



Kia ora te whanau,

This week has been one to remember. Although busy, it has been one of those weeks to be extremely proud about. The feedback we received from the judges yesterday reinforces the strength of our school curriculum and the difference it makes in our students learning. When you are immersed in a school's learning, day in and day out, you can sometimes take it for granted of how powerful it is. However, when someone comes in with an objective view from outside your community and reinforces the wonderful localised curriculum, talks so positively about students, their relationships, and the quality teaching and learning that occurs, it really reminds you that our school is excellent and that we should shout from the rooftops about it! Thank you to everyone for your support and continued involvement in our awesome kura.

Nga mihi,

Mr D

## TUI AWARD



Ollie is a humble and caring boy who is always excited about learning. He is very kind to everyone in his classroom, always sharing his stuff with others, quick to help people who are stuck in their learning, and helpful when tidying the classroom and school. Ollie is very proud of his school and is a great ambassador out in our community. You could say he has great key competencies.

He excels at all sports because he is so co-ordinated and fearless. He loves to win, as any competitive person does. He thrives in our Adventure Learning programme as he works so well in any team, is good at negotiating and quick to tackle problems as they arise out in the outdoor environment. He has participated in a few adventure races and loved the experiences. In his teacher's opinion, he could easily be a future Kapa Haka male leader as he has a beautiful singing voice, is completely focussed and self-disciplined, respects the Maori culture and language and works hard to learn the actions and waiata. Did I also mention he is a fantastic performer with a mean as pukana!

New Zealand had better look out because there is a future All Black coming their way. He is the hardest tackler, able to take down senior boys twice his size.

If it is not already obvious by now.....it is with great pleasure to present the Tui Award to OLLIE DYER.

## MANA AWARDS



Congratulations to these MANA AWARD recipients.  
Keep up the great work.

## RESPONSIVE WRITING

Every week during Term 2 a group of students were involved in the responsive writing programme led by Whaea Brooke. The programme offered the children an opportunity to write to an adult and read their response every week. Children involved were engaged in writing for a purpose. Last Friday, each writer had an opportunity to meet their responder for the first time. This was a lovely occasion where the adult and child finally met face to face. We look forward to the adult feedback collected and student voice from the children.

A massive thank you to those parents who volunteered their time each week to bring some joy to these children and most of all an opportunity to improve their writing.





## PRIME MINISTER'S AWARD FILMING & JUDGING DAY

What a whirlwind of a week with the filming and judging all taking place for the Prime Minister's Award. The film crew and judges were thrilled with their visit and were extremely complimentary about our students. They enjoyed the confidence with which they spoke and the openness about their learning. They also commended the teaching and support staff around programming and practice. One of their overall impressions was of the high level of community engagement and positive conditions for excellent teaching and learning to take place. They also spoke highly of the school curriculum and the opportunities it provides across our five frames of learning: Experiential, Proficiency (Reading, Writing and Maths), Adventure, Conceptual (Inquiry Learning) and Kotahitanga (Culture of Care). Overall, we felt that we have highlighted the very best of our school in teaching and learning and no matter the outcome, can all celebrate in the success of our kura. In saying that, we cannot wait for the finals in Wellington where we find out the outcome of the Prime Minister's award. Very exciting!



## OPOUTERE CROSS COUNTRY

The annual Opoutere School Cross Country is on Week 5 this term, Tuesday 20 August with the postponement day the Thursday 22 August. Races will begin at 1.15pm starting with the 5 year olds. We expect all children to take part in this event and know that it is not everyone's favourite event, but is about setting goals and training to do their very best. Please encourage this attitude at home. For some it is about competing and for others about completing, both of which carry equal value. The cross country will take place on the paddock directly behind the school.

We look forward to seeing you all there.  
More details to come.



### CONTACT

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## MOREPORK BOXES

Community generosity was in full effect last Tuesday. The Wharekawa Catchment Care Group members made up of Glenda, Dave, Allan, Tom and Mr Dyer spent the morning with Totara making beautiful cedar Morepork nesting boxes. This complemented Totara's inquiry learning about native birds. Thank you especially to Dave who spent time cutting out templates ready for construction. We are going to erect two of these at each end of the native area to attract Morepork's. If anyone is interested in purchasing one of these, they are available for a koha (donation). Please get in touch with Caryl in the front office if you would like to buy one. We really appreciate the support and long standing relationship we have with Wharekawa Catchment Care Group.



