



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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10/2025

9th April 2025

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

Ko tāepaepa kā waewae o Te Rā — *The sun's legs are hanging down over the hole that he disappears into at night; Hurry up or you will be late.*

DATES TO NOTE

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 9 th April | School Assembly 2:00 PTA AGM 3:15 |
| 10 th April | Rimu- Kiwi Release |
| 11 th April | Last Day of Term One Optional Touch Tournament |
| 28 th April | First Day of Term Two Primary Netball League Starts |
| 2 nd May | School Bike Trip |
| 7 th May | School Board Hui 6pm |
| 9 th May | Seniors Tech Challenge |
| 14 th May | Seniors Kayaking |
| 16 th May | Year 1-4 Rippa Rugby |
| 21 st May | Bike-a-thon |
| 23 rd May | Seniors Orienteering |
| 2 nd June | King's Birthday Holiday |
| 6 th June | Year 1-4 Soccer |
| 9 th June | Teacher Only Day- School Closed |
| 10 th June | Arts Fortnight Starts |
| 13 th June | Year 5-8 Soccer |
| 18 th June | Individual Reports Issued |
| 19 th June | School Disco |
| 20 th June | Matariki |
| 24 th June | Assembly Parent Teacher Interviews |
| 27 th June | Last Day of Term Two |

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGES

It's been a noisy and busy term—**noisy** due to the builders being onsite constructing the new staffroom, which is due for completion before the start of next term.

And **busy** with events such as the swimming sports, Rotopounamu trip, Whakapapa clean-up trip, Zero Waste, farm safety day, trout farm visit, and fun days like Crazy Hair Day and Pyjama

Day—as well as the usual teaching of our core subjects.

As you'll see above in the *Dates to Note*, next term is also shaping up to be full of exciting activities. It's a shorter term too, at just nine weeks long. Please note the three long weekends- King's Birthday, Teacher Only Day, and Matariki.

Over the holidays, the builders will also be doing further work in the corridor, principal's office, and main office—installing insulation and then re-gibbing the ceiling. This has been a long-awaited project that I've been pushing hard to get underway. My office is on the south side of the building and currently has no insulation in the walls or ceiling—making it an icebox in winter! As I've assertively pointed out to the Ministry: we're not allowed to rent out a house with no insulation, so why is it acceptable in our schools? Unfortunately, this work won't be completed until after Term Two has started, so more ongoing disruption. Once that's done, we'll begin kitting out the tech/multi-purpose room (the former staffroom).

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable two-weeks with your children.

Ngā mihi, Ewan Starkey

CLASSROOM KŌRERO –Rimu

Ngā Huinga Environmental Student Hui

On Wednesday the 2nd of April six of the oldest students from the senior class were given the opportunity to take part in a student hui held at Ngā Huinga (Cherry Grove). There were 10 schools participating in total. This was organised by Horizons District Council Enviroschools in conjunction with Ngāti Hāua, Viola, Department of Conservation and Ruapehu District Council.



This was a day to educate rangatahi (youth) on the importance of our awa (river) and the cultural significance it holds. We were taught about the native ika (fish), the importance of keeping our awa clean from pollution and rubbish, keep pests out of our native bush, how Taumarunui and surrounding areas get clean water and the cultural significance of the rohe (area) to Ngāti Hāua.

‘Green by nature’ sponsored and cooked an amazing sausage sizzle and then gave all the tamariki free reusable water bottles.

This was a wonderful educational day, and we look forward to participating in the future.

‘Ko au te awa, ko te awa ko au – I am the river and the river is me’.

Ngā mihi, Whaea Jessie

A significant time for Ngāti Hāua

The local iwi of Ngāti Hāua signed the deed of settlement on Saturday at Ngapuwaiwaha Marae, Taumarunui after eight years of negotiations with the government over breaches of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Paul Goldsmith delivered an apology on behalf of the crown to four hundred plus people at the marae. He apologised for the harm brought to the iwi of Ngāti Hāua.

I was lucky to be there and be a part of history for our iwi. Me and my mum left at seven o’clock in the morning to get to the marae. When we got there, we had a practice for the haka powhiri and at eight o’clock it all started. We did it twice, once for the local people and again for the government once they arrived a little later. Afterwards we had hāngi for lunch. Then I went to sign the deed of settlement. I was privileged to be able to sign along with three hundred or more people. It was a significant day for Ngāti Hāua and the community of Taumarunui.

By Lachlan Tomlinson



Photos from the signing



RIMU ROOM KIWI RELEASE-Thursday 10th April

A reminder that we have our kiwi hikoī and release tomorrow Thursday the 10th of April. We will be leaving Ōwhango School at 10:20am to meet Liz (Project Tongariro) and Clodagh (DoC) at 10.30am at the bridge/Ohinetonga Track picnic space.

We will be away from school for the day, therefore please make sure you have the following:

- A big lunch and morning tea
- A bottle of water
- Comfortable shoes
- A jacket
- Your school uniform

Ngā mihi nui,

Jessie Smith

SPORTS UNIFORMS TO BE RETURNED

Please return your washed, hockey and basketball uniforms this week.

INTER SCHOOL TOUCH TOURNAMENT

The touch tournament is being held at the Taumarunui Domain this Friday the 11th of April. Thank you to all whānau who have offered to transport and help on the day. Lakenn Te Ahuru will be managing the Year 7/8 Ōwhango Tahi team, and Jahbon Te Ahuru and Kereama Watson will be managing the Year 5/6 Ōwhango

Rua team. We will be leaving school at 8.45am, games start at 9.30am sharp. Please note that Ōwhango Rua is playing at 9.30am. Jessie Smith will leave early to attend the delegate meeting, coaches/managers are welcome to attend this as well. If anyone was available to help put the gazebo up while Jessie is at the delegate meeting, it would be appreciated.

