

the Ōākura Post

JUNE 2022

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

MAYORAL COMMENT

For years the old Barrett Street Hospital site has sat empty and decaying but there is light at the end of the tunnel, and could it signal a change in the way we work with Wellington?

The government has finally completed the removal of the contaminated soil and rubble onsite, leaving just the heritage-listed former nurses' home. We had to battle with Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) to get them to fund a comprehensive clean-up of the seven-hectare site. But we came to an arrangement which led to the other buildings being demolished and around 7000 tonnes of soil and rubble being removed, much of it with low levels of asbestos and lead contamination.

Te Atiawa has the first right of refusal to purchase the site from the Crown under its Treaty of Waitangi settlement. The alternative is the Crown placing the site on the open market. But the dilapidated old nurses' home, with its heritage protection, complicates the site and it may still be years before it is developed, if ever. Developers know there are significant risks in seeking to have heritage listings removed and many in our community will object to any change which facilitates demolition.

People across the country have fond memories of times-gone-by at the old nurses' home, and despair at the loss of heritage architecture across our district making way for the stark minimalist features of contemporary design. But while they will object to a demolition order they won't be prepared to contribute to the massive cost and risk to restore the nurses' home and will instead

advocate for the status quo; a dangerous and derelict ruin destined to eventually collapse as the forces of nature and years of vandalism take their toll.

It's a conversation likely to play out similarly just up the road at the old **New Plymouth prison**. The iconic stone wall around what was New Zealand's oldest operating prison is also heritage listed, while it's fair to say the memories of those who lived there are unlikely to be as fond as their nursing counterparts up the road. Again Te Atiawa has the first right of refusal on the prison but the heritage listing compromises the ability of a developer to fully realise the site's potential. And so again, it sits unused, close to the heart of our city. It may be years before any development takes place on the site and I couldn't help thinking how what was once a home for those who fell foul of the law might someday become a place for good.

We know **New Plymouth Community Foodbank** is looking for a new home and cannot afford to pay a commercial lease for the kind of space it needs to meet growing demand. With no clear plans for the prison in the short term, the site might at least provide an interim solution for a year or two until a longer term answer for Foodbank can be found.

If Te Atiawa choose not to purchase the prison, it has the potential to become a significant **community services hub**, with close proximity to the CBD, parking and a range of buildings which all appear to be in a useable condition. Government knows it needs to work more collaboratively with communities and local government post covid and be more creative



in solving problems, particularly relating to supporting volunteer organisations and vulnerable members of our communities. Making old empty sites available for community use until such time as their long term future is determined costs Government nothing but could help solve significant problems on the ground immediately. The fact it hasn't been done in the past isn't an excuse for not innovating now. We've demonstrated through the clearance of the Barrett Street Hospital site that NPDC can work constructively with Land Information NZ.

We've had some early discussions with Te Atiawa, Foodbank and New Plymouth MP Glen Bennett to understand plans and requirements and are a long way off from doing any deal but, given the increasingly urgent need to find a home for Foodbank and the fact we can not allow it to fail, it is worth exploring options about how local and central government can work together with iwi to see if we can make more good things happen in our community.

Neil Holdom, New Plymouth District Mayor

Kaitake Community Board

The year seems to be just whizzing by with the mornings getting darker, the evenings getting cooler, leaves starting to die off and drop from the trees and local winter sports getting into full swing. It feels like Christmas was only yesterday, but here we are with Easter and Anzac Day having been and gone already.

In addition to the Chair of the Kaitake Community Board, one of the other hats I wear is that of President of the New Plymouth & Districts Returned and Services Association. RSAs across the country held their annual Poppy sales and street appeal throughout the month of April, and all the funds from that appeal are used to provide welfare support for current and retired military veterans, their spouses and their dependant children. This Poppy appeal is the only source of income the RSA has to fund the welfare support provided, so on behalf of all those veterans across the country, a massive 'Thank You' to everyone of you who gave so generously to this appeal.

Now, on to community matters:

An issue that has been brought to my attention is a periodic problem with the quality of the Ōākura water supply in relation to taste and mineral deposits in the water supply staining porcelain fittings in homes – particularly following peak water use periods.

In order to get a feel for the full extent of this problem please notify me or one of the other members of the KCB if you have noticed a reduction in the quality of our local water supply so we can work on getting the matter resolved.



The timetable for the Local Body Elections in October has been published, and the key dates and times in relation to the election are as follows:

Nominations Open	Friday 15 July
Nominations Close	Noon, Friday 12 August
Voting Packs Delivered	from Friday 16 September
Voting Closes	Noon, Saturday 8 October
Official Results Released	Thursday 13 October

Be sure to vote to have your say in who will represent you and your community for the next three years.

Finally, COVID is still pretty rampant out around the community, so please protect yourselves and your whanau and look out for one another.

