

Kia ora te whanau,

Hard to believe that we are over half way through this nine and a half week term! We have lots of exciting events coming up in the next few weeks. Totara and Puriri have overnight camps, Rimu and Kowhai have expeditions planned and the seniors are busy planning their end of year expeditions. On top of this, we also have reports coming out, Prize Giving, Leaver's Dinner, Tiki projects.... phew! Take a deep breath! Lots happening but we wouldn't have it any other way. Please check the calendar in the newsletter for dates and keep up to date with notices and permission slips etc.

Ngā mihi,

Mr D

TUI AWARD



You have influence

A prominent student leader in our school since she was a Year 6. Confident, proud, supportive, caring and humble. It's not until you stop and reflect on the influence she has had in our school, that you realise how awesome this young lady is.

You have a gift that others need

Kyarna has all the qualities of a great friend. Positive mindset, balanced, nurturing, very supportive and inclusive. She excels at making positive connections and relationships with all age groups. Kyarna is so easy to talk to. She makes others feel at ease.

You have contributions to make

Kyarna is a strong and proud young lady and she holds her Maori culture and identity in high regards. Did you know that Kyarna is the most successful Kapahaka leader we have had at our school and she has held that weight of responsibility since she was a Year 6. Amazing!

You are enough

It's been difficult to see Kyarna's light dim a little this year, but it's still glowing. Never think that what you have to offer is insignificant. There will always be someone out there that needs what you have to give.

Don't let others dull your SPARKLE! Find your voice and speak up! Thank you for being you and for the awesome contributions you have given in our school.

YOU MATTER!

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MANA AWARDS



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

JUNIOR HOT SPORTS

It was a scorcher over at Hikuai for the annual Junior HOT sports tabloids day. Our juniors set off yesterday morning to take part in running, jumping and throwing activities. The Hikuai seniors led each of the age groups through their paces and did a great job. Thank you so much to whanau who volunteered to transport our children and to Whaea Brooke and Miss B for their organisation.









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RIMU WRITING

Splash! Yesterday, I went swimming in the school pool and when I jumped in it was cold on my body. When I started to paddle I got goose-bumps. I swam with strength, my arms were pushing round and round. My legs were kicking up and down through the water.

Azura

Fresh water...it was lovely swimming. My arms were paddling like a dog. I heard birds tweeting at the school pool. My legs were like pushing propellers. People jumping... All my friends swimming around me and splashing. By Quinn

TOTARA CAMP

Totara are off on their Lake Rotoiti camp Tuesday 26 November. They will be leaving from Williamson Park by the surf club at 8.15am. They will return 27 November at approx. 5.30pm at Williamson Park. Mrs Webb will give FB updates along the way. Please make sure you have your camp fees paid by the last day of term 4. Have a super time!

PURIRI CAMP

Puriri will be spending the night at the Wharekawa Lodge (formerly Opoutere YHA) on their overnight end of year camp. Please return your permission slip ASAP and ensure that your camp fees are paid up front or set up as an AP to be paid by the last day of term. Meet at the car park opposite Breakers Motel at 8.15am on Tuesday 26 November. Looking forward to a super camp!

KOWHAI XPD

Last Thursday Kowhai went on the first of their two expeditions this term. They drove to the Wharekawa Lodge where they met up with the Yr 8's who were on their camp. After a brief hello they headed off on the summit track that circles the mighty Muanga Ruawahine. The track forks and then heads up to the summit. From the summit Kowhai were treated to a beautiful view of Opoutere and could even yell out to the Yr 8's below at the lodge! Well done Kowhai, you are getting a reputation for being extraordinary mountaineers who continue to summit many of our surrounding peaks. Sir Edmund Hillary would be proud!



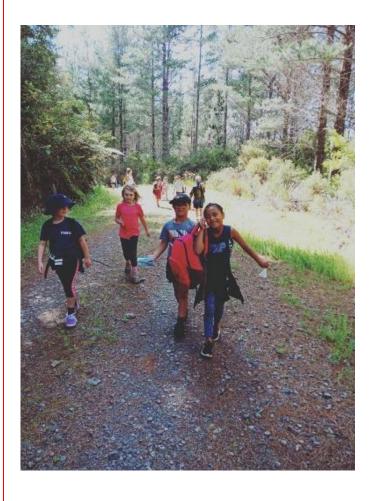


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RIMU XPD

Not to be outdone, Rimu also set off on the first of their two expeditions for this term too! This was the first time that any of our school has adventured and explored the Kapa Kapa wetland, stream and surrounding forestry. Along the way the students found a beautiful swimming hole and had the chance to cool off. The students trekked for 2-3 hours which was also mainly up hill. What are super group of expeditioners! We look forward to hearing about your next adventure.





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YR 8 CAMP

Te Haerenga - Wharekawa Lodge

Day 11

Well, here we are ... nearly at the end of our journey. We were told today by a passing visitor that Gina looked like the old witch of Maunga Ruawahine and that Mike looked like a haggard old man. Nice to have friends like that!

Anyway, it is true - it's been a pretty exhausting journey for us ... 11 days, 24/7 of mostly busy days - especially in the bush. Feeding hungry mouths, organising activities, navigating around tired tamariki ... but would we change anything? Not much at all!

