



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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25/2025

20th August 2025

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

"You'll never regret investing in your health, learning, or relationships." Colby Kultgen

DATES TO NOTE

22 nd August	Senior Group Ski Day Six Interschool Cross Country
29 th August	Junior Group Ski Day One
1 st Sept.	New Principal Appointed
3 rd Sept.	Outgoing School Board Hui
5 th Sept.	Junior Group Ski Day Two Senior Rippa Rugby
9 th Sept.	Donovan Bixley Author Visit
10 th Sept.	School Board Elections- last day
11 th Sept.	Ngāti Tūwharetoa Taiopenga
12 th Sept.	Junior Group Ski Day Three
17 th Sept.	Interschool Quiz Competition
19 th Sept.	Whole School Ski Day Last Day of Term Three

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGES

Not Being Board

I would like to thank our two board members who are standing down from our school board after years of service. Aaron has been on the board since 2016, serving three terms, and Nicole since 2019 serving two terms. Both have had a turn working as the presiding member (chairperson).

They have guided me through a wide range of issues, some very difficult, others very enjoyable, and provided an excellent sounding board to ensure we are always making the best decisions for our students, staff and parents.

Both have also understood their roles and responsibilities clearly, governing well and not overstepping into day-to-day management; this can be difficult, especially in a small school where we encourage active participation of our community. I wish you well for your future.

ERO

This week we have the Education Review Office at our school to review what we do. This is timely as it will be useful for future planning for both the new board and for the new principal. I look forward to seeing what they suggest. Their report is a public document and will be shared with you all.

CLASSROOM KŌRERO – KAHIKATEA

While some of our students are away at kapa haka, the rest of us have been learning how to play the ukulele. We've started by practising how to hold the ukulele correctly and how to strum in time to the beat. So far, we've learned four chords – C, G, A minor and F – and we've been using these to play some easy songs such as *Three Little Birds*, *Stay with Me* and *Stand by Me*. Everyone is showing great persistence and enthusiasm as we practise together.

In writing, our focus has been informative writing. We are learning to inform our reader by giving clear, detailed information, explain how something works using facts and steps, and organise our ideas so they are easy to follow. Our current challenge is to invent a new type of wacky transportation and explain exactly how it works using topic-specific vocabulary. Students have planned their inventions in detail, and we have just begun writing. Once the writing is complete, they will create a carefully labelled design to go with it. Here are a few excerpts...

The Bed-a-Plane 2000

The Bed-a-plane 2000 is a form of air transport designed to carry passengers high in the sky in the comfort of their bed. The bed is shaped like a jet to help it glide through the sky easier. The Bed-a-Plane 2000 has huge glass windows all around the bed to give passengers a full view of

the clouds. The Bed-a-Plane 2000 can hold one person and is powered by a powerful rocket engine to make sure you don't crash.

Nico Brewer

The Travel-in-Comfiness

The Travel-in-Comfiness is a type of rocket in the form of a couch. The Travel-in-Comfiness is a safe and relaxing way to explore the galaxy and all the planets in our universe.

The Travel-in-Comfiness works in a very simple way. First, you gently press the 'Open' button, and you hop in while quickly pushing the close button. Next, you can have snacks with a simple press of a button. Please don't worry because when you enter the Travel-in-Comfiness the glass protector automatically shuts. There is an emergency button in case the glass protector bleaks or the engine shuts down.

Te Hana Smith



One of our favourite playtime activities is the parachute- a lot of open-ended play goes on with this

GOING GREEN FOR KYRA

Thank you everyone for your wonderful response and support for the Going Green for Kyra fundraiser yesterday. Our school raised \$213.20, and at the time of printing we did not have a total amount raised by all of the schools and community groups that are participating in this appeal. This has been passed on to Kyra Leatuafi and her whānau to support them during this difficult time.



Owhango goes Green for Kyra

INTERSCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

This event is on Friday.

Students need to be at school at 8.30am.

Drivers will need to depart from Ōwhango no later than 8:45am.

A briefing will be held at 9.30am, a course walk-over to be completed between 8.30am-9.45am, and races start at 10am. We will be back at school by 3.00pm. A food stall will be available. All competitors must be wearing an Ōwhango School sports uniform green T-shirt that we will issue beforehand.

Shoes are optional, and bare feet will be at the risk of the individual (please note there are quite a few rocks and sharp objects on the ground, so we do recommend shoes or rugby boots are worn).

All participants must wear the name tag that we will supply.



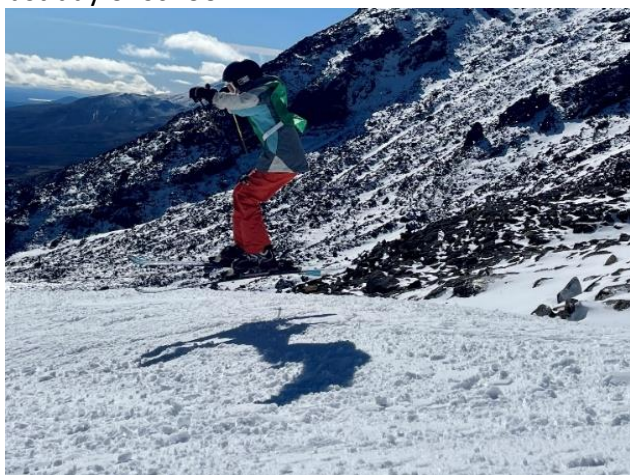
A map showing the venue and parking

Transportation- please check this for errors

Driver	Can take	Students
Erin Wind	5	Libby Corbin Jackson Eric
Hannah Pierce	Meet there	Jack Molly
Jesse Closter	3	Indie Gin
Jahbon Te Ahuru	?	Kaelyis-Rae Kyston Haven Azalea
Stephen Wheeler	4	Mason Beau Nico Gazebo
Karen Komene	1	Lachlan
Melissa Blackman	5	Grace Rose Lily
Mandy Pritt-Stewart	3	Remy
Mandy O'Reilly	1	Blake
Katie Parkinson	2	Ainsley Jordie

SKIING- Senior Ski Group

Last week was another glorious, sunny day with no wind. We have one more week of our Senior Ski Group lessons, and at the end of these the instructors will hand out a report card to each student showing them using the New Zealand Snow Instructors Alliance fundamentals cards- (see the images of these below). These are used throughout Aotearoa and can be shown to another instructor to clearly show what they know. If the weather allows, the seniors will also be coming for our Whole School Ski Day on the last day of school.