Kia noho haumarū, a tangohia tiaki tātou katoa, Stay safe, and take care everyone

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held on Monday 27 June at the Ōākura Bowling Club at 5pm

Graham Chard (027 220 4549, thechardz@gmail.com) on behalf of Paul Coxhead, Paul Veric, Renee Hohaia and Amanda Clinton-Gohdes (the Councillor representative on the KCB)



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A small team of dedicated locals have been working for almost a year to retain a community sport facility for the Kaitake district, developing a project that will see the clubrooms at Corbett Park refurbished and protected for future generations.

The clubrooms have fallen into disrepair with work and funding required to make them fit for use and meet today's safety standards beyond any single organisation. The Kaitake Community Sports Hub Inc. (KCSH) was formed to bring clubs together to provide a framework that ensures the project is both achievable and sustainable. KCSH incorporates Kaitake Rugby Club, Kaitake Football Club and Oakura Cricket Club while the Oakura Junior Sports Club is an associate member.

As part of the Kaitake community since 1894, when the rugby club was formed, and with football growing over recent years, including a women's team this year, there are over 550 individual members playing, coaching, and administering sport at Corbett Park.

The fact that sport connects our people is clearly evident on Saturday mornings with junior sport bringing parents and whanau to the sidelines at Corbett Park. The wider community gathers there on Saturday afternoons supporting our teams and building the social fabric of our community. However,

this is not just about rugby, football, cricket, and other sports, it is about providing a facility fit for wider community use – providing for the physical and social health and wellbeing of our community.

KCSH has worked with Council, Kaitake Community Board, PKW, Ngati Tairi and funding organisations and have secured over \$430,000 to date towards the project estimated at \$750,000. We would like to acknowledge the support of NZCT and Toi and are grateful to Boon, Nagel Consulting and Bruce the Builder Ltd for their commitment in providing the work needed to create a viable project and becoming our first Gold Foundation Partners.

Through this support we now have 'game on' and are ready to launch to the Kaitake community. You can find out more on the KCSH website www.kcsh.co.nz and, importantly, join up and become part of this exciting community project. You can also contact KCSH by emailing kcsh45@gmail.com

There are options for both Foundation Partners and Foundation Members and your contribution will be forever recognised inside the clubrooms.

Help us in providing for the physical and social health and wellbeing of our Kaitake community.

Become a part of this project by signing up as a KCSH Foundation Member or Foundation Partner on the KCSH website. Your individual, family or business name will appear on Foundation Member & Partner Boards in the new clubrooms, forever recognising your contribution to the future of the Kaitake community and district.

Foundation Membership is available as:

GOLD MEMBER \$1000

SILVER MEMBER \$500

BRONZE MEMBER \$250

Or become a Foundation Partner which is available as either donation, sponsorship (GST) or value in kind services:

GOLD PARTNER \$10,000

SILVER PARTNER \$5000

BRONZE PARTNER \$2,500

See details on their website:

www.kcsh.co.nz

or phone 027 563 8000

MATARIKI PUBLIC HOLIDAY

The first public holiday to celebrate Matariki will be on Friday 24 June 2022. The Government has committed to ensuring mātauranga Maori is at the heart of celebrations of the Matariki public holiday, and it will be a time for: Remembrance – Honouring those we have lost since the last rising of Matariki.



Fergus, Sheldon, Roger & Ross work up a sweat on their Senior Firefighters course

Ōākura Fire Brigade Update

Kia ora koutou katoa.

The brigade is feeling the heat at the moment with five 'newly minted' senior firefighters in the ranks now making sure that when we train, we are training to the high standards and procedures set by FENZ (Fire and Emergency NZ). It's always a buzz to get firefighters back from courses. Whether it's seniors or recruits, there are always new techniques and tactics to pass on to the rest of the crew to ensure that our firemanship stays sharp.

Do you have a fireplace at home? You are probably thinking how nice it will be to warm your toes by it in the very near future. Before you whip those socks off we'd like you to think about when the last time was that you had your chimney swept. **Did you know that it is recommended to have your chimney swept at least every two years?** It's not unusual for the build up in your flue or chimney to catch alight and heat the surrounding roof and ceiling areas of your home. If it has been a while, it might be worth calling your local sweep.

Ōākura Library

NEW TO OUR SHELVES:

Recent releases of NZ fiction

'The Fish' by Lloyd Jones,

'The Leonard Girls' by Deborah

Challinor, 'Remember Me' by Charity

Norman 'Harbouring' by Jenny

Patrick.

Recent releases of NZ non-fiction

'The Bookseller at the End of the

World' by Ruth Shaw.

'The Boy from Gorge River': from

New Zealand's remotest family to the

world beyond' by Chris Long.

'How to Be a Calm Parent'

by Sarah Ockwell-Smith and 'Zen and

'The Art of Saving the Planet'

by Thich Nhat Hanh are guides to

achieving more harmony in our lives.

Regular events:

Join us for crackerjacks, pre-school story time on Thurs 2nd June at 10am

Justice of the Peace

Every Thurs 10am-12:30pm

Ōākura Book group meets at the

library Thurs 30th June

7:00pm-9:30pm - Come and join other

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environment.

