



OTAUJA SCHOOL

55 Maioro Road RD 2 Waiuku Ph 09 235 2741
admin@otauja.school.nz www.otauja.school.nz

Our Values

Citizenship Fairness Trustworthiness Responsibility

Term 2, Week 8, June 3rd 2020

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau

I hope everyone enjoyed their Queen's Birthday weekend. The weather wasn't the best, but it was still lovely to have an extra day to rest and recover after a busy two weeks settling back into our school routines.

Alert Level 2

Everything is continuing to go well at school under Alert Level 2. It's been lovely to welcome some new little people and their families on their first day of school. The roll-checking system for the bus at both ends of the day is proving to be an excellent system, and one that we may well continue with once we move out of COVID-19 alert levels.

Thanks, again, to everybody who is waiting outside either gate at the end of the day and doing their best to social distance appropriately at the same time.

PTA Lunches

PTA lunches resume **this week on Friday 5th June**. The kitchen has been thoroughly cleaned, stocks have been reordered, and we are all ready to go. We won't be offering Tuesday hotdog lunches at this stage.

Kapa Haka and Bible Class

Both of these activities will resume this Friday, now that group sizes can be a little larger (one hundred people) as we progress through Alert Level 2.

Bus Conduct

There are still a few of these forms outstanding. Please **URGENTLY** return signed Bus Conduct agreement forms to school.

Calf Club Committee

After thorough research Willy Muir, President of the Calf Club Committee and the Group Day Committee, recommends that we go ahead with Calf Club for 2020. The Board of Trustees agrees with this decision. Bookmark the first Saturday of the Term 3 holidays! There will be information coming out shortly regarding animals so that the children can get up and going.

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

Take care everybody, stay safe.

Nga mihi,
Jocelyn

Bee Hives

We have a small team of Nature Warriors with a particular interest in bees and as a group we have been talking about having some hives at school for some time. Eilis (team leader), Eva, Keeley, Jorja and myself had a meeting with Mr Ray Dawben, a local bee keeper, last week. Mr Dawben has kindly offered to bring two hives to school for us to get started on our bee keeping venture. The hives will still belong to Mr Dawben but he is happy to share his knowledge and some honey with us. We have a lot of learning to do but are lucky to also have the support of Mrs Keely Muir. Once Mr Morse has built a platform for the hives to sit on our hives will arrive.

Planting at School

Danielle, Jazlyn, Skyla and Savanna potted some vegetable seeds last week in the greenhouse. Danielle and Jazlyn have been diligent about watering our seeds and the beans are already showing! We will do some more planting tomorrow. The flaxes in the big pots died over the lockdown period as it was so dry. Skyla and Savanna helped to plant some more so the pots look much better now. Our potatoes in the big gardens continue to do well.

Room 8 Garden

Mrs O'Regan and her team of artists have done a fantastic job painting poles for a bit of colour in the garden behind room 8. Mr Morse has been creative with his chainsaw and made himself a throne out of a tree stump. He has also made some seating from the old posts that were removed from in front of room 4 and room 7. Mrs O'Regan will be painting some river stones so they can be used for games in the garden. Once all the

hard landscaping is finished we will do some planting and finish off with bark. This area is starting to come together and looks great.

Rat Rangers

Our Rat Rangers have been busy setting and clearing mouse traps in classrooms. We haven't had many mice caught so they are doing a great job. Toby kept our school traps rebaited and cleared over the lockdown period and the team have continued with their checks since we have been back at school. Archie and Eilis went to the junior rooms this morning talking to the children about the danger of playing with the traps. We have had a few niggles with sticks being poked into traps to set them off. We hope that after the talk this morning this will stop.

Rubbish and Recycling

We have had to put a hold on our paper recycling venture during the lockdown period as we are not able to take the paper to Zero Waste at the moment. Callum and Monty continue to empty our compost bins and Monty and Tayla collected paper towels last week that will eventually go into the compost.

Waiuku Football

We are still taking players for School Football, any children aged 5-6, please contact Melissa to register and find out any more information. Phone 021 2160030 or mels.tauroa@gmail.com The season will be a shortened one and there a number of health regulations that we have had to put in place, however if you think your child might like to give it a go, or get out there and have some fun, please get in touch, we would love to have you on board.

Children's Community Dental Clinic

During COVID-19 Alert Level 2, the Children's Community Dental Service has reopened some of its clinics for children with urgent dental care needs.

We will be in contact with you if your child requires an urgent appointment.

Alternatively, if your child is in pain, or you have immediate concerns about their teeth, please phone 0800 TALK TEETH to speak with one of our therapists.

We are not able to offer routine appointments just yet, but we will let you know as soon as this changes.

This means that your child's routine appointment may be delayed.

For more information, search for 'ARDS' on the Waitemata DHB website.

Thankyou for your understanding and support during this time.

The Children's Community Dental Service

