

The term and year have both flown by so fast, and yet again as a school we have all been involved in so much, achieved so much and experienced so many new things.

2018 been a big year adding a huge and important chapter to the history of our school, with the construction and opening of our new school buildings and site! All children will receive a commemorative school photo taken by drone on the day of the official opening – this will come home today.

A huge thank you to all families and whanau for the ongoing support throughout the year.

LEAVERS (YEAR 6 PUPILS)

Once again we farewell a great group of year 6 children who take with them an amazing range of skills, great attitudes and some wonderful memories of their time at Ohope Beach School. This group have contributed so much over the last year and last 6 years of association with Ohope Beach School.

Thanks very much to all you have given to the school and good luck for the future.

I hope you have a wonderful time with friends and family during the festive period.

TO ALL CHILDREN - have a lovely Christmas with your whanau, I hope Santa brings you what you are wishing for!! Also a huge thank you to all our wonderful children who have made it through an incredible year with so much change going on all around them. At all times the children have been flexible and adaptable, getting on with their learning without fuss or issue.

We sometimes underestimate how resilient our children can be - sometimes more resilient than us as adults. Have a great holiday and enjoy the break!!

- **Final Assembly – Friday 14th December, assembly starts at 11.00 am.**

School finishes at 12 noon at the conclusion of the assembly. The Harbour Rd & Wainui bus will be at school at 12pm. Please arrange pick up for children who usually use the Town Bus.

STAFF

I would like to pay particular thanks to our Teaching Staff who put in so much time and effort ensuring that all our children have a great education and positive experience at school.

UPCOMING EVENTS

14 Dec – Term 4 ends 12.00 midday.

30 Jan – Term 1 2019 begins

Teachers dedicate an incredible amount of personal and professional time to ensure this happens. Long hours before and after school, during the week, long hours during the weekends and School Holiday periods are spent planning, assessing and organising programmes and experiences for our children. This year has been especially challenging and full of amazing changes in so many ways – all teachers have taken this in their stride and embraced the changes in a calm and professional manner.

SUPPORT STAFF

Our dedicated hard working Teacher Aids - Jude Marsh, Rachel Ford, Isaac Henry, Haupai Williams and Vanessa Carmody These wonderful people work hard in the background on behalf of our children and assisting our teachers and their programmes. They are always there and willing to turn their hand to any job in front of them.

Jenny McKenzie and Julie Staniland in the office and various other areas of the school – do an incredible amount of work behind the scenes that enables our school to run so smoothly, their roles and responsibilities are forever evolving and changing – e.g. they are now Novopay payroll officers, HR officers, IT Managers, and Librarians to mention a few roles!

Also Val and Pete Steward our caretakers - who keeps things around the school neat and tidy and in order.

PTA/FRIENDS OF OHOPE BEACH SCHOOL

I would also like to pay a particular thanks to our School PTA – These people have worked (and still are working as I type this) hard organising various fundraising events and functions on behalf of our school community and children. The much needed money raised goes toward the various needs and activities within the school that the Government funding does not cover – without this money we could not offer a lot of the extras that our school does offer. Particular thanks must go to Kate Lively who organised and ran our very successful Open Day.

ALL PARENTS

A huge thank you to all parents and family for their many contributions and support to our school, all assistance in the classroom, and on all the various trips and experiences. Your support and assistance is much appreciated and treasured by all teachers. It is also something that is so important for the children to see how interested their family is in their school and education – Well Done!

FAREWELL

Tomorrow we farewell a long serving part time teacher Mrs Anna Humpherson. Over the years, Anna has filled many roles throughout the school from Reading Recovery, to fixed term full time, to classroom release – Anna has been amazing being able to change from one role to another quickly as needed without fuss or issue – she is going to be missed hugely by all staff and children. Anna has accepted a job share position at St Joseph's Whakatane. We wish her well for the future – I am sure we will still be in regular contact with Anna.

ADVERTISEMENT

SALT SPRAY SURF SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM! 19th, 20th and 21st December. Full day of Surfing and Beach Fun! Ages 6 +. Find us on Facebook: Salt Spray Surf School
Contact Ollie: 0211491972 or
email: Saltspraysurfschool@gmail.com

SCHOOL SPORT COACHING - I am offering to come to your school and provide group sessions during term 1 and 2 for a total cost of \$680.

Contact: Lewis Sharp (Foxy Feet Head Coach)

Duration: 30/45 minute group sessions

Cost: \$680 for term 1 and 2 (full school roll)

FMS: soccer, softball, cricket, track and field, dodgeball and other team building games that include throwing, catching, kicking, running, dodging and jumping.