Happy reading,

Clare, Vincenza, Lucy and Rebecca

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Your donation could win you a free meal!

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Dine + Donate

Share some kai and support our kura!

13TH TO 19TH
JUNE, 2022

Four Square new owner - Jayde Cunliffe

There has been a change of owners at the Four Square in Ōākura. On April 4 Jayde Cunliffe and Rikii-Lee finally completed a lengthy change of ownership process and greeted their first customers. I recently caught up with Jayde to find out a little more.

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I was born in Auckland and had lived on the North Shore all my life in Browns Bay. When I finished school I did an apprenticeship in baking as I have a huge passion for fresh foods and products. I have always worked in Foodstuffs stores and have worked in all areas of the business, baker and Department Manager and then on to Store Management and trainee operator.

When did you take over the Four Square?

I took ownership on the 4th April 2022. I have inherited an amazing team of people and I want to continue to support the community and create a legacy at Ōākura Four Square.

Why the Ōākura Four Square?

The store came up for sale when Auckland was in Alert Level 4 with border restrictions. I couldn't visit the store to view it but I asked anyone I came into contact with what it was like, and they told me it was a great place to live with an awesome community that supports one another. I jumped at the opportunity to be a part of this and I am so thankful I was chosen to be the approved operator.

I know it's early days, but how is it going?

I am really enjoying myself, getting to know my team and understanding the needs of the community. Honestly you couldn't ask for a better community to be a part of.

Jayde was featured in a Stuff article in 2019.

You can read more by visiting www.stuff.co.nz/business/industries/118015133/rising-to-the-top-in-retail-at-foodstuffs



Rikii-Lee (left) and Jayde are loving meeting and serving the community

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MORNING TEA - MORNING TALK

Morning Talk coffee group is taking a break while covid 19 is spreading throughout the country.
It will resume when it feels right to gather again. Any enquiries can be made through Tracey 752 7875.



Back row to front row and Left to Right: Jared Coster, Jack Feaver, Jacob Whittle, Karl Watson, Ben Nelson, Louie Newton, Brooke Sim, Isla Robinson, Erica Thompson, Zoe Honeyfield, George Newton, Lachie Stevens, Rhys Clark, Ellis Dinnison, Joanna Harrison, Sienna Watson, Ruby Newton

That's a wrap for the 2021/22 Season

With most of the big events being cancelled because of Covid, IRBs were lucky to have both the North Island Championships and Nationals go ahead.

With a timely drop from the red to orange traffic light, the BP Surf Rescue North Island Championships at Waihi went ahead as a 'normal' carnival, NPOB taking three IRB crews and leaving in 7th place overall.

Congratulations to the following crews who took home the medals:

Isla Robinson & Ellie Dinnison	3rd	U19
Female Single Rescue		
Isla Robinson & Ellie Dinnison	3rd	U19
Female Tube Rescue		
Jacob Whittle & Jack Feaver	1st	U19
Male Tube Rescue		
Jacob Whittle & Jack Feaver	1st	U19
Male Single Rescue		
Jacob Whittle & Jack Feaver	1st	U19
Male Assembly Rescue		

With a couple of curveballs the week prior with team members coming down with Covid and a last minute change of venue to Mahia due

to too much rain and affected water quality, the team, this time with seven crews, headed off to Gisborne for the BP Surf Rescue NZ Championships. The team did amazing with all crews being super competitive. Congrats to those who brought home a medal. The competition was tough so to bring home a medal was a massive achievement, NPOB finishing overall in 8th place.

Well done to Jacob Whittle and Jack Feaver for being selected for the NZ High Performance Development Squad.

Congratulations to the following crews who took home National medals:

Jacob Whittle & Jack Feaver	2nd	U19
Male Single Rescue		
Louie Newton & George Newton	3rd	U19
Male Single Rescue		
Jacob Whittle & Jack Feaver	1st	U19
Male Mass Rescue		
Jacob Whittle & Jack Feaver	2nd	U19
Male Tube Rescue		
Zoe Honeyfield & Erica Thompson	3rd	U23
Female Tube Rescue		

Our season finished up with prize giving at the end of April. Thanks to everyone who came out to celebrate and to everyone who helped make the 21/22 season a success. Sponsors, parents, grandparents, officials, lifeguards, our incredible coaches, our exec and junior surf committees and of course our athletes. Congratulations!

The top junior awards awarded to:

DUNLOP-BARRETT CUP
- Overall Junior Club Person
Erina Gilchrist

EATON CUP - Most Promising Junior
Darcy O'Sullivan

The top senior awards awarded to:

CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR
Dean Spicer

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
Hailey Ander-Foster

The flags have been put away for the winter but our lifeguards are still volunteering and training. Kate Sousa and Ruby Shearer completed the Intermediate Guard School at Waipatiki end of April. The camp is designed to develop and enhance junior lifeguards and covers search and rescue, rock rescues, board rescues, leadership, scanning and first aid scenarios.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page, NPOB Surf Club, for what is happening over the winter months. And for those still in the water, stay safe.



