

*Dear parents, caregivers, students and friends of the school. Tena koutou katoa. Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa.*

Welcome to our final newsletter for 2009.

This has been another awesome year with our students positioning the school as one of the leading Year 7 and Year 8 schools in New Zealand once again.

A major feature of our school has been the high level of enthusiasm, skill and self belief shown by the students in all aspects of school life. Every year we endeavour to develop in our students an expectation of manners, friendliness, encouragement, commitment and aspiration to do their best at all times.

All sports teams leave the school with a winning attitude coupled with a belief in themselves and their team mates. The year's results highlight this. This does not happen without the support and dedication of staff and parents. This has been an active and at times hectic year for the staff. I would like to publicly thank every member of the team for their commitment to the students. On behalf of the school community I would like to say a big thank you and wish them all a restful break over the holidays.

As Principal I have appreciated the continued support of our parents, Board of Trustees, PTA and students. We have something special at Otumoetai Intermediate School and I look forward to a challenging and exciting year in 2010. To all our families and friends a big thank you and a very Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT 2009

I am delighted to report our end of year student achievement results for our graduating Year 8 students as a group.

We are happy to report that once again over 85% of our Year 8 students are meeting national expectations for their reading age.

More importantly we are very pleased to report how our students are doing using AsTTle, one of New Zealand's most robust and challenging assessment tools developed for the New Zealand Ministry of Education. Our school has been using AsTTle for a number of years and are involved in the development of e-AsTTle, the online version that is normed against the new national standards.

We also use the NZCER progress and achievement test for reading to ensure cross checking of our information is carried out.

Last year we were one of a handful of New Zealand schools prepared to publish their New Zealand normed test results such as AsTTle.

We don't just use generalised statements, but believe parents want to know the real facts for their respective schools.

Parents should be able to know how their child's school is doing against New Zealand expectations and compared to the rest of New Zealand.

In this newsletter we share our school's AsTTle graphs for all our Year 8s in reading, writing and mathematics as they move on to their secondary education.

### What is AsTTle?

AsTTle stands for Assessment Tools for Teaching and Learning (He Punaha Aromatawai mo te Whakaako me te Ako). It is an educational resource for assessing literacy and numeracy (in both English and Maori) developed for the Ministry of Education by the University of Auckland.

AsTTle provides teachers, students and parents with information about a student's level of achievement, relative to the curriculum achievement outcomes, for levels 2 to 6 and national norms of performance for students in years 4 to 12.

AsTTle is a tool that operates in both personal computer (PC) and Mac environment. Teachers can use AsTTle to create 40 minute paper and pencil tests designed for their own students' learning needs. Once the tests are scored, the AsTTle tool generates interactive graphic reports that allow teachers to analyse student achievement against curriculum levels, curriculum objectives and population norms.

### About AsTTle

AsTTle enables teachers to create and analyse tests for literacy and numeracy (in English and Maori). The resulting reports show what students know, what gaps they have in their learning and what they need to learn next. The results also indicate how well students are learning in comparison with other students nationwide. An Internet link is provided to help teachers choose resources that will help move the student learning forward.

AsTTle has the edge on other assessment tools worldwide because of its rich interpretation of student performance and the choice and control it gives teachers over both tests and interpretation of results.

AsTTle has the ability to immediately analyse the performance of both individuals and groups, displaying the analysis graphically. Teachers can identify subsequent learning steps for individuals, groups, or classes by linking to an indexed online catalogue of classroom resource (What Next). AsTTle software also provides information on the strengths and weaknesses of individuals and groups and can be used to identify whether progress is being made.

For all Real Estate needs contact:



Proud sponsor of Otumoetai Intermediate School.

