

Week 1, Term 1, 03 February 2021

Kia ora, talofa lava, malo e lelei, 问候, namaste, 인사, 拜啓, mabuhay, bem vindo, fakalofa lahi atu, kia orana, kohomada, bula vinaka, huān yin, foon ying, marhaba, oso oseyo, olà, bonjour, ia orana, welcome!

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the 2021 year at Royal Oak Primary. A very warm welcome to those families who are new to our school as well. We hope you enjoy your association with the school and quickly get to know the parents in this wonderful community. Royal Oak Primary is a fabulous school and it is important to us that you and your children feel that it is a happy place to come to each day. The teachers have spent a number of days preparing for the classes to begin. They have spent time ensuring that our tamariki will have a stress free, enjoyable start to the year.

COVID-19

As you know, we are still operating in Alert Level 1- which is business as usual, except at the border. We still need to consciously do our bit towards prevention of community transmission. From our kura's perspective that means that we will continue to sanitise regularly, sneeze and cough into our elbows and stay away from school if we have any COVID-19 symptoms or are feeling unwell. We are also expanding the QR sign coverage across the school. This is in the hope that folk will scan in when they are visiting our kura. These signs should be outside classrooms within the next couple of weeks. We are just waiting on delivery.

Who's who on the teaching team?

We have made a few changes this year to our teaching structures/rooms and continue with many of our collaborative spaces throughout the school. We have changed the way in which our Kaiako will be addressed. For example, I will now be known as Whaea Megan rather than Mrs. Clotworthy. We have adopted this new practice to continue to show respect whilst also displaying the closeness or inclusiveness of whanau when the tamariki are away from home. We have been thrilled with the overwhelming positive response to this initiative already. Thank you, positive support makes such a difference. 😊

The 2021 teaching structure is as follows (I will include the last names, however the Kaiako will be addressed as mentioned above:

Room name	Teachers	Year
Rimu	To begin later	0/1
Kowhai	Whaea Rachael Huggins Whaea Julia Popovic Whaea Lucy Govender Whaea Jenny Kemps (.3)	1
Rata	Whaea Anne Falconer Whaea Sharmin Mistry Whaea Sue Dunn (.2)	2
Puriri	Whaea Libby Lawrence Whaea Anna Nalden	2

	Whaea Sue Dunn (.2)	
Matai	Whaea Jeanelle Rundle Whaea Rebecca Wharton	1
Kohekohe	Whaea Maria Van Der Kaay	3
Nikau	Whaea Wendy Rothwell Whaea Sue Dykes (.2)	3
Pohutukawa	Whaea Annabel Bird Whaea Najmeh Heidarian Whaea April Purdon (.3)	3
Manuka	Whaea Lucy Hannah Whaea Sue Dykes (.1)	4
Totara	Whaea Vicki Martin Whaea Rosemary Cusack Whaea Jill Shears (.2) Whaea Sue Dykes (.1)	4
Kauri	Whaea Kathy Managh Whaea Holly Mackie	5/6
Miro	Whaea Ingrid Gwilliam Whaea Jenni Jamieson (.4)	5/6
Karaka	Whaea Kirstie Rogerson Whaea Chelsea Aitken Whaea Kirsty Hardie Boys (.1)	5/6
Kahikatea	Whaea Bernadette Lawler Whaea Melanie Topp Whaea Sue Dykes (.1)	5/6
Kohanga Ako	Whaea Anne Marie Jammes (.8)	ESOL
Taiao	Whaea Robyn McConnell	STEM Env Science
Music Room	Whaea Amelia Giles	Music
Tui Room	Whaea Sandra Powell (.6)	Maths
Across kura	Whaea Kirsty Hardie Boys (.4)	Te Reo
Across kura	Whaea Suzie Gurr	CRT