Vaughan Garrett – the man behind the scenes not only for NPOB by SLSNZ



2021 NEW ZEALAND MEN'S INTERPROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS Taranaki Golf



A golf course is not the place to try out new car tricks. Damage done by two cars on the fairway.

Kaitake Golf Club News

MENS REPORT:

The Men have finished Strokeplay and after three rounds the final results are:

Winners:

Senior - Joseph Doyle
Intermediate - Geoff Farrant
Juniors - Miller Ferguson
Limits - Ian Frame

Well done to all the boys. Our Club Championship Matchplay begins on the 11th June.

We have had the Harry Blyde Trophy Cup which was a fund raising tournament run by Taranaki Port. It was a very successful day and well represented by Port employees and friends.

Great results from our Taranaki representatives at the 2021 NZ Mens Interprovincial Tournament. Well done to our Naki boys.

A huge congratulations also to our young Junior member, Jack Van Prehn, who achieved the following in the school holidays:

1. Part of a 4 junior Taranaki team that won the Quad Series at Marton Golf Course, against Wellington, Manawatu/Whanganui and Hawkes Bay. Three of the team, Jack,

Brodie Ferguson and Liam Harvey are all Kaitake Members.

2. 2nd placing in the U19 division of the Manawatu/Wanganui Age Groups at Rangitikei Course.
3. 8th placing in the U16 South Island Age Group Championships
4. 6th placing at the 54 hole Auckland Stroke Play at Windross Farm Golf Course. Very strong field with 1 handicap index just to qualify. Taranaki local Sam Jones won the event, and Jack got to play in the final pairing group alongside Sam on the last day, thanks in part to a 9 under, 63 round, which included 4 birdies and an eagle (2 eagles in the round) on the final 5 holes. Other rounds were a 71 and 72.

Well done Jack and Kaitake, we are very proud of your achievements.

Roger Cloke Club Captain

LADIES REPORT:

Our Pennant Teams are still going well with all three teams sharing the top of the table, a great start to the season. A reminder that full results can be seen on the Taranaki Women's

Golf Facebook page and on the Taranaki Golf website under 2022 Women's Pennant Results.

Maskelyn Trophy winners: Donna Sharpe and Sharon Fisher

Cleaver Challenge winners: Sharon Fisher, Jenny Ross and Diane Honeyfield, Ladies Vice Club Captain

TARANAKI VETS GOLF:

All golfers aged 50 and over may join the Taranaki Vets Golf. Call Denise at the office 06 7527665

CHIPPERS:

Chippers have started for the year every 2nd Sunday at 9.30am so if you are interested please phone the office. New players are always very welcome. Chippers ages range from 5 – 12 years. Clubs, balls and coaching are provided.

FIREWOOD

We still have dry pine firewood for sale at the golf club so if anyone is interested please call Denise at the office 06 7527665.

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A new face at Green School New Zealand

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Admissions and Enrolment Advisor, Andres Ardila.

Andres and his partner recently moved to Taranaki from Palmerston North, to join the Green School community. Hailing from the magical coffee land of Columbia, Andres is here to help new and interested Green School families navigate the process of enrolment, while also hosting regular campus tours. As a self-described explorer, his international education experience has taken him to three different continents where he has enjoyed learning about history, culture and food.

If you see Andres around the community, please give him a wave and join us in sharing what our amazing village, and region, has to offer.



Regular Campus Tours

Every Friday afternoon / 3.30pm–4.30pm

Andres will be hosting regular campus tours every Friday over the Autumn and Winter months.

If you're interested in taking a campus tour, meeting staff, and having an open conversation about how Green School is approaching education, please head to the Events section on our website and book your tour.

All are welcome.

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The Ōākura Boardriders Club has had a big season with not only our own surfing events but also in offering the club up as a hireable venue for a wide range of occasions. Many will nod to the hearty good times and hangover of a 30th, 40th , 60th or 75th birthday party they attended which in turn has livened up the Tasman Parade with soothing bass lines into the evening. Simply put - the club location to gather with friends and enjoy a few beverages on sunset is hard to beat...a top-notch fun-vortex...just make sure you have a water in between those two slushies...

Well done and great surfing to the OBC club team who shot across to Whangamata earlier this month for the NZ Inter-Club surfing championships, meeting up with Clubs from Raglan, Northland, Gisborne Coromandel and more. The crew had a mint weekend with fun waves and plenty of good ol' comp drama...where were the judges looking when one of our star surfers locked in an incredible second wave ride that would have seen him into the next round? We ended up 5th overall but had the most fun!...Just warming up for next year...

Thanks to our club surfers who attended the Surf Rescue Course last week which strengthens our local capacity, along with the Surf Life Saving team, to respond more effectively and confidently when things don't go quite so well out there. We encourage everyone to keep an eye out on the ocean. If you understand rip currents and spot someone potentially heading towards a spot of bother make a move to either warn them or find someone who is confident to swim or paddle out on a craft to check out the situation.

