



OTAHUHU PRIMARY SCHOOL

"He wahi tutaki mo nga tamariki o te ao - A meeting place for the children of the world"

Newsletter No. 15 - 18/09/2025

Kia ora, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Namaste, Fakaalofa atu, Bula, Kia orana, Mauri, Nihao, Salam, Sawasdee, Kumusta Kayo, Hola, Xin chao, Vanakkam, Choum reap sor, Ming-gah-lah-bahr, Akkam, As-salaam 'alykum

Principal's Message:

Tena koutou e te whanau o Ōtāhuhu Primary School

As Term 3 comes to a close, we want to take a moment to reflect on and celebrate all the wonderful learning, creativity, and achievements of our tamariki over the past few months. It has been a term full of energy, growth, and memorable moments! This week, we proudly celebrated **Te Wiki o te Reo Māori** - a special time to honour the richness and beauty of te reo Māori in Aotearoa. Our tamariki engaged in waiata, kōrero, games, and learning that highlighted the importance of te reo as a taonga (treasure) for all New Zealanders. Te reo Māori is a vital part of our identity and history. By learning and using it, we help keep the language alive and strengthen our connection to the culture and stories of Aotearoa.

Kia kaha te reo Māori - let's keep the language strong, together!

CONGRATULATIONS to our new School Board. The staff and community look forward to working with our new Board members - Koli Funaki, Raneeta Failua-Lavasii, Kisione Manu, Emma-Jane Jones & Mata Kepani. This important governance role is vital for the wellbeing and future of our school.

Our tamariki have continued to amaze us with their curiosity, determination, and love for learning. From exciting hands-on projects to collaborative group work, they've shown resilience, creativity, and a real sense of teamwork. Whether it was exploring new maths strategies, diving into writing, or deepening our understanding of te reo Māori, the learning has been rich and rewarding.

A Shining Star - Aladdin Trouble

One of the major highlights of Term 3 was our school production, Aladdin Trouble. What a show! Our tamariki lit up the stage with their singing, dancing, and acting talents, and we could not be prouder. A massive thank you to all the staff and helpers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring Aladdin Trouble to life. To the incredible cast – your energy, talent, and commitment made this production truly magical. You made the characters jump off the stage, and it's been a joy to watch it all come together.

A special thank you must go to our amazing director, Vicky Avia – your vision and leadership guided us every step of the way, and we're so grateful for the passion you poured into this project. And of course, to our sound director, Jess Tolai – thank you for creating the atmosphere that tied everything together so perfectly. Every cue, every sound effect, every detail – it made such a difference. Also to Miss Sam, who worked hard to produce our set and props. To everyone involved, both on stage and behind the scenes – thank you. We couldn't have done it without you.

100% Attendance Champions

Congratulations to all the children who achieved 100% attendance this term – what an awesome commitment to learning! We're proud of your dedication and effort, and we know it makes a huge difference in your progress and confidence. Ka pai!






As we head into a well-deserved break, we want to thank all our tamariki for their hard work and our whānau for your ongoing support. Have a safe and happy holiday – we look forward to seeing you refreshed and ready for Term 4!

Ngā mihi nui,

Whaea Jenny



Important Dates for Term 3 & 4 2025

Fri 19 Sep	Last Day of Term + Attendance Prizes Announced
Mon 6 Oct	First day of Term 4
	Fijian Language Week 
Fri 10 Oct	Pōwhiri for new whānau + Ōtāhuhu Schools Cultural Festival from 4-7pm at OIS! 
Mon 13 Oct	Year 6 Camp!! 
	Hindi Language Week 
Mon 20 Oct	Niuean Language Week 
	OIS Orientation Day
Tues 21 Oct	Interschool Cross Country
	Arataki Trip - Room 5 & 6
Wed 22 Oct	Arataki Trip - Room 3 & 19
Thurs 23 Oct	Scheduled Strike Day - No School
Mon 27 Oct	Labour Day - No School

Assembly Certificate Winners - Week 8 Term 3

These students were awarded certificates for displaying the HEART Value **ATTITUDE** over the first two weeks of this term.

