



OWHANGO SCHOOL PANUI

Working Together to Achieve Our Very Best
Me Mahi Tahi Tatou Kia Whiwhi Mai Nga Mea Pai Rawa

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38/2019

12 December 2019

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKI

“He aroha whakatō, he aroha ka puta mai.”

If kindness is sown, then kindness is what you shall receive.

TERM FOUR DATES TO NOTE

12 December	Yr 7&8 Technology
13 December	Brock's Farm Trip
18 December	Year 8's Leavers Lunch Reports Out 3pm
19 December	School Break Up 6pm
20 December	Last Day of Term Twin Day
4 Feb 2020	First Day of Term 1

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This will be the final panui, the 38th, for this year. Although they take a lot of my time to write, I think they are an important part of communicating with our parents, whanau and community; of letting you know what is coming up and what has happened at school. It is tempting to do what several other schools have done and cut them back to every fortnight, but I think that would have a detrimental effect of weakening the school-home connection. For the same reason I have not pursued using Facebook as a means of communication, as many do not like it, and by having two different outlets for our information there is a risk of watering it down or it not being consistent (it also adds twice the amount of work for me). I would like to thank the teachers for their regular contributions, especially the Classroom Korero items which are a window into each classroom, and to Karen Erni who adds a few notices each week and proofreads it before it gets sent out.

I hope you all have a lovely time with your children over the summer holidays, create some nice memories and come back refreshed for next year.
Ewan Starkey

CLASSROOM KŌRERO- seniors

Tongariro Crossing

Tawhirimatea howled at us below. My heart raced. We were climbing up the last big hill. The chain was nowhere in sight. All I could hear was the loud scream of the atua above.

I was nearly at the top, a feeling of relief brushed across my face. Do you ever have that feeling when you look at something so beautiful and are so grateful that the world you call home is something truly amazing? Well that was the exact feeling I felt when I saw the blue lake. My heart raced, it felt like it was a gift for the big walk I had just accomplished. I was so happy and privileged that I got to do that extraordinary walk with people I call family.

By Tia Lord



On the Tongariro Alpine Crossing; in the shadow of Ngauruhoe

TARANAKI FALLS TRIP- Year 1-5

We had perfect weather for our walk through the Tongariro National Park, around the loop track to the Taranaki Falls and back. It took us about three hours including a lunch stop. Highlights were playing in the spray of the waterfall, collecting rocks along the way, and enjoying the plants, geology and nature along the way. Although it was a good test of our fitness, nobody struggled, and some would have happily run the whole way!



Some of the year 1-5 kids at the Taranaki Falls

REPORTS

We will be handing out your child's report at 3pm on Wednesday 18th December.

CLASSES FOR 2020

Due to the complexity of our staffing next year, I have inserted a chart at the end of this panui to explain where each ākonga (student) will be and who is teaching them. We will be starting with 46 children, if we get to 51 children, we will then be getting a third full-time teacher and we will use the morning classroom set-up. If you have any questions about this then come and talk with me, Ewan Starkey.

BROCK'S FARM TRIP – tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday 13th, we will be having our end of year trip at Brock's Farm at the Whakapapa river.

This is an outdoor based day with fun, challenging, fitness-focussed activities, making the most of our beautiful, local environment. We will be leaving the school about 9:15 to walk down to the farm, the year 4-8 children have the option of cycling down (and back at the end of the day).

If the weather is unsuitable a decision will be made at 8:30am on the day and families will be emailed, we will be doing a fun, wet weather programme at school instead. There is no postponement day.

There is an option for the year 4 -8 children to go tubing in the Whakapapa river. For this to happen,

we need adult assistance either as lifeguards on the banks, tubing with the children down the river or in kayaks as safety assistance.

SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOKS BACK NOW - a reminder

All school library books to be returned immediately for annual stocktake please.

LOST PROPERTY- last chance

Please come and check if it belongs to you. Everything not claimed will be given away at the end of the term.

NATIVITY SERVICE a reminder

We will be having a Nativity service in the Owhango Hall on 17th December at 1:30pm. This will be taken by Lesley and Merv Aitken. All welcome.

