



OTAMA
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Little Footprints - Big Steps

Term 3 Week 2

Newsletter

Friday, 10 August 2018

Principal Report

Kia ora,

Our visit to Waikaia School last Friday was fantastic. We learned about the way that rivers, estuaries, and oceans are related. Over three rotations, we explored ocean creatures and their environment (including handling crabs, kina, sea stars, sea snails, and more!), the way that rivers feed their contents to the ocean, and the delicate climate of estuaries. Following this, we visited the Waikaia stream to undertake a stream study. Otama students are very experienced at this, and it was great to see leadership shown here.

We returned to school with a fresh enthusiasm for our Enviroschools initiatives. Using guidelines provided by Environment Southland, we have begun using a site called *StoryMaps* to continue our environmental journey. In a few months, one local school will be chosen for a funded whole class trip to the Marine Studies centre in Dunedin – this has made us even more enthusiastic!

On Wednesday next week, we will be visited by the Life Education Trust with our old friend Harold the giraffe. We are very lucky to have the chance for Harold to visit us on site next week, as there was a cancellation due to the strike day on Wednesday. Harold will be talking with us about interacting with others and how we can manage tricky situations.

This morning the bark arrived for the new playground – yes indeed! There are currently two huge piles outside Otama Hall. We are planning to shift this over the weekend. Please let me know if you will be available to volunteer your time or equipment for this big job – we're on the home stretch now.

Just a reminder that we are having our Fair Day next Friday. Due to seatbelt regulations, Funshine will not be able to visit us on the bus, so approximately ten students will be coming in their van. We are hoping to greet our visitors at 9.30am, with events until about 10.30am, followed by a BBQ. I will send out an update if these times change. All members of the Otama community are welcome and encouraged to join us for this fun morning. I hope that this will be the beginning of an enjoyable relationship with Funshine... we have already had some discussion regarding other ways that we can work together!

If you know any pre-schoolers in the area, please let me know so that we can invite them. I have produced some flyers with information about Otama School.

Congratulations to...

Sophie, for being an engaged and thoughtful Otama School citizen.

Ella, for being creative and reflective in her learning and thinking.

Have a great weekend,

Samuel Smith



Events Calendar

Tuesday 14 August
Year 7 & 8 Programme (Waikaka)

Wednesday 15 August
Life Ed

Friday 17 August
Playground Opening Day

Tuesday 21 August
Speech Contest - Cluster
St. Peters College (To be confirmed)

**Please contact us, if you know of a three or four bedroom house to rent, for a family who are moving to the area.
Phone 208 1829 thank you.**

Community Events

Southland Hug a Rig Day
11th August 2018 12.30pm to 3.30pm



Celebrating 10 Years of

**Taking people with special needs, & lifelong medical Conditions
For a Ride in a Big Rig, Classic Car or Hot Rod**

Venue: Hokonui Rural Transport, Aparima Street, Gore

For more info: Check out our Facebook page: Southland Hug a Rig
Or Contact Dianne on 032081758 or 0277732700 Email: southlandhugarig@gmail.com