



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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School Board Presiding Member- Nicole Hosking- nichosking44@gmail.com

5/2024

6th March 2024

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

“Treat people as if they were what they ought to be, and you help them to become what they are capable of being. Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

DATES TO NOTE

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
	PTA Meeting 3:15
10 th April	Show- Evening Performance
12 th April	Yr 7-8 Ki-o-rahi Day
	Last Day of Term One

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Achievement Targets 2024

At last week's board meeting, the board approved our two achievement targets. Over the next two weeks I will write about these. The first is an Attendance Target.

We are concerned at the number of students who are not regularly attending school, as research has shown that poor attendance is the greatest factor in poor academic results.

Regularly attending school is defined as being at school for 90%+.

Ōwhango School's statistics for the second half of 2023 are:

Description	Present at school as a %	Percent of Ōwhango students
Chronic Absence	Less than 70%	3%
Moderate absence	70% - 80%	8%
Irregular Absence	80% - 90%	33%

Regular Attendance	90%+	57%
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Our goal, which aligns with the Government's Attendance and Engagement Strategy, is to lift our attendance as shown below:

Present at school	Our Current Attendance	Our Goal for 2024
Less than 70%	3%	0%
70% - 80%	8%	6%
80% - 90%	33%	24%
90%+	57%	70%

To implement this goal, every five weeks I will be analysing our attendance figures and contacting parents whose child's attendance is causing concern. It is not that we want sick children to be at school, however, we need to balance up our accountability towards your child's learning and the consequences of having children missing out on large chunks of their education.

I would appreciate your support with this matter.

CLASSROOM KŌRERO-Tōtara

Thank you for joining us in Tōtara for our assembly last week, it was a pleasure to have so many whānau members visit our new learning space. Since then, we have continued to work on our mythical creature's topic by independently writing informative reports on our chosen creatures. We added a labelled diagram to our reports too. We hope you enjoy these snippets from our writing.

El chupacabra is a vicious mythical creature from Mexico. A chupacabra has intense, red, freaky eyes. A chupacabra has poisonous spikes on its back. -Elliott

A unicorn has a giant, sparkly horn and long beautiful hair. -Lila

A leprechaun is a miniature, lucky, mischievous creature from Irish culture. Some people think they are horrible, but they are actually just

cheeky. They have pots of glittery coins, and they steal pots of money. -Te Hana

Cerberus is a mythical creature from Greece with three heads. It is enormous, fluffy and it is fast. It is creepy because it growls, and it's got a slimy mouth. -Kyston

The Kraken is a sea creature from Norway. The Kraken has immense tentacles and beady eyes. Its body is giant. -Daithi O'g

Yetis are really rare. They live in icy caves. They come from Tibet, and they have ginormous blue hands. -Azalea

This week, we are finishing this interesting topic with informative reports on our own imagined mythical creatures. I look forward to reading what our learners dream up!

In the arts we have completed a seascape with the silhouette of either a mermaid or kraken. This was a mixed media project that involved sketching, outlining, painting, and framing. We used card, acrylic and vivids to create our art. We learned about blending paints, positioning and perspective. As you can see from the finished result, we have some budding artists in Tōtara.



We continue to build on our swimming skills each day, and every fortnight we look forward to Matt Lord's support with fitness and P.E. Soon, he will be helping us develop our rippa rugby skills. Thank you, Matt!



Finally, on Friday we spent a wonderful day together in te ngahere (forest) exploring native trees, collecting litter, comparing flowers, eating wild berries, identifying insects, spotting kereru, building bridges and huts, having tribal wars, problem solving, creating nature art and we even managed to find a long enough vine for the whole class to play tug o' war!



The purpose of these days is to connect our learners with nature in a fun, authentic and meaningful way so that they grow to love and understand their natural environment and strive to protect it for future generations.



These days are mostly child-led, with some prepared challenges for tamariki who are a little unsure how to begin their outdoor learning.



I was impressed with the level of teamwork I witnessed, and more so with the creativity and imagination on display. Inevitably, we ended up in a class mud war...students sorted themselves into tribes, whittled spears using rocks, used mud for war paint and leaves for head dresses, set their own rules and boundaries and most of all had an absolutely amazing time chasing and capturing each other until it was time for our picnic lunch, then back to school for a swim.



"Best day EVER!" -Brodie

"I took leaves from 5 different trees and looked for them in the native tree book and they are all in there! We are surrounded by native trees down here!" -Harry

"I built a slide. The more water you add to it, the faster you go!" -Millie

I am so proud of the tamariki in Tōtara and how our term is going so far. I am looking forward to more exciting learning opportunities with them!
Whaea Siobhan



SCHOOL BOARD HUI

At last week's board meeting we confirmed the roles of each member for the year, they are:

- Guy Hoban- Finance
- Aaron Owen- Property
- Mark Bramley- Health and Safety
- Nicole Hosking- Presiding Member (chair)
- Maree Ashcroft- Secretary
- Jessie Smith- Staff Trustee
- Ewan Starkey- CEO

We also reviewed and approved our two Achievement Targets, the 2023 Achievement Target and Analysis of Variance Report, we approved the budget for 2024, discussed the principal's Professional Growth Cycle, approved the joining of the Kahui Ako, reviewed the latest draft plan for the new staff room, we approved the next stage of our work on the schoolhouse, and discussed the future staff of the school. Two policies were also reviewed- Cycling to School and Code of Conduct for Parents.



