



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

3/2025

19th February 2025

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

"Normalise not having an opinion on things you aren't informed on." Colby Kultgen

DATES TO NOTE

20 th Feb	Senior Room Deep Water Trip 1
21 st Feb.	Year 1-4 after school basketball starts
26 th Feb.	After school hockey starts 4pm
27 th Feb	Senior Room Deep Water Trip 2
5 th March	Kowhai Swimming Demonstration School Board Hui 6pm
6 th March	Mountain School Swimming Event
13 th March	Rotopounamu Trip
14 th March	Interschool Swimming Competition
28 th March	Whakapapa Rubbish Pick Up Day
31 st March	Y 5 & 6 Think Brain Safe Event
31 st March	Zero Waste Educator
4 th April	Optional Touch Tournament
5 th April	Senior Netball Grading Day
9 th April	School Assembly 2:00 PTA AGM 3:15
11 th April	Last Day of Term One

PRINCIPAL MESSAGES

Sun Hat Rule Update

We have updated our sun hat rules. Children are now allowed to wear baseball-style caps, provided they apply sunblock to any exposed skin on their ears and neck.

This decision was made for two reasons:

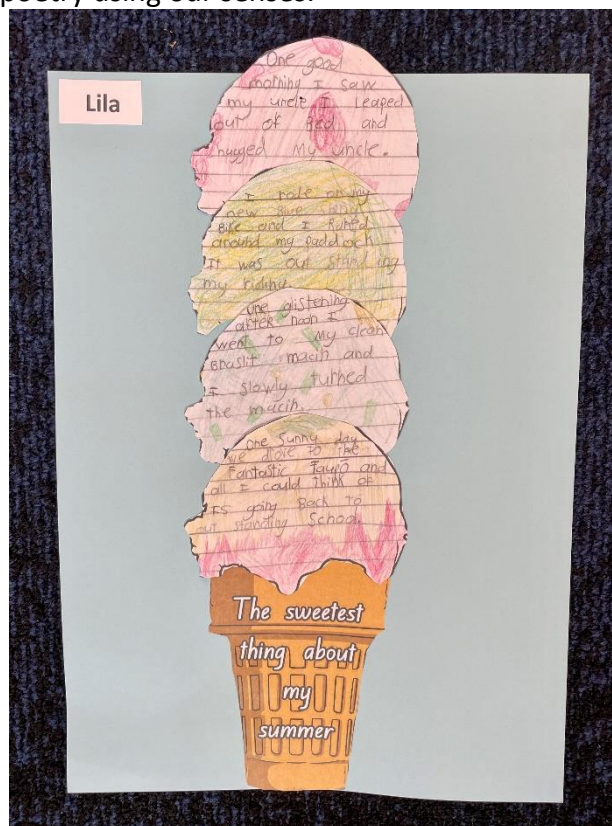
1. To accommodate the children's requests.
2. To allow for hats that stay on better during P.E. activities, as the current bucket hats tend to fall off when running.

Children may still wear bucket hats if they prefer. There are no restrictions on hat colours, as having different colours makes it easier for children to identify their own hats. Previously,

when everyone wore the same style, sorting them out at playtime was quite a challenge! Thank you for your support in keeping our students sun-safe.

CLASSROOM KŌRERO – Kahikatea Room

Kahikatea has had a fantastic start to the year. Our new friends, Hinemoa and Libby, feel like they've been part of Kahikatea forever! We started by doing fun descriptive writing using our holidays as our inspiration, publishing them on ice creams, then using this as a springboard into poetry using our senses.



Lila's 'Sweetest Thing About My Holidays'

Our first week of learning centred around Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and we learnt the story of how Waitangi got its name. We have brightened up our classroom with our visual pepeha. The

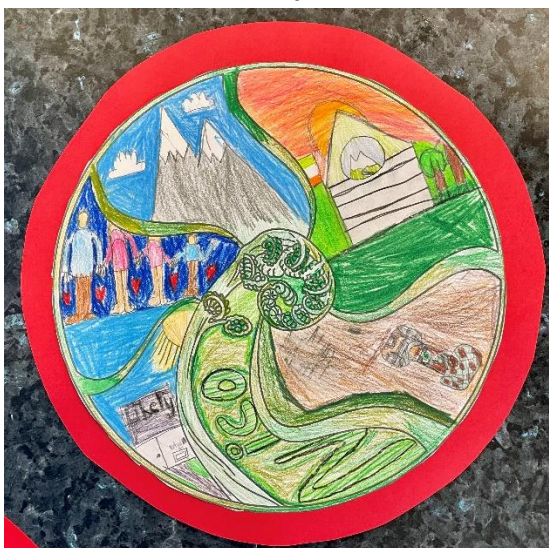
students worked hard to use symbols, pictures and patterns to tell their own story and to teach us what is important in their lives. It has been a wonderful way to get to know each other again.



visual pepeha by Te Hana...



