

# OSCAR HOUSE MIDDLES

[www.oscarhouse.co.nz](http://www.oscarhouse.co.nz)



Tēnā koutou & Greetings,

This term we welcomed Avery and the lovely group of year 3's who have been enjoying joining the year 4 group. They are so excited to play games of Stinga ball, Starwars & Kick the Can, relishing in the skill and competition involved.

We also have some awesome new staff who have been popping in and out of the programmes. A big tēnā kōrua to Dom & Juan – and now Isaac and Jack. Please do feel free to say kia ora when we are outdoors or give a friendly wave. The kids are loving the fun and exciting energy they bring and playing games with them.

Term 1 has been a little unusual for the Middle & Senior programme with having our groups split for the whole session – it feels a little strange. We have been so proud of the children and how well they are adapting and responding to the new requirements. The children are in good spirits, enjoying activities and spending time with their OSCAR friends in the afternoons.

We are trying to make the changes as easy as possible for whanau. For afternoon collection there are signs on the Cloak-bay post indicating where the Middle and Senior programmes can be located eg Room to the left or right, at G block court or Senior Playground. When at the playground staff keep an eye out for your arrival and will contact the other programme requesting your child meet you at the cloak bay. If inside staff encourage children to pack up as quickly as possible. We appreciate your patience the kids won't be too long.

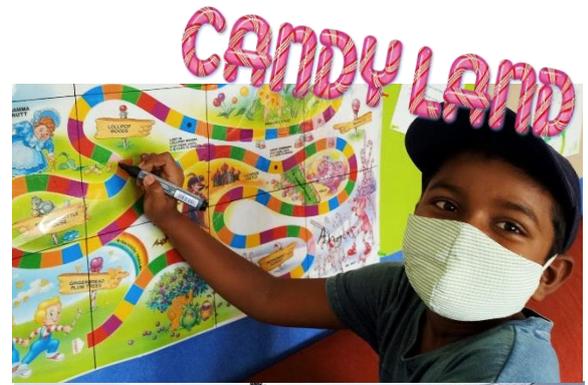
Homework is completed Monday – Thursday, the children practice their spelling words and complete their reading each day, the yr 4's are great at helping. On the days children do not bring homework from school we have a wonderful selection of library books.

Recently the year 3&4's have been working with Fimo, a colourful clay that becomes solid when baked. Pokemon continues to be very popular with the tamariki and they took a lot of care and effort to make these cute Pikachu's. Learning to sculpt the clay so it looks like what you have in mind is a bit tricky but worked out well with a little help from staff. They loved their creations. Each Pikachu has its own adorable personality just like their makers.



### Reward Challenges:

The Yr3&4's have been working on a Candy Land Reward Challenge. They are recognised for displaying kind and helpful behaviours eg listening respectfully at Mat time, including others, assisting with equipment etc. When the staff acknowledge the tamariki for their awesome behaviour they write their name on our Candyland Board. This has a grid of 12 squares A B C/ 1 2 3 4 and when board is full, a random square is drawn and the child's whose name is on that square wins a wee treat. The emphasis is on praising the children acknowledging the wonderful things we see in them.



This term the year 5+ have been working on a fortnightly reward. We have a nice little jar where you have chances to place your name in it and this gets drawn every 2nd Friday. Each day staff nominate children who have shown good sportsmanship, kindness, helpfulness and any good behaviour we think deserves a spotlight!



Baking with Cindy: I regularly bake at home for my family so baking with the children was a new experience. Toby and Quinn were eager to assist; learning to read the recipe and carefully measure the ingredients. They become quite excited when the mixture came together "ohh it smells yum!" Rolling the dough requires a bit of care and we tried hard to make them all the same size and shape. The cookies were much appreciated at afternoon tea the next day.



Hey my name is Dominic or Dom for short, I'm a year 13 at St Bernard's College. Activities I enjoy are Soccer, Rugby, and active sports I also enjoy video games like Destiny 2. I have enjoyed my time at OSCAR a lot, the kids are amazing and very well behaved, and I always look forward to my time working here whether that is helping the kids with their homework or playing games like stinger ball and tag on the park.



Group Games with Sangeetha: We played a group game called 'Midnight', for that every child was asked to sit in a circle and they were given a number (from 1 to 4) at first. When a number is called out, children who are that number run outside the circle and must enter through the gap they were sitting in. The first one who touch the centre will be upgraded to 'moonlight'. As the game goes on the name will be upgraded to 'Twilight', 'Starlight' and finally 'Midnight'. Sadly, we have farewelled Sangeetha as she has moved on to full time work.



Mel's waterbomb craft: We've had such an awesome hot summer and these DIY sponge bombs were perfect for the occasion! The sponge bombs are super easy to make. Cut strips of a sponge, put them together, tie them in the centre, fluff them up. The senior children were eager to pick out their colours and described their bombs as "very squishy, nice, cool" and "wet" when they weren't even wet! They thought the spiky bombs were "awesome" and "cool". We're all very keen to have some sponge bomb waterplay!



Baking with Tony I had the pleasure of baking Anzac biscuits with the help of 3 wonderful kids (Holly, Jayanethra & Srinika) As we were baking the enthusiasm of the students was quite awesome to see. From being overzealous with the mixing to the incredible contributions to keeping the area clean. Now if I was to say that it all went according to plan I would be lying (ha ha). Someone not naming any names (may have been me) may have accidentally put too much of some ingredients in the mixture - much to the amusement of the kids. After some help from other staff to correct the ever so slight error in the measurements the biscuits were finished and baked. The next day the kids got to have them for afternoon tea, and they thought they were the best Anzac Biscuits.

Ngā mihi

The OSCAR House Middle & Senior Team

Bridget, Cindy, Dom, Isaac, Jack, Juan, Mel & Tony