**OTUMOETAI INTERMEDIATE  
ASTTLE READING, MATHEMATICS  
AND WRITING RESULTS FOR ALL  
YEAR 8 STUDENTS**

**EXPLANATION**

- These tests were undertaken by 397 Year 8 students and compare the whole group's result against New Zealand norms.
- The pointers in the curriculum functions dial indicate where our Year 8s collectively sit in comparison to the rest of New Zealand; shown by the blue shaded area.  
Red pointers to the right of the shaded area show our students are performing above the national norms.
- The red line/box graphs in the centre show our Year 8 group collectively against the rest of New Zealand (blue shaded boxes). The boxes include all students with the average indicated by the horizontal line. The higher up the scale a group or individual's result is, the greater the achievement against national norms.
- The reading, mathematics or writing scale is the overall comparison of our school versus the rest of New Zealand.
- The graph at the bottom shows our students' attitude towards mathematics (circled) in comparison to the rest of New Zealand.
- Each student receives an individual printout of their performance and these are made available in their individual portfolios. Their individual printout includes their strengths and weaknesses plus a comparison with curriculum expectations.

**END OF YEAR  
2<sup>nd</sup> HAND UNIFORM SALE**

**WHEN:** Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00am.  
**WHERE:** Astroturf at front of school near outdoor stage.

This is an informal event where our Year 8 students are invited to come along to school and sell any good quality uniform items they might have.

This is not supervised by staff as the school will be closed and sellers will not be able to ask the office for change.

Parents of new students starting Year 7 have all been advised of this second hand uniform sale.

**YEAR 8 SOCIAL 2009**

This will be held on the evening of Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Further information will be provided to both students and parents at a later date.  
The dress code for the Social is as follows:

**GIRLS:**

- \*Dress, skirt or evening pants
- \*No midriff or strapless tops
- \*Low heeled shoes - if sandals, a back strap to avoid them slipping off when dancing
- \*No sport or skate shoes

**BOYS:**

- \*Dress pants (no shorts). Dress jeans are acceptable if in good condition. Cargo pants are also acceptable.
- \*A shirt with a collar (no T-shirts)
- \*Leather or similar shoes - school winter shoes are fine. No sport or skate shoes.

**FINAL ASSEMBLY  
WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT  
11.00AM**

At this assembly we will farewell our Year 8 students and present the school's top award, The Principal's Award, to students who have made outstanding contributions to the school and excelled across all four disciplines. These disciplines are: citizenship, sports, cultural and academic attainment.

This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year we will be presenting these red ribbon awards to recognise the achievement of our top students.

Students can either be nominated by their teacher for this award or nominate themselves or their peers for consideration.

**PROGRAMME FOR ASSEMBLY:**

- Welcome and Introduction - Mr Stanley.
- Whole assembly singing National Anthem.
- Address by Mr Zeinert - Board of Trustees Chairman.
- Principal's Awards presented to Year 7 students (1<sup>st</sup> group).
- Whole school singing
- Principal's Awards presented to Year 7 students (2<sup>nd</sup> group).
- Address by Mr Popping - School Principal.
- Principal's Awards presented to Year 8 students (1<sup>st</sup> group).
- Year 8 representatives to address the school.
- Principal's Awards presented to Year 8 students (2<sup>nd</sup> group).
- Whole school singing.
- Announcement of Student Leaders 2009.
- Closing comments by Mr Popping.
- Approximate finish time 12.00 to 12.30pm.

**PARENTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US AT THE FINAL ASSEMBLY TO CELEBRATE THIS YEAR.**

**2010 STATIONERY**

Pre-order your stationery for next year at the school office - we have ordered extra packs.

### PTA GARDEN COMPETITION

Well done to the students who gave this inaugural garden competition a go. The PTA committee have looked at all the entries received and were impressed by the quality of the entries and photographs supplied. The winners of the various categories will be announced at school assembly and the 2009 trophies awarded.

A big thank you to Julia Palmer-Hofland and her committee for initiating this new school event and Palmers Gardenworld (Bethlehem) for their support.

### INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS RESULTS

Congratulations to all our students who competed in the recent interschool athletics sports held at the domain. Once again our athletes were exemplary ambassadors for the school and performed to a high standard against athletes from 15 other intermediate schools located in Gisborne, Rotorua, Whakatane, Te Puke, Tokoroa, Taupo, Mount and Tauranga.