Name	Role	Email
Whaea Megan Clotworthy	Principal	meganc@rops.school.nz
Whaea Jill Shears	DP Oaks Positive Behaviour	jills@rops.school.nz
Whaea Felicity Boyd	DP Oaks Digital Technology G&T	felicityb@rops.school.nz
Whaea Vicky Stewart	DP Acorns ESOL/G&T	vickys@rops.school.nz
Whaea Lynne Gibson	Learning Support Coordinator	lynneg@rops.school.nz
Whaea Rachael Huggins	Kaiarahi Ako Year 0/ 1	rachaelh@rops.school.nz
Whaea Sharmin Mistry	Kaiarahi Ako Year 2/ 3	sharminm@rops.school.nz

Whaea Lucy Hannah	Kaiarahi Ako Year 4	lucyh@rops.school.nz
Whaea Kirstie Rogerson	Kaiarahi Ako Year 5/6	kirstier@rops.school.nz

New staff welcome:

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to Holly Mackie. Holly joins us as an experienced teacher from Rototuna School in Hamilton. She will be teaching in the Kauri Room. Holly is very much looking forward to meeting our whānau and working with the tamariki here at ROPS. Welcome, Holly. 😊

Newsletters:

School newsletters are emailed out to you every second Wednesday (odd weeks). Please do watch out for them and read the contents as we try hard to keep you well informed through them.

Connecting with Whanau:

Mahi Tahī

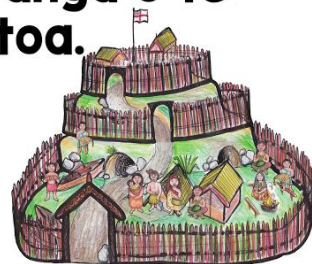
(Working Together) Evenings:

The most important thing you can do for your child at school is to get to know and form positive relationships with his or her teachers. Please make sure you take the time to pop in and say hello and come along to the **Mahi Tahī** evenings on Tuesday 16 February or Thursday 18 February (Week 3). This year we are focusing on building strong relationships with whānau and getting to know each other. A letter will come home shortly for you to book a time with one of the Kaiako in your child's collaborative space. We look forward to seeing you. 😊

Me mahi tahī tātou mō te oranga o te katoa.

We should
work together
for the
wellbeing of
everyone

©the te reo Māori classroom 2017



Sun Hats

Please do remember that it is compulsory to wear a sunhat in Term 1. Please ensure that your child's sunhat is named as these get put on and taken off many times during the school day and can be easily misplaced.

Parent Group:

This first Parent Group meeting will be held in Week 2 on Wednesday 10 February in the staff room at 7.00pm. At this meeting we will be discussing the upcoming Food and Cultural Festival that will take place on Saturday 27 March. There will be some mufti days this term, we will let you know about them as soon as we have sorted the dates.

We look forward to you all coming along to the meeting if you can, everyone is welcome, and we would love to meet you.

The first After School Café will be held on Friday 12 February (Week 2).

Teacher Only Day: Tuesday 9 February

As advertised last year, please be reminded that we will be having a Teacher Development Day on **Tuesday 9 February**. The children will not be attending school that day as the teachers will be involved in professional development and the school will be closed. Please make arrangements for your child. This professional learning day will be focused on Pause, Breathe, Smile - a wellbeing and mindfulness programme for children and adults. We have been lucky enough to secure this programme free of charge with the support of Southern Cross Healthcare. This was the only day available for the facilitators to present this at our kura. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility as this will be a wonderful support to the programmes that we already have running here at ROPS. Kelly Club will be operating during the day for this Teacher Only Day: www.kellyclub.co.nz/royal-oak

Music Opportunities at ROPS:

Co-Curricular Music Group Opportunities for Students in 2021

Link to [Co-Curricular Music Opportunities 2021](#)

Instrumental Groups

Enrolment/Sign up for Instrumental Groups will be taken from Thursday Feb 4 until Friday Feb 12. Discussion with your child about the year-long commitment involved in participating in any given instrumental group before sign-up is suggested.

Choirs

Y3-6 students can sign up for participation in the ROPS Choir Programme at a short, timetabled meeting that has been booked by their classroom teacher with Music Specialist in the Music Room this week. Children who miss the meeting due to absence will not be disadvantaged as sign-up opportunity will be re-offered in Classroom Music lessons also.