It is recommended kids wear bare feet. No moulds or touch shoes allowed. Please remember **POSITIVE VIBES ONLY:** no bad sportsmanship or verbal abuse will be tolerated from the sidelines, supporters, coaches and or players.

Transportation

| Driver | Students |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Michelle Gavegan | Oliver, Lucas, Chanae, Darcy |
| Regan Hoban (travelling in) | Soren, Zurich, Beau, Monty |
| Kim (home) | Soren, Zurich, Beau, Jonny |
| Jessie Smith | Charlotte and small gazebo |
| Maree Hodges (and Sue Hodges home) | Jonny, Haylee, Mason, Lachlan |
| Meet there | Tilia, Hayzin, Jack P, Kaelyis-Rae, Kyston, Nico |

KŌWHAI ROOM TROUT FARM TRIP

We had a wet and windy start to our trip but thanks to our new set of PTA funded class coats we stayed warm and dry. We had morning tea and a fun play at the new playground at Te Kapua Park before heading out to the Trout Centre. Excitement levels were high, and we learned a lot about the lifecycle and habits of rainbow trout and tuna/long fin eels. Everyone enjoyed watching the baby trout and elvers busily swimming in the hatchery.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly learning to fly fish. Each student had a turn learning from Ken and Paul, our fishermen friends. Then it was up to them to hook, net, unhook, kill and measure their fish. Molly got the catch of the day weighting in at 340gm and 310mm in length. She was very proud! A great day was had by all and helped further our understanding of hunting and fishing.

Ngā mihi nui to the school and PTA for funding our fabulous day out. Whaea Siobhán



Eric and Quinn in the playground
"The big net in the museum was like Māui's kupenga in our pukapuka!!!" -Kotuku

"I loved fishing with the special rod." -Hunter

"It was my first time fishing ever. It was so great. I caught a big fish and I'm going to cook it for my Mum." -Blake

"I loved playing on the roundabout at the park with Janey and the others. It was the most amazing park in the world." -Coby

"My favourite part was Paul the fisherman helping me catch a huge fish!" -Janey

"I caught a fish that was wriggling in my hands and trying to get back in the water so it could breathe. That was cool. It was so heavy. I felt like Māui." -Lennox



After their successful fishing, their trout in their bags

ASSEMBLY –Today

You are all welcome to come to this term's assembly, being hosted by Rimu class, today at 2:15. Then join us for the PTA AGM...

PTA AGM– Today

You are all welcome to the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) AGM (Annual General Meeting) today, Wednesday the 9th of April, at 3:15pm, after our school assembly.

OUR ANNUAL BIKE TRIP

As this trip is on the first Friday of term two, we need all permission slips in before the end of this term. Thank you to those people who have already returned them. The form has been reprinted at the end of this Pānui, **please fill it in and return it tomorrow** so planning can proceed.

CRAZY HAIR AND CRAZY CLOTHES DAY

This was a fun day, suggested by a couple of senior class students. See a few photos below



Crazy colourful clothes and hair: Lila, Myer, Jack and Azalea



Molly went full unicorn



Moustaches were popular: Millie, Daithi, Olive, Brodie and Nico



Blake has a bad case of bugs in his hair

NEW STAFFROOM UPDATE



The plasterer has been busy, and the repurposed rimu wall lining is being installed. Today the kitchen arrived and is also being installed.

EASTER PTA FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Is anyone willing to buy two packs of butter and 1kg of flour? Anyone buying ingredients need to deliver them to school before end of term. There

is a box in the multi-purpose room labelled PTA Fundraiser for people to drop things off. All baking needs to be delivered to Tania's house during the holidays around the 17th or 18th of April. Text or contact Tania if you need more information on 022 323 5267.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

PRIMARY NETBALL LEAGUE

Thank you for your patience as we coordinate netball for Term Two. Netball games will start on the first Monday, week 1 of Term Two. Information will be sent out as soon as the draw is finalised. Netball uniforms will be handed out to players this week.

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR HOCKEY

Wednesday 9th April

4.40pm Ōwhango vs Turaki Dragons

3.45pm-4.45pm Small sticks on the top turf.

Community Notices

KID'S CATFISHING TOURNAMENT- see the poster below



Te Ara Mangawhero Bike or Hike Trip- Permission Slip- (a reminder)

Whole School Friday 2nd May 2025

*Please return this form **tomorrow***

Family name _____

My child / ren _____ may attend the Te Ara Mangawhero Bike Trip.

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

Adult Help Riding or 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 that can carry _____ (number) of bikes

YES / NO I can bring a bike rack that carries _____ (number) of bikes

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

FUNDRAISING GALA- 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 DATES 2025

Term One Tuesday 4th February to Friday 11th April

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

MOTUOAPA FISHING & BOATING CLUB

8 Arataha St, Motuoapa, 3382, New Zealand. info.mfbc.nz@gmail.com

KIDS CATFISHING TOURNAMENT

REGISTRATION

11
April

\$10
Per Person

TOURNAMENT

12
April

BIG
PRIZES

★ MOTUOAPA FISHING & BOATING CLUB ★

The most amazing catfishing competition on Lake Taupo.
Open to all children. Great prizes and a great family event.
Food and refreshments available.

11th April: 2pm - 9pm. Registration at Motuoapa Fishing & Boating Club. Food and refreshments available.

12th April: Weigh in 3pm-5pm. Prize Giving 5:30pm.
Food and refreshments available.

Te Kāwei Tūroa
Taumarunui High School

Fundraising GALA

Raising funds for their trip to Japan

Taumarunui High School

4pm - 8pm

11th April 2025

Arts & crafts, Fun games,
Bouncy castle, Food stall, BBQ,
Music & much more

