

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

A few words from Louise

As I return to school I am truly looking forward to reconnecting with everyone here.

Over the last term and a bit, I have:

- been continuing my work with ERO (Educational Review Office) to recognise and evaluate the hard mahi done in specialist schools across the country.
- most recently been in the UK to see family and visit specialist schools, alongside another Auckland principal, including meeting with Peter Imray (renowned educational writer and researcher).

This period of work has provided me with a rewarding insight into the wider world of specialist education both in New Zealand and overseas. It has reminded me of what Oaklynn does well, while allowing fresh insights and thinking - to bring back to our school.





In my absence, the mahi has been continuing so I would like to formally thank Karen and the Board of Trustees, Pilar Romero in her role as Acting Principal, the Senior Leadership Team and the staff of Oaklynn for steering the waka ever onward.

Oaklynn is truly a wonderful haven to return to, and I very much look forward to settling back in to continue the great work that we do.

"Visiting specialist schools in London and Kettering and a specialist field centre in the Cotswolds UK with colleague Gill Principal of Rosehill Specialist School"



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

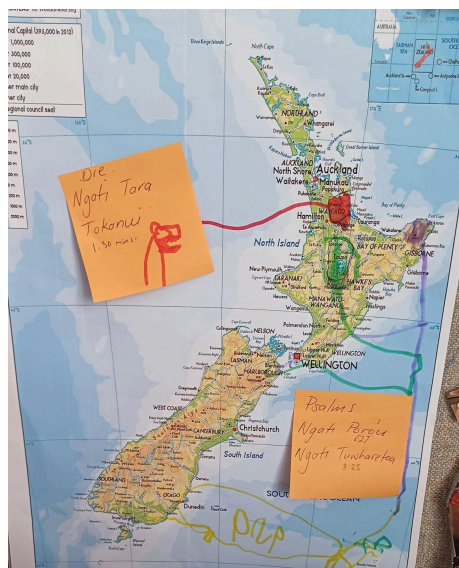
<p>Oaklynn Strategic Plan plain language version 2024 - 2025 Expanded version of strategic plan is available on Oaklynn School website www.oaklynn.school.nz</p>			
			
Strategic areas	Curriculum Matauranga	Culture Ahurea	Community Hapori
Links to Our values	Ako - we learn together Mahirahira - we are curious	Whakamana - we are accepted Hauora - we are safe and well	Whanaungatanga - we belong Manaakitanga - we uplift each other
Strategic goals	Strengthen teaching and learning for ākonga with special learning needs.	Ensure that Oaklynn is a safe and inclusive 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 focus on Curriculum

Which comes from the strategic goal area Maturanga

In Term 1 teachers began implementing the new New Zealand Histories curriculum. Here are some photos of what has been happening in different classes.



Avondale Intermediate Rm 10
This photo is of our NZ map. We are highlighting the iwi's that exist in our class.



Chaucer Rm 9
Based on the story of Tiriwa, the class made volcanoes in Science, using baking soda and coloured vinegar (above), and created volcanoes in Art with paper, paint and glitter.

The Legacy of Tiriwa's Effort

*The story of Rangitoto serves as a powerful reminder that big efforts can lead to monumental achievements. Just as Tiriwa's immense effort reshaped the landscape, creating Rangitoto Island, it reminds us that with determination and unity, we can overcome great challenges. Rangitoto stands not just as a natural landmark but as a symbol of the capacity to achieve the extraordinary through perseverance and collective effort.



Green Bay TAT 1, 2 3 and 4

GBH teachers have written their own version of the story of Tiriwa, and linked it to other curriculum areas e.g. studying volcanoes and other land features around Auckland, and investigating wetlands in Matuku Link Reserve, which lies in Te Wao Nui a Tiriwa (the Great Forest of Tiriwa).

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)

Introducing Naomi and Vicky in their roles as Oaklynn kaitakawaenga

Kia ora koutou,

Ko Naomi Taare ahau.
"He kaiako ahau i
Oaklynn e mahi ana i te
wāhanga o te Kura
Tuarua o ngā Tama o
Kerehana. He mihi nui
ki a koutou katoa, ngā
whānau, me ngā hoa o te



Kia ora e te whānau,

It's with great excitement
and aroha that I share
with you that I have been
given the wonderful
opportunity to take on
the role of kaiāwhina
kaitakawaenga here at
our kura. In this role, I



kura i tēnei wāhanga hou.

