

Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa

We have reached the middle week of term 1. We can all agree that it has not been the best start to a school year for our teachers, our tamariki, our parents, caregivers and whanau. We have all been challenged as we work our way through COVID-19 Omicron and the impact that it is having on our lives. It is true, challenges certainly make you stronger. We believe that as an OIS community we have navigated our way through the COVID pandemic extremely well. Congratulations to all of you!

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents, caregivers and whanau who have kept us informed regarding positive cases in their households. This has enabled us to monitor the number of students cases in our school and the numbers of families being affected by isolating at home for 10 days. We are well aware that the 10 day isolation brings additional pressures to everyone involved. We are here to help if you require some additional support.

If your child is going to be away from school, we encourage you to use the absence form on the school website or school app or phone the school before 8.45am. Remember to leave full name, room number and reason for absence.

OIS Expectations during COVID-19 Omicron:

- ◆ If your child is unwell, please keep them home and get them tested.
- ◆ If your child has been isolating at home, we would like proof of a negative result -CPR test (within 12 hours) or RAT test (the morning of) before they return to school. We suggest you place a piece of paper on a table, write your child's full name, room number and date of the RAT test and take a picture of it. This can then be emailed to your child's teacher.
- ◆ If your child is away for medical reason (not COVID related), then we are encouraging you to get a medical certificate as proof for the school.

We are doing everything we can to keep Otahuhu Intermediate School safe for all. We appreciate that the above 'OIS Expectations' are additional, but these are necessary to keep everyone safe during this RED PHASE.

Once again, we thank you all for everything you are doing to keep everyone in our OIS community safe.

SCHOOL APP - if you were unaware, Otahuhu Intermediate School does have a school app that you can download on to your mobile phones.

1. Just scan the QR code on the newsletter.
2. Tap on the link <http://onelink.to/sb8tvm>
3. The link will take you to **KiwiSchools Connect**. Then press Install, to install the app.
4. Once app is loaded, tap on Open.
5. Then you will see a list of **AVAILABLE SCHOOLS**. Scroll down and select **Otahuhu Intermediate School** and tap on the school name to load it.
6. **KS Connect** will now be loaded on your apps mobile page.
7. If you tap on the **KS Connect**, then the **Otahuhu Intermediate School** information should appear.



**OTAHUHU
INTERMEDIATE
SCHOOL**



Update from the Auckland Transport Metro Bus Team.

Tāmaki Makaurau is at the red setting of the COVID-19 Protection Framework.

As Omicron spreads, many bus operators are experiencing staff shortages and service cancellations across bus, train, and ferry services. Although Auckland Transport is working hard to update cancellations in our systems, there may be some occasions when these are last-minute and can't be communicated in time. We recommend checking service updates on the [AT Mobile app](#), [Live Departures](#), or on digital signs at stops and stations.

If you're using AT school Bus.

We are trying our best to make school bus services our priority and run most school bus services to a regular timetable. However, we are expecting to see last-minute cancellations due to the spread of Omicron in the community. Although we're working hard to update cancellations in our systems, there may be some occasions when these are last-minute and can't be communicated in time.

If any bus services do not arrive on time, students will need to find or use alternative transport options.

<https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/journey-planner/>.

We apologise for any inconvenience this might cause.
The Travelwise Team

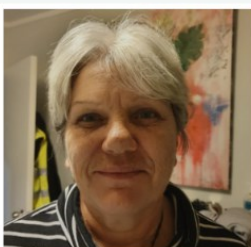


Te Kura
Intermediate
School

Meet Our Board Members

They can be thought of as the 'Parents' of Otahuhu Intermediate, tirelessly aiming to provide our students top quality education in a top quality teaching environment. They provide guidance and assistance to all members of the learning community, and keep our waka steered on a positive course.

