

Tēnā koutou & Greetings,

New Children: This term we welcome Ava and Zoe Moraes-Schulz, Zuri Rosanowski, Kalu Leask-Young, Lunar Logan, Flo Mendez-Kerr and Ofisa Stowers. It's been so lovely to have you all join us and we're enjoying getting to know you all!

Staffing Changes: New years are new beginnings and this year brings a few staff changes to OSCAR House. We sadly farewelled Danni and Judy at the beginning of this year. We'll fondly remember Danni's friendly influence on our programme. And while we didn't have Judy visit us at Korokoro, we're sure she'll be missed by the Lower Hutt OSCAR House programmes and by our Korokoro kids who met her over the course of holiday programme. We wish you both the best in your future endeavors and we hope to see you around in the community.

It is with great excitement that we welcome Tanya to the OSCAR House Korokoro team! Tanya is a Korokoro local now and she will join us as a permanent member, beginning in week 7 this term.

We'd also like to welcome Violet, Bridgette and Annelise to the OSCAR House whanau and we look forward to meeting you, probably at holiday programme. All three are studying Education at uni.

Staff News: We're celebrating some staff achievements as well, with Kelly attaining her Bachelor of Business in Marketing and Human Resources and Nicola has commenced her third year of her Bachelor of Education in Psychology and Education.

For those who attend our holiday programmes, you'll no doubt have met Tai and Areene. They are both celebrating anniversaries. Tai has worked with our OSCAR House children for 20 years now and is the valued Supervisor at our Kelson programmes. Areene also works at OSCAR House Kelson and has done so for the past 10 years. The lovely Shirley, who has worked so often at Korokoro, has now been with our OSCAR House whanau for 5 years. Aren't we so fortunate to have such fabulous, long-term staff!



Swimming: We've had a bit of a rocky start to our swimming schedule this term, as the pool is closed outside of school hours during Covid-19 level 2. We've also had such wild weather on the days we'd planned to swim! Luckily, now that the pool heating system has been fixed, we can swim on overcast and windy days too - we've been able to go much more often in the second half of the term. We continue our Sun Smart routine through to the end of the term.

Your kids really do say the darndest things, here are some of our favourite sayings this term:

"Scooters must have magnets in them because they're always trying to hit you on your ankles" - Marco

"Can I go to the Drinkity Fountain?" - Daniil

"I had a cake that was shaped like a door." - Carter



School News: As most of you have already noticed, the Korokoro School hall has been carpeted and we now share the space with Room 9. This transition has been a really smooth one and your children have all adapted really well.



Emergency Drills: Every term each of the OSCAR House programmes hold both a fire and an earthquake drill to help prepare your children to stay safe in the event of an emergency. We prepare the children the week prior by discussing our emergency process and the behaviour we expect to see from them. Our fire evacuation point remains the roadside rugby goal post, where we hold our roll call, before returning to the hall. We practice our earthquake 'turtle' during mat-time and we remind the children that we remain in our turtles until the roll call is finished. The country was rocked by wobbles in the week prior to our earthquake drill this term, so our children were ultra-prepared by the following week! It's good to be prepared. Early next term we will also check our Civil Emergency contacts with parents to ensure they are up to date.



COVID-19: While we are largely unaffected by Covid-19 here in Wellington, we're still experiencing level fluctuations as we go in and out of level 2. We're like to express gratitude to our parents and caregivers for your patience as we ask you to wait outside, for remembering to scan the QR code with your Covid Tracer Apps, and for socially distancing while waiting for your children. Having everyone take these precautions seriously helps us to run the programme smoothly throughout the level changes. Thanks!

Programme Activities: We've had an excellent time this term making frozen yoghurt, footprint art, chalk mandalas and so many beaded bracelets and necklaces! We've also done some nail polish, blown too many bubbles to count, and played many hours of group games. The children also made heavy use of the Octoball arena set up on

the far end of the field during their free-play times. If you're interested in any of our craft or game instructions just ask one of our programme staff; we'll be happy to share them with you!



Upcoming dates:

Korokoro School Closed Days Thursday 01/04/21 and Easter Tuesday 06/04/21

Venue will be either be Korokoro School Hall or our Lower Hutt venues depending on enrolment numbers. OSCAR House will open 7:30am – 5:30pm.

Please find information and enrol at <https://oscarhouse.co.nz/schools-closed-day-for-korokoro-school/>

Enrolments and fees are due Wednesday 24th March 2021.

OSCAR House Holiday Programme

Holiday Programme Dates:	19 – 30/04/21 Holiday programme closed for Anzac Day Monday 26/04/21.
Booking date and fee payment date closure for early bird fees:	Wednesday 07/04/20 Any bookings made after this date pay full fees. Any fees paid after this date pay full fees. (ie additional 10%). Invoices are not issued.
Cancellation cut-off date:	Sunday 11/04/21 Full refund (minus \$10 administration fee) if management are notified and accept cancellation up to & on this date. No refund if notified after this date.

Please remember that your Automatic Payments for term time care continue through the holidays because these fortnightly payments have been pro-rated over the whole school year. (Apart from a few parents who have special individual arrangements with Kelsey)

It's been a great start to the year and we hope to see you all in Term 2!

Ngā mihi
Kelly & the OSCAR House Korokoro Team

