



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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13/2025

14th May 2025

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

"Ka whāia te wāhie mō takurua ka mahia te kai mō te tau". (If you look for firewood in the winter, you will have plenty of food all year round.)

DATES TO NOTE

14 th May	Seniors Kayaking
16 th May	Pink Shirt Day
21 st May	Bike-a-thon
2 nd June	King's Birthday Holiday
9 th June	Teacher Only Day- School Closed
10 th June	Arts Fortnight Starts
18 th June	Individual Reports Issued
19 th June	School Disco
20 th June	Matariki
24 th June	Kaitieke School Show Parent Teacher Interviews
25 th June	Assembly
27 th June	Last Day of Term Two

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Appointing a New Principal

At the bottom of this Pānui, the Ōwhango School Board have inserted a survey to get your feedback on the desirable attributes in the new principal. This will guide them in their decision-making process. Please fill it out and return to school by Friday next week (23rd May).

CLASSROOM KŌRERO - Kahikatea

As part of our learning around ANZAC Day we read the true story of Richard Alexander Henderson, a real-life soldier in the New Zealand Medical Corps, and the donkey he discovered wandering and hungry on a Gallipoli track. Richard and Roly form a strong friendship and together save the lives of many wounded soldiers. We read the story and discussed ANZAC Day and its significance in New Zealand as well as the role of animals in war and their

contributions. After that we wrote a diary entry from the perspective of Roly the Donkey focusing on feelings such as fear, bravery, loneliness, and companionship. We then used the Visual Arts Curriculum to follow up and complete our learning around ANZAC Day.

A Day in the Life of Roly the Donkey by Harry Bramley

Giddy! I'm Roly, an ANZAC medical donkey and today is going to be another big day at the front lines. I wake up to see a battalion of troops standing to attention and I smell the stink of rats rotting. My owner Richard picks up my lead and feeds me a sugary jam cookie. He leads me to the supply depot where he loads me up with guns, med kits, food and water. Off we go. The walk is full of dangers such as mines, bombs and the Turkish Army. "But we can't stop, lives depend on us," I think. But then, faster than a gunslinger can pull out a pistol, we are surrounded by the Turks. When everything seems done for, we're saved by the NZ Special Forces Unit. Richard thanks them then we set off again. When we arrive at the front lines with our supplies, it smells of death and smoke. The soldiers are relieved to see us. I fell asleep that night, proud of my service.

Roly the ANZAC Donkey - Pastel and dye creations:



Jack Ogle



Azalea Te Ahuru-Te Paki



Te Hana Smith

PINK SHIRT DAY

On Friday, we are participating in Pink Shirt Day. This is an annual anti-bullying event celebrated in Aotearoa to promote kindness and inclusivity. The children can wear something pink. There is no cost to participate.

BIKE-A-THON UPDATE

Next Wednesday the 21st of May, is our bike-a-thon. Kids can bring their bikes to school at 9:00 and ride during the playtimes. The bike-a-thon will start at 1:45 in the Domain. The kids will be riding for 45 minutes to get as many laps as possible. Please come along and cheer them on. We will need many hands to help count the kids as they do laps at this event. **Please be prepared to help** - you will be given a clipboard, and we will add the names of kids you know so you can count as they do each lap.

IMPORTANT- Please return your filled out sponsorship forms **before Wednesday**, so they can be readied and returned to you after the lap count is added, so you can collect the money.

Then please collect all money and pay to PTA account in one lump payment per child.

Bike-a-thon House Points



Most laps- 5 house points for each

- Year 1 + 2
- Year 3 + 4
- Year 5 + 6
- Year 7 + 8

Most Number of Sponsors- 5 house points for each

- Year 1 + 2
- Year 3 + 4
- Year 5 + 6
- Year 7 + 8

Whole School Most Money Raised- three prizes

- 1st- 15 points
- 2nd- 10 points
- 3rd - 5 points

A reminder of the house points you can win by participating in the bike-a-thon

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM

The floor is now sanded and varnished, see the photo below:



Our gorgeous newly sanded and varnished floor

SCHOOL BOARD HUI

At last week's hui we discussed:

Attendance in term one, the school house and looked at the maintenance plan, the new fire and speaker system being installed, the new staff room, an adjustment to the budget, the progress on appointing a new principal including getting parent and student voice in the process, school board elections, update on the multi-purpose room, approved the uniform provider for another five years, a study leave request, and five policies were reviewed and approved.

FIREWOOD WORKING BEE

A massive thank you to the 15 or so adults who came along to our firewood working bee on Saturday. Many hands made light work of the large pile of logs that were chain sawed, split and stacked within three hours!

I estimate that we have enough firewood for at least five years.



The logs awaiting their fate (again, our thanks to Sue Morris for donating these logs, and Darrin Brown Contracting for delivering them free of charge.)



