

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,

Once again it is my pleasure to have been given the opportunity to lead the school through to the end of term 1 (and briefly as we come back in Term 2). Louise is finalising her work for the Education Review Office (ERO) this term and will return to us Week 2, Term 2. Once more, the senior management team are key to supporting me in my role as acting principal.

Here we go again! Covid is impacting on staffing and rangatahi across the school.

However, we are no longer allowed to close classes, and there are classes/units with many staff members at home with COVID. We are staffing these settings to the best of our capacity (including employing several new teacher aides to join our kaiāwhina team).

We are asking whānau at home to be mindful of the ongoing repercussions of Covid in our community. Please ensure that if your tamariki are showing symptoms of being unwell, to keep them at home until the symptoms have cleared. Additionally, we recommend that you do a Covid test - if you are worried that your child may be ill because of this.

If you have concerns at any time, regarding this situation, please feel free to contact me at:

pilar.romero@oaklynn.school.nz

I appreciate the support of the extended Oaklynn whānau - as we continue to protect ourselves from, and accommodate for, the Covid situation.

Strategic Planning / Annual Plan = What are we working on at Oaklynn?

Oaklynn Strategic Plan plus language version 2024 - 2025 <small>Updated version of strategic plan is available on Oaklynn School website: www.oaklynn.school.nz</small>			
Strategic Area	Curriculum Measures	Culture Measures	Community Measures
Goals for the school	Wā - we learn together Whānau - we are connected	Whānau - we are connected Kōwhiri - we are safe and well	Whānaukōwhiri - we bring Kōwhiri - we uplift each other
Strategic goals	Strengthen teaching and learning for change with special learning needs.	Ensure that children in a safe and holistic learning place.	Strengthen partnership with all members of our community.
			

Each fortnight we will share some of our school mahi that contributes to one of our strategic goal areas.

**This week we highlight
Literacy**

This area of focus comes within our assessment and curriculum strategic

goal

Kaiako will have meaningful and relevant assessment tools and a range of bespoke curriculum resources to enable authentic ako

As part of the research for the Kāhui Ako community of learning, two of our teachers (i-COLs) are researching the development of Oaklynn local curriculum for literacy in Juniors and Seniors.

A pilot project is being run to trial the “Oaklynn Literacy Tree” in some junior classes. For the first stage, teachers are given a 20 week plan of lessons, with all the resources needed to run them.

Louise M has developed the Oaklynn Literacy Tree and is proudly sharing out the resources for teachers. The learning that comes from this pilot project will support the roll out of this mahi, across the school.



Te Tiriti o Waitangi

This area of mahi covers all three strategic goals - curriculum, culture and community

- Oaklynn School aims to ensure that its policies and practices reflect New Zealand's bicultural foundations and culturally diverse society
- We recognise the status of the tangata whenua and the partnership between Māori and Pakeha through the Treaty of Waitangi
- We recognise Te Kawerau ā Maki as our mana whenua

Each fortnight we will highlight some of the many ways we are honouring our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

- Our engagement with Te Kawerau ā Maki as mana whenua
- Our mahi with the Māori Achievement Collaborative (MAC)
- Our development of the Te Ara Whakamana programme
- Our kaitakawaenga role (cultural advisor role)

Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum (ANZHC)

Under the guidance of Sian Pinchen (AP) ANZHC group has developed, trialled and are currently implementing the new Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum specific to the needs of our ākonga.

Istvan Csata (Specialist Arts Teacher) Wahiebah Johnston (TAT 1) and Donna Conway (OakTEC) presented at a staff meeting on how they were incorporating the new ANZH curriculum in their classes. Istvan shared how he has used the Pūrākau (story) of Tiriwa in his specialist Art lessons. He emphasised the importance of storytelling and did a wonderful calming exercise which was much appreciated after a humid and busy Tuesday.

Wahiebah shared her work on incorporating the new curriculum into her ongoing work with SPEC and Te Ara Whakamana. She drew parallels between Tiriwa's journey and the challenges our ākonga face and the support

they may need to be successful.

Donna continued the discussion on how ANZHC has been incorporated alongside Te Ara Whakamana. She shared how students at OakTEC are now more grounded in the whenua and are developing a deeper understanding of the history of our surroundings. Staff were encouraged to discuss and share their own ideas and how they are using or planning to use the ANZHC curriculum. Overall we are very pleased with how the ANZHC is being successfully implemented across the school.

Jonathan Clark



Our ākonga exploring the Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum.

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**

Junior Learners - Arahoe 2

Kia ora whānau,

We have had a good start to our year, reconnecting with friends from last year and making new friends. Our class has been exploring Summer Fun with sun safety, sandcastles, outings and of course swimming! We have also been exploring the local Purakau of Tiriwa through storytelling, drama, sensory ice play, maths with bigger and smaller concepts - and this week we began to make our volcano using paper mache! We love to be active learners and explorers with hands-on learning experiences and of course LOTS of physical play opportunities.



Other sections of the school

Outreach

Specialist Teacher Outreach Service

One of the groups of specialist teachers here at Oaklynn are the Specialist Teacher Outreach Service (STOS). These are a group of experienced teachers who support ORS students and their teaching teams within the mainstream setting. All students who are ORS funded are able to access specialist support and our team visits local schools to provide ongoing assessment, planning and review of programmes with schools.

Our main aim in STOS is to enable schools to remove barriers for their students so that all learners are included in every aspect of the school. We work to upskill the school, the class teachers and the teacher aides in supporting inclusion. This is sometimes a challenging task but our STOS team is very experienced and skilled in providing learning that meets each learner's needs and in coaching the adults around the student to build their class and school capability.

Often when students first receive their ORS funding there is a whirlwind of information. One of the key

aspects I have been working on recently is in providing whānau with knowledge about the STOS service so that they can request this service from their school. At Oaklynn School ALL our classes are staffed by experienced specialists so the STOS team enjoy sharing and learning with the wider teaching team.

If you know of whānau who are considering mainstream, please let them know about our STOS service as we are always happy to help.

Lisa Heap
STOS Manager

Notices from the Office

Upcoming dates:

Whānau Day	- Saturday 16 March, 10:00-2:00
Easter Break	- Friday 29 March - Tuesday 02 April
Last Day of Term	- Friday 12 April

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. Ākongā - learners / students
14. Kaimahi - staff (workers)
15. Kaiāwhina - support staff / teacher aides
16. Kura - school