Matt Lord at one of his weekly sports coaching sessions

CARETAKER VACANCY

Our wonderful caretaker, Hamish Sinclair, is retiring from caretaking. If you know anyone who would be interested in applying for this position, then contact Ewan Starkey either in person, or at principal@owhango.school.nz for more information. Applications close on the 1st April.

NO PARKING

Due to building work starting at the old church across the road from the school, we are no longer able to park there. Anyone needing additional space to pick up or drop off their children can do so using the back entrance of the school, next to the Domain.

OUR ANNUAL BIKE TRIP

Thank you to everyone who has got their permission slips back to us. An email reminder was sent out on Monday. Anyone who has not

got them in by **the end of this Friday** will be too late. There will be more information on this trip in next week's Pānui.

BALL WALL DESIGN COMPETITION

We are giving the students one more week to get their designs in for this competition. At the time of writing, we have 18 entries.

MOUNTAIN SCHOOLS SWIMMING SPORTS

This Friday 8th March the Tōtara, Kahikatea and Rimu students (i.e. not the junior class) will be attending the Mountain Schools' Swimming Sports at the outdoor pool in Taumarunui. We will be leaving around 9:00am. It finishes at approximately 2pm so we will be back at school before 3:00pm.

FOOD – Bring your lunch and a drink bottle with water only in it. The Manunui PTA will be running a BBQ selling \$2 sausages, ice blocks and water.

SWIMMING TRANSPORT

Driver	Students
Regan Hoban	Monty, Freida, Chanae
Jessie Smith	Piata, Te Hana, Whaea Siobhan, Daithi
Hannah Lord	Jack, Beau, Mason
Theresa Owen	Charlotte, Gin, Haylee, Ainsley
Dianne Paynter	Lucas, Oliver,
Maxine Arden	Evie, Darcy, Jamie, Pria
Tania Bramley	Harry, Brodie, Billie
Dale Coster	Rosa, Decan, Olive, Tyler
Meeting us there	Tilia, Nico, Ivy, Hopaea, Tahu, Zurich, Soren, Aleah, Meah, Delaize, Hayzin, Poppy, Patrick, Lucy, Kyston, Kaelyis-Rae, Juan, Scarlett, Millie, Elliott, Boyd, Myer, Lila
Absent	Hazel, Lo'i, Azalea

KOWHAI- JUNIOR ROOM SWIMMING DISPLAY

Today, at 2:15 the juniors will be demonstrating their swimming skills in the pool. You are all welcome to come along. We will proceed in rain or sunshine!

PTA MEETING

The Parent Teachers Association is having a meeting on Tuesday 9th April at 3:15pm at school. You are all welcome to come. We will be

discussing the upcoming events for the year, including the T42 Multisport Event.

CHUTNEY NEEDED

The PTA are selling sausages and burgers at this Saturdays' coaching day at the Taumarunui Domain, and they need donations of chutney to make them delicious- please drop it off at school or give it to Hannah Lord.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

TAUMARUNUI PRIMARY NETBALL- a reminder

Permission slips for this was in last week's Pānui.

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR HOCKEY- a reminder

Permission slips for this was in last week's Pānui.

Community Notices

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS QUIZ NIGHT

See poster below.

TAUMARUNUI DISTRICTS COACHING DAY- a reminder

This is on this Saturday. See the poster below.

FLOWERS FOR SALE- PTA fundraiser- a reminder

If you would like to purchase a bunch of freshly cut blooms, please txt me on 027 331 9377. I can make up a bunch to suit any budget and 20% of sales go toward the Owhango 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, Owhango Farms Ltd, RC & JF Walker, Rocket Excavations Ltd, Tylee Family Trust, W Bryan Earthworks Ltd, Waihou Farming Trust.

QUIZ NIGHT OWHANGO PUB

14TH March 2024

Bar open at 6pm, Quiz starts at 7pm

**RUAPEHU VOLUNTEER
 FIREFIGHTERS SKYTOWER TEAM
 RAISING FUNDS FOR LEUKEMIA &
 BLOOD CANCER NZ**

Create a team, 4 people \$10 each.

Book your team place by calling

Cara 0272887833

Pay to 02-0424-0045659-000

Ref: Quiz night – team name

Raffles, food and drinks available for purchase

Booking a team does not book a table, first in first served

TAUMARUNUI DISTRICTS COACHING DAY

SATURDAY 9TH MARCH 10AM START TAUMARUNUI DOMAIN



Brad Cooper

Taranaki Bulls Backs Coach
2023 National Rugby Champions



Sir Wayne Smith

Former All Blacks, Chiefs,
Crusaders, Black Ferns Coach



Neil Barnes

Taranaki Bulls Head
Coach 2023 National Coach of the year
2023 National Rugby Champions



Issac Boss

Former King Country Coach
Ireland International

Taumarunui Districts are proud to host these amazing coaches for day of learning and fun at the Taumarunui Domain. All interested in Coaching rugby in the Taumarunui area are welcome down at the domain for an amazing day.



Jarred Hoeata

Taranaki Bulls Forwards Coach
2023 National Rugby Champions

For More Info Contact

MATT LORD - 0278263956

JOHN ALLEN - 0275429225