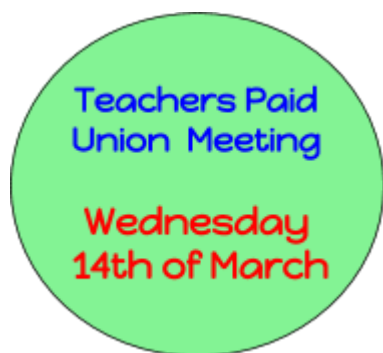


# NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF

## Otaika Valley School

### TERM 1

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2018  
Week 6 of 11



Dear Parents & Caregivers, Tena Koutou Katoa.

### Teachers Union Message to parents...

You may be aware of the nationwide crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers.

Children need teachers with enough time to teach so they can give each child the attention they deserve, and children need talented and inspiring people to be attracted to teaching.

Children are missing out on some opportunities to learn because teachers are bogged down in administration or are struggling to get enough support for children with additional learning needs.

Teachers at our school are joining an NZEI Te Riu Roa campaign called "Kua Tae Te Wa – It's Time", to address these issues.

Our goal is to free up teachers to teach, and principals to lead, by getting the additional support and staff that schools need. And we'll attract more people to teaching by respecting and paying them as the professionals they are.

NZEI Te Riu Roa members at our school have been invited to paid union meetings in March so that we can plan and discuss the campaign and their upcoming collective agreement negotiations.

The meeting schedule has been planned so that teachers and principals across the country can work out which meeting is best to attend, including the option of groups of teachers attending meetings at different times. This is to help reduce disruption to teaching programmes, children and parents.

Our children deserve the best education in the world, and New Zealand can afford to provide it. It's just a matter of priorities.

Thanks for your cooperation in this important matter.

### Principal's message and organisation for the day

Classes will be combined on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> of March**, so that half the number of our teaching staff can attend these meetings at different times throughout the day to discuss teacher professional and educational matters. The school day will run to normal times, but programmes will be altered.

Thank you for your understanding.

### Easter Tuesday - Tuesday 3rd of April

The Tuesday following Easter Monday is a school holiday (not a statutory holiday), meaning schools must not be open.

Back in 1996 (term 4), the school terms and holidays were usually set so that Easter occurred during the first term break and the Easter Tuesday school holiday went unnoticed. However, in some years Easter fell much earlier than usual such as in 1997, 2005, 2008, 2013 and 2016.

To have the first 2-week break at Easter in those years shortened the first term to only 8-9 weeks, instead of around 12 weeks, and meant that at least one of the other 3 terms had to be correspondingly longer.

The Minister aims to set 4 terms of reasonably uniform length, in years when Easter falls particularly early, all or some of the Easter break will be during the first term.

As a further note, Mondayisation for the public holidays for ANZAC Day (25 April) and Waitangi day (6 February) are Mondayised (since 2014). This means that when either of these dates fall on a Saturday or Sunday, the corresponding public holiday will be observed on the Monday immediately following.

Kind Regards,

Terry Brock

## THIS WEEK'S RURU AWARD RECIPIENTS...



BRODIE DINSDALE - ROOM 4  
(last week)



NOAH MACDONALD - ROOM 2

### CLASS AWARDS

Rm 3: Isaac Mawson, Braxton Rielly

Rm 4: Pippa Clyde, Sadie Stevens, Gabriel  
Timewell

Rm 5: Keira Macdonald, Rylie Roberts-Cross

Rm 7: Anika Clyde, Troy Ireland, Lilly Lewis, Cody  
Noble

## Netball

Just a reminder that if your child would like to play netball, you have until Thursday the 29th of March to sign up (at the school office).

So far we have:

- 1 team for Y1-Y2
- 1 team for Y3-Y4
- 1 team for Y5-Y6

# HELP!!!

**LOST PINK & PURPLE HEARING AID!**

**Lost last Thursday in the pool changing room.**

**PLEASE RETURN TO GRACE JOLL IN ROOM 3**

## CAMP PAYMENTS

Thank you to those families that have paid for school camps so far. Please remember to make a payment before your child goes on their camp. If you need to set up a payment arrangement - please see Jen in the office.

**SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT IS :**

**12-3115 - 0198137-00**



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