

Omanu School Newsletter



Effective learners and communicators who interact positively within a supportive environment.

Principal's Chat

"Homework" can be somewhat of a battleground or a source of frustration. It does not have to be - and should not be.

"Homework" set at primary school reinforces and supports the day to day learning at school. Activities that may help reading skills, the learning of basic facts in Maths, Spelling, the completion of a piece of work, the gathering of ideas or resources for study topics will form the basis of this requirement. Homework reinforces good work habits and independent learning. Time spent on this will depend upon a child's level of development and should not intrude upon your own family requirements at the end of a busy day! Getting outside to play and regular 'helping out' with jobs around your home are as important in families as they ever were!

Rex Allott Principal

Junior School Homework (Yr 1-3 Classes)

The work your child brings home supports their learning at school. Choose a time (10 - 15 minutes) that you can work together in a relaxed environment. Reading will be brought home regularly - this may be a reader, poem or a library book. Spend time *reading to and with* your child, ask them to retell the story to show their understanding. Spelling, alphabet learning and basic facts may also be sent home. Make homework time a positive learning experience, talking, listening, thinking and developing ideas together. Have fun - enjoy your child's learning!

Senior School Homework (Yr 4-6 Classes)

All homework should reflect class learning programmes. You can support your child by asking questions about current learning and by creating a positive homework habit for no longer than 20 minutes. Ideally a non-hectic time away from tv etc. Regular time spent on learning weekly spelling lists, practicing maths basic facts, and daily reading for leisure are key ways to creating a homework routine. In particular asking your child to retell, using detail, is important whether they are reading to you or reading independently. This will give you a good indication of their level of understanding and ability to verbalise it which helps ensure they are reading books that are appropriate for them.

On occasion homework may include 'finishing off' tasks to ensure students are ready for the next day's programme.

Meet and Greet

Last evening (Wednesday) there was an opportunity to meet teachers and Board of Trustees - and other parents at a 'Meet and Greet' occasion. You will have also received class and syndicate 'newsletters' outlining systems and expectations for children which will ensure that their time at school is focused on their learning. It is important that you make yourself familiar with this information so that together we provide the best support we can, for all children.

Term One: Calendar of Events

- 16 Feb Meet & Greet Meeting - 7.00pm
- 22 Feb Omanu School Support Group Meeting 7.00pm
- 3 Mar BOT Meeting - 7.00pm
- Parents 'Pre-school' Info Meeting 2.00pm (Staffroom)
- 8,9 Mar Parent Teacher Interviews
- 16 Mar Class & Individual Photos
- 4 Apr BOT Meeting - 7.00pm

Term One ends on Friday 15 April

Term Two commences Monday 2 May

2010 Term Dates	
Term One	2 May - 15 Jul
Term Two	1 Feb - 15 Apr
Term Three	1 Aug - 7 Oct
Term Four	25 Oct - 14 Dec

School Assemblies

Full School Assemblies are usually held each fortnight from 11.50am - 12.30pm on a Friday. As well as addressing school organisation needs, we endeavour to 'celebrate' children's learning as most of these. Parents are most welcome to attend. To date 'celebration' assemblies are scheduled for:

- Friday: 25 Feb (Yr 5/6); 11 March (Yr 2);
- 25 March (Yr 2); 8 April (Yr 3)

Parent - Teacher Interviews

These will take place in Week 6 (Tues/Wed 8,9 March) Class teachers will be able to share some information about your child's learning and be able to set learning goals which will be revisited during the year.

Omanu School Support Group

Our parents support group aims to help the school in a variety of ways throughout the year, co-ordinating such things as fund raising to contribute to designated projects, organising meetings/speakers about educational topics, school social events, extra curricular activities for children eg. discos, sports events, fostering help for class and school teaching programmes and organising the lunch and banking schemes. The school asks you to get involved where you can. our ideas, comments and opinions are needed to keep the momentum going! If you cannot get to the meetings we ask parents to offer their help where they can, as projects are undertaken. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday 22 Feb.

School Newsletters

Our school newsletter is usually sent home each fortnight on a THURSDAY with the eldest child in your family. It is our main way of 'communicating' school activities and issues, so please have a system for 'getting to it'. You may have to dig deep into the school bag to find it - but we encourage the children to put it on the lbench when they get home - minus the bits of left over sandwich! Good luck. (Our newsletter is also posted on our website). We hope to provide an option of E-mailing these to you from the beginning of Term 2.

School Lunches

Monday / Wednesday / Friday
These need to be ordered by the 8.55am - school bell as orders have to be sent to the supplier promptly. Chicken, tuna or salmon sushi are available on Wednesdays (combination pack is no longer available). All orders need to be written on a named envelope with money enclosed.

School Banking

This has started - on Wednesdays. Banking is collected in the classroom and taken to the Library. Start up forms can be obtained in the Library before school.

Communication

At the beginning of each year procedures for raising concerns are shared with you in order to ensure clear communication when necessary. Schools are very 'people orientated places'! At Omanu we currently have 484 children, a staff of 40 and 390 families. It is therefore almost inevitable that now and then issues arise that need to be clarified, 'sorted', addressed, resolved. Therefore each year we remind parents that the Board of Trustees has a Policy that outlines guidelines for addressing concerns or making complaints. A copy of this is included in our 'Information Folder'

issued on enrolment. Copies are always available from the school office. Following these procedures will ensure that your concerns are addressed in the most appropriate manner. It will also mean that we focus on the facts of the matter causing concern. Most day to day issues can be discussed and resolved directly with the Classroom Teachers at an appropriate time (after school is usually the best time.) As Principal of the school I would like to make it very clear that I am available at all times to discuss issues with you and / or clarify matters of School Policy and organisation. Do not hesitate to contact me - you can make an appointment through the office.

Biking to School

Given today's busy roads and traffic conditions around the school our school guideline for road safety is that ONLY Year 5/6 children are permitted to ride their bikes to school. Younger children need to be fully supervised by an adult both to and from school. This guideline is supported and endorsed by the N.Z. Police. All bikes left at school need to be locked securely in the bike stands provided and are not to be ridden in the school grounds at any time.

Weetbix 'Tryathlon'

This event for children takes place at Memorial Park, Tauranga on Sunday March 27 at 9 am. Entry forms and details can be obtained from Mr. Hefferen. After school training sessions are being arranged.
[http:// tryathlon.weetbix.co.nz](http://tryathlon.weetbix.co.nz)

Sun-Smart

Given the hot sunny weather we are having it is important to reinforce good practices.

- wear the floppy hat out in the sun
- get your sun-block organised
- drink plenty of water to help stay cool (water bottle)
- rest up in the shade areas if you are hot.

As a school we reinforce the messages at school assemblies and in classes.

Thank You

Graham Smith for the donation to our ICT area, and Paul Salmon for the donation of sunscreen.

Community Notices

Mt Maunganui Music School Enrolments 23 Feb, 3.30 at Mt College Rm A3 (bus bay area) - recorder, flute, clarinet, sax, violin, guitar, keyboard. Ph 575 4389 or 021 2701604 hullmusurf@kinect.co.nz

Wanted Maths Tutor Yr 4 Ph 574 5528

RSA (Mount) Chess Club Mondays 6 - 7.15 Ph 575 5845

Junior Touch Starts Wed 16 Feb 4pm Blake Park Yrs 1-8 Ph 575 3429 or 027 5757585



Michael & Andrew
Luker

574 3827

U-Save Investments

Charles Tomlinson

Financial Adviser

575 3654

A disclosure statement is available, on request & free of charge

Mount Maunganui Dance Academy



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