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Room 15: Josephine Tuleaga & Shazana Mayzabeen
Room 16: Maram Al Ismail & Matakeu Mataiti
Room 23: Aradhya Sharma & Area Koiatu
Room 24: Aaliah Mae Besana & Giana Dudley
Room 25: Mohammad Gias Uddin & Siaipili Tuigamala
Room 26: Janayah Raj & Akelah-Jayde Olsen
Room 27: Mohammed Shazan & Madhava Nallamilli

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Room 5: Rishaad Khan & Noora Begum
Room 6: Nur Norul Haq & Zara Rasool
Room 7: Lynzee Sen & Ahana Prakash
Room 8: Loraya-Amelia 'Otukolo & Yuvaan Singh
Room 11: Meleseini Tuipulotu & Mohammed Izaan
Room 12: Tiare Henry-Jones & Heimata Harry-Tuakana
Room 13: Idris Regala & Swathika Prasad
Room 14: Jethro Tuifua & Shaksham Prasad

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Room 1: Tulaga Crichton & TJ Lawrence Tutuila
Room 2: Serafina Dempsey & Roman Iakopo
Room 3: Mikaele Elisala & Israel Seiuli
Room 4: Matailili Dempsey & Faaasu Lesatele
Room 17: Kassidy Patrick-Murray & Harmony Ratahi
Room 18: Milania Santos & Dian Isaaka
Room 19: Melelangi 'Alofi & Maryanne 'Aho
Room 20: Orita Lomu & Janet Fotu
Room 21: Robbie Ika & Joseph Mavae
Room 22: Asinate Matangi & Talite Ika & Ikakoula 'Otuafi



Attendance Updates!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Term 3 Total Attendance Figures

Year 0	80%
Year 1	79%
Year 2	84%
Year 3	85%
Year 4	85%
Year 5	86%
Year 6	87%

84.20%
SCHOOL-WIDE

The 90% Club

Room 4 - 93%
 Room 16 & 6 - 91%
 Room 13 - 90%

IT'S WHERE
YOU WANNA
BE!

In our last newsletter we discussed lifting our game and finishing Term 3 with better attendance. **We did this!**

Despite the winter bugs and wild weather, you are getting your children to school. We finished the term with an average of 84.2%, but we want this to get to over 90% - for the whole school, and for every class. **EVERY DAY COUNTS!**



2025 Term Dates



Term 1

From: Tuesday, 28th January (Meet the Teacher Day)
 To: Friday, 11th April

Term 2

From: Monday, 28th April
 To: Friday, 27th June

Term 3

From: Monday, 14th July
 To: Friday, 19th September

Term 4

From: Monday, 6th October
 To: Thursday, 11th December



Nga Mihi

Jenny Bernard

TUMUAKI / PRINCIPAL

Fun Run - Term 4

You will have received a notice about our School Fun Run, which is taking place in Term 4. This is going to be an awesome event for our students, which doubles as a fundraiser for camp and other outdoor education activities.

Loads of you have already signed up your children to raise funds - KA PAI!!

To sign up, use the QR code below, or go to schoolfunrun.co.nz to create your profiles and start raising funds!



Watch
this to
learn
more!

Scan this QR code to create your profile

Aladdin Trouble

What an amazing time celebrating 2 terms of hard work with our productions this week. Well done to all of the cast, crew, staff and whānau involved in bringing this story to life!

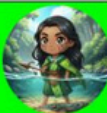





Cross Country 2025

What a blast we had at Cross Country this year! The weather was perfect and students represented themselves and their house groups with pride. It was awesome to see so many students pushing their bodies to the limits and finishing the races. We had fun including our new playground mountains as part of the tracks - it was a great extra challenge for those tired legs! Thank you to all whānau who came and supported the races.



Cross Country House Points

1st	Tāmaki (88 points)	
2nd	Manukau (87 points)	
3rd	Tāhuhu (73 points)	
4th	Te Tō Waka (43 points)	

Special Programmes

We have a range of programmes available to support our students in their holistic growth - sensory spaces, arts & crafts, construction and mentoring, sports etc. - many of these are supported by external agencies, who we are very grateful for! Check out some of the recent events below.



Ngā Kura Kotahitanga



FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER
ŌTĀHUHU INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
4PM-7PM

**AN EVENING OF CELEBRATION,
FEATURING STUDENT PERFORMANCES,
FOOD, DRINK & CLOTHING STALLS**



Otahuhu
Intermediate
School



MT RICHMOND
SPECIALIST SCHOOL



PACIFIC ADVANCE
SECONDARY SCHOOL



Panama Road
SCHOOL



BRING PICNIC RUGS AND CASH





BESTSTART PORTAGE ROAD KINDY

Our uniqueness is what makes us beautiful!

At **BestStart Portage Road Kindy**, tamariki are empowered to feel valued, capable, and confident. We believe children are creators of their own futures, and our Kaiako support and guide them every step of the way.

Our **learning spaces** are designed to inspire every stage of development. Inside, classrooms are filled with quality resources to spark curiosity, while outdoors, expansive play areas invite children to explore and challenge themselves.

For preschoolers, we offer **BestStart's Set for School programme**, a fun, play-based approach to early literacy, maths, and science. This helps build independence and ensures a smooth transition to primary school.

Discover our Kindy – limited spaces, book your tour today.



17-19 Portage Road, Otahuhu
09 550 0483 | portage.kindy@best-start.org
www.best-start.org