and Health programme. All children will participate with their class. Please ensure that all gear is clearly labelled. We strongly encourage students to bring goggles to support their swimming lessons.

### **PTA**

We have a very energised group of parents on our PTA. They have been passionate about providing for our teachers and students. There are many facilities and school equipment that have been provided through their dedicated efforts. If you are interested in being a part of this please make contact by emailing [oropi.pta@gmail.com](mailto:oropi.pta@gmail.com)

### **PARKING**

***For the safety of everyone, please cross the road at the road crossing by the bus turning bay. Do not walk across the road on blind corner.***

We encourage families to park at the Hall and walk up the path to school, especially while the road works are being completed. Please use common sense and refrain from parking across the driveways of our neighbours.

**Please do not park in the staff carpark.**

## SCHOOL BELL TIMES

BLOCK 1 8.55am - 10.40am

MORNING TEA 10.40am - 11.00am

BLOCK 2 11.00am - 12.40pm

LUNCH EATING 12.40pm - 12.50pm

LUNCH PLAY 12.50pm - 1.20pm

BLOCK 3 1.20pm - 2.40pm



# PIWAKAWAKA *news*



## Junior Shed

Working with Sarah in The Shed is a favourite! We are very lucky that Sarah can share so many different skills with us!

## SLIME

We were very excited to make SLIME and share it with our friends!



## Swimming

We loved being able to get into the swimming pool on Monday and Wednesday!

## Kaitiakitanga

We have been learning about how we can show our school value Kaitiakitanga/care for our land, through picking up rubbish and disposing of it responsibly.

Term 1

# Important Dates

## Week 5

**27 February** Beach Education Kiwi & Kea

**28 February** Structured Literacy Junior Parent Evening

**1 March** Beach Education Pīwakawaka x2

**2 March** Beach Education Ruru & Te Hōkioi

**2 March** Teacher Union Meetings. School remains open.

**2 March** Tennis Lessons #3 with Klaus

**2 March** Top Schools Year 5 & 6

**3 March** Beach Education Kōrimako & Te Kōkako

**3 March** PTA Frozen Friday

## Week 6

**6 March** Beach Education Kōtare & Pukeko

**7 March** School School Swimming Sports

**9 March** Tennis Lessons #4 with Klaus

## Week 7

**13 March** Year 7 & 8 Mountainbike event, Sumerhill Trails

**16 March** Tennis Lessons #5 with Klaus

**17 March** PTA Frozen Friday

**17 March** West Cluster Swimming Sports

## Week 8

**22 March** Girls Playing Sport Day Year 4 - 6

**23 March** Tennis Lessons #6 with Klaus

## Week 9

**30 March** Tennis Lessons #7 with Klaus

## Week 10

**3 April** John Parsons Parent Information Evening

**4 April** BOT Meeting

**6 April** Term 1 ends

*Updated 23 February 2023*



Oropi School PTA

# FROZEN FRIDAY ICEBLOCK FUNDRAISER

Order in Kindo.

FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY  
FRIDAY 3 MARCH  
FRIDAY 17 MARCH

\$1.50 each. Lemonade popsicles & juicies available.



**Apata**  
TOGETHER WE'RE BETTER

# HAVE A GO TRY-ATHLON

Hosted by Pahoia School

Saturday 11th March 9am  
Omokoroa Domain

Registration includes  
Event T Shirt  
Goody bags  
Placegetter medals  
Spot Prizes

Early Bird Registration \$30  
All 5 - 13 year olds welcome

Thanks to our sponsors



Registrations  
[www.pahoia.school.nz](http://www.pahoia.school.nz)