## NETSAFE FOR PARENTS

Netsafe have recently launched a great new resource for parents and whānau, the 'Online Safety Parent Toolkit'. This interactive PDF offers parents and whānau practical tips and tools to help them talk to their children about online safety. It includes:

- quickstarter tips for parents, whānau and young people
- information to enhance digital parenting knowledge
- details about the online risks and challenges their children may face
- Advice about how they can help their children.

<https://www.netsafe.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Online-Safety-Parent-Toolkit-R2.pdf>

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## ADVENTURE RACE MARSHALLS NEEDED

We have an amazing fundraising opportunity offered to us by Whangamata Events, who host the Whangamata Adventure Race, which is being held near Whiritoa on Saturday 10 August. We will receive \$3500 for providing 25 marshals for the Adventure Race and packing the race bags the week before the race. The money raised will go towards learning resources at Opoutere School, which will directly benefit Opoutere School students. This is a great opportunity to raise a significant amount of funds for our school. We are asking parents and whanau for your support by marshalling at one of the three options or helping with bag packing.

- RACE BAG PACKING - Tuesday 6 August - 3pm - 4:30pm.
- MARSHALLING Saturday 10 August
  - 12:30am - 6am (NIGHT SHIFT)
  - 7:00am - 12:00pm
  - 12:00pm - 4:00pm

We value your support and understand that you all have commitments but **please** try to volunteer some time to help us achieve our goal of raising \$3500. Once we have an idea of who can help, Matua Ryan will contact you to give specific details of jobs. **Please return notices by Monday 29 July.**

Your contribution and support is vital to the success of our school and for that, we are truly grateful.

**URGENT: LET US KNOW ASAP IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP.**

## PAPA MAIRIE PLANTING DAY

Kauri and Totara classes are invited to take part in a community planting initiative managed by Rayonier Matariki Forests, Thursday 8 August at 10.15am approx. A section of land behind the mountain bike tracks near Otuwaheti Rd is being retired which lies adjacent to the Papa Mairie Wetland. The land planted in natives will create a riparian margin. Rayonier Matariki Forests will provide a bus free of charge for the students to transport to and from school to the planting area. The bus carries 45 passengers. This means there will be space for eight accompanying adults and two teachers. Employees from the Rayonier Matariki Auckland office will also assist with the planting on the day.

### Details

When: Thursday 8 August  
Departure: 10.15 am approx  
Return: 2.30 pm  
What to bring: Rain Jacket, closed in shoes (Gumboots are fine), lunch and water.

Permission covered by the blanket consent will be sent out at the beginning of the year. If you can assist as a parent volunteer, please let us know via the office or return the parent volunteer slip.

## SUSHI

Good news Junko Sushi is back on the menu for school lunches. Please get orders in by Thursday (Orders in by 3pm) for a Friday delivery. Junko Sushi order forms will come home Weds afternoons. Mmmmm! Sushi!



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## T3 INVOICES & BUS FEES DUE

It is half way through the year and a good time to check that all school payments are up to date. If not, please arrange payment immediately. These costs may include Stationery, Bus Fees, Chromebooks, Camps and Visiting Tech fees. Setting up an AP for the year also helps in spreading the cost. If you have not done this already please do so ASAP so we do not have to chase you up. Thank you to all those parents and caregivers who are up to date with their payments.

Caryl attends the office between **8:30am – 2:30pm weekdays**. Please ensure that absences, bus changes and notices are called into the office during office hours.

### OPOUTERE SCHOOL PAYMENTS

Please remember to state in the reference column what the payment is for.

**BNZ02-0472 -0017353-00**

## PROJECT ENERGIZE



## CALENDAR

All term events are added to the Parent's Google calendar found on our School website.

TERM 3	
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> August	Totara and Kauri Planting Day
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> August	Whangamata Dance Studio Exam Week
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	Opoutere School Cross Country
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Thames Valley Cross Country
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Community of Learning (COL) Teacher Only Day – No school for students.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Thames Valley Speech Competition

<https://www.opoutereschool.net/school-calendar>

Please visit this regularly for updates and new events.

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