We are looking for more parents/guardians to join our team. If you would like to know more about the position or simply want to meet us, join our short zoom meeting on Tuesday 15 March @ 5:30pm



ZOOM ID: 871 3321 9987

PASSWORD: OIS

MEET THE BOARD VIA ZOOM
Tuesday 15 March
5:30pm

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM 1

WEEK SEVEN

Tuesday 15 March

Meet the Board

Via Zoom

5:30pm

Wednesday 16 March

Arts Therapy

Life Changer

Health Workshop

WEEK EIGHT

Wednesday 23 March

Arts Therapy

Life Changer

Skills Workshop

WEEK NINE

Wednesday 30 March

Arts Therapy

Life Changer

Self Workshop

Last Day of Term 1

Thursday 14 April 2022

GOOD FRIDAY

Holiday

Friday 15 April 2022

Bell Times

8.45am - Start of day &

Admin time

8.55am - Block 1

9.55am - **Break 1**

10.35am - Block 2

11.30am - Block 3

12.25pm - **Break 2**

1.05pm - Block 4

2.00pm - Block 5

2.55pm - Admin. time

3.00pm - End of day

Uniform and Stationery

Shop Hours

8.30am—9.30am

School Days In the hall.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS 2022



Brent Woods (Principal)

Kia ora koutou. Ki te atua, tena koe. Ki nga mate, haere, haere, haere atu ra. Ki te whanau, nga mihi nui ki a koutou. Ko Brent Woods toku ingoa. I have been the Principal of Otahuhu Intermediate School since 2007. My passion is achieving EXCELLENCE FOR ALL. We achieve this at OIS by encouraging teachers, students and whanau to be the best that they can be. We all know that it takes a village to raise a child, and a community to celebrate success. During my 16 years within the OIS community, we have always worked together to achieve the best for our tamariki and Otahuhu.



Cheryl Stephens

My name is Cheryl Stephens and I have been a member of the Otahuhu Intermediate Board of Trustees for approximately 6 1/2 years. I have lived in Otahuhu my entire life and attended OIS myself many, many years ago. I have 3 children (Zac, Jessika and Samantha), who also attended OIS and it was while they were there, that I decided to sign up to the Board of Trustees. I have enjoyed my time working on the OIS Board, as it is very rewarding knowing that what we put in place for our students, will go a long way in helping them in the future.



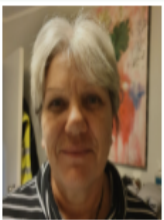
Chris France (Presiding Member/Chairperson)

I love the time I have been on the board at Otahuhu Intermediate, which started in 2013. The school is such a mixture of vibrant culture, and clever young girls and boys reaching for adulthood! They are led by a caring, and kind, and clever group of teachers with Brent and his team. I have lived and worked for my career with school boards for 30 years and this school is a wonderful example of how engaged parents on the board and the leadership team can make such a happy and safe place for our young people to prepare for their high school years and adult life.



Sachin Kumar

Kia ora My name is Sachin Kumar and I have been on the board since 2017. My passion for operation excellence was something I enjoyed while being on the board. The unique culture of the community was something I really wanted to learn about and be able to contribute my knowledge towards promoting a better system in the school. I also was able to contribute towards and understand my son's learning at OIS being a parent voice. I really enjoy being part of the wonderful OIS whanau.



Sonya Griffiths

Hi there, my name is Sonya, I have lived in Otahuhu for 10 years and I have had 2 of my 4 children go to OIS and they have enjoyed it. I joined the board because I had seen the way Brent and his team run the school and how easy they were to talk to. I have been on the board for about 4-5 years, and it is great being involved and seeing the kids reach their goals.



Tala Page-To'oala (Deputy Presiding Member)

I have been a 'friend of OIS' since 2010 where I volunteered as a youth worker and then transitioned onto the board in 2013. I have been part of this wonderful school for so long because I believe in the passion and mahi that our staff put into our students and families. It is an honour to serve our community in this capacity. My niece is in Year 7 so I am even more invested in our goal to make OIS the best intermediate school in Aotearoa. I am a school counsellor at AGGS, Professional Teaching Fellow at Laidlaw College and oversee the children's & youth ministries at Greenlane Presbyterian Church.



Verna Ernstzen (Staff Rep)

My name is Verna Ernstzen. I am on the BOT as a staff representative. I currently teach a Year 8 class and am the syndicate leader for Rimu team. I have the responsibility for coordinating the Reading Literacy in the school. I have been teaching at Otahuhu Intermediate School since 1997. This school has been part of my whanau for a quarter of a century. I was a resident of Otahuhu in the early days after emigrating to New Zealand. To date, I have taught two generations from the same family. I enjoy the heart and vibrance of our community.