Stay close to source, cheers OBC



Pictured from left to right: Martin Barlock and his son Tristan, Luke Florence, Jonno Watts, Kalani Watts, Ariana Shewry, Drew Florence, Nate Florence, Tommy Butland, Eli smith.



Ōmata Community Hall AED TRAINING

There is now an AED device located at the Ōmata Community Hall (Ōmata School).

On Thursday 30th June, at 5.30pm, Karen Mcleod will be at the hall to provide training on basic CPR, and how to access and use the AED. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The AED has been kindly donated by the Department of Medicine Charitable Trust.

Driftwood Corner JOKE

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Ōākura Bowling & Social Club

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Craig Murray took the honours in final club championship with victory in the Junior Singles over a gallant Ross Buttimore 21-12. Murray claimed back-to-back titles in a game played in great spirit and of exceptional quality, a credit to both players. A special mention goes to 1st year bowler Ross Buttimore who played some great bowls in making the final.

CHAMPS OF CHAMPS

It was a mixed bag of success for the Ōākura teams in the Taranaki Champions of Champions playoffs. The Ōākura triples of Wayne Robinson, Bruce Jackson and Paddy Mullin lost in a closely fought first-round match while the pairs of Peter Radich and Andy Shearer had a much better day on the green in reaching the last four. It was a great result for Radich and Shearer who played great bowls to beat a strong Tower duo in the first round, only to fall just short of a finals spot when defeated by a very talented Paritutu side in the semi-finals. Well done guys.

CLUB NEWS

The AGM for the Ōākura Bowling and Social Club will take place at 1.30pm on Sunday 26TH June. Club awards will follow the AGM along with prize giving, club acknowledgements and refreshments.

My highlights for the season would be the finishing 3rd in the 1st Div pennants and runners up in the Avery, Gilmour and Wanderers mid-week competitions. As club Captain, it was promising and

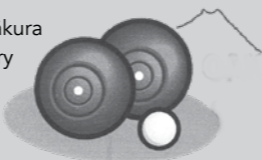
rewarding to see a number of Ōākura bowlers participate and perform to a very high standard in Bowls Taranaki Centre tournaments, interclub competitions and the Champion of Champions events.

As this will be the last column for 2021/2022 season, thanks to all members that have assisted in the day to day running, green maintenance, bar and administration of the club over the past year. Without the support of volunteers, such as yourselves, the club would not be in the fantastic position it is today. Recognition goes to Wayne Robinson and his team who have excelled in providing the club a world class green. The green just keeps getting better each year.

The Professional Bowling Association will again have a chapter in New Plymouth with all bowling to be played at the Paritutu Bowling Club indoor stadium. The qualifiers for the various competitions will be played over the weekends of 4th, 5th, 6th and 18th, 19th of June and the 14th, 15th of August. It is a great opportunity to see some of New Plymouth's best bowlers in action playing a format that is entertaining and full of action.

Everyone is welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality of the club on Friday evenings from 4.30pm to 7pm throughout the winter months. There is lucky membership draw at 6.30pm and, who knows, we may even entice you to take up this great game.

The Underarm Bowler



Getting back to physical activity post Covid-19

Getting back to physical activity after any injury or illness requires a certain amount of restraint to safely achieve optimal results. If you jump right back into your workouts at full speed and don't allow your body the time to rest and heal, it could actually take longer for you to regain your fitness or, even worse, lead to a reinjury or relapse.

Resuming physical activity after having COVID-19 has an extra layer of complexity because of the potential of complications, such as myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle), or the possible development of long COVID.

No matter your age, your previous fitness level, it's a good idea to discuss any physical activity plans post COVID with an appropriate healthcare provider. Your return to physical activity needs to be individualised to YOU and is not something you should just keep pushing through.

At New Plymouth Physiotherapy we take return to physical activity post COVID very seriously and follow a 5-stage approach to ensure a safe and successful return to activity is achieved. At each stage specific measures are taken and set goals must be achieved before progression

to the next stage. This structure also allows for any red flags to be identified and managed in the appropriate way.

If you have had COVID and want to ensure you return to physical activity safely, book in for an assessment and a structured plan with one of our physiotherapists at New Plymouth Physiotherapy.

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Te Reo Māori words



TOP LINE:
Ko te aha tēnei rā?
= What day is it today?

BOTTOM LINE:
Ko te ____ tēnei rā.
= Today is ____.

EXAMPLE:
Ko te Rātū tēnei rā.
= Today is Tuesday.

There are two types of the days of the week.

1. Transliterations - Words made to sound like the English word
2. The Māori days of the week based from the Māori maramataka and many pay homage to the stars/planets.

