



Weekly Newsletter No. 01 Thursday 04 February

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa. Greetings everyone.

☞ **Welcome to the 2010 school year** – it is great to see everyone back smiling and ready for another good year of learning. I hope you all enjoyed the holidays with your children.

☞ **This year we are very pleased** to welcome Mr Tavis Hill to our school. Tavis comes to us from Whangarei and he will be teaching in Room 6. We also are pleased to welcome Louise Birchall as a part-time teacher to our school.

☞ **This term we are also** pleased to welcome Haley Powdrill, Ngaire Hati, Ryan Penney, Joel Harris, Lucy Wilton, Kesson & Jaydon Dickison, Zacque & Anneke Price, Kayla-Maree Shepherd, Tai Ferguson, and Adrienne Nordstrand to our school. We hope they enjoy their time with us at Ohaeawai School.

☞ **Ohaeawai School welcomes** and encourages parents and caregivers to take a full part in the education of your children. Please do not hesitate to speak to me or your child's teacher if you have any queries or concerns

☞ **As our numbers have increased** throughout the school you will notice that there is a slight change in the organisation of classes. The organisation of the school is as follows:

Principal: Lee Whitelaw Executive Officer: Maureen Martin

Cleaner: Pam Tane Teacher Aides: Ken Edwards/Karen Tane

Caretaker: Ken Edwards

Oscar Supervisors: Matilda Allen and Gloria Hemopo

Room 1 Year 5/6 Trish Brajkovich

Room 2 Year 6 Alicia Craig

Room 3 Year 1 Raewyn Ritchie

Room 4 Year 3 & 4 Cara Ritchie

Room 5 Year 2 & 3 Liz Ross (Deputy Principal)

Room 6 Year 4 & 5 Tavis Hill

Room 7 Year 1 & 2 Chris Squire

Part-time teachers: Sarah-Jayne Stevenson, Carmen Huxtable and Louise Birchall

☞ **Attendance:** Attendance is a major school wide target. Research shows that poor attendance plays a major part in the progress of children during the year. It is important that children attend school every day unless they are sick. Please phone school if your child is absent as we are required to keep a record of the reasons children are absent. Continual and unexplained absences from school are referred to the district truancy office.

☞ **"To Be The Best I Can Be"**- This is the school mission statement. The focus for all classes this year is the meaning of the statement and also the values on the school ladder. Please ask your children about these.

☞ **Discipline Plan and other information attached**

☞ **Year 5 & 6 Ski Trip** – Already the children are asking about this – there will be a parents meeting next **Tuesday 9th February at 5:30pm in Room 2.** We have an increased number of Year 5 & 6 children so for this trip to take place there needs to be a major undertaking of fundraising so we need as much support as possible. Thanks so much for your anticipated help – we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday.

☞ **Royal Air New Zealand Air Force Band** – Our school has been invited to the outdoor concert at the Memorial park in Kaikohe on Tuesday 23rd February at 12:00pm. We are planning to bus the children into Kaikohe for the concert. The cost for this will be \$2 per child. This money can be sent to school as soon as possible. Kaikohe children will be able to stay in Kaikohe after the concert.

2010

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Kaikohe 0472

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Calendar Corner

09 Feb - Hearing and Vision tester here

09 Feb - Ski Trip meeting 5:30pm Room 2 for parents of Years 5 & 6 children only

23 Feb - RANZ Airforce band 12:00pm

31 Mar - End of Term 1

Remember:

Tuesdays: Toys Day

Wednesdays: Wheels Day

Fridays: School Banking Westpac & ASB



TERM DATES 2010

Tuesday 2 Feb. – Wednesday 31st March

Monday 19 April – Friday 2 July

Monday 19 July – Friday 24 September

Monday 11 Oct. - Wednesday 15 Dec.

Teacher only Day Thursday 16 December

Hearing and Vision Tester

The hearing and vision tester will be here next week on Tuesday 9 February to test 5 year olds, all new entrants this year, and any children that need a retest. If you have concerns about your child's hearing or vision please phone Maureen at the office and leave your child's name and ear or eye concerns. Thank you.

