

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

In our last newsletter we commented on what an amazing term we have had and the intensity of student learning and engagement across all classes. All programmes are well underway with our gifted and talented groups also established and operating.

This week saw the potential for good unleashed with the students able to use cellphones at school for learning and to speak up if they saw someone in need of pastoral care.

Students have been quick to use the technology to report instances of bullying and provide the evidence. This enabled staff to swiftly deal with these and work with the bullies parents to change their behaviour.

Friday saw Nicolette Smith from the Tauranga SPCA meet with five students to commend them for intervening when they saw older secondary students harming seagulls on the way home including the killing of one bird.

On Wednesday one of our Year 8 boys stopped to assist an elderly woman at the Matua roundabout while on the way to school. She had been assaulted by an 18 year old youth and was in an extremely distressed state.

To all these students, a hearty well done and thank you for having the courage to step up and help a person or animal in need. They were all awarded our citizenship award for their actions.

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Nominations have now opened for parent elected representatives on our school Board of Trustees. If you know of a person with the interest of the whole school at heart, a good measure of common sense and having a great team spirit, please approach them to consider being nominated for our Board.

SECURITY CAMERAS

The whole school site is now covered by a network of remote controlled web-based digital cameras.

These can be accessed by authorised personnel from anywhere through a server linked to the internet and record any person entering the school site. Extra floodlights have been installed to enable easy identification of persons on the school site at night.

A remote controlled camera covers the whole playing field and astroturf with zoom function up to a kilometre away. This, along with "Speak Up" is a great tool for ensuring student wellbeing.

HOME LEARNING GRID

Since 2008 we have been running a different system of homework. This Home Learning grid includes a range of tasks and activities, some school based and some home based.

Feedback from our school community, (including a homework survey undertaken), indicates that home learning activities are highly valued by families and teachers. It is clear that there are a wide range of these activities and that many families have numerous commitments in addition to the home learning activities set by classroom teachers.

The Home Learning grid allows for a combination of relevant and achievable tasks set by your child's teacher, (these could be individual, group or whole class tasks), and activities and tasks that are an important part of your child's family routines. The Home Learning grid places value on both sets of activities.

Please make sure that you are aware of your child's Home Learning grid. These are issued each week and we are asking parents and caregivers to check their child's progress each week and sign the grid before it is returned to school. Students who fully complete their Home Learning grid each term will receive a **home learning** ribbon to acknowledge their achievement.

There is no such thing as no homework as the grid tasks apply to every day of the week.

Home Learning Grid 2010 Headings

Read or be read to

Classroom tasks

Physical activity

Cultural activities

Housework

Shopping

Teach your family

What each section involves:

Read or be Read to (daily): Reading is an essential skill that translates to every facet of life. Reading here includes, reading for pleasure, reading fiction, newspapers, magazines, textbooks and assigned reading of texts set by teachers as class work. Being read to is an essential part of developing the desire to read and bond with parents. It enables children to imagine and form thoughts in their heads.

Shopping (weekly): This is an active pastime and a very valuable one in gaining a number of life skills including budgeting, selecting, discerning, totalling, money handling, reading item labels and discovering what things cost and value for money. Many students leave school without these skills and these should be developed early in life.

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Physical Activity (daily): This is a crucial part of the grid and should be a daily part of every student's home life and work. There is a need for young people to have less sedentary lives, get fit and learn active skills that should see them grow into healthier, happier adults. This entry would include all forms of sport training dictated by coaches or done individually by children to master skills or improve endurance. It also includes activities with parents and siblings such as walking, riding a bicycle, bushwalking, fishing, walking the dog and a whole range of active pursuits both indoors and outdoors.

This, again, when done with one's parents, enhances communication and assists with the building of strong and lasting bonds between adults and children.

Housework (daily): This is absolutely compulsory and must be a daily part of the grid. Students are often opting out of family life and not doing chores, which places a lot of stress on parents, particularly where both parents work or in the case of single parents who are very busy doing the job of two parents. Children must not make parents their *servants*. At the very least they need to pick up after themselves and assist with activities for their benefit such as chopping wood, helping prepare meals, tidying their rooms and other parts of the house, cleaning the house and keeping it clean and tidy both inside and outside. Outdoor work could include weeding, gardening, raking and sweeping, painting and decorating. Many handy person skills are necessary for them to be able to manage their own dwellings in later years. Again when housework is done with parents or siblings, it becomes a bonding activity and should enhance family life.

