



ŌWHANGO SCHOOL PĀNUI

The tamariki at Ōwhango School are engaged in our unique, rural environment, are individual in their learning, and strong in experience and success.

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4/2024

28th February 2024

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

"I've learnt that kids need hugs more than they need things." Anonymous, aged 47

DATES TO NOTE

28 th Feb	School Board Hui
6 th March	Junior Swimming Display 2:15pm
8 th March	Mountain School Swimming
15 th March	Inter-school Swimming
22 nd March	Bike Trip- Tongariro River Trail
26 th March	Assembly 2:15
29 th March	Good Friday
1 st April	Easter Monday
2 nd April	Easter Tuesday
5 th April	Yr 5-6 Ki-o-rahi Day
9 th April	Show- Matinee Performance
10 th April	Show- Evening Performance
12 th April	Yr 7-8 Ki-o-rahi Day
	Last Day of Term One

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

In this week's Pānuī there are a lot of permission slips for upcoming events. It really helps us if you fill these in as soon as you read them, otherwise they can easily be forgotten, and we have to spend unnecessary time emailing you to get them in so that we can proceed with our organisation.

Due to this problem, last year we set up a system where you are given the information and permissions slip, then if it isn't returned you get two emailed reminders, if after that you still have not returned your form then it is too late. Your child will not be able to participate in that event. Sorry to have to be so tough but our school policy states that we need you to know, and to agree, when we take your child out of the village on an educational trip.

CLASSROOM KORERO- Kahikatea (Upper Middle Class)

When thinking about a new name for our classroom, we came across Kahikatea and loved the meaning behind this mighty rākau. This native tree is unique as its root structure does not grow below ground, but rather across the forest floor to connect and intermingle with the roots of another Kahikatea. It is this intermingling of roots that makes it amongst the strongest and most resilient of native trees within the forests of Aotearoa New Zealand. Just like the Kahikatea, we will support and look after each other to be the best we can be. Kahikatea (the upper middle classroom) has had a fantastic start to the year. We started by writing about our goals, what we are looking forward to and what we are a little nervous about. We followed this up by creating a self portrait in the style of Modigliani, who was famous in the early 1900's for portraits that had a surreal elongation of faces and necks. This instantly brightened up our classroom!



Amedeo Modigliani inspired self-portraits by Kahikatea

We have been doing a lot of work around Te Tiriti o Waitangi, especially around Kupe and his importance at the Waitangi Treaty Grounds. You'll also notice in recent panui the terrific mahi Kahikatea are doing in the garden with Whaea Regan, most weeks they are harvesting

and preparing something yummy, a wonderful and authentic example of garden to plate learning. Now that we are into Week 4 of Term 1, our reading, maths, and spelling programmes are well underway, and everyone is working hard. Whaea Theresa.



Self-portraits
by Aleah Potgieter and Jack Pierce

SKIING 2024

Every second year we go on a ski camp. This year we have our ski camp booked for the whole school at Tukino for 26th to 31st August. You may want to keep that date free to come along and be a parent support. More information will come out late in term two.

HEARING AND VISION TESTS

These will be happening tomorrow- sorry about the last notice. There is one spare space if someone has a concern about their child's hearing or vision, please contact the school. For more information see the poster at the bottom of today's Pānui.

OUR ANNUAL BIKE TRIP

We are planning to take the whole school on this year's bike trip, to the Tongariro River Trail in Tūrangi.

This will be on Friday 22nd March, departing school around 9:00am and returning before 3:00pm. This trip is compulsory, any children not riding their bikes will be walking part of the trail. We will be travelling in a mixture of cars and Owango Adventure buses, with trailers to transport the bikes.

For all of the information, and permission slip, go to the bottom of this Pānui. Please get the

permission slips in promptly so that planning can proceed.

SCHOOL SHOW

Kia ora e te whānau,
Show rehearsals and preparations are well underway and we are beginning the hunt for a few items to borrow for props and costuming. Can you please get in touch with me in person or email (emma@owhango.school.nz) if you have any of the following items that we could borrow?