- Any Y3-6 child may sing in our Y3-6 all-comers choir *ROPS Voices*.
- There are also two invited Y3-6 choirs: *ROPStars* (Y3/4), and *Royal Harmonics* (Y5/6)
- High levels of engagement, focus, and accurate vocal work as demonstrated during classroom music lessons are a major part of the selection processes for our two Y3-6 invited choirs.
- All members of Y3-6 invited choirs are also members of our Y3-6 All-comers Choir *ROPS Voices*.

Our *Y1-2 Special Singers* invited singing group membership is formed later in Term 1 when all children have settled into the year and their musical and self-management readiness for this very gentle introduction to simple choral singing activities has been ascertained.

All Before-School Co-curricular Music Groups except Handchimes will begin in the week starting Monday 15 February (Week 3). Handchimes will begin on Friday 28th February.

Y3-6 ROPS Voices Choir will begin on Monday 15 February. It is hoped Y3-6 Invited choirs will begin the week after.

Discussion with your child about the year-long commitment involved in being in any of the ROPS Choirs prior to commitment or acceptance of invitation is suggested.

Walking School Bus Volunteers

We are looking for folk to help out with the Walking School Bus.

Please contact Whaea Kathy (Managh) if you are interested: kathym@rops.school.nz



After School French Classes

New this term LEARN FRENCH

Learning foreign languages at an early age is a strategic decision and the journey can begin at an early stage! In collaboration with Alliance Francaise Auckland, Royal Oak Primary School presents:

French Beginners Class for kids aged 7-9 years old.

Join Teacher Kieran for 1 hour every **Thursday 3.15 to 4.15pm** at school.

✓ \$22 per class, term 1. Starts 4 February

✉ information@alliance-francaise.co.nz

After School Chinese Classes



Royal Oak School
Chinese
[After-school programme]

Enjoy Study Practice

Who: All students are welcome
Classroom: Puriri Room
Time: Tuesday or Thursday 3.15pm-4.15pm
Fees: NZD \$105/person (2021 Term 1)
Classes begin in the first week of March

You are welcome to enrol by email and specify whether you prefer Tuesday or Thursday.
please contact:
meganc@rops.school.nz

- Each lesson has an interesting topic.
- Learn Chinese pinyin and Chinese characters through songs, videos and activities.
- Practice dialogue in Mandarin
- learn to write Chinese characters

Congratulations:

Special congratulations to Anna Jackson who had her baby boy, Toby Dean Jackson, over the holidays. We wish the Jackson whānau all the best for the very precious times ahead.

What's coming up?

Please do check the calendar below for what is coming up this term. Make sure that you do check it in each newsletter as things may be added or changed. Items with question marks are yet to be confirmed.

Term 1 2021

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 01/02 - 05/02	1 Anniversary Day	2 School begins Y1 Enrolments	3 Uniform sales Powhiri	4	5
Week 2 08/02 - 12/02	8 Waitangi Day Holiday	9 TOD – Pause, Breathe, Smile 9 - 4	10 Parent Group mtg 7pm	11	12 9.00am Full School Assembly (whanau leaders)
Week 3 15/02 - 19/02	15 Y1 Enrolments Co-curricular Music Programme Starts	16 Connect with the whanau evening – Mahi tahi	17 First Violin Lesson 2021 Swimming Trials	18 Connect with the whanau evening – Mahi tahi After – School Violin Group Lesson Starts	19 First Cello Lesson 2021
Week 4 22/02 - 26/02	22	23	24 Year 2/3 maritime museum trip Swimming Practice String Programme Parent Evening – Staff Room 7.30pm	25 Year 2/3 maritime museum trip BOT Meeting 7.00pm	26 Year 2/3 maritime museum trip
Week 5 01/03 - 05/03	01 Y1 Enrolments	02	03 Uniform sales Year 6 Camp Year 5 EOTC Parent Group meeting	04 Year 6 Camp Year 5 EOTC	05 Year 6 Camp Year 5 EOTC
Week 6 08/03 - 12/03	8	9	10 Year 4 Maritime Mus – EOTC Swimming Practice	11 Year 4 Maritime Mus - EOTC	12 9.00am Full School Assembly
Week 7	15 Y1 Enrolments	16	17 Year 5/6 Maritime Mus eum	18 Year 5/6 Maritime Mus eum	19