Region: Eastern Bay of Plenty

FOXY FEET - Futsal (Indoor soccer) and soccer Training

Term 1 and 2 Age 8 to 13 Sign up for 2019 for more Information Contact: Lewis Sharp
foxyfeetfc@gmail.com

Syndicates and Collaborative Teams 2019

Te Tiwai Year (0 – 2) – in Manuka and Kowhai (downstairs spaces)

Alex Hanlen

Angela Gouk

Sandy Jones (Syndicate Leader)

Nicky Baker

Abi Berquist

Nga Peka Year/Nga Huiarau (3&4) – in Kahikatea, Totara, and Rimu (upstairs spaces)

Cherie Walker (Assistant Syndicate Leader)

Jenny Jones

Year (4, 5 & 6)

Roberta McKelvey (Syndicate Leader)

Karen England

Ben McDonald

Jenny Ward

As you can see Philip Meyer does not appear on the list, this is due to the fact that Philip has been offered a scholarship for Terms 1 & 2 with the Royal Society of New Zealand to carry out some in depth study and training in the field of science. This is a great opportunity that does not come a long very often, so we wish him well with his study. At the end of the study period Philip will return back to school in a teaching role – he will also bring his new found skills and programmes to share with our children and teachers. We will see Philip around as part of his study is in Wellington, but most of his time is spent working with a local employer who has a science focus. I am sure he will be in and out of school over his study period.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019

Following are the agreed term dates for Whakatane Schools (*note Intermediate and Secondary School dates may differ slightly*)

Note: There are a couple of dates throughout the year that have to be confirmed, which could alter the end date in Term 4, plus or minus a day or two.

Term 1

Wednesday January 30 – Friday April 12

(Monday January 28 Auckland Anniversary Day, Wednesday February 6 Waitangi Day) Easter Holidays fall in the School Holidays.

Term 2

Monday April 29 – Friday July 5

(Whakatane Schools (Primary, Intermediate and Secondary) - Teacher Only Day Friday May 31 (Monday 3 June Queens Birthday)

Term 3

Monday July 22 – Friday September 27

Term 4

Monday October 14 – Wednesday December 18
(Monday October 22- Labour Day)

BUILDING WORK (DURING THE CHRISTMAS BREAK)

After everything that has been going on this year you would have thought that this heading would not appear again in a newsletter for some time!

BUT - Marra and Tracks will be on site over the Christmas holiday constructing a cycle track, finishing off drainage, and completing defects on the new building.

The work that was planned for the pool area has now had to be deferred to the first holidays next year (April) – they could not guarantee to have our pool back operational by the start of school next year. Our swimming programme is very important in the first term and so we have decided to put the work off until after our swimming season (end of Term 1).

Davey painters will be in also painting the old block (hall and upstairs classrooms) to match the new school paint.

There will also be some work on Pohutukawa Ave road way , mainly on the exit next to the crossing to level the road off to enable buses better exit heights on to the road (currently they belly out on the road when leaving the bus bay).

PTA NEWS

To everyone who supported the school Community day last week, in so many different ways, thank you! Just over \$3,000 was raised from the afternoon. Also thanks too to everyone who bought the children's art calendars, cards & diaries. All fundraising from this year will be going towards new school playground equipment/bikes storage shed. Thanks & wishing everyone a very happy Christmas!

Community Day Sponsors

Pak n Save, Watt Electrical Ltd, Balance Bracelets, Opotiki Flowers, Whakamax, Pro Scooter, Shona Houlton - Nutrimetrics, Norwex, Harbour View Berry Farm Ltd

PRIDE VALUES

P – Positivity - We participate in all activities with enthusiasm. We say kind and positive words.

R – Respect - We listen and use our manners. We care for ourselves, our belongings, the environment and each other.

I – Integrity - We make the right choices and do as we say. We are trustworthy.

D – Diligence - We try our best in all activities and take on challenges. We work hard to achieve our goals.

E – Empathy - We think about others and their feelings before we act.

Each fortnight at our Monday Morning assemblies, we present 2 to 3 children from each learning space with a Pride certificate related to the current Value focus and a coloured band. Whanau should be extremely proud if their child brings one of these home. Children who have also earned pride tickets around school or on the bus also go into a draw to win an ice block.

Well done to all those children who have been caught showing **P R I D E** throughout the year. You have made our school an amazing place to learn and play.