- White/grey wig/beard
- long cloaks (think Harry Potter) in both light and dark colours
- matching short bob style wigs or sparkly wigs
- sparkly material

Thanks, Emma



We are doing a lot of practises for our school show- learning the songs, dances and lines.

BALL WALL DESIGN COMPETITION

Entries for our new ball wall design are pouring in. They can be viewed in the corridor.



Designs for the ball wall

FINAL REMINDER- STATIONERY PACKS PAYMENTS DUE THIS FRIDAY THE 1st March

Please pay for your 2024 Stationery packs by this Friday 1st March. These were issued at the beginning of term cost \$22.00 per student. Please make payment to BoT account: Westpac 03 0426 0141783 00 with "Stationery" as reference.

MOUNTAIN SCHOOLS SWIMMING SPORTS

On Friday 8th March the Year 3 – 8 students will

be attending the Mountain Schools' Swimming Sports at the outdoor pool in Taumarunui. We will be leaving at 9:00am. It finishes at approximately 2pm so we will be back at school before 3:00pm. We need assistance with the timing of races so if you were able to lend a hand, it would be greatly appreciated. See more information below, as well as the permission slip.

KOWHAI- JUNIOR ROOM SWIMMING DISPLAY

Instead of attending the Mountain School Swimming Sports, the junior room do a swimming display in our school pool to show you what they have been learning this season. It will be held at 2:15pm on Wednesday 6th March. All welcome.

CHANGED PHONE OR EMAIL?

If you have recently changed your cell phone number or email address, please inform the school so that we can contact you if there is an emergency. Thanks

BLUEBERRY FARM TRIP

Tōtara had a wonderful trip to the Ōwhango Blueberry Farm last week. Students were luckily allowed to help themselves, and many also chose the P.Y.O. option so all students chipped in to help fill 1kg containers.

We had some ongoing contests such as biggest blueberry and the best adjective to describe the "magnificently juicy" fruits. Farmer Steve very kindly weighed the berries as students watched him eagerly. We ended our trip with some games and a picnic on the lawn, although it was a light lunch after filling our puku with berries!

Thank you to Whaea Maree, Haylie Martin & Ann Murtagh who helped with road safety and supervision as well as berry judging duties on our trip, and to Helen & Steve at the farm for their hospitality.

To round off our learning we followed up our trip with some home baking and smoothie making the next day. Students were put into four groups and given recipes to follow. Through teamwork and determination, students made two delicious batches of blueberry muffins and blueberry banana smoothies for the whole class to enjoy for lunch, all on their own.

Ka rawe tamariki o Tōtara!



At the blueberry orchard



Blueberry muffins ready for baking...



...and ready for eating

ASSEMBLY

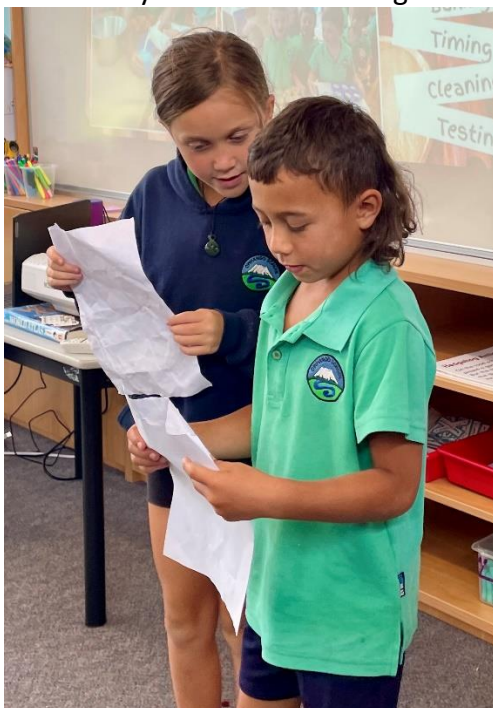
Yesterday Tōtara Class hosted our school assembly. They spoke with confidence to our school about the mahi that they have been working on. We also got to see how nicely their new classroom is looking.



