



OTAMA
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Little Footprints - Big Steps

Term 4 Week 9

Newsletter

Monday, 17 December 2018

Principal Report

Kia ora,

Our trip to Dunedin was a great success! We undertook a marine life study, viewed creatures through a super powered microscope, took a ride on a submarine simulator, got up close with lots of critters in the touch tank, and even dissected a shark! Our thanks for the NZ Marine Studies Centre (University of Otago) for being such gracious hosts.

Here is a quote from Dr Sally Carson, who hosted us:

"Otama School excelled in their follow-up and as a result won a trip to the NZ Marine Studies Centre for this effort. In addition to celebrating their local environment through their stream study and creative writing, they did a rubbish survey, wrote to the local council about their concerns, developed short videos about the issues and created a design for their bus shelter to educate others about the local waterways. To address the problem of waste getting into the stream they not only made beeswax food wrap but provide a step by step guide for others to follow their example. Otama schools students ranged in age from 6 to 13 and they all contributed. I encourage you to have a look at their Story Map: <https://arcg.is/LLPr8> We were very impressed with the efforts of Otama School. The students not only raised concerns about the state of their waterway but looked for solutions. I hope that the wider community, Council and other schools follow their lead. During their visit to the NZ Marine Studies Centre they learned about food web and gained science skills for environmental monitoring through a seashore survey. I think there are a number of budding marine scientists in the group!"

Please feel free to use the link (<https://arcg.is/LLPr8>) to view our StoryMap! On our trip, we also managed to have a few rounds of Laser Tag, some swimming and sliding at Moana Pool, and we enjoyed a 3D movie at Otago Museum's Planetarium. Unfortunately, due to a late dinner, we missed out on our trip to the Fire Station, but we are already planning to make up for this next year! Thanks to Mrs Lawrence for helping us at the Marine Studies Centre. Thank you to Xander's family for offering us the fire station tour and support, and to Mrs Kelly, Mrs Pouwhare, Mrs Spikin, and Mrs Vincent for being such great overnight parent supporters.

School starts again on Tuesday 29 January, 2019. We are pleased to announce the appointment of Anna-Marie Baker, who will be teaching for four days per week in 2019. Anna-Marie joins us from Invercargill and will soon be moving up our way in preparation for the new school year. We are excited to be able to offer some engaging innovative practice next year, and I am in the process of applying for additional funding to allow us to increase the acceleration of our students' learning.

It has been a successful year for all of us here at Otama School. I am looking forward to our future together as we continue to grow the school and share our amazing place with the world.

Thank you for welcoming me and supporting our school in 2018.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Samuel Smith

Thank you to the Staff, Board members, Bible in Schools, Volunteers, Groundsmen (Bob Miller and Lex Wohlers) and to the community for all their help and support throughout the year.
Have a safe and happy holiday.

Lisa Vincent (Board Chair).

Events Calendar

Tuesday 29 January
Term 1 - start date

Wednesday 6 February
Waitangi Day

Thursday 28 February
Athletics (Waikaka)

A family are looking for a minimum 2 bedroom house to rent. If you have something available or know of anything, please phone Angus 021 159 5125 or Kayla 027 244 7050, thank you.

Community Events

Gore Multisports Complex Christmas Hours

The ice rink will be open on **Saturdays and Sundays only, 2.00pm – 4.00pm**, from 8 December until Christmas and 5 to 13 January and **CLOSED 24 December 2018 – 4 January 2019**.

The Gore Aquatic Centre and MLT Event Centre Christmas Hours are as follows –

24 December	10.00am – 6.00pm
25 & 26 December	CLOSED
27 – 31 December	10.00am – 6.00pm
1 & 2 January 2019	CLOSED
3 – 6 January	10.00am – 6.00pm
7 January	normal hours resume

Gore Multisports Complex Holiday Programme Registration Form is on the school website www.otama.school.nz



GO PLAY GO NORTH ISLAND

STADIUM FUN
Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday between 14 and 27 January (over 2 weeks)
10.00am – 4.00pm
• Laser Tag: \$10 per person, 20 minutes
• Soccer: \$10 per person, 20 minutes
• SMU Golf driving range: \$3 per person, 20 minutes
Holiday Closures: Above activities can be purchased with a separate discounted ticket under

CRAZY DAYS
Thursday 17 January 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Tuesday 22 January 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Laser tag, madison games, bumper ball, water polo, tag, netball, basketball, soccer
\$29 per child – registration essential

WET 'N' WILD
Tuesday 15 January 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Thursday 24 January 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Water polo, netball, bumper ball, soccer, tag, basketball, soccer
\$29 per child – registration essential

INFLATABLE FUN
Weekdays 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Saturdays and Sundays 1.30pm – 5.00pm
Registration essential

SHARK SWIM CAMP
Powers, techniques, teamwork, in addition and games, with the sharks at the Big Dam.
Enquire for more information – registration essential
Monday 21 January – Tuesday 22 January
10.00am – 2.00pm

SHARK SWIM TRAINING
Monday 7, Wednesday 9, Friday 11 January
9.00am – 10.30am and 2.00pm – 4.30pm
Enquire for more information – registration essential

SKILLS CLINICS
Tuesday 8 January 10.30am – 12.00pm
\$13 per 30 minute session – registration essential
• Basketball: 10.30am – 11.00am
• Netball: 11.00am – 11.30am
• Football: 11.30am – 12.00pm

LEAPING FROGS SWIM SCHOOL
Monday 7 January – Friday 11 January
Learner Swimming: 9.00am – 10.00am
Monday 14 January – Friday 18 January
Learner Swimming
Monday 21 January – Friday 25 January
Learner Swimming
\$45 per child per week* (5 lessons)
*\$10 discount on your second week when booking for two weeks – includes pool entry.
Space now – seats limited!

GORE MULTISPORTS COMPLEX
GORE AQUATIC CENTRE | MILLER GYM TRAINING | GORE SPORTS SOCIAL CLUB
Off Robertson Street, Gore | 03 203 9128 | multisports@gored.govt.nz

Christmas Celebration

Come to a Celebration of Christmas with Margie & Jeff Rea
Saturday 22nd December
Waikaka Sports Complex starting at 7pm
and concluding with supper
Organised by Knapdale Waikaka
Presbyterian Church



Free Family-Friendly

MOVIE

THE STAR
THE STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

SBS St James Theatre
21 December | 2pm
Optional donation for Tear Fund's "Room at the Inn" Christmas Appeal for Syrian Refugees