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Calendar Corner

06 Feb - Waitangi Day holiday

14 Feb - Board of Trustees monthly meeting
7:00pm at Ohaeawai School, in staffroom

21 Feb - Parent information evening

Tuesdays: **Toys Day**

Wednesdays: **Wheels Day**

Fridays: **School Banking:
Westpac & ASB**



2012 Term Dates

Term 1: 01 Feb. - 05 Apr.

Term 2: 23 Apr. - 29 Jun.

Term 3: 16 Jul. - 28 Sep.

Term 4: 15 Oct. - 14 Dec.



Wednesday Wheels and Tuesday toys day

Children are able to bring their toys to school on Tuesdays and their wheels toys, bikes, scooters skateboards, unicycles etc on Wednesday. Children must take responsibility for their own items and must wear the appropriate safety gear as required by their parents.

Swimming – You will have all seen the recent publicity about the high number of drownings that have happened in NZ over the past year. Swimming is part of the curriculum at Ohaeawai School so we would appreciate you ensuring that your children have their togs and a towel at school each day. Please send a note along to school if your child needs to be excused from fitness or swimming.

Attendance – Attendance and punctuality is a major school target again this year. Research shows that poor attendance plays a major part in the progress that children make during the year. It is important that children attend school every day unless they are sick. Our own research supports this also. The children at our school who made the least amount of progress were those who had inconsistent or poor attendance during the year. Please phone the school if your child is absent as we are required to keep a record of the reasons children are absent from school. Continual and unexplained absences from school are referred to the District Truancy Office.

Nga mihi nui kia koutou katoa. Greetings everyone.

It is my pleasure to welcome all our children back to school for 2012. I hope you all had a good holiday. It was great to see so many happy faces yesterday as children arrived at school. A special welcome also to the many new children who have started this week: Kate & Jessica Jack, Neve & Stella Saville-Burley, Haylee Thompson, Mai An & Elijah Symons, Ammon & Kayah Wihongi, Krystene & William Chambers, William Phillips, Lake Young, Lucy Morrison, Mia Williams, Kodi Chamberlain, Mekayla Slade, Cyprus Apiata, Zairus Foley. We hope you enjoy your time at Ohaeawai School. Please do not hesitate to pop in and see me or your child's teacher if you have any queries or concerns. Our aim is to ensure that all our children have the very best learning opportunities and experiences.

This year we are pleased to welcome Mr Ned Symons to our school. He will be teaching in Room 7 for part of each day while Mrs Clarke teaches four reading recovery children. He will also be working in other classes though out the school during the mornings.

We are also pleased to welcome Miss Leah Tuckey who is a student teacher from the University of Auckland. She will be working alongside Cara Ritchie in Room 4 for the first few weeks of the term.

School Values and Mission Statement – This is the focus for all classes for this term. **“To Be The Best I Can Be”** and the values on the school ladder at the front of the school will be discussed in each class. Each week one of the values will be the focus for the week. Please ask your children about this.

School Organisation for 2012:

Principal - Mrs Lee Whitelaw; Executive Officer – Maureen Martin;
Cleaner – Pam Tane; Teacher Aides – Ken Edwards, Liz Christensen, Liz Jordan;
Oscar Supervisors – Matilda Allen, Gloria Hemopo, and Emma Matia;
Room 1 Year 5 & 6 Trish Brajkovich; Room 2 Year 5 & 6 Sarah Ruawai;
Room 8 Year 5 & 6 Alicia Craig; Room 3 Year 1 Raewyn Ritchie;
Room 4 Year 3 Cara Ritchie; Room 5 Year 2 Liz Ross;
Room 6 Year 4 Nicola Bew; Room 7 Year 1 & 2 Carmen Clarke and Ned Symons

As we have extra staffing this year we have organised the year 5 & 6 classes slightly different as is explained in Alicia (Room 8)'s part of the newsletter. We are hoping that by doing this we can provide some exciting learning opportunities for all the year 5 & 6 children during the year, especially in the ICT area. For more information regarding this organisation please talk to Alicia or Lee.

Parents Information Evening – This is planned for Tuesday 21st February. Please keep this date free as we would love as many parents as possible to attend so that we can give you an update on the teaching and learning in each class. We will send further details home next week. We will also be discussing the planned ski trip in the year 5 & 6 classes at this time.

School Discipline Plan – All children are expected to “Be the Best They Can Be” paying particular attention to the values on the school ladder.

They will always be: Reliable; Responsible; Respectful; Honest; Caring; Trustworthy. When these values are not followed with the appropriate actions certain consequences will follow:

- The discipline room** operates from 12:15pm – 12:50pm Monday – Friday. Children go to the discipline room at 12 o'clock where they eat their lunch on the steps, or to the courtyard area outside the staffroom. Each class has a notebook which the children take to the discipline room with an explanation of why they are there.
- Children are supervised in the discipline room** by a teacher as they reflect on their actions and how they have affected themselves and others in the school.
- Incidences requiring children** to go to the discipline room are recorded in the guidance section of E-tap (electronic teaching assessment planning).
- Parents are contacted by either** the class teacher or the Principal if the behaviour continues

Rm 1 Yrs 5 & 6 Mrs Brajkovich

Well, here we are again at the beginning of another year! It's great to see all the children again and it sounds as if they have all had amazing summer holidays! Already our class is showing they are an awesome bunch of students.