Patrick, Millie, Billie, Decan and Myer welcome the school to the assembly



Daithi and Rosa talk about the clay dragon eyes they have been creating



Te Hana and Kyston talk about the life skills they were practising as they cooked with the blueberries they had gathered

DUFFY BOOK WINNERS

Our Duffy Book recipients are...



Ben for his Improved focus and self-management skills, Kotuku- welcome to Ōwhango, Jackson for his great explanations in maths, and Finley for his effort and improvement in all areas



Lucy for her courage and effort in the pool, Te Hana for her effort in writing and using 8 WOW words in her mahi, Patrick for his effort and improvement in reading, Rosa for her positive attitude and being an amazing all-round role model.



Boyd- welcome to Ōwhango, Tyler for his enthusiasm and effort in writing, Lila and Myer- welcome to Ōwhango, and Evie for her excellent reading comprehension and effort in her independent mahi.



Hazel for her extra effort pertaining to the show for using expressions and drama, Hopaea for using rich, vibrant and expressive vocabulary in your writing, Freida for producing high quality level of work, and Delaize for his quick and accurate understanding of geometry.

FUEL FOR SCHOOLS

We are on the way to reaching the "Fuel for Schools" \$1000 threshold for redeeming our money to buy some goodies for the school.

Our current total is \$915.61. Thank you to our wonderful sponsors.

NEW STAFFROOM

We have received our first draft for our new staffroom. It is on display on the notice board in the corridor for your inspection.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

TAUMARUNUI PRIMARY NETBALL

The netball season is nearly upon us, so if your child would like to play this year, (and if you're keen to coach or manage a team!), please complete the below permission slip and return it to the office ASAP so planning can proceed. The below information has been emailed to us from Taumarunui Netball, please note the day for netball has not been finalised yet. This should be done at the upcoming AGM. If you would like to attend the AGM, please see the details below.

*The AGM has been moved to **Monday 4th***

March 5:00pm at the TNC Pavilion.

EXEC POSITION AVAILABLE

We still have an outstanding position on the Exec - Coach Coordinator. If anyone is interested, please return the attached nomination form by Friday 1 March 12:00pm.

NETBALL DATES

Grading Day for both Senior and Primary teams is on Saturday 13 April 2024.

PRIMARY DATES

2 May - 4 July 2024

\$350 fee per team

FUTURE FERNS

Years 1-4

Every Wednesdays from 1 May 3:30pm

\$15 per player

REGISTRATIONS

Please have all team registrations in by 24 March 2024 so we can get the draw up and running as soon as we can.

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR HOCKEY

If you would like to play hockey this year, please fill in the permission form that is attached to this week's Pānui. We are still awaiting further information regarding subs, registrations and starting dates but Willy O'Donnell is keen to gauge interest and start putting together another superstar Ōwhango Team! Further information will be supplied as soon as it becomes available.

Community Notices

FLOWERS FOR SALE- PTA fundraiser

If you would like to purchase a bunch of freshly cut blooms, bountiful in colour and ready to brighten up yours or a friend's day, please txt me on 027 331 9377. I can make up a bunch to suit any budget and 20% of sales go toward the Ōwhango School PTA. Signed Regan Hoban

PAYING BY INTERNET BANKING DETAILS:

Ōwhango School: Uniform / stationery / sport fees pay to 03 0426 0141783 00

PTA: Fundraisers 030 426 0156205 00

2024 TERM DATES

Term One- 5th February to 12th April

Term Two- 29th April to 5th July

Term Three- 22nd July to 27th September

Term Four- 14th October to 18th December

Teacher Only Days- 4th June & 25th November

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THIS YEAR

Duffy Books in Schools: W & C O'Donnell, Doyle Valuations, Ōwhango Motors, S & M Ashcroft Partnership, Tania and Mark Bramley.

Firewood- The Petersen's

Ōwhango Adventures: Free bus use for trips

Fern Energy Fuel for Schools Scheme: Blazing Paddles Ltd, Bos Taurus, DR & LA Marshall Ltd, JB & KA Lord, KF or VI Kimberley, MJ & TM Lord, MJ & KL Collier Partnership, O'Donnell WM & CE, Ōwhango Farms Ltd, RC & JF Walker, Rocket Excavations Ltd, Tylee Family Trust, W Bryan Earthworks Ltd, Waihou Farming Trust.