Teach your Parents (daily): One of the best ways of consolidating what one has learnt is to teach the concept to another. This can be set for class work or happen spontaneously to enable students to brief parents about work covered, but go a step further and try to explain and teach particular topics learnt that day or that week.

Classroom Tasks: These could include consolidation of basic facts, research tasks and other classroom related activities.

Cultural Activities (weekly): These could include any after school dance, music, drama, kapa haka, art or other classes. They would also include any family cultural activities such as visits to museums, places of historical interest and live theatre performance.

SCHOOL FEES FAMILY DINNER DRAW

We really appreciate all families who support the school through paying school donations.

All families who have paid the school donation and compulsory fees by the end of March will be entered in the draw at the end of the term.

ADOLESCENT PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

ASTHMA

With seasonal temperature changes it's time to think about your child's asthma treatment. Consider having your child checked if:

- They have a persistent night cough or cough after exercise.
- Suffer breathlessness & or wheezing (noisy breathing).
- They experience a tight feeling in the chest.

For asthma sufferers:

- If they have a preventer - now is the time to ensure regular use.
- Ensure your child has a stock of their asthma medication & that it has not expired! Check the date on the cartridge.
- Administering the inhalers with a spacer is the most effective method for adults & children.
- If your child is using their reliever (blue) inhaler more than 3 to 4 times a week on a regular basis then the asthma is not under control.
- Restart the preventer if you have one and are not using it, or seek advice from your GP or the Asthma Centre. It may be that technique with the inhaler or that a review of medications is needed.

Free advice, information & care is available from the Asthma Centre - Ph 577 6738 or your Doctor.

Contact the Adolescent Public Health Nurse for support of student health and wellbeing. Contact can be made through the school office or directly at 577 3383 or beth.daniel@bopdnh.govt.nz.

2010 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We have been given another opportunity to sell the Entertainment Book. This is a great way to promote and enjoy our local restaurants, businesses and activities offering great discounts.

The launch date for the Entertainment books will be Thursday 25th March, with a book given to each student to sell. These books cost \$55. The profit of \$11 from each book sold will be used to purchase new books for our library. Please see the attached flyer.

Extra books will be available from the school office. Please return your money in the envelope provided. If you are unable to sell your book, please return this to school ASAP.

INTERNATIONAL HOMESTAY REQUIRED

We have a male international student who requires a homestay within walking distance to school. He would like to stay with a family who has a son attending Otumotai Intermediate and will be here for the 2010 school year. \$210 per week will be paid to the hosting family.

AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS 2010 COMPETITIONS

At Otumoetai Intermediate, any students who wish to give the tests a go are encouraged to participate and in 2009 our collective results were:

- 4 High Distinction Awards
- 46 Distinction Awards
- 115 Credit Awards
- 250 Participation Awards achieving over 50% national rankings.

The cost is \$7.50 for Science, Computer Skills, Mathematics and English, \$17.50 for Writing and \$9.50 for Spelling. The closing dates for the payments/entries are as follows:

Computer Skills	Friday 23 rd April
Science	Friday 7 th May
Spelling	Friday 21 st May
Writing	Friday 21 st May
English	Thursday 1 st July
Mathematics	Thursday 1 st July

The closing dates for payment are as above and **no late entries will be accepted.**

Complete the return slip and return with the correct payment in an envelope and place in the posting box in the office foyer of the administration area.

Please complete the return slip below and send along to the school office.



AUSTRALIAN COMPETITIONS

Child's Name..... Room.....

Year Level.....

I would like to enter the following Australian competitions:

Writing	\$17.50	Yes/No
Spelling	\$9.50	Yes/No
Computer	\$7.50	Yes/No
Science	\$7.50	Yes/No
Maths	\$7.50	Yes/No
English	\$7.50	Yes/No

I enclose \$..... in payment.

Signed.....

Parent/Caregiver

GETTING READY FOR THE WINTER TERMS

Footwear

Next term all students should be wearing plain, black leather lace up shoes or their brown sandals.

Sports shoes and soft leather skate type shoes are not acceptable.

Boys can switch to shoes and socks. Girls can switch to shoes with ankle socks or shoes with black tights. Girls should note the white ankle socks must come over the ankles when worn. Girls may continue to wear sandals.
Please note: If students choose to continue to wear their sandals, this does not include socks and sandals.

