



OTAUVA SCHOOL

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Newsletter

Term 3, Week 10, Thursday 24th September

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau

What a strange term it has been! Up and down, and everywhere in between...but we've done it. Many thanks to everybody for your continued support and understanding. *He waka eke noa ... we are all in this together.*

If you are heading away in the holidays, travel safely and have a lovely time. If you are having a staycation during this holiday period, I hope you have a chance for a bit of down time while also getting done the Spring projects that you may have on your list. I have a kitchen door to paint, and an overnight tramping trip with my club into Waitawheta Hut (Kaimai ranges).

Alert Level 2

Welcome to Alert Level 2! The only significant difference that this makes for us at Otaua School is the ability to go ahead with Calf Club, albeit in a different format than we are used to. More about that later in the newsletter. In the meantime, please remember the following:

- Anyone who chooses to wear a face covering will be supported to do so (students cannot be required to wear face coverings in schools).
- **Students aged 12 and above** are required to wear a face covering when on public transport (there are some exemptions including for health reasons).
- **For school transport, bus drivers are wearing face coverings, but children and young people are not required to wear face coverings.**

- Face coverings are an **extra protective physical barrier** to help keep people safe. Hand washing, good cough and sneeze etiquette, cleaning surfaces regularly, staying away if unwell and physical distancing from people you don't know all contribute to minimising spread of illness.

As mentioned above, it is very important to keep your child/ren home if they are at all unwell. This is a directive from the Ministry of Education, in line with Ministry of Health guidelines. Phone Healthline (0800 611 116) or your GP and get tested if you, or your children, have cold or flu symptoms. Please make sure you and your family members are regularly washing and drying your hands thoroughly, and sneezing and coughing into elbows.

Please make sure your child/ren are bringing a named drink bottle to school - our drinking fountains remain closed until we are at Alert Level 1. I am aware that a few children don't have a drink bottle with them at school. We know that healthy, working brains need regular water intake throughout the day to maximise learning.

Calf Club Committee

Please make sure you have the following dates in your calendar:

Saturday 10th October (last Saturday of the Term 3 holidays), even though we are at Alert Level 2. Please refer to the Committee's newsletter that went home yesterday regarding the structure of the day. This information is also on the school website and was shared to Dojo yesterday. There will be no indoor exhibits. Birdhouse projects can be delivered to school during the first week of Term 4, ready for judging on Friday 16th October.



Kapa Haka Uniforms Fundraiser

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated treats to go into the tubs for our Kapa Haka uniforms fundraiser. Thank you also to everyone who has supported our school by selling tickets. We have raised \$1,800 which is just fantastic! The winning tickets will be drawn this Friday morning and the winners notified.

Y8 Parents Information at Waiuku College

Waiuku College has advised that the planned Parents Information Evening for current Y8 students and their parents, which was scheduled for 14th October, has been postponed at this stage due to gathering restrictions.

Term 4 Teacher-only Day

Schools are required, by the Ministry of Education, to give their parent/whānau community one month's notice of planned teacher-only days. Please note in your diary that school will be closed for a teacher-only day on Friday 23rd October.

End of year dates

Here are a few dates to note in your diary...

Year 8 Dance: Thursday 10th December

Prizegiving: Wednesday 16th December at the Waiuku Town Hall

Last day of school: Thursday 17th December (lunchtime finish)

We continue to keep Carol and her husband, Ian, in our thoughts and prayers.

In the meantime, take care and stay safe.

Ngā mihi nui,
Jocelyn

BUS AND MANUAL FEES:

Thank you very much for the fees paid so far, there are just a few outstanding if we could get payment in for these please, especially those outstanding from the beginning of the year.