Ka nui te koa me te whakamiha ki te tūhono atu ki a koutou mā tēnei pānui.

It is with great respect and responsibility that I embrace the role of kaitakawaenga within our kura. In this capacity, my primary objective is to foster a strong and meaningful partnership between the school and our Māori community. This involves ensuring that the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi are actively reflected in our curriculum and school ethos, promoting a learning environment that is responsive to the needs of our ākonga and that celebrates the richness of *Te Ao Māori*.

My commitment is to provide support and resources for the incorporation of te reo Māori and tikanga into our educational practices, and to uphold an inclusive space for all to engage with the Māori heritage that is an integral part of Aotearoa's identity. I welcome the opportunity to engage with you, to listen to your insights, and to work collaboratively towards an educational experience for our ākonga that is culturally informed, empowering, and holistic.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this kaupapa or contribute to our collective efforts, please do not hesitate to reach out. Together, we can ensure that our tamariki are not only academically accomplished but also culturally grounded and proud of their unique heritage.

Ngā Mihi Mahana
Naomi Taare

will be dedicating my efforts to nurturing the connections between our tamariki, their whānau, and the community. My goal is to ensure that each of our students feel supported and engaged.

During my years at Oaklynn I have supported and facilitated Te Reo at our Te Aratika unit during our weekly unit rotation sessions with whā class. I am really excited to be continuing to help our ākonga and Kaimahi to increase their understanding of Te Reo Maori and Tikanga Maori through using the language in addition to music.

I am truly passionate about this new responsibility and I am looking forward to deepening the relationships within our school whānau. Your tautoko and collaboration will be invaluable as we work together to support the growth and learning of our ākonga. Here's to the exciting times ahead!

Ngā manaakitanga,
Vicki Clements

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 1

The Joy of Dance

Ara 1 is very lucky to have our fabulous Specialist Dance Teacher Bethany working in our class this term. All our students loved their first session with her last week and showed lots of curiosity and enjoyment. Check out those gorgeous smiles.



Many students were able to participate independently and follow Bethany's verbal and visual instructions to move their bodies and props to the music.



New people and new activities can be overwhelming, so it was wonderful to see everyone joining in with this brand new session in their own space and time. We can't wait to see how the students' confidence and learning evolves as the term progresses.

Notices from the Office

Inclusive Sports Club at:

GLENAVON SCHOOL -

340 BLOCKHOUSE BAY ROAD, BLOCKHOUSE BAY

MONDAY 3:30PM - 4:15PM

MAY 13TH - JUNE 24TH

Just a reminder that we have our Term 2 Inclusive Sports Club starting on Monday 13th of May.

Kind regards,

MARIA CENIZA

Sport Development Officer



A flyer for the Inclusive Sports Club. At the top left is the Disability Sport Auckland logo. The main title 'INCLUSIVE SPORTS CLUB' is in large, bold, white letters on a dark blue background. Below the title, it says 'FOR THOSE WITH A DISABILITY'. The location and dates are listed: 'GLENAVON SCHOOL - 340 BLOCKHOUSE BAY ROAD, BLOCKHOUSE BAY, MONDAY 3:30PM - 4:15PM, MAY 13TH - JUNE 24TH'. A circular photo shows children playing sports. Below the photo, it says 'A FREE 8 week programme with a new sport to try every week'. There are two sections: 'WHAT IS INCLUSIVE AFTERSCHOOL CLUB?' with a description of the club's purpose, and 'REGISTER NOW!' with a QR code and the text 'SCAN ME'. At the bottom, there is a 'MORE INFORMATION:' section with contact details for Aleisha Ritchie.

Upcoming dates:

- Friday 24 May** - Staff Only Day (no school for students)
- Monday 03 June** - King's Birthday (no school)
- Friday 28 June** - Matariki (no school)
- Friday 05 July** - Last Day of Term

Take Care,
Nāku noa nā

Louise

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
17. Te reo - māori language

18. Tikanga - correct procedure, custom, way

19. Kaitakawaenga- Māori liaison and support for whānau and kaimahi