Individual results were:

Y7 Boys Overall	Liam McNeil	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y8 Girls High Jump	Claudia Richardson	1 <sup>st</sup>
Y8 Girls Cricket Ball Throw	Falcon Rongo	1 <sup>st</sup>
Y7 Boys Shot Put	Liam McNeil	1 <sup>st</sup>
Cricket Ball Throw	Shayla Moana	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Y7 Boys Long Jump	Liam McNeil	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Y8 Boys Long Jump	Nathanial Butler	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y8 Girls 200m	Katie Horan	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y7 4x400m Relay		3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y7 boys Shot Put	Preston Kuka	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y7 Boys Discus	Liam McNeil	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y7 Girls 1500m	Taylor Forward	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Y7 Girls 100m	Samantha Goodrick	3 <sup>rd</sup>

### SCHOOL RESULTS IN MUSIC

Congratulations to the following students who have passed theory exams with honours:

#### GRADE ONE

Jessica Harnett	Jessica Harrison
Ashley Prentice	Geoff Roodt
Tamika Marston	Jisu Kim

#### GRADE TWO

Minji Kim - 100%

### OUT OF SCHOOL SPORT RESULTS

Congratulations to Tyler Grigg who sat and passed a very intense 9 hour grading last weekend in Kempo Karate and is now a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black Belt. Well done. Also congratulations to Maddie Ragg who competed in the BOP Junior Swimming Champs in Rotorua. Maddie won 10 gold, 1 silver and 3 bronze medals and was awarded the Best Junior Performance Trophy. Well done.

### INTERSCHOOL SOFTBALL

Congratulations to our boys' and girls' softball teams who travelled to Whakatane to compete in the interschool championships. Once again these students were great ambassadors for the school. The girls were placed 6<sup>th</sup> in their competition and the boys reached the final against Whakatane Intermediate. After having thoroughly beaten all the teams in the lead up to the final including Whakatane, the final was played in front of the entire Whakatane Intermediate School. Home town advantage prevailed and Whakatane came out the winners 2-0. Well done to all involved.

### TERM DATES FOR 2010

<b>Term 1</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> February - 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2010
<b>Term 2</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April - 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2010
<b>Term 3</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> July - 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2010
<b>Term 4</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> October - 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2010

### CRICKET REPRESENTATIVE

Congratulations to Ryan Balsom from Room 21 for his selection to the Northern Districts Tournament in December as a Bay of Plenty representative. We wish him all the best for the coming representative season.

### STUDENT'S FILM BEING SCREENED ON TVNZ6

Andy Duncanson's film "Stumpy" is being filmed on TVNZ6 at 21:25 on the 13<sup>th</sup> December. Andy and his teacher Mr Stewart, travel up to the *Outlook for Someday Awards* on 10<sup>th</sup> December to receive his winning award in Auckland.

Andy from Room 1 created a film about an animated Stumpy showing how sustainable choices can be made in everyday things like going shopping and watching TV.

### END OF AN ERA

On Monday we handed over the library and resource room block to McMillan and Lockwood, the building contractors for our new Adaptive Learning Centre and remodelled library block.

We would like to acknowledge the 21 years service Mrs Glynis Haddon has provided as Library Manager in the existing library assisted by Mrs McPherson in the Resource Room. The current library was created from two classrooms in the 1980s and everyone is now looking forward to using the new modern facility when it is completed at the end of Term 1 next year.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