Warm Clothes

As the weather cools down students have a choice of wearing the school green woollen jersey embroidered with our logo or the school jacket. The jersey is available from Active Schoolwear on Devonport Road and Postie Plus on Elizabeth St. We also operate a second hand uniform shop. Inquiries are welcome at the office.

The jacket is only available from Active Schoolwear on Devonport Road.

Hoodies, beanies and other non-uniform apparel will not be acceptable at our school.

Scarves

Students may wear scarves to school. These must be in a colour matching the uniform ie, black, blue, red, green or yellow.

Please note: The Otumoetai College jersey is not acceptable as a uniform item at our school.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

These proved to be valuable opportunities for parents, teachers and students to appraise each student's progress and discuss steps to take for future learning.

Parents have been quick to come along to follow up meetings where staff shared tips for helping their son or daughter in literacy or numeracy.

The staff are now developing a midyear written report that will inform parents of their child's progress against National Standards and what the next learning steps are for their child.

NATIONAL STANDARDS

The New Zealand curriculum is supported by the New National Standards which set clear expectations that need to be met in reading, writing and mathematics in the first eight years at school.

As economies around the world globalise, we are going to have to compare the standards of our school system to those of other countries.

Our country's standards have been designed so that a student who meets them is on track to succeed at NCEA Level 2.

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Ministry of Education predictions are that 51% of current Year 7 and 8 students are meeting the standards at present.

Clearly our goal as a school is to exceed these predictions and have the majority of students achieving the standards.

Schools are expected to use a range of assessment methods to form an overall judgment about each student's progress and achievement. Our school has been using the University of Auckland developed AsTTle tests in reading, writing and mathematics for some time along with the NZCER PAT tests in reading comprehension. These tests give us a great tool to be able to make good judgments on each of our student's progress through the school. This year we are also using STAR to determine whether or not all these tests are a fair measure of a student's achievement.

The National Standards for students coming to and at Otumoetai Intermediate are described as follows:

By the end of Year 6 (Incoming Students)

The Reading Standard

By the end of Year 6, students will read, respond to and think critically about texts in order to meet the reading demands of the New Zealand Curriculum at **Level 3**. Students will locate, evaluate and integrate information and ideas within and across a small range of texts appropriate to this level as they generate and answer questions to meet specific learning purposes across the curriculum.

The Writing Standard

By the end of Year 6, students will create texts in order to meet the writing demands of the New Zealand Curriculum at **Level 3**. Students will use their writing to think about, record and communicate experiences, ideas and information to meet specific learning purposes across the curriculum.

The Mathematics Standard

By the end of Year 6, students will be achieving at **Level 3** in the mathematics and statistics learning area of the New Zealand Curriculum.

By the end of Year 7

The Reading Standard

By the end of Year 7, students will read, respond to and think critically about texts in order to meet the reading demands of the New Zealand Curriculum as they work towards Level 4. Students will locate, evaluate and synthesise information and ideas within and across a range of texts appropriate to this level as they generate and answer questions to meet specific learning purposes across the curriculum.

The Writing Standard

By the end of Year 7, students will create texts in order to meet the writing demands of the New Zealand Curriculum as they work towards Level 4. Students will use their writing to think about, record and communicate experiences, ideas and information to meet specific learning purposes across the curriculum.

The Mathematics Standard

By the end of Year 7, students will be achieving at early Level 4 in the mathematics and statistics learning area of the New Zealand Curriculum.

By the end of Year 8

The Reading Standard

By the end of Year 8, students will read, respond to and think critically about texts in order to meet the reading demands of the New Zealand Curriculum at Level 4. Students will locate, evaluate and synthesise information and ideas within and across a range of texts appropriate to this level as they generate and answer questions to meet specific learning purposes across the curriculum.

The Writing Standard

By the end of Year 8, students will create texts in order to meet the writing demands of the New Zealand Curriculum at Level 4. Students will use their writing to think about, record and communicate experiences, ideas and information to meet specific learning purposes across the curriculum.

The Mathematics Standard

By the end of Year 8, students will be achieving at Level 4 in the mathematics and statistics learning area of the New Zealand Curriculum.

SPORTS ROUNDUP FOR WEEKS 5 TO 7

CRICKET

The Milo Cup boys' side has had 3 narrow loses to Tauranga Intermediate, Bethlehem College and Acquinas College.