Ohaeawai Taiamai Residents Association (OTRA)

Taiamai Day

Saturday 27 February

Live band, food stalls, children's rides.

Stall/space cost \$10.00 For a stall/space booking or more information phone:

Jeanette 4059545 / 0272939159 or

Tracey 4059717 / 0274921878

Hip Hop Dance classes

Starting in: Ohaeawai, Okaihau, Kerikeri, on the 1st & 2nd of February. 8 week workshop. All ages. Male & Female.

Contact Alannah 0800123084 0274578623
email inocent_maori@hotmail.com

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Rm 1 Yrs 5 & 6 Mrs Brajkovich

Welcome back!

It's great to be back and we are getting to know each other well.

We have played some games about alphabetical order and place value and are working hard on our self portraits and our understanding of respect.

We have also been racking our brains for ideas about fundraising for the snow trip.

Now, for a message from Phoenix Littin: Last year on the Year 4 camp at Coopers' Beach, she found a hat that someone probably thinks is lost. If you can describe the hat well to Phoenix, she will bring it to school for you.

Please bring back your home readers tomorrow, and any other readers that you have found from last year.

This week's writers were: Emma Pinkney and Grace Henwood.

Rm 6 Yr 4 & 5 Mr Hill

Kia Ora

My name is Tavis Hill and I am the new Teacher in Room 6. I am very pleased to see all the children refreshed, excited and enthusiastic about what this year has to offer, especially after hearing countless stories about them relaxing in the hot sun during their summer holiday. The Staff here have welcomed me beyond all measures and have also been very supportive and patient while I get used to how this school operates.

I must say I have an awesome class this year! We have had a great first week revising the term one topic, "All about Us." We have started this week with a lot of fun greeting games and introductory activities to get to know one another and as a class we have created a giant poster welcoming all our visitors into our classroom.

Each day the children get a huge dose of fitness in the morning - which is new for me to see - so we have talked about how important it is to drink plenty of water during the day to keep us hydrated.

I also like to thank you all for being prompt in buying your children's stationary. At this rate all my students will be able to write in their books early next week. Also students will be starting swimming tomorrow, so please remind your children to pack their togs everyday or to bring a note if they are not swimming.

I encourage an open door policy in my room, so please feel free to come in to discuss any queries or concerns you may have regarding your children. Thank you

Rm 2 Yr 6 Mrs Craig

Tena Koutou Katoa.

Well it is great to be back for another year with a great bunch of children. It sounds like they all had a lovely holiday, doing some exciting things, and are ready for learning.

We will be starting swimming everyday so the children need to bring their togs in a plastic bag. If you don't want your child to swim please send a note. Swimming is a really important part of the curriculum.

We won't be starting our reading programme until week three, so there will be no home readers until then. Children will bring home a reader that needs to be returned to school everyday, as we do use these books in class.

Thanks to all the parents who have already purchased your child's stationery. We will be starting in our books on Monday.

This term our topic is What about Us? We will be recapping the school mission statement and values and also looking at roles within the community.

Rm 3 Yr 1 Mrs Ritchie

Welcome back to school. It is great to see so many new children. They are settling into class routines well.

Next week we will start reading. The children will be bringing their home reading bags home. Inside there is a notebook that you need to write in the title of the story your child reads to you and sign it. These bags need to be returned each day.

Also next week I want to make mobiles about the children. If you can, please send 4 photos, pictures or objects that we can put onto a mobile for our class e.g. their favourite pet, a sport they like, etc.

Mid-North Mobile Ear Clinic will be Outside **Broadway Health Centre** 9:00am - 3:30pm on the following Thursdays: February 11, 18, 25; March 11, 18, 25; April 01. For all children especially pre-schoolers. No appointment needed - just call in. Services include Glue Ear assessment, treatment of discharging ears, grommet checks, wax and foreign body removal. Ear Nurse 021 435 025 Kaiawhina or 0800 100 643 opt 6

Lee Whitelaw Principal

Rm 4 Yrs 3 & 4 Miss Ritchie

Tena koutou katoa

Its great to be back at school and back into routine again. All the children sound like they have had wonderful holidays and experiences.