15/03 – 19/03	Year 4 EOTC WaterSafety – Jellicoe 12-2		Swimming Practice		Year 6 Puberty Talks (girls) Year 5/6 Maritime Mus eum
Week 8 22/03 – 26/03	22	23	24	25 BOT Meeting 7.00pm	26 Year 5 Puberty Talks (girls) Sat 27 th (Food and Cultural Festival)
Week 9 29/3 – 02/04	29 Y1 Enrolments	30	31 Year 1 – Maritime trip	1	2 Good Friday
Week 10 05/04 – 09/04	05 Easter Monday	06 Easter Tuesday	07 Uniform sales	08 Year1/2/3 EOTC Maungakiekie?	09 Year1/2/3 EOTC Maungakiekie?
Week 11 12/04 – 16/04	12 Y1 Enrolments	13 Summer Field Day Year1/2/3 EOTC Maungakiekie ?	14	15	16 Last day of term

BOT Meeting:

Our next Board meeting is on, **Thursday 25 February 2021 at 7.00pm**. We will be discussing the charter and strategic plan. You are always most welcome to attend.

Have a happy fortnight.

Ngā mihi nui



Megan Clotworthy
meganc@rops.school.nz

Community Notices



What an awesome Summer Holiday Programme at Kelly Club Royal Oak! Heaps of fun activities for the kids and great feedback from the parents. We can't wait for our next holiday programme. (View video here: [Kelly Club Royal Oak Summer 2020-2021 Holiday Programme](#))

Welcome back to school to all the kids at Royal Oak School and happy first day of school to the new students! If you need care for your child before school or after school, you may book them at www.kellyclub.co.nz/royal-oak
Please "like" or follow our facebook page too for more photos of the programmes and regular updates @KellyClubRoyalOak.

Wishing everyone a great school year ahead!

Kind regards,
Royal Oak Kelly Club

Brain overload affecting your memory?

Brainfit
FOR LIFE

Forgetting people's names, leaving stuff behind and not feeling as alert as you once did?

It's probably because your brain is not in as good a shape as it used to be but don't wait until it's too late!

4-week evening class starting in Onehunga on Thursday 23 March from 7 - 8.30pm.

A \$20 donation will be made to ROPS for any ROPS family members that sign up to one of Jude's classes in 2021

Just like any muscle, your brain just needs a regular workout to improve your memory power and the renowned Brainfit programme could be the perfect "personal trainer" for you and your brain this year.

Classes cost just \$204 for the 4 weeks

Spaces are limited

Brain Fit for Life™ is a face to face, group facilitated training programme that helps to build and strengthen brain connections which serve as a valuable buffer against memory loss and brain overload, regardless of age:

- Fun and engaging way to improve your knowledge of memory and brain health
- Increased confidence and self-belief regarding memory
- Easy memory tips and ideas to practice at home and share with family & friends

Taught over a 4-week period, by a trained facilitator - Jude Walter, the 1.5hr interactive Brainfit workshops focus on 6 key memory skills that allow people to remain confident, independent and productive throughout their lives.

Brainfit for Life™ draws on the internationally acclaimed age-related memory loss research by New Zealander, Dr Allison Lamont and has supported more than 16,000 people on their brain health journey to date.

So, don't delay - start your brain training today live a brain-healthy lifestyle every day.

Sign up for classes at <https://brainfit.nz/classes/> or contact Jude at jude@brainfit.nz or 027 286 3961



Jude Walter

"Really informative, motivating sessions with very engaging content"

"It is a powerful tool to help change people's perceptions and illusions about brain health and memory"

"I've been doing some of the memory exercises for a month now and I am already noticing a huge difference."