

Tēnā koutou katoa ki te whānau o te Kura Oaklynn - parents, whānau, carers and staff

A few words from Acting Principal Pilar

Kia ora e te whānau,

During this term, I have had the privilege of serving the Oaklynn community - leading a group of professionals - teachers, therapists, kaiāwhina - who are passionate about what they do. I hope that I have put myself forward as a responsive “servant leader”; which is a leadership style based on the idea that leaders prioritise serving the greater good - in the spirit of the mahi they undertake. It’s been a pleasure to lead the school as “acting principal” this term, and I will be doing so again for the very start of Term 2 (Louise rejoins us, as onsite principal, a couple of weeks into next term).



I would like to personally thank the senior management team, board of trustees members and Oaklynn staff for their unconditional support of my leadership during this time. No doubt there will be further opportunities in the future to support Louise and the school again in a similar fashion.

As a special mention this term, we say goodbye to Rachel Russell - our very respected and loved Executive Officer. Rachel has made a big impact on the school over her six years working tirelessly in this demanding and crucial role. She will be sorely missed. As we say goodbye to Rachel, we are very lucky to have someone to ‘fill her big shoes’; and so we welcome Sarah Taylor to the role. Good to have you with us Sarah!



As we move into the term break - I hope whānau at home enjoy some quality family time together, that staff rest up and recharge, and we very much look forward to seeing everyone back at school next term.

MANAAKITANGA

is one of Oaklynn’s core values - it is a beautiful concept from Te Ao Māori (Māori world) and means “*hospitality, kindness, generosity, support - the process of showing respect, generosity and care for others*”.



Oaklynn’s manaakitanga initiative can support our community in many ways.

- Purchasing food, delivering food and other items to homes is one of our ways to provide support to members of our wider community.
- **\$70 buys a food parcel (like the one in the pic) for a family**

Here’s how you can help

Going on our list of helpers email - manaakitanga@oaklynn.school.nz

Make a \$\$ donation to the school manaakitanga account
12-3109-0012500-00 with reference **manaakitanga**

What's happening around the school

Tertiary learners - OakTEC



On Friday 5th April, the senior school celebrated their School Ball after having to postpone it in November 2023. What an amazing evening! OakTEC learners and staff had spent many hours creating the decorations and, on the night, the team came together to turn The Hub (Base Rooms 6 & 7) into something truly magical.

Among fancy dance moves, taking the microphone to sing along to their favourite songs and the special vibe of friendship and fun in the air - our King and Queen of the ball were crowned. Congratulations Danial and Prisha.

From Lisa Heap - our Family Support Coordinator

From Lisa, our Learning Support Coordinator

With the recent, very quickly rolled out, changes to funding, you might be thinking about Individualised Funding to support you with planning for and using your funding.

Individualised Funding - IF

If you think you want to manage your own funding then connecting with an IF host is the first thing to do. IF gives you the opportunity to use your funding flexibly, providing the right support for your whānau at the right time. IF hosts are able to provide differing levels of support from total management, where they will manage all the funding, employment, tax etc. to a level of support that gets you managing it all yourself.



There are a number of IF hosts in our region, including: Access, Care on Call, Enliven, Geneva Healthcare, Healthcare NZ, Lifewise, Manawanui, New Zealand Community Living and Vision West.

At our recent Whānau Day I had the chance to chat with Manawanui and found out a little more about them.

Manawanui

Manawanui is one of the local IF hosts that you can choose from if you decide to go down the IF route. They have a quiz on their website, manawanui.org.nz, that supports you to make decisions around whether you think self-direction is right for you and your whānau.

They have 'Network Meetings' and community events listed and their IF information is available in many languages (also on their website). One exciting development that they are working on is eMploy.

eMploy is a job advertising site provided by Manawanui where you can list a job for disability support, help at home or personal care. People wanting a job can then look at this site to contact you. This new platform is a work in progress, but it's another avenue for finding help.

If you have any questions about IF, please do contact one of the providers or have a chat with Lisa, Learning Support Coordinator at school. lisa.heap@oaklynn.school.nz 027 540 1230

Disability Connect

If you haven't already had a look at the Disability Connect website, or signed up for their newsletter, I would highly recommend it. In their recent newsletter they included the following information that may be of use to you...

Disability Connect Support Groups

- [Zoom Parents Support Group](#) - Every Monday 7-8pm
Open to anyone seeking advice or support for parenting, upcoming Needs Assessments, starting or leaving school and anything in-between. Robyn would love to meet and chat about anything that is important to you.
- [Chinese Support Group](#) - Tuesday 16th April, time 10am to 12noon. More details coming soon.
Topic: Choices in Community Living - CiCI
Location: Senior Citizens Room, Fickling Convention Centre (546 Mt Albert, Three Kings)
- [Planning For Adulthood](#) - Wednesday 24 April, 6:30 - 9:30pm via Zoom. Click [here](#) for information. To register email: admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz

parentpower



Parentpower Webinar: Online Safety

Join us for a 1.5 hr webinar **(10-11:30am) Monday 15th April** and learn social-emotional safety skills and strategies to help your kids be safe online. Learn how to:

- build awareness online,
- build boundaries and safety for online use
- focus on consent rules with regards to personal safety and safety of others.
- for more details and to register click [here](#)

Special mention: Away for the day - Phone Usage 2024

The government has introduced regulations which require that schools must ensure students do not use or access a phone while they are attending school, including lunch time and breaks. This includes students who are on a school course or visit outside the school grounds. (See attached)
In response, we are seeking your feedback via email: feedback@oaklynn.school.nz

Notices from the Office

Next term dates:

First Day of Term 2	- Monday 29 April, 9:00am
Senior ID Photos	- Friday 03 May
Staff Only Day	- Friday 24th May (no school for students)
Base School play date	- Saturday 25th May 10a.m - 2p.m
King's Birthday	- Monday 03 June
Matariki	- Friday 28 June (no school)
End of Term 2	- Friday 05 July

Take Care,
Nāku noa nā

Pilar

Acting Tumuaki

For those of you new to Oaklynn, new to Aotearoa or just new to Te Reo - here are some words in Te Reo Māori (Māori language) that we often use.

1. Tēnā koutou katoa ki te whānau o te Kura Oaklynn - Welcome / greetings to you all, the whānau of Oaklynn School
2. Whānau - family group
3. Ngā mihi - thanks / appreciation / regards
4. Nui - big / much
5. Mahana - warm (for greetings)
6. Tau Hou - New Year
7. Ki a koe - to you - one person
8. Ki a kōrua - to you two
9. Ki a koutou - to you three or more
10. Aroha - love, care. Blessings
11. Tamariki - children
12. Rangatahi - young adults
13. Ākonga - learners / students
14. Kaimahi - staff (workers)
15. Kaiāwhina - support staff / teacher aides
16. Kura - school