



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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19/2025

25th June 2025

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

"Action creates motivation, not the other way around" Colby Kultgen

DATES TO NOTE

25 th June	Assembly 2pm
	School Board Hui 7pm
27 th June	Last Day of Term Two
	Teddies, Pirates, Mermaids and Facepainting Day
14 th July	Term Three Starts
18 th July	Seniors (Y4-8) Ski Day One

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Term Two

It was a pleasure visiting Kaitieke School on Tuesday to see their excellent school show. These experiences are important to build relationships across the wider area, beyond our school community. I also noticed this when at the Primary Netball League games this term, where the positivity around this was to the fore. On that note the principals will be discussing what next for netball after our break away tournament this year in response to the ongoing problems we experienced with the old system.

It will also be good to get back our interschool events after the break to reassess how to manage sideline behaviour. I am confident we now have systems in place to manage negative adult behaviour. I hope and expect these hiccups will make us stronger and clearer about what we want for our children, and that the future will be more positive for all.

Skiing- Will there be any snow?

At this time of the ski season every year we get people worrying about the amount of snow. Here is my take:

These school holidays usually do not have enough snow to open the whole mountain, if we

are lucky, they can open the upper t bar lifts during the holidays, and Happy Valley due to the snow making factory in there.

Once we have had the winter solstice or shortest day (21st June) the weather gets colder- as the saying goes 'the days get longer, the cold gets stronger'. Some countries say that winter starts on the shortest day, and summer starts on the longest day (21 December) remember summer in December is always a disappointment, it isn't until January and February that it arrives.

Forecasting the weather accurately beyond three days, or maybe seven days is at best a guess, so don't put too much weight on long term forecasts.

As the often quoted saying for Ruapehu goes:

Snow in May doesn't stay

Snow in June is still too soon

Snow in July on which you can rely.

I hope you all have a lovely two weeks break from schooling and come back refreshed and ready for the last half of the year.

Ngā mihi, Ewan Starkey

CLASSROOM KŌRERO – Kahikatea

Over the past two weeks, our class has been immersed in the visual arts, with a strong focus on weaving and storytelling. We began by closely examining a weaving artwork and brainstorming questions to help us think like artists — *What do you see? What materials were used? What story is being told?* This helped us build our understanding of visual language, colour, texture, and symbolism.

We were introduced to key weaving vocabulary, learning about the warp (vertical threads), weft (horizontal strips woven across), loom (the frame that holds everything together), and the over-under pattern, which is the foundation of most weaving. We practised these techniques by

creating our own paper looms and weaving with contrasting colours, noticing how patterns and textures could be used to express ideas.



Fire Fury by Jack O.

To celebrate Matariki, we created a series of artworks inspired by its themes of reflection, remembrance, and new beginnings. After reading *The Seven Kites of Matariki*, we designed and painted Matariki kites, blending colours to create a reflection effect and adding silhouettes of landscapes. This was the basis for our loom. We then cut warp slits into our kites and wove through bamboo skewers as wefts, using the over-under pattern. This gave our artworks texture and structure, and we quickly learned that accuracy in the pattern was essential to keeping our weaving in place!

We also explored the meaning behind each of the nine Matariki stars, creating circular weavings to represent their individual roles. We used coloured wool, carefully wrapping our looms to form the warp, and wove our weft over and under to build up our circular designs. Pastel starbursts were added to give a glowing night-sky effect.



Kyston's woven Waiti Whetu

To finish, we created woven story wall hangings using recycled materials. Each student planned a design based on a meaningful place or memory and chose colours and textures that would best represent their story. We used carded wool and fabric to add richness to our work and titled each piece with a short artist statement.

We are so proud of our artworks — they are rich in colour, texture, and meaning. We are in the process of displaying our art, come and take a look at our classroom displays to see how we've used weaving to tell stories and connect with Matariki, and grow as creative thinkers and makers!



Kahikatea's wall hangings



Leiki's Night Sky

NGĀTI HĀUA CURRICULUM RELEASE – Te Ara Pikinga ki te Pae Tāwhiti

Ngāpūwaiwaha Marae was proud to host the release of the Ngāti Hāua curriculum, Te Ara Pikinga ki te Pae Tāwhiti, to local schools last

week. This significant kaupapa reflects the positive and ongoing relationships between iwi and kura, following a series of conversations that began last year. The shared commitment from both schools and Ngāti Hāua has been a rewarding and collaborative journey — mahi tahi tātou for the benefit of our uri and the wider community.