MOUNTAIN SCHOOL'S SWIMMING SPORTS INFORMATION

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH

On Friday 8th March the Year 3 – 8 students will be attending the Mountain Schools' Swimming Sports. We will be leaving at 9:00am. It finishes at approximately 2pm so we will be back at school before 3:00pm. The day starts with the width races which are for those children not yet ready to swim the lengths. Then the ropes are put up in the lanes for the length races.

At the end of the races there will be some free time for everyone in the pool with the diving board open. This day is about participation and having fun and extending your comfort zone in a supportive environment. From this event we choose a team to go to the serious interschool swimming competition.

Can the children please bring:

- a **warm jersey** for when they are waiting for their next event
- an **extra towel** as they can get a bit wet during the day
- their **lunch** - extra rations as it can be hungry work swimming
- a **drink** - water only please
- put on **sunblock** before coming to school (we will have some to put more on during the day)

Manunui School will be running a BBQ as a fundraiser selling: sausages, ice blocks and drinks (water)- all for \$2 each. Students and whānau are very welcome to purchase from the BBQ!

The children will need to wear their uniform to and from the pool.

We need help with timing a couple of the lanes and would like to share this job around so that no one is stuck doing it all day.

Please complete and return the permission form by **THIS FRIDAY 1st MARCH**



MOUNTAIN SCHOOL'S SWIMMING SPORTS FRIDAY 8th MARCH
PERMISSION AND TRANSPORT SLIP

Family name _____

My child / ren _____ may attend the Mountain School's Swimming Sports

TRANSPORT

YES / NO I can provide smoke-free, and seat-belted transport for _____ (write number) children, in a registered and warranted vehicle that will be driven by a fully licensed driver who adheres to all traffic regulations. (Note, drivers will be paid some money to go towards their petrol costs.)

YES / NO I will be meeting you at the venue in Taumarunui

YES / NO I will be sending a booster seat for my child
(Note by law children under 7 must be in a booster seat)

If you are assisting with transport:

Name of driver _____

Signed _____

YES or NO I can/not assist with timing some of the races on the day.

Tongariro River Trail Bike Trip
Whole School Friday 22nd March 2024
(no postponement date)

We are planning to take the whole school on this year's bike trip, to the Tongariro River Trail in Tūrangi. This will be on Friday 22nd March, departing school around 9:00am and returning before 3:00pm. This trip is compulsory, any children not riding their bikes will be walking part of the trail. We will be travelling in a mixture of cars and Owhango Adventure buses, with trailers to transport the bikes.

A description of The Tongariro River Trail:

An easy, mainly flat track suitable for families and casual riders. The track can be enjoyed in any direction and started at a number of different points. This means shorter routes can be tailored to suit your particular needs. There is only one major climb on the trail, up to the Tongariro River Lookout at the northern end of the loop – well worth the effort when you reach the top and take in the view of the river set against the backdrop of the mountains in the Tongariro National Park. High banks provide excellent views of the calm pools and rippling rapids of the river. Explore angler access tracks off the main path to get closer views. Keep an eye out for trout or watch the fly-fishing action - the Tongariro River is a world-renowned fishery. This is a shared track popular with anglers, dog walkers and mountain bikers. Bikers give way to walkers. Angler access tracks may end abruptly at the river edge, use caution when exploring these.

13.2 km if doing the whole loop

Walking: 2 - 3 hours, Grade: Easy

Biking: 30 min - 1 hr 30 min Grade 2: Easy

The Plan for Our Day

We will be starting and finishing at the Taupahi Reserve Park on Taupahi Road, Tūrangi, where there is a playground and toilets. From there we will depart south, in small groups, the faster riders going first, aiming to do the whole trail, then the other riders, aiming to do part of the trail, with the youngest riders going last, followed by anyone walking. The juniors will be doing a much shorter part of the trail. Each group will have an adult at the front and back and will stop regularly to regroup. We will leave our school bags at the reserve, after having a large morning tea (half lunch) before setting off. All groups will eat their second lunch at the reserve; those with the time, and fitness can then set off for the last, steeper, northern loop of the track. Once completed we will meet back at the Taupahi Reserve Park, where there is plenty of room to play or wait for everyone to return.