The Milo Shield girls' side has had a narrow win over Te Puke and a narrow loss to Tauranga Intermediate. They have one further match against Whakatane Intermediate in Week 9.

Special thanks to Mrs Rhian Taylor for her ongoing support with both of these teams.

SWIMMING

A squad of 18 went to the BOP/Poverty Bay Inter-school swimming sports held at the Rotorua Aquatic Centre on Thursday 18th March. We had a very successful day and here are our placings:

Y8 girls 50m Free- Kelcy Ballentyne 2nd; Tacy Ormsby 3rd

Y7 girls 50m Back- Georgia Hacker 3rd

Y8 girls 50m Back- Kelcy Ballentyne 2nd

Y7 boys 50m Breast- Joshua Pickett 1st

Y8 girls 50m Breast- Maddie Ragg 1st; Kelcy Ballentyne 2nd

Y8 girls 50m Fly- Kelcy Ballentyne 2nd; Kirsty Burrows 3rd

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Y7 girls 100m Free- Georgia Hacker 3rd
 Y7 boys 100m Free- Joshua Pickett 2nd
 Y8 girls 100m Free- Maddie Ragg 1st; Kelcy Ballentyne 3rd
 Y7 girls 100m Back- Georgia Hacker 3rd
 Y7 boys 100m Back- Joshua Pickett 3rd
 Y8 girls 100m Back- Maddie Ragg 2nd
 Y7 girls 100m Breast- Morgan Kilmister 1st
 Y7 boys 100m Breast- Joshua Pickett 2nd
 Y8 girls 100m Breast- Maddie Ragg 1st; Kelcy Ballentyne 3rd
 Y7 girls 100m Fly- Georgia Hacker 3rd
 Y7 boys 100m Fly- Joshua Pickett 2nd
 Y8 girls 100m Fly- Maddie Ragg 2nd
 Relay (4 x 50m) - free
 Y7 girls 3rd; Y7 boys 3rd; Y8 girls 1st
 Relay (4 x 50m) - medley
 Y7 girls 2nd; Y7 boys 3rd; Y8 girls 1st; Y8 boys 2nd

Overall: 1st Gisborne Intermediate
 2nd Otumoetai Intermediate
 3rd Tauranga Intermediate

SURFING: On Friday the 19th of March, two teams of 4 went to Tay Street for an Inter school surfing competition. Conditions were favourable with a 1 to 2 metre swell with off shore winds. Eight teams were involved in the competition coming from Otumoetai, Tauranga, Mount Maunganui, Te Puke, Whakatane and Gisborne Intermediates.

We assembled at 7.30am and first heats in the water started at 8am. This event was a tag team event with four surfers per team. Each surfer had to surf two waves each with the best surfer nominated the "Double Whammy" surfer and his/her wave would be worth double points. All teams accumulated points for finishing before the allocated time of 30 minutes per team.

Otumoetai Team 1 members were, Harrison Mossop, Callum Chuter, Jack Mills and Lauren Dance. They came 2nd in their first heat so they advanced to the third round. In the third round a couple of the surfers got some high scoring waves so that meant they were off to the finals where they would surf against Gisborne Intermediate. Putting in a solid performance the team came 2nd against a very skilled Gisborne Intermediate team.

Otumoetai Team 2 members were Lacie Glen-ville, Morgan Kilmister, Teigen Heidkamp and Liam Stewart. They surfed really well combining as a team and encouraging each other. They surfed into the second round but unfortunately they were eliminated by Whakatane and Gisborne Intermediates.

We all had a great day and really enjoyed ourselves and would all like to thank Ms Quinn for taking us and taking up her own time at morning teas and lunches to hold meetings to arrange it. We would also like to thank the parents who came to support us and Otumoetai Intermediate for letting us participate.

By Callum Chuter



TENNIS: On Thursday 11th March Mr Firth took a squad of 15 to the BOP Inter-school Tennis Championships held at Papamoa. The team did extraordinarily well. Here are the results:

Year 7 & 8 Girls Competitive Singles:

2nd Kahla Tyson

Year 7 & 8 Boys Competitive Singles:

1st Dominic Daly - Otumoetai Intermediate

3rd Dion Reed - Otumoetai Intermediate

Year 7 & 8 Boys Competitive Doubles:

1st Dion Reed & Dominic Daly

Otumoetai Intermediate

3rd Sam Haywood & Charles Malcolm

Otumoetai Intermediate

Year 7 & 8 Championship Points:

1st Otumoetai Intermediate - 42 points

2nd Tauranga Intermediate - 40 points

3rd Pyes Pa School - 11 points

Congratulations to the team!