Upcoming wānanga are planned in the coming months to further support our rangatahi across the rohe. The Te Ara Pikinga ki te Pae Tāwhiti team also continues to plan for future support across ECE and Kōhanga Reo. Sincere thanks to Ngāti Hāua, Jenny Allen and all those involved in producing and supporting this rich history, knowledge and beautiful resources.

‘Kotahi te waka, kia kotahi te waka’



Ōwhango teachers gratefully receiving the curriculum resources from Education Facilitator Jenny Allen of Ngāti Hāua, at Ngāpūwaiwaha marae, last week (Ewan was absent due to illness)

FAREWELL MORNING TEA

We had a lovely farewell for Boyd, Lila and Myer on Thursday and wished them well on their new adventure moving house up to Northland. Thank you to everyone for providing a generous farewell morning tea. It was a great send off.



Speeches were said



Our guests of honour enjoy the kai

LAST DAY OF THE TERM

We will be handing out the new Duffy Books on Friday.

Also remember our dress up theme- they may come to school as a...

Pirate

Mermaid

Bring a teddy

Do some face painting.

As always, the last day of term is also a mufti day.

DISCO

What a hit! The disco was a blast; every person was glowing inside and out. A big thank you to Kim for organising and setting up the hall with us year 8s. The glow theme was amazing! And the games were a blast, well done to Kaelyis-Rae, Zurich, Hinemoa, Nico, Haven-Skye and Kruza for getting the title of king and queen, prince and princess, fairy and knight they all did so well. Also thank you to the year 8s for planning and decorating. Thank you to all the people that bring amazing kai too.

Nga mihi Hazel, Chanae, Darcy, Tilly, Ivy and Gin
Can you guess who are in the photos below?





PLATES LEFT BEHIND

We have two unnamed plates that were left behind from our shared kai on Thursday. Please come and collect them before the end of this term. See the photo below.



SKIING

In the first week of next term, we have our first senior ski day. Details of transportation etc. will be in the Pānui for that week.

In the meantime, please prepare by looking out for your ski clothes. I strongly recommend you attend the Preloved Winter Gear Sale at National Park School on Saturday the 12th of July at 2pm. There is a lot of great clothes and equipment at ridiculously cheap prices. (See the poster below.)

OUR KIDS ONLINE

Thanks to the parents who attended the Our Kids Online information evening for this last week. We will be putting Rob's Two Minute Tips and Tricks into our newsletter over the coming weeks. Here is the first:

Roblox - Is It Safe for Kids?

Over 80 million players log in daily — but behind the fun, there are dangers most parents have no idea about. From predators and secret “condo” games to grooming on apps like WhatsApp, Snapchat, Discord, this video reveals what every parent needs to know. Don't miss it!

(Warning - This video contains footage of an actual sex room built within Roblox and although I have blurred this it is not intended for children to watch.)



Control + Click to follow the link

BIKE-A-THON

We are very pleased to announce that we raised \$7,077.19 from our recent bike-a-thon! And we still have a bit more coming in.

House points for the most money raised goes to: 1st Harper; 2nd Blake; 3rd Libby

House points for the greatest number of sponsors goes to Gin in 1st place, with 16 sponsors, and all these people for 2nd equal, had 11 sponsors each:

Brodie, Jack P. Molly, Blake.

RIMU CLASS'S MATARIKI LANTERNS – MATARIKI MA PUANGA.

As promised, and waited upon with bated breath I am sure, here are the finished products of the Rimu class's Matariki Lanterns. Each one has been carefully crafted and proudly completed just in time to take home last Thursday and share with whānau as part of our Matariki celebrations. A beautiful blend of creativity, effort, and culture – well done, tamariki mā! Ngā mihi, Whaea Jessie



Gin with her beautiful Matariki lantern and her stars shining through. The tamariki poked small holes into the globe to allow the light to shine through



Jonny and Beau looking absolutely stoked with their Matariki lanterns. The lanterns are lit up by a single LED light



Gin, Grace, Darcy and Charlotte proudly showing their Matariki lights



Hazel proudly displays her lantern, beautifully painted with the Matariki star cluster



Hayzin and Kaelyis-Rae, ngā whetū o Matariki

SCHOOL BOARD HUI- a reminder

We have a school board hui tonight, Wednesday 25th June at 7pm in the staffroom. You are all welcome to attend.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Remember that we need the permission slip and return to the office with payment **no later than tomorrow, Thursday 26th June.**

Please see last week's Pānui for the details.