These last couple of days have been a lot more low key and informal - a couple of surfs, mountain biking, kayaking ... chasing elusive flounder and having eels chase us! We've also had lots of hang-time - where the kids have sat and chatted and gotten to know each other on a more personal level. It's been a really nice and restful way to finish.

We've also spent a good amount of time, one-to-one, with each of the kids. We've talked about our time together, what they got out of it, what they learnt about themselves and each other, and how this time away has changed them.

Can we just say now ... the feedback has been simply staggering - beyond our expectations! Nearly all of the kids have got some significant things out of our time away together. There has been some radical changes in behaviour, mended relationships, huge growths in confidence, and much deeper friendships developed on the whole.

When reflecting with them individually, some common themes started emerging. A couple of them were:

- they all thought the length of time was necessary for the development of their relationships. One girl wisely noted that you can pretend to be someone for 5 days, but any longer than that, people start acting like their true selves who they really are.
- relating to the above, they all mentioned how much closer they all were... and especially the relationship between the boys and the girls
- that they wished the time in the bush was longer.
- that Gina and Mike did a pretty good job!! And that Gina's jokes are way funnier than Mikes!

For us facilitating this, there are a few things we've realised that have been vital for the success of this 'camp'.

- firstly, the length of time is paramount
- secondly, not having any parents/caregivers around is vital for the outcomes we set out (sorry mums and dads!!)
- And thirdly, our 'bush' time is key to its success.

There are obviously a bunch more things - but no one likes to read a novel on Facebook! And, we'll be taking time over the next few days to formalise and compile the results of this pilot camp - we've got lots of really good qualitative data to analyse!! (sounds exciting, eh!)

Anyway, parents are beginning to turn up for our shared kai - so we better wrap things up. From Gina and Mike, can we simply say a huge thank you for allowing us to take your children away, for what has simply been an epic experience. It is difficult to put into words what our time together has been like. You really need to be here to truly understand!

Hopefully your amazing kids will be able to convey at least some of the special moments we had - but trust us when we say, IT WAS AWESOME!!!

Big loves, Gina and Mike...

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PRIZE GIVING TROPHIES

Thank you to those tamariki who have brought in their trophy from last year. Just a reminder that we need all prize giving trophies in so we can prepare for the end of year prize giving. Many thanks.

SUNSAFE

Please make sure your child has a sun hat at school. They can wear their school hat or their own personal hat. As the summer months warm up we would also advise families to apply sunscreen before school.

POOL OPENING

Pool keys will be available for summer. We require a \$10 deposit and \$60 for the summer. Please let us know at the office if you are interested.

SUSHI FRIDAYS

Good news! Junko Sushi is available every Friday. Please get orders in by Thursday (Orders in by 3pm) for a Friday delivery.



PROJECT ENERGISE





CALENDAR

TERM 4					
Tuesday 26th - Wednesday 27 th November	Puriri Camp @ Wharekawa Lodge				
Tuesday 26th - Wednesday 27 th November	Totara Camp @ Lake Rotoiti				
Wednesday 27 th November	Kowhai Expedition – Ohui Stream				
Tuesday 3 rd December	Rimu Expedition – Tairua Forest				
Monday 2 nd - Friday 6 th December	Yr 8 Transition Week at WAS				
Wednesday 4 th December	Junior Xmas Show Te Aroha				
Thursday 5 th December	Leaver's Dinner				
Monday 9 th December	Expeditions				
Tuesday 10 th December	Expeditions				
Wednesday 11 th December	Helper's Morning Tea				
Thursday 12 th December	Rimu end of year trip to Sapphire Springs				
Friday 13 th December	Reports Home				
Monday 16 th November	BOT Mtg				
	Kowhai end of year fishing trip to the Wharf				
Tuesday 17 th December	Prize Giving				
Wednesday 18 th December	Final day of school				

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

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

Please visit this regularly for updates and new events.

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

For her Tiki project, Tora Beaver (Totara class) is asking for donations of toiletries, Christmas food and treats, and family gifts to give families in need a little love at Christmas time. Christmas can be a hard time for some local families and Tora would like to ease the burden for these families. Ka pai Tora, compassion and love is what the world needs more of.



Whangamata Community Kids Club SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Whangamata Area School 8:30am – 4:30pm

Wed 11 Dec

- Saign

Water wars and outdoor games

On site \$15

Thu 12 Dec



Christmas crafts & letters to Santa

On site \$15

Fri 13 Dec



3 hour Art Lesson with artist Pauline Goodwin Underground Market Waihi

\$35 – Trip (optional) or \$15 - onsite

OPOUTERE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

22 NOVEMBER 2019

NO 36

Mon 16 Dec

Tue 17 Dec

Wed 18 Dec

Thu 19 Dec

Fri 20 Dec



Outdoor games

On site \$15



Day Trip Waikino Train Ride and picnic

\$30



DIY Snow Globes and Xmas baking

On site \$15



Mini Golf Playground Hot chips for lunch

\$20



Box Day Build a fort, car, house

On site

\$15

Mon 23 Dec



Day trip to Tauranga MOVIES Ticket, popcorn and drink

\$45

Tue 24 Dec



Christmas Scavenger Hunt and party games FUN & PRIZES Finish at 2pm On site

\$15

Numbers are limited.

Pick up an enrolment pack from Whangamata Area School, Opoutere School or Whangamata Community Services Trust – 101 Casement Rd