Zurich gets some air!



Te Hana gets some speed up going down the steep face on the Rock Garden



Haylee refines her hockey stop a.k.a. j stop



Chanae at the bottom of the Rock Garden at the end of the day, next to Brodies' barrier



Oliver, Lucas, Daithi and Monty got to ride the Valley T bar for the first time this season

Tahi	Rua	Toru
☐ Know about equipment	☐ Ski maintaining good balance	☐ know outside ski in turns
☐ Put on and take off skis	☐ Practice gliding in a wedge	☐ Balance on outside ski
☐ Move around on skis	☐ Change direction with wedge	☐ Skis parallel ending turns
☐ Side step or duck walk	☐ Control speed with turn shape	☐ Speed control easy blues
☐ Change size of wedge	☐ Use turns to stop	☐ Change turns to slow down
☐ Control speed and stop	☐ Hop whilst skiing	☐ Arms used to balance
☐ Ride the Beginner lift	☐ Link turns on greens	☐ Glide backwards in wedge
☐ Get up if fallen over	☐ Ride the lift	☐ Park safety and 50/50 box
Name 	Name 	Name
nzsia.org/fundamentals	nzsia.org/fundamentals	nzsia.org/fundamentals

Examples of the report cards that the Senior Ski Group will receive on Friday

SKIING- Junior Ski Group

Planning is well underway for our first Junior Ski group day up the mountain. A special newsletter is going out today for this group, with the details of what to expect, and what to bring. Ask your child for your paper copy.

YEAR 5-8 KCRU RIPPA RUGBY TOURNAMENT

The King Country Rugby Union Rippa Tournament is to be held on Friday 5th September at the Taumarunui Domain. Please complete the attached permission slip and return to the office by Monday 25th August so further planning can proceed. Note that this is a compulsory activity, as it is part of our physical education programme. Tournament details will be finalised closer to the time, depending on the number of teams entered, however games are expected to begin at 9am.

YEAR 1-4 RIPPA RUGBY

Unfortunately, this event was postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. The postponement date has now been set, and it is for the last day of term, which is our whole school ski day so we will not be able to attend.

OUR KIDS ONLINE

This week: **What's with Kids and Boxes?**

Just a light-hearted one this week!

When my kids were younger, they could spend hours playing with the boxes their presents came in. It was pure magic watching them get lost in their own little worlds—building, imagining, and laughing together.

That's one of the things I miss most in today's digital childhoods. Sure, games like Minecraft can be very creative, but they just don't match the pure joy, face-to-face interaction, and belly laughs that come when a group of kids disappears into a world built entirely from their imagination.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgD3oX1jtI>



Control + Click to follow the link

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

By now you should have received your voting papers via the mail. These need to be returned either using the self-addressed envelope supplied with your voting information, or by dropping it into the voting box in school office. (One voting paper to one envelope). Voting closes on Wednesday the 10th of September 4pm.

Maree Hodges, Returning Officer

HOT LUNCH THURSDAYS

A reminder that tomorrow is Hot Lunch Thursday. Cash only.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Please check the dates carefully, games times are a week ahead.

Monday 25th August

Quarter Finals - tbc

Wednesday 27th August

4.15pm Court 1 Ōwhango Thunder (Year 6) vs Manunui Raiders

4.45pm Court 2 Ōwhango Blaze (Year 5) vs TPS Tiny Giants

Community Notices

Owhango Residents & Ratepayers Soc. **AGM** in the Owhango Hall, 4pm, Sunday 24th August. All Welcome.

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 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

Please check this for accuracy

SENIOR SKI DAY 6 Friday 22nd August

TRANSPORT				
Driver	Can fit	4WD	Students Coming (29)	
Te Hau Blackman	4	Y	Hopaea Tahu Tilia Juan	
Reuben Hardwidge	2	Y	Darcy Hazel	
Haylie Martin	3	Y	Poppy Patrick Chanae	
James Hunt	3	Y	Olive Oliver Jonny	
Deb Pritt-Stewart	3	Y	Elliott Billie	
Michelle	4	Y	Ivy Hinemoa Lucy Charlotte	
Ewan Starkey	3	Y	Zurich Soren Monty	
Mark Bramley	Meet there	Y	Harry	
Michelle Gavegan	Meet there	Y	Lucas Te Hana Haylee Rosa	
Lakenn Te Ahuru	Meet there	Y	Hayzin	
Bill or Sally Bramley	Meet there	Y	Leiki	
Dave Murphy	Meet there	Y	Daithi Òg	
Kids Not Going	At Interschool Cross Country:			
	Libby Jack P Indie Gin Kaelyis-Rae Kyston Azalea Mason Beau Nico Lachlan Grace Lily Rose Ainsley			
		Injured and coming to school:		
		Brodie Millie		

PASSES-ADULTS		
NEED A PASS & SKIS	NOT SKIING	HAVE OWN SEASON PASS
Reuben Hardwidge	Melissa Blackman	Ewan Starkey
Theresa