Sawing and splitting



Dave Murphy celebrates the stacked wood that filled the old bus shed

YEAR 7 & 8 TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE

On the 9th of May 2025, Chanae, Tilly, Gin, Darcy, Ivy, Soren, Zurich, Boyd, Hopaea and Hazel went to the Technology Challenge at the Cossie Club in Taumarunui.

We had to do four challenges in our teams, and one with different people from other schools. Here are two of the team challenges.

The first was the marble run where you had to make something that carried it on a piece of paper for exactly 10 seconds. We used paper, scissors, and tape. Then after 25 minutes the judges came around and timed our marble runs. The next challenge was the boomerang. It's where you had to make a boomerang out of a card using a protractor, ruler, scissors and tape. The day was so much fun, we enjoyed the opportunity to work alongside all the other schools in Taumarunui. By Tilia Brewer

SENIOR CLASS KAYAKING

The class is away doing this today. We will have some photos in next week's Pānui.

NEWSPAPER NEEDED

We need some newspaper to do papier mache and to light our fires. No glossy paper please. Thanks.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR HOCKEY

4.40pm Ōwhango vs Tokirima Tigers

PRIMARY NETBALL LEAGUE

Congratulations to Hayzin in the Senior team and Hinemoa (again!) in the Junior team who were voted by their opposition team as the

Player of the Day for Week 2, they go into the draw for a netball.

Week 3 Monday 19th May

3.30pm 1 Ōwhango Junior vs TKKM Te Kākano

4.20pm Indoor Turaki Green vs Ōwhango Senior

Here are the results from last week:

PRIMARY NETBALL LEAGUE	
WEEK TWO	
MATCH RESULTS	
TURAKI KŌURA	2 vs 4 OWHANGO JUNIOR
TKKM TE KAKANO	2 vs 29 TKKM TE PIHINGA
MANUNUI WOLVES	4 vs 4 TURAKI KŌURA
MATIERE SENIOR	1 vs 36 MANUNUI FALCONS
TURAKI GREEN	20 vs 5 MANUNUI CHAMPS
OWHANGO SENIOR	17 vs 14 TKKM TE MAHURI

PRIMARY Netball LEAGUE
TAUMARUNUI

Community Notices

FREE SKI SEASON PASS

Rohe Schools – Special Local Pricing

We're proud to support our local community with special Rohe Schools pricing for the 2025 winter season. This exclusive offer is available to schools within our Rohe (region) and differs from the standard rates listed on our website.

Rohe Pricing:

- **Primary School Students (up to age 13):**
 - FREE season pass
 - For students currently enrolled in primary or intermediate school
- **Secondary School Students:**
 - \$149 per student
 - For students currently enrolled in secondary school (Years 9–13)

How It works

- Parents must contact their school to request a unique **Rohe discount code**
- Once received, parents can use that code to make their own booking directly online
- This ensures the discount is applied correctly and is only used by eligible families

Please note:

- The Rohe pricing is not visible on our website without the code
- Only schools within the Rohe region are eligible to access these special rates
- Discount codes must be obtained through the school — not via Whakapapa directly
- For schools and any queries, feel free to reach out:

schoolsandgroups@whakapapa.com.

We look forward to welcoming your tamariki and rangatahi to the maunga this winter!

Signed Chris Bashforth, Schools and Groups Reservations - Whakapapa

PAYING BY INTERNET BANKING DETAILS:

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

PTA: Fundraisers 030 426 0156205 00

REMANING TERM DATES 2025

Term Two Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June.
(Teacher Only Day Monday 9th June)

Term Three Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September

Term Four Monday 6th October to Wednesday 17th December

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
Sue Morris and Darren Brown Contactors for the firewood logs and delivery

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The Ōwhango School Board Would Appreciate Your Help.



With the retirement of our current principal, Ewan Starkey, at the end of 2025, we are in the process of sourcing a new principal who will enjoy the challenge of further developing our school.

Please take time to read what your Ōwhango School Board feel are some of the desirable attributes we seek in a new principal and add any comments in the boxes below, your feedback is valued.

- Having a principal who encourages new ideas, is a team player, actively listens, leads and motivates with an open-door policy for both staff and the community.
- Has the ability to inspire staff and students and is committed to ensuring quality educational opportunities.
- Can implement tikanga and te reo Māori throughout the school.
- Will continue to uphold the high expectations we currently have of our students in regard to work ethic, social interactions and positive behaviour.
- Is a hands-on teaching principal who is confident in leading a strong educational programme that will engage and extend ALL students.
- Has a strong support of sporting, cultural and social development.

What other attributes would you like to see in a principal?

Please feel free to add any other comments.

Please return to school by **Friday 23 May 2025**.

Thank you for taking the time to give feedback.

Nga mihi, Ōwhango School Board.