Ngā Rā o te Wiki Days of the Week

<i>Monday</i>	MANE	RĀHINA
<i>Tuesday</i>	TŪREI	RĀTŪ
<i>Wednesday</i>	WENEREI	RĀAPA
<i>Thursday</i>	TĀITE	RĀPARE
<i>Friday</i>	PARAIRE	RĀMERE
<i>Saturday</i>	HĀTAREI	RĀHOROI
<i>Sunday</i>	RĀTAPU	RĀTAPU

The days of the week was a European concept.

Ōākura TENNIS CLUB

We are welcoming back our tennis players for another fun term of tennis. Monika is running her lessons for our Juniors before and after school hours. It is a great time to build the kids' abilities towards the upcoming competition and tournament season that will start later in the year.

Registration is through the Blitz Tennis website.

Just before the term had started, we had a very successful couple of weeks playing our Junior Club Championship. Congratulations to all participants and especially to our winners

– Duncan Poole (Youth Grade), Angus Thorp (Green Level A) and Ana Shlosberg (Green Level B).

While we faced some challenges due to covid reaching our community and many players having to cancel their participation, it was very impressive to see the players adjust to the changes and maintain their enthusiasm and abilities on the court.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate the Ōākura Smashers who finished the Interclub season in the 1st place for their green grade. Well Done!

Kaitake NETBALL CLUB

Casual Sunday Sessions Netball is again up and running.

Games are at 3pm on Sundays at the Ōākura School Courts.

No games over the holidays, just during Term 2 and possibly Term 3 if the demand is there. And no we don't have to play in the rain. Hope to see some new faces and gain some new players. New teams made each Sunday based on who turns up.

Follow us on our Facebook Page - Kaitake Netball or feel free to come and check it out.

If you are interested, please contact Toni Peacock

Phone: 021 661 912
or Email:
thowison@hotmail.com



Are electric car charging stations in central New Plymouth a good idea?

NPDC is considering a proposal from electric vehicle (EV) maker Tesla to put five electric vehicle charging stations at one of our city centre car parks.

The proposal would see Tesla paying for valuable upfront infrastructure, at a cost of around six figures, in the Puke Ariki car park, speeding our way to a greener future and bringing in visitors by putting the city on the road trip map for EV drivers.

Two chargers would be universal charging stations and three would be for Tesla vehicles, but Tesla says if the project goes ahead they're committed to make all its EV chargers universal in the near future.

New Plymouth is transitioning from a large town to a small city and with a growing fleet of electric vehicles owned by locals combined with increasing numbers of visitors yet there is only a single charging site in the centre of town.

New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom says as a Sustainable Lifestyle Capital we're committed to supporting our people and businesses to transition to a low emissions high value economic future and part of that involves ensuring locals and visitors have access to



the infrastructure required to support their vehicles choices.

"This proposal sees Tesla funding around six figures for this charging infrastructure, including provision for all types of EVs to fast charge in the central city, helping us achieve our climate response goals and ensuring the growing number of people wanting to charge up don't have to wait in line for extended periods of time."

The Mayor and councillors will review the public feedback before making a final decision on whether or not to enter into an agreement with Tesla for a feasibility study.

Is it a good idea?

Give us a call on 06 759 6060 or email us on enquiries@npdc.govt.nz



Sculpture at Ōmata Orchard Entrance

A new sculpture has been installed at the entrance to our school orchard. You may have already noticed that the Koru design is the same design on our Ōmata sports uniforms. It represents the tuakana-teina relationship that exists between our tamariki, while conveying the growth in learning and spirit which unfolds, as children develop into young adults. The wai symbols below the two koru acknowledges the Waireka Stream and the importance of water as the essence of life.

Kaitiaki ō te Ngāhere - Guardians of the Bush

A strong focus at our school is the Key Native Ecosystem located within our school grounds. In term 1 the whole school focused on developing our role as Kaitiaki ō te Ngāhere (Guardians of the Bush). We have been lucky enough to have the support of Dr Emily Roberts

from the Taranaki Regional Council, who would arrive at our school full of enthusiasm and willing to share her knowledge of the local ecosystem.

Students in Piwakawaka (Year 2&3) spent up to a couple of hours per week in our Ngāhere. Piwakawaka have developed a collaboration with Lepperton School. They potted native seedlings from our Ngāhere and gifted them to Lepperton School who is planning to create a small bush in their school area.

The highlight for the Korimako (Year 5&6) class was learning to identify native bird species by listening to their bird calls. They developed the scientific skill of doing a five minute bird count which is where they sit in the bush classroom, look and listen for birds and record their findings.

The Ruru class (Year 7&8) took on four different student-led initiatives with the overall aim being to improve the Mauri of the Ngāhere. One group aimed to investigate the health of the wetland in the Ngāhere. They were lucky enough to learn about Mudfish (Waikaka) and attempted to catch some with Denise Rowland from the NPDC. The plants group investigated the correlation between canopy cover and the invasive weed, Tradescantia. Steps and pathways were cleared by the Mauri group, whilst pest control and identification of pests in our Ngāhere was undertaken by the wildlife group.

We are lucky to have such a rich, natural learning resource on our school grounds and hopefully we can help to improve it over time.