CHRISTMAS PARADE

The theme this year for the parade was 'Super Heroes' and our float was full of them. A big thank you to Regan Hoban, Hannah Lord, Trudie Wheeler and chief organiser Michelle Gavegan who took on this mission and produced the most amazing float for our children. It looked excellent and the students had a great time.



Our Christmas Parade float

OWHANGO SCHOOL 2018 BREAK UP- a reminder

The **school break up** will be held on Thursday 19th December, commencing at 6:00pm at the Owhango Hall. There will be a mix of entertainment from the children, presentations and the odd speech. It should take about an hour.

After which we will have our **community pot-luck barbecue** at the school. Please bring some BBQ meat / main course / salad / dessert to share; your own cutlery, crockery and refreshments. Please

ensure that any meat to be barbecued is defrosted; note there will not be any other way to heat food than the BBQ.

This is a whole community event, our end of year get-together. Friends and family are all welcome to attend.

EARLY CLOSURE FOR BREAK UP

On Wednesday 19th December school will close at 2:00pm so that parents can rest their children before the break up, and the school can be cleaned and set up for the evening. It will also provide additional time for those families that need to travel home and be organised before returning to school.

VEGETABLE GARDEN- Come and get it

Please come and help yourselves.

If possible, pick the outside leaves so the plants can continue to grow.



Climbing the Devil's Staircase (I love how Mrs Smith takes photos on an angle to make it look really steep!)

SCHOOL POOL IS OPEN

We are really pleased to announce that the school pool is now open for the summer season.

You can purchase keys for the season from the school office. They are the same price as last year- \$50 with a \$20 refund when the key is returned at the end of the season.

Remember to help yourselves to vegies from our garden if you are visiting the pool.



Super Heroes and Santa's

STATIONERY LISTS

We will be sending out stationery lists next week in case you would like to purchase from the shops in the holidays. The current year 1 children will not need new stationery next year- they all still have plenty.

2020 TERM DATES & TEACHER ONLY DAYS

Term 1 Tues 4th Feb to Fri 9th Apr

Teacher Only Day- 7th Feb (giving you a long weekend with Waitangi Day)

Term Two Tues 28th April to Fri 3rd July

Term Three Mon 20th July to Fri 25 Sept

Term Four Mon 12th Oct to Wed 16th Dec

Teacher Only Day- Fri 23rd Oct (giving you a long weekend with Labour Day)



Our adults on the Tongariro Alpine Crossing- we cannot do these trips without your active support.

Thanks too, to the adults that came on the Taranaki Falls trip; sorry we didn't get a photo of you!

TWIN DAY- a reminder

Following a request from the kids, we are having a "Twin Day" on the last day of the year. This is where the kids organise themselves into pairs and dress the same.



Elise Frampton scrambles over the rocks to join Soren Hosking and Jack Pierce in the spray from the Taranaki Falls

LOCALS' DAY ON THE SKY WAKA GONDOLA

A message from Ruapehu Alpine Lifts:
We invite all Ruapehu and Taupō district locals to come and ride New Zealand's largest and most technically advanced gondola, Sky Waka, for locals' weekend on the 14th & 15th December. Tickets will be just \$10* with half the proceeds donated to support St John Waimarino Area Committee and the National Park Community Pool.

*Return Sky Waka gondola sightseeing tickets for Ruapehu and Taupō district residents. ID and proof of address (e.g. power bill) required to purchase up to four (4) tickets per resident. If Sky Waka is closed due to weather, tickets may be redeemed Mon 16 - Fri 20 Dec. Tickets are non-refundable and non-transferable.

FRESH ASIAN STIR-FRY

GLOBAL FLAVOURS

Ingredients:

- 1 tsp oil
- 1 onion, sliced
- 1 Tbsp soy sauce
- fresh or frozen vegetables
- choice of meat, thinly sliced

Brown onion in pan with oil and add meat. Cook for 5min then mix veges through. Stir-fry until veges are just cooked – they should still be a little crunchy. Add soy sauce for flavouring. Serve hot with brown rice or udon noodles.





CHICKEN



BEEF



PORK



FROZEN VEG

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THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THIS YEAR:

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