- **MathZwise**  
Maths tuition for all ages!  
One on one or maximum 2 students per tutor  
Best service - guarantee success  
Ph: Mark (07) 577 9045 or check out website  
[www.mathzwise.co.nz](http://www.mathzwise.co.nz).
- **AFTERSCHOOLDIGITAL SUMMER SCHOOL DATES AND COURSES:** 3D Animation, Stop-motion, Game Design, Film, Flash, Machinima, Web Design. Choose one of the following weeks to complete any of the courses:  
Week 1: 6-9<sup>th</sup> Jan (Tues - Fri) 10am-2pm  
Week 2: 12-15<sup>th</sup> Jan (Mon - Thurs) 10am-2pm  
Week 3: 19-22<sup>nd</sup> Jan (Mon - Thurs) 10am-2pm  
Week 4: 26-29<sup>th</sup> Jan (Mon - Thurs) 10am-2pm.  
See [www.afterschooldigital.co.nz](http://www.afterschooldigital.co.nz) for more info or go online to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) keyword afterschooldigital to view students' work.  
Ph Jonathan Stewart (registered teacher) on 570 0066 to enquire about course costs or structure.
- **GBoard Gutterboards for Sale:** Want to keep active or just want to beat a friend at gutterboard? Get the sleek new G-Board that all your friends will want to play. Parents keep your children active outside when they are home. Great for a Xmas present, camping, weekends and holidays. Only \$25. Call Jonathan on 570 0066 to order.
- **Asado Food Solutions General Public Store:** From 14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> December between 1pm and 4.30pm, Asado Food Solutions will be opening a store for the general public. **\$5.00 of every roast purchased goes to the purchaser's nominated school as a donation.** Asado is situated at 12 Jean Batten Drive (the road to the Airport) just across from Bunnings. Please go to the office to organise purchase (the green building) - cash only please. For pre-orders phone 0800 770 088 and ask for Angela or Fleur.
- **Otumoetai Swimming Club Holiday Programme:** 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> January 2010 for Levels 1-4. Extra tuition for stroke correction also available for levels 5-7. Also register now for Term 1 classes from Learn to Swim to Squad Coaching, beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010. All enquiries to Dianne Leonard on 576 1738.
- **Student Job Search:** You can help your community by advertising through Student Job Search any odd jobs or if you need extra staff at your place of work. You can list positions on [www.sjs.co.nz](http://www.sjs.co.nz) or call 0800 SJS JOB if you can help.
- **Totara Springs Summer Camps:** Teens camp "Wet and Wild Summer" (school years 9-13) 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> December. Kids Camp "Super Hero Summer" (school years 5-8) 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Summer camp information and application forms are available from [www.totarasprings.org.nz](http://www.totarasprings.org.nz).
- **Kids' Dance Class commencing Term 1 2010 for ages 8 to 12 years.** Latin American, Rock and Roll, Ballroom. Enquire Sonia Hodson, Supreme Dance Centre 574 6568 or 027 322 1786.
- **YMCA Dance Camp:** 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 from 9am-3pm (with care available). Venue is Otumoetai Action Centre Dance Studio, Windsor Road. Kids will learn how to choreograph and perform five dances from different genres seen in High School Musical. Dance camp runs in the third week of the school holidays. Contact YMCA on 579 6530 or email [fun@ymcatauanga.org.nz](mailto:fun@ymcatauanga.org.nz).
- **Farmhouse Fun Camps:** 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> January, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> January or 11<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Fun activities including horse riding, lessons, treasure hunts, movie nights, hut building and much more. For more info contact (07) 332 3771.
- **January Holiday Activities Tauranga Leisure Ltd:** Indoor Sports Days (QEYC 20<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> January) or (MAC 18<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January) 5-13 years, 10am-12.30pm \$6 per child. Crazy Carnival Day (QEYC 22<sup>nd</sup> January) 11am-3pm 5-13 years \$1 tickets. Gerry & the Crocodettes - young kids' show coming to the QEYC at 11am on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January. \$7.50 - suitable for 5-8 year olds. Visit [www.thecrocodettes.com](http://www.thecrocodettes.com). Duathlon (QEYC 28<sup>th</sup> January 10am. Ages 7-8/9-10/11-12 \$5 entry. Splash and Slide 28<sup>th</sup> January 1pm-2.30pm \$5 entry. Hot Wheels Day at the Mount Action Centre. 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> January. 10am-12.30pm. \$6 entry.
- **Tauranga Art Gallery School Holiday Programme:** Sparkle Art 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> January 10am-12.30pm 7-9 year olds. Abstract Designs 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> January 10am-12.30pm 10-12 year olds. Plaster Casting 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> January 10am-12.30pm 7-9 year olds. Phone 578 7933 to make a booking.

Kia Kaha  
Regards

Henk Popping  
**PRINCIPAL**