Campbell Fraser and Lucas Alford (Year 8)

Ōmata Board of Trustees Chairperson Report

Term two has started with teachers and children alike having hit the ground running. We have returned into a more relaxed environment, with students returning to a school looking and feeling far more like early 2020. Whānau Fridays, assemblies, attending sports on school grounds and planning school camps have returned to name a few. I am especially looking forward to the Whānau Fridays where I will be able to meet the parents and students of my own children's classes, one of which has never known school outside of COVID -19

rules. These last two years have challenged us all in many ways, but to see how resilient the students have been despite it all, and how hard our teachers and staff have worked, makes me proud to be a part of this community.

Ōmata has now enjoyed one year in our newest classroom – Ruru. This is our year 7/8 classroom which has provided them with a rich and stimulating place to grow and learn. The different spaces within the class, nooks, textures, and colour have been thoroughly enjoyed. Given that most of last year's graduating class had been using the Ōmata Community Hall, this was a welcome reward. There are still some areas to be developed, gardens and more spaces for students to enjoy, as well as plans to add another classroom sometime in the future to accommodate our ever-growing roll.

Some of the ongoing work and maintenance for our school involves upgrading Block A, which includes the office, ruma Tūi, Kōtare and Korimako. This will follow on from recent work carried out to increase ruma Korimako's practical space, which now includes the Kererū area. Initial feedback from students is that this has worked well, with Kererū being used for break-out groups and has meant the class does not feel like it has 40 students in it! After last years upgrades to the toilets in Block A, we are also improving the effluent system and septic bed. This will result in an under-utilised area becoming a garden of sorts, full of native grasses, and leading to much improved water quality.

This term sees Karen Brisco away on sabbatical. This provides her with a chance to see how Ōmata fares compared to similar schools in the North Island, while taking some time to recharge after a hectic two years. This also presents a great opportunity for Stuart Bennett to step into the acting principals role, enabling him time to upskill in other areas. As a Board, we will continue to support Stuart and the staff this term and enjoy some of the normal school activities we have all missed.

Board elections are this year, so keep your eyes peeled for news on this and the voting process.

Nga Mihi, Josh Johnson
Ōmata BoT Chairperson



Ōākura School

Te Ara Taiao o Kaitake

Six of our year 6, 7 and 8 students are part of a leadership group working with a range of environmental groups, local kura and Ngāti Tairi as part of the Te Ara Taiao o Kaitake project, which started last year. The goal of Te Ara Taiao o Kaitake is to uphold the mana and mauri of the Kaitake Ranges, protecting and ensuring that the flora and fauna of this local habitat is maintained and cared for effectively and sustainably.

At the end of Term 1 the Te Ara Taioa leaders from Ōākura, Coastal and Ōmata Schools were lucky enough to go to the release of Craig and Awhina, two new kiwi that were released into the Kaitake Ranges. Awhina was named by the Te Ara Taioa leadership team. Awhina means to protect, support or hold. The name Craig was gifted by a key sponsor of the project.

Taranaki Maunga Project is working with Rotokare Reserve to release 10 kiwi every year, which they have done the past two years. After the welcome when representatives of Ngāti Tupaea, mana whenua of Rotokare Reserve, gifted these taonga to Ngāti Tairi, the kiwi were walked up to be released. Later the group walked up to Piwakawaka Hut near the release site for lunch where the tamariki had a chance to become more familiar with the telemetry gear to track the kiwi.

Everyone there found it an amazing and educational experience. If you go and stay at Piwakawaka Hut you might hear Awhina and Craig or any other kiwi calling.

Remember to keep your dogs inside at night to protect these beautiful taonga. And remember, that no dogs are allowed in Te Papakura o Taranaki, Taranaki National Park.

Hannah Stanley and
Miri Sandbrook (age 12)

Mother's Day Poem

You are a superstar, singing like an angel.
You are a sunflower, blossoming in front of my face.
You are the sun, shining on my face. You are a diamond, sparkling really bright.
You are an angel, holding me with your fluffy wings when you are sad.

YOU ARE MY MUM!

You are a rainbow, lighting up our sky.
You are the earth, a strong foundation for us all.
You are a shield, protecting us from danger.
You are the bank, still lending us money as adults.
You are a pinata, holding strong against the knocks in life.
You are the ocean, calm, cool and consistent.
You are a fantail, flitting around and making us smile.
You are the wind, whispering advice to us when needed.
You are a blanket, keeping us warm and cuddly.

YOU ARE MY MUM!

You are a shield, bouncing creepy nightmares out of me.
You are ice, extremely cool.
You are the greatest, GGG!
You are gold, sparkling in the daylight.
You are music, sounding like the ocean.
You are magic, giving me treats.
You are a teddy bear, patting me softly.

YOU ARE MY MUM!

You are a computer, making good ideas.
You are a cheetah, with super fast comebacks.
You are a dictionary, full of so many ideas.
You are the ocean, full of fun times.
You are a vacuum cleaner, clearing up after me.