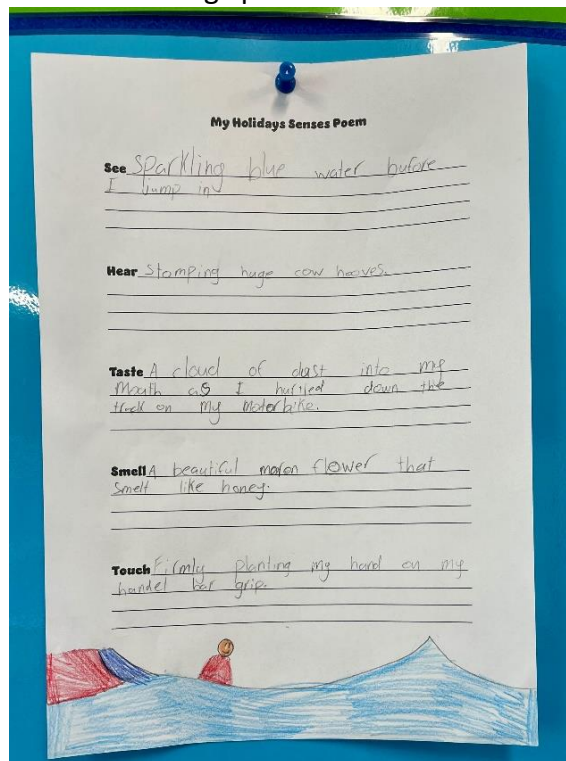
...Aria...



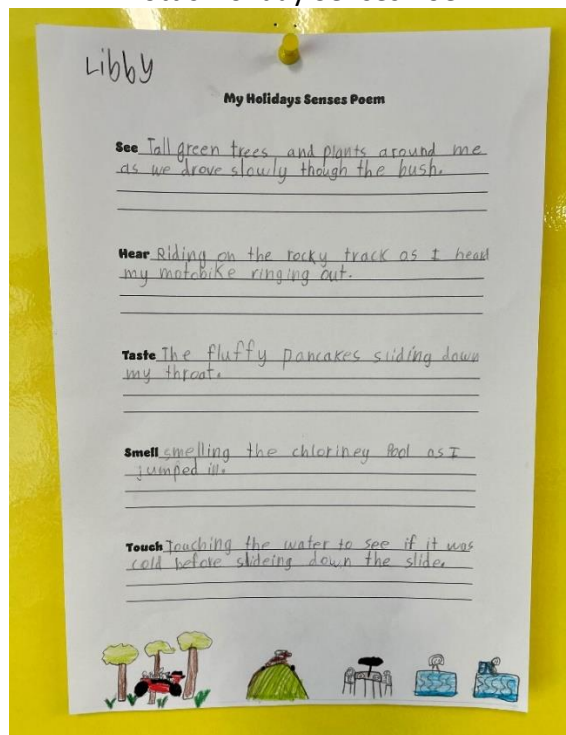
...and Nico

In the coming weeks we'll be learning about Plants, Petals and Pollination.

As we head into week three, our reading, spelling and maths programmes are underway and everyone is working hard. And let's not forget...swimming! We've been loving having an afternoon swim to escape the heat, learn new skills and prepare for the upcoming Mountain Schools Swimming Sports.



Elliott's Holiday Senses Poem



Libby's five senses poem

My Holiday Senses Poem

The bright shimmer of giant trout splashing in the distance.

Crackling from the deafening boat speeding across the turquoise water.

Delicious koura tails surrendering to my slimy mouth and throat.

The smell of yummy pancakes baking in the steel pan.

Spiky koura claws grabbing my sticky hands.

By Harry Bramley

My Holiday Senses Poem

I see my house before me, a splendid sunshine yellow.

I hear the excited ripping of presents on Christmas morning.

I taste the hideous water of my pool, as I splutter and choke.

I smell the dreadful pong of my dogs' dog poo.

I touch the beautifully crisp monopoly money.

By Daithī Ōg Murphy

ROTOPOUNAMU TRIP

As part of the commitment in our Strategic Goal to "*Make the most of our local environment, educating outside of the classroom*", we will be travelling to Lake Rotopounamu in the Tongariro National Park to walk around the lake on Thursday the 13th of March. The whole school is participating, and we would love parents and whānau to join us. We will be having our lunch and a swim at the beach at the far end of the lake, so bring your togs and towel. We hope to travel using cars only, however, if necessary, we will get a bus.

The children will need to bring:

A big lunch

Water bottle

Walking shoes

Mufti clothing- something suitable for walking in, including warm clothes.

Their own medication

A can-do attitude

Togs and towel

Please fill out the form below now and return it to school so that planning can proceed.