This week we have been learning about proper nouns and how to use them correctly when we are writing personal stuff like addresses and the names of our family members and pets.

We are happy to welcome three new students to our class. They are Kodi Chamberlain, Krystene Chambers and Mai An Symons. They are settling into class really well.

It's going to be an action-packed year so watch this space!

Rm 8 Yrs 5 & 6 Mrs Craig

Tena koutou katoa

Welcome back to school for 2012. I hope everyone had a great holiday - sounds like the children had fun. Room 8 is going to be known as the Wired for Learning Classroom as children will be using a variety of technologies for learning. The class programme includes all parts of the curriculum but all the work is done using computers. All children in Year 5 and 6 will get 2 five week sessions with me in Room 8.

We will be swimming on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and occasionally Fridays for the first term. Swimming is a very important part of the school curriculum so they need to bring their togs everyday. If your child is unwell or unable to swim for some reason please send along a note.

As this week is very short homework will start next week.

Rm 2 Yrs 5 & 6 Mrs Ruawai

Welcome back everyone. It's lovely to see all the smiling, enthusiastic students arriving at our wonderful school bright and early!

Everyone has obviously had a restful, enjoyable break and ready to learn!

It's great to have the opportunity to teach seniors again after a long time in juniors. I am so looking forward to the year ... including the famous ski trip!!!!

Remember you are still always welcome into room 2 at any time, we love having you visit us! (even if we are all grown up seniors!!!!)

Ohaeawai Playcentre is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:45am - 12:45pm. All sessions are free for 0 - 5 years old. You are most welcome to come and join us on Hobson St (on the way to Ohaeawai School).



Rm 6 Yr 4 Miss Nicola

Hi there everyone. It's so wonderful to see all of you so keen to start school again. A huge welcome to our new student Stella who is finding it easy to settle into Room 6 because all the children are so caring and friendly.

Our normal routine will start Tuesday so expect reading, basic facts and spelling to come home to practice during the week.

Please organize their stationery so they can start work in their exercise books.

Please remember to bring togs every day as our focus is on improving swimming style and stamina, and we need to practice to be safer in the water

Rm 3 NE/Yr 1 Mrs Ritchie

It was lovely to see all the smiling faces and eager children yesterday. We had a good day and all the children are learning what they need to do to be the best they can be in our school.

Yesterday I sent home their stationery list in their bags. Each day we will be swimming so all the children need to bring their togs and towels in a plastic bag.

I have sent reading books home with your child. Please read them a few times with them and then these books must be sent back to school the next day or your child will not get a new book to take home. Your child needs to learn 40 words in the first 4 months of school so we need to start learning these from week one. The words for this week are: **I a am** please go over these this week with your child. They will be tested on Monday. They will get new words each week as well as the words they didn't get right from the previous week. I will put these in the newsletter on a Thursday. When they get their books one book will be for spelling. New words for next week are **is at the**.

On the 21st of Feb we are having a parent meeting. If you have any queries just pop in or call me. Looking forward to an enjoyable fun year with your children.

Rm 4 Yr 3 Miss Ritchie

Tena koutou katoa

Its great to be back at school and see all the children again.

We are also happy to welcome Kayah Wihongi to our class. She is settling in nicely along with all the others.

I sent stationary lists home yesterday with your children.

We have started swimming so your child needs their togs, a towel and a swimming bag.

Rm 5 Yr 2 Ms Ross

Welcome back. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday.

This year we have a straight Year 2 class and we have started off with 22 students. We would like to welcome Mekayla Slade and Elijah Symons to Ohaeawai School and to Room 5.

Stationery lists have been given out and it would be appreciated if these could be paid for as soon as possible.

We have started our reading programme already so if your child still has their book bag at home please send it along as they will not be able to bring home their readers without it.

Swimming has started and it was good to see everyone with their swimming gear yesterday.

Rm 7 Yr 1 & 2 Mrs Clarke & Mr Symons

Welcome back to all families and children for another year at school. We would like to welcome William Phillips, who is new to Ohaeawai School. We hope you had a lovely holiday. In Room 7 this year we have Mrs Carmen Clarke who will teach in the mornings till 11.30 and Mr Ned Symons who will teach from 11.30 till home time. We also have Liz Jordan who will be working in the mornings as teacher aide.

The children will be swimming most days with Mr Symons, so please send their togs every day to make the most of the fine weather. We have started our reading groups this week, although there will be some changes over the next few weeks in levels and groups. Please make sure you send your child to school with a book bag every day. Next week we will also be sending home spelling homework.

If you have any suitable old magazines at home we would love to use them at school