This term our theme is "All about us." We are learning about, and exploring the school mission statement which is, "to be the best I can be." We are also learning about the values on the school ladder. We are learning that everyone in our class is different and important.

Rm 7 Yrs 1 & 2 Mrs Squire

Room 7 is an exciting place with so many children ready and eager to learn. We have already started maths and reading groups so that children can learn at their level.

Reading books will be sent home towards the end of next week when every body has their book bags. It is a good idea to have children's togs in a named plastic bag to prevent children losing little items of clothing in the changing sheds.

This term we are talking about the values, showing respect, being responsible, reliable, caring, trustworthy and honest. We are also learning to explain "All About Me" using art, speech and writing activities. It has been good to meet many parents already. You are always welcome to look at the classroom and chat after school.

Rm 5 Yrs 2 & 3 Ms Liz Ross

This week Deirdre Bindon has been teaching in Room 5 because Liz Ross had to unexpectedly go to Auckland as her mother is very sick. We thank Deirdre for stepping into Room 5 at short notice. Liz is fairly certain she will be back next week.

Room 5 children have settled into busy, happy routines very quickly.

After a lot of chatter they have recorded their holiday adventures in a booklet which they will bring home on Friday.

For maths we are concentrating on understanding, writing, recognising and ordering numbers up to 100.

The children have drawn some fantastic self portraits to display on the classroom walls and are now busy writing captions to go with them.

Mrs Deirdre Bindon

Ohaeawai School Discipline Plan

All children are expected to “Be the Best They Can Be” paying particular attention to the values on the school ladder.

They will always be:

Reliable

Responsible

Respectful

Honest

Caring

Trustworthy

When these values are not followed with the appropriate actions certain consequences will follow:

1. **The discipline room** operates from 12:15pm – 12:50pm Tuesday – Friday. Children go to the discipline room at 12 o'clock where they eat their lunch on the steps, or to the courtyard area outside the staffroom. Each class has a notebook which the children take to the discipline room with an explanation of why they are there.
2. **Children are supervised in the discipline room** by a teacher as they reflect on their actions and how they have affected themselves and others in the school.
3. **Incidences requiring children** to go to the discipline room are recorded in the guidance section of E-tap (electronic teaching assessment planning).
4. **Parents are contacted by either** the class teacher or the Principal if the behaviour continues.

Zero Waste

At Ohaeawai School we request that all students take home morning tea and lunch rubbish. Many students bring food in small containers or use lunch wrap paper. Our classrooms have a paper bin, shredded paper tray, re-use paper tray and bits and bobs bin. These bins are sorted by our school recycling monitors.

Lunch Orders - Parents/caregivers are responsible for the ordering of school lunches direct from Ohaeawai Garage (4059827) or Harvest Time/Ohaeawai Dairy (4059850). If a child must phone a lunch order using the school phone they must do this before 8:25 am and there will be a charge of .50c per phone call. The money for the lunch orders needs to be in an envelope with name and information written on it eg Betty Blue ‘Lunch order’ and is to be left at the school office for safe keeping. The people who bring the lunches to the school will pick up the money. If lunch orders are incomplete or did not arrive please phone the shop concerned.

Money At School - Parents please encourage your children **not to bring money** to school unless it is absolutely necessary. They play with it then lose it and then there are arguments over whose it is! If they do need to bring money to school it is to be given to Maureen in the office, or their teacher in a named envelope with a note, or instructions written on the envelope. Thank you. No gladwrap or scraps of paper please! (Quite often Maureen finds little deposits of gladwrapped coinage etc on her desk. She is not always there. It is time consuming and sometimes confusing tracking down the owners!)

Summer - Swimming - Swimming is part of the school curriculum as laid down by the Ministry of Education and is taught in all classes. Parents/caregivers should ensure that their children have their swimming gear at school every day and that it is clearly named. If your child is not to take part in this activity for medical reasons this must be confirmed by note or medical certificate.

Sunhats - All children have now received their school sunhat. These are numbered so that each child knows which hat belongs to them. These remain the property of the school and are kept at school in the children’s classrooms