JUNIOR SWIMMING DEMONSTRATION

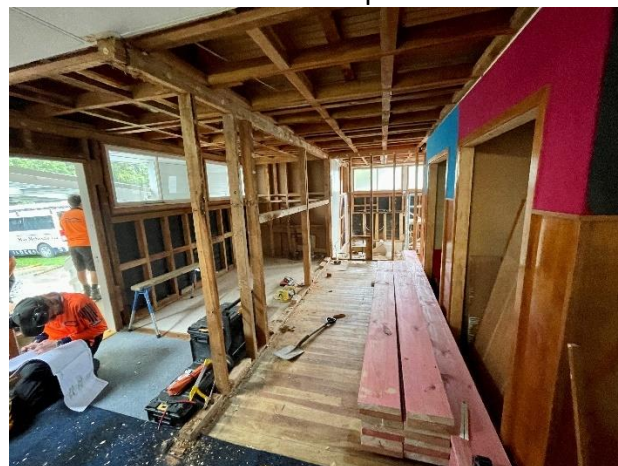
Kōwhai class will not be participating in the Mountain Schools Athletics event. However, we will hold an alternative swimming demonstration for whānau on Wednesday 5th March 2:30pm. This will be a brief demonstration of our water confidence and skills we are working on this term. We look forward to seeing you there.

DEEP WATER EXPERIENCE- Senior Room

We need all of these permission slips in by Friday please. Any children not swimming need a note from home explaining why and will stay at school for that period. See last week's Pānui for details and the permission slip.

THE NEW STAFFROOM

The builders have been at school since Monday morning, demolishing the insides of what will be our new staffroom. See the photos below.



The old cleaner's cupboard and the cloak bay is gutted



The old junior boy's toilets

MOUNTAIN SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS

Please note that this event is starting later to fit in with the warmer part of the day (it can be quite chilly at the beginning of the day).

Therefore, we will be departing school at 9:45, meeting at the outdoor pool at 10am. If this affects students who are meeting us there, please contact us.

Thanks to everyone who has returned their permission slip. **We need these in by tomorrow at the latest.**

PTA MEETING- tomorrow

The PTA are meeting tomorrow, Thursday the 20th of February to discuss a fundraising opportunity, catering for the Distance (horse) Riding New Zealand Championships being held locally over Easter. Everyone is welcome to come to this meeting which will be held at school at 3:15.

SCHOOL BOARD HUI- a reminder

We will be having our first school board hui on Wednesday 5th March at 6pm at school. You are all welcome to attend.

SWIMMING POOL COVER

Can the people with a pool key please remember to **put the cover on** the pool as you leave. It was left off twice last week.

If it is left off overnight the pool temperature can drop several degrees, but with the cover on it only drops one degree. Thank you.

If you are struggling to do this, then ask Ewan Starkey to show you how it can be done by one person.

If this continues to be a problem, we will have to close it to the public as we need a warm pool to teach swimming this term.



WHANGANUI FASTEST KID ON THE BLOCK

Congratulations to Kaelyis-Rae who came third in the Under 11 Girls section of the Whanganui Fastest Kid on The Block event in January. And to former student, Freida Hoban who came second in the under 14 girl's event.



Kaelyis-Rae at the event

FREE JUNIOR UNIFORM ITEMS

2 x size 6 t-shirts

1 x size small hoodie

Pick up from Whaea Siobhán in Kōwhai class.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR HOCKEY

A reminder from Taumarunui Junior Hockey - *Taumarunui Junior Hockey Club is pleased to announce the season will be starting Wednesday 26th February 4pm - 5pm at the Hockey Turf, Taumarunui High School (next to the pool). This is for new registrations and catch ups with coaches and to organise the 2025 small sticks program etc. Shin pads (\$10) and mouth guards (\$6) are compulsory and will be for sale at the turf.*

All team games will start from the 12th March on the bottom turf for 12 weeks, 3.30pm - 6.30pm with half hour games.

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Friday 21st February

Year 1-2, 4:15pm Owango Shooters V Tarrangower Mini Airball

Year 3-4, 5:45pm TKKM Te Tauru vs Owango Thunder

Community Notices

JOIN THE CHOIR

See the poster below.

PAYING BY INTERNET BANKING DETAILS:

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

PTA: Fundraisers 030 426 0156205 00

Term Four Monday 6th October to Wednesday 16th December

TERM DATES 2025

Term One Tuesday 4th February to Friday 11th April (Teacher only day Friday 7th February)

Term Two Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June.

Term Three Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THIS YEAR:

Duffy Books in Schools: W & C O'Donnell, Doyle Valuations, Ōwhango Motors, Awa Rere Hideaway, Tania and Mark Bramley.

Fern Energy Fuel for Schools Scheme

Ōwhango Adventures: Free bus use for trips

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Rotopounamu Trip Permission Slip

Thursday 13th March 2025

No postponement date

Family name _____

My child / ren _____ may attend the Rotopounamu Trip

ADULT HELP

YES / NO I can come and join us walking around Lake Rotopounamu

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 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 _____

JOIN THE CHOIR!

AGES 6 TO 14 YEARS
STARTS 19TH FEBRUARY



@ The Little Theatre

**WEDNESDAY @ 4PM – 5PM CONTACT
LYANNE WALKER-LEINEWEBER
FOR FURTHER DETAILS
021 0401304**