Mr Hughes
 Sports Coordinator

FUTURE CHAMPIONS DAY

Congratulations to all the following students who took part in this day run by Sport Bay of Plenty. All these students were selected by their respective regional sports organisations.

Connor Steens	Year 8	Basketball
Jack Neale	Year 8	Basketball
Jessica Gadsbey	Year 8	Basketball
Jack Dey	Year 7	Cricket
Luke Tatley	Year 7	Cricket
Louis Hart	Year 8	Cricket
Louis Morris	Year 8	Cricket

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Darren Jooste	Year 7	Football
James Hanson	Year 7	Football
Luke Fraser	Year 7	Football
Luke Johnson	Year 7	Football
Cameron Lee	Year 8	Football
Sam Haywood	Year 8	Football
Scott Wilson	Year 8	Football
Tayla Forward	Year 8	Football
Luke Tisch	Year 7	Hockey
Sophie Gordon	Year 7	Hockey
Paige Farley	Year 8	Hockey
Wade Bennett	Year 8	Hockey
Jasmine Tawa	Year 8	Netball
Ben McColgan	Year 8	Rugby
Liam McNeil	Year 8	Rugby League
Dion Reed	Year 8	Tennis
Dominic Culpitt	Year 8	Tennis
Dominic Daly	Year 8	Tennis
Kahla Tyson	Year 8	Tennis
Charlotte Thompson	Year 7	Triathlon
Isaiah Duncanson	Year 7	Triathlon
Ollie Reed	Year 7	Triathlon
Troy Martyn	Year 8	Triathlon
Grace Burnett	Year 7	Triathlon
Matthew Grainger	Year 8	Waterpolo
Tacy Ormsby	Year 8	Waterpolo

COMMUNITY NOTICES

- **Digischool - April School Holidays:** Enroll now for our exciting Media Arts courses to suit all ages from complete novices to advanced. Choose from game development, 3D animation, flash animation and more. Numbers are very limited. Digischool - official Licensee of CryENGINE3. Contact Jonathan on 570 0066 to enquire or visit www.digischool.co.nz.
- **NZ Women's Blacksticks vs Argentina:** Wednesday 31st March. Gallagher Hockey Centre, 7.30pm, Curtain Raisers 5.25pm. \$15 Adult, \$5 School Child. Bring your whole family and see these top ranked women's teams in action and pick up some new skills for your 2010 hockey season. See www.waikatohockey.org.nz.
- **Netball Holiday Programme Year 5 to 8 Players:** Monday 12th April 9.00am to 3pm. Otumoetai Action Centre. \$30. Register now - limited numbers - first 30 accepted. Closing date 2nd April. Contact Lara Richardson on lrichardson@otc.school.nz or Otumoetai College Sports Office 576 1390.

- **Own your Own Pony School Holiday Programme:** Come and learn riding and pony care during the school holidays. There will be lots of fun activities. Helmets and riding boots provided. Ages 6 years and older. Bring your own lunch. Morning tea and drinks will be provided. WINZ subsidy now available. 12th to 16th April 9.30am to 3pm. For more info contact 07 544 1899 or tgarda@xtra.co.nz.
- **Bubble Dome:** Have you ever wondered how computer games and 3D movies like Shrek are made? Learn the latest in 3D animation and games design on a Bubble Dome School Holiday workshop this April. Other courses in Architecture, Inventions and Technology on offer at selected venues. For students aged 6 to 17 years. Phone 0800 438 282 or email info@bubbledome.co.nz or visit www.bubbledome.co.nz.
- **The Farmhouse Rotorua Camp:** 12th April to 14th April and 12th April to 16th April. Camp starts at 10am and finishes at 3pm. To book your child into one of the camps or for more info, you can either download a registration form on www.thefarmhouse.co.nz or call 07 332 3771.
- **YMCA Autumn Programmes - Dodge, Assault or Hannah Montana - you Choose!** Please register for any of the activities on www.ymcatauranga.org.nz or by calling 578 9272 for more info. Please book before 26th March to avoid a late booking fee.

Kia Kaha
Regards

Henk Popping
PRINCIPAL

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