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL

This is a reminder that the Year 5-8 Taumarunui Junior Basketball competition starts in Week 2 of Term 3. If your child would like to play, please ensure you fill in the permission slip and return by **TOMORROW**. It has been attached to the end of the panui in case you missed it last week.

PRIMARY NETBALL LEAGUE

A fantastic term of netball has come to an end, and we would like to extend our thanks to our

school whānau and community for your wonderful support as we navigated a new competition. Our players had a terrific term of netball, culminating in the Prizegiving on Monday night.

Ōwhango Junior Team - Coach Stacey Erueti

Player of the Season - Millie Graham

Supporter of the Season - Andrea Lethborg

Ōwhango Senior Team - Coach Jahbon Te Ahuru

Player of the Season - Poppy Murtagh

Supporter of the Season - Stacey Erueti

Our thanks go to Stacey and Jahbon, who have coached, umpired, supported, fundraised, encouraged and grown our players in the game this season. Without your help, we wouldn't be able to field our two teams. Our senior team was placed 3rd overall, and the junior team were 2nd. Well done to all the players, it was great to see you having fun, playing hard and improving every week. Theresa Owen



Netball season done and dusted for 2025. Thank you to my girls, for showing up each week and putting great efforts into your game. Our Seniors placed 3rd overall. Super proud. Special Congratulations to our MVP, Poppy Murtagh. She's played an outstanding season working hard on defence winning many turnovers. Keep it up! Special mention, thank you to our wonderful umpire Stacey Erueti, she doesn't have a child in our team however she is there every single game of ours supporting us by umpiring and for that we all are very grateful, so thank you so much. Jahbon Te Ahuru.



The senior team



The junior team

TACKLE FIVE RUGBY- Girls' team

Last week I, alongside my team travelled to Taupo for King Country Tackle 5. Like last year, I joint Manunui School girls' team. We played three games in our pool, winning all of them and making it through to the semi-final. We came up against a strong team unfortunately losing by a try. Due to being one of the semi-finalists our team has qualified for the Southern Chiefs Tackle 5 Tournament held in Rotorua. I am looking forward to getting on the field and giving it my best. Wish us luck!

By Kaelyis-Rae



Kaelyis-Rae makes a tackle

TACKLE 5 – boys' team

Last Wednesday was a great day for our Ōwhango boys tackle rugby team - 2 wins & 1 loss. They came 2nd in their pool and one point away from drawing their 3rd game.

First game vs Mountview warriors: Their game looked like: lots of communication, tackles, smiles, frowns, laughs, tries, huffs & puffs, sidesteps, running straight, counter rucks, supporting each other, tackling and grubber kicks. It was awesome to see/hear their kōrero pregame about their game moves and tricks coming out on the field.

Second game vs Wairakei power: we encouraged them to bring the same kaha & wairua to this game. With a focus being tackling low as we noticed a lot of the Taupō tamariki are strong with their fending especially the tall ones, this worked well for our boys, resulting in another win.

Third game vs Tongariro 1: this was the most challenging game, with an added pressure of lots of opposition support. Our boys kept great composure with a few more injuries & rolling subs than the previous two games. They lost this game by one point. They continued right to the end to pick up loose balls, make tackles & chase any runaways right to the try line. However, seeing the Mr Whippy truck & their fellow Taumarunui friends after this game cheered them up.

In summary, it was a great day – awesome to see so many other tamariki / whānau as well from Taumarunui, they all came to support their friends' games where possible between their own games.

A big mihi to Te Iwingaro, from Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Taumarunui for coming along to tautoko & be a part of our Ōwhango team, he was a great fit! Last but not least, a big mihi also to Regan for all her awhi on the day.

Ngā mihi, Karen Komene.

Community Notices

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

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

REMANING TERM DATES 2025

Term Two Monday 28th April to Friday 27th 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



School Holiday Programme Raurimu Domain

Build Confidence
Make friends
Spend time in the outdoors
Learn to brush, lead, and
ride a horse over and
around obstacles

*\$50 per day (6 spaces per day
available)*

*Wednesday 9th July
Bookings Essential*

This Programme is run for young people of any age.
Time to get out in the fresh air and learn a new skill, have
fun and get out of their comfort zone



To register please contact
Alex Nash 0272556973
a.nashhorsemanship@gmail.com
Facebook Messenger

Alex Nash- Horsemanship
And Equine Facilitated
Therapy