YOU ARE MY MUM!

You are sunshine, brightening my day.
You are a story book, lighting up my beautiful world.
You are a superhero, coming to help me when I am sad.
You are a shield, protecting me from bed bugs.
You are electricity, lighting up my world.

YOU ARE MY MUM!

Tamariki of Year 3 & 4



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TOP Activities

Ōākura

Ōākura Hall Bookings

Vicky Jury 027 215 2465

Bowling and Social Club

Bowling tournaments September through to April. Both mid-week and weekend games. Steve Muller 757 4399

Dancing in the Dark

Glenys Farrant 027 753 0120

Golf

Practice net. Non members welcome. Clubs and balls can be supplied. \$5.00 WEDNESDAYS. Casual competition for non-members. 8am to 1pm open to everyone. Denise 752 7665

Inferno 45- 4 X Bootcamp fitness

Mon and Wed 6am, Fri 9am. BoxFit Friday 6am. All 1 hour sessions. Ōākura Hall. Graeme 021 536 990

Indoor Bowls

Enquiries to Marvin Clough 752 7531

Silver and Enamel Jewellery Making Classes with Sally Laing

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JKA Karate

Jim Hoskin 752 7337

Justice of the Peace. Lynn Murray.

Ōākura Library Thursdays 10am-12.30pm.

Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust

Pete Morgan 027 372 5182 morgpt@xtra.co.nz

Morning Talk - coffee group

Thursdays 10-11am at NPOB Surf Club. Free tea/coffee. Tracey Lusk 752 7875

'Move it or Lose it' Strength and Balance

Fitness Classes Ōākura Hall, Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30am. Contact Gloria Zimmerman 027 284 9111

Meditation Group

Kate Evans 027 203 7215

Mini Groovers - Music Group

All parents welcome with babies/under 5's. Every Tues during term time 10-11am at the Church Hall. Visit their Facebook page: Mini Groovers - Ōākura. Fe Scott: 027 228 9113

Ōākura Yoga

Kate Evans 027 203 7215

Pickleball Ōākura

Ōākura Hall - Wed 7.30pm, Thurs 9.15am. All skill levels welcome and equipment is provided. Elayne 0279377173 or Vincenza 0277396574

Playcentre

14 Donnelly St. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am - noon during school terms. oakura@playcentre.org.nz

Pony Club

Tracey Mackenzie 027 319 0238 traceymackkyle@gmail.com

Pool Club

Meets every Wednesday night 7pm over winter commencing April at Butlers Reef. All welcome. For more info call Margaret 027 232 1899

Probus Club

Meets once a month at Ōākura Bowling club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month 10-11.30am. Contact Brenda Ryan 757 3537 or 027 748 9698

Te Reo Māori Lessons

Toni 021 661 912 thowison@hotmail.com

Okato Co-operating Parish

St James, Sunday Worship: every 2nd and 4th Sunday, 10am
St James, Prayer Meeting: first Wednesday of each month, 7.30pm
okatocp@gmail.com

Sunday School - St James Church

Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 10am. stjamesoakura@gmail.com

Surf Lessons

Deken Waves Surf Coaching. Group & Private sessions available. Contact Simon: 021 122 9525 dekenwaves@gmail.com

Tennis Club Winter Coaching

Junior coaching Mon-Fri before or after school, check www.blitztennis.nz.

Adults, Wed 9-10.30am advanced, Fri 9-10am adult returner/improver, 10-11am adult beginner, contact Jackie 027 673 2900

Tai Chi Classes

Every Monday 9-10am at Ōākura Hall. Judi 027 268 2601. Just come along or contact: taranakitachichuan@gmail.com

Val Deakin Dance School

Ōākura Hall Friday afternoon - Pre-school dance classes at 2:45, ballet for 5+ 3:30 to 4:15. val@valdeakindance.org.nz 752 7743 or text 027 694 0933

Tataraimaka

5 Elements Fitness Bootcamps and Kickboxing Fitness classes

Monday to Thursday 5-6 pm, Tataraimaka Hall. Barney 027 752 7076 barney@5efitness.com or visit www.5efitness.com

Gymnastics Group for children - 5-7 yrs.

Tuesdays after school at the Tataraimaka Hall for basic level gymnastics sessions. Rose at rosem@realfoodnutrition.co.nz

Okato

Okato and District Historical Society

Meg Cardiff 752 4566

Okato Lions Club

John Hislop 757 9696

Okato Squash Club

Monday nights from 6.30pm. Everyone welcome. Ladies morning Friday 9.30 - 11am. All levels welcome. Rachel 0204 092 5243

Okato Co-operating Parish

St Paul's, Sunday Worship: every 1st and 3rd Sunday, 10am
St Paul's, Prayer Meeting: first Thursday of each month, 7.30pm
okatocp@gmail.com

Ōmata

Yoga Classes

For info - Annalisa 027 444 8345

TOP Information

The Ōākura Post

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