# GIVE IT A GO! GET WET

## CANOE SLALOM

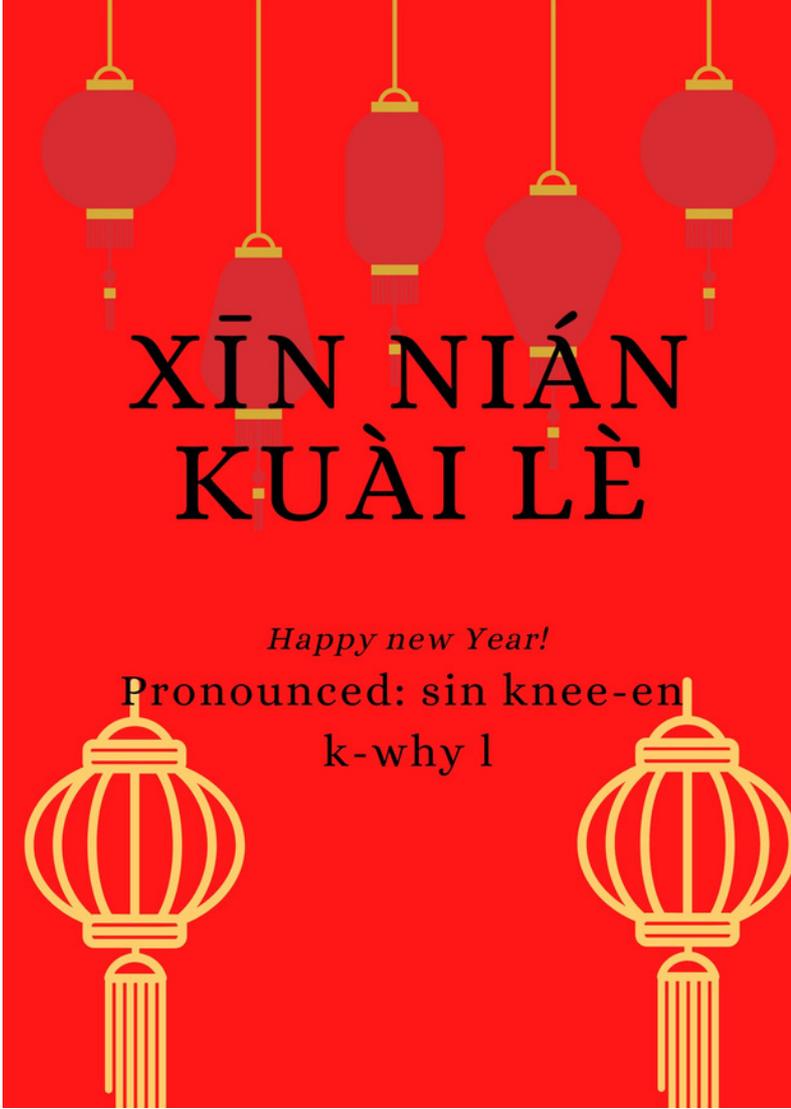
MARCH 4TH 2 - 4 PM

**WAIMARINO WATER PARK**  
36 Taniwha Place, Bethlehem



(walk to the end of the park and look for the kayaks)

FOR MORE INFO OR TO BOOK SCAN QR CODE OR CONTACT NICO ON 022 070 0817



# XĪN NIÁN KUÀI LÈ

Happy new Year!  
Pronounced: sin knee-en k-why l



# Oropi School

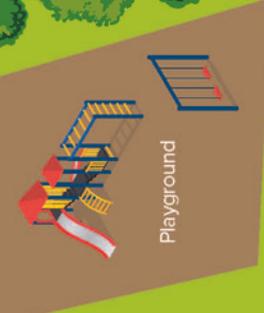
SINCE 1899

be all you can be | whāia te matauranga

## FIELD

### EVACUATION AREA

Caretaker Shed



Playground

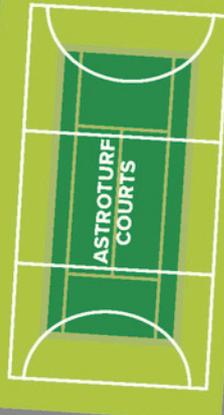
School Gully

The Hill

Pump Shed

Kōrimako

Kōtare



ASTROTURF COURTS

SWIMMING POOL

Junior Discovery Shed



Administration

Te Ōhanga

LIBRARY

Kiwi

Kiwi

Pīwakawaka

Pīwakawaka

Kea

Rūrū

Te Hōkioi

Tui

Pūkeko

Te Kōkako o Otanewainuku

Kokako Garden

Kitchen

Shelter

Green House

Beehive

Orchard Chickens

Compost

Garden Shed

Senior Discovery Shed

Green House

Compost

STAFF CARPARK

PE Shed

Colin Memorial

Playground

Main Entrance

DROP OFF BAY

OROPI RD

GAMMAN MILL RD

SCHOOL BOUNDARY

SCHOOL BOUNDARY

SCHOOL BOUNDARY