Help needed please:

We need adults on bikes to accompany us for this trip to proceed, and some cars for passengers and trailers to transport the bikes.

The bikes must have:

Brakes that work well, tyres that are pumped up, a chain that is oiled, and be a suitably sized bike for the child and one that the child can ride.

Riders must have:

A helmet that fits them. Clothes suitable for riding a bike (closed shoes, layers for different temperatures). Extra rations of food. Plenty of water. Students might want to take a small backpack to put their water in if their bike doesn't have a water holder. Please ensure the kids have eaten breakfast, they will need their energy for this day.

Walkers must have:

Suitable walking clothes (note that uniforms do not need to be worn on this day), an appropriate sun hat. Note that due to the strong current, we will not be swimming in the river.

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Tongariro River Trail Bike Trip- Permission Slip Whole School

Friday 22nd March 2024 (no postponement date)

Please return this form as soon as possible so planning can proceed.

Family name _____

Permission: my child / ren _____ may attend the Tongariro River Trail Bike Trip.

My child/ren will be **riding** or **walking** (circle which)

Adult Help Riding / Walking: I _____ will be riding a bike with the group

OR I _____ will be walking with the group

Transport:

YES / NO I can provide smoke-free, and seat-belted transport for _____ (write number) of children, in a registered and warranted vehicle that will be driven by a fully licensed driver who adheres to all traffic regulations. (Note, drivers will be paid some money to go towards their petrol costs.)

YES / NO I can bring a trailer

YES / NO I will be sending a booster seat for my child
(Note by law children under 7 must be in a booster seat)

Signed _____

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Taumarunui Primary Netball Competition

(This is an extra-curricular activity- outside of school hours)

Child/ren's Name/s.....

School Year/s.....

Parent: **Yes / No** I can coach a team. (Please circle your answer)

Parent: **Yes / No** I can manage a team. (Please circle your answer)

If you have your umpires' ticket and are able to umpire this season **Yes / No** (Please circle your answer)

OR

My child would like to take part in Future Ferns **Yes / No**

Adult's Name.....

✂-----

Taumarunui Junior Hockey Competition

(This is an extra-curricular activity- outside of school hours)

My child/ren.....is/are interested in playing hockey this year as part of the Taumarunui Junior Hockey Competition.

School Year/s.....

Signed by parent/caregiver.....

Information Sheet on Vision and Hearing Checks in School

Vision Hearing Technicians from Community and Southern Rural Health will be visiting our school. The objective of the test is to identify previously undetected vision and hearing problems.

Which children are routinely checked?

- Children who have not completed vision and hearing checks as part of their B4 School Check
- Children absent from previous visit, require rescreens or follow up
- New Immigrants
- Year 7 student's vision only

If there is a genuine hearing concern, parents/caregivers or teachers may request a hearing check - NB parents must consent to this. The Vision Hearing Technician will only be able to undertake a maximum of 5 screens on any visit. If there is a concern regarding vision, parents/caregivers are encouraged to seek advice from an optometrist. A subsidy is available for families/whanau that have a Community Services card or High Use Health card.

What tests are carried out?

Ears

- Audiometry (hearing test)
- Tympanometry – middle ear function test (only carried out when hearing test is not within a normal range)

Eyes

Long distance vision tests – not a complete visual examination, but a simple screening test.

NB All of these checks are non-invasive, safe and should cause no discomfort.

The Vision Hearing Technician will:

- Notify parents/caregivers of all test results
- Enter results on Ministry of Education database (Enrol)

The Vision Hearing Technician will obtain personal details from the school ie; names, date of birth.

If the technician needs to contact parents/caregivers following the visit, addresses and phone numbers will also be required.

Our Service may share this information with other health professionals involved in the children's care.

If any parents/caregivers **do not** want their child to be checked, or their child is currently under specialist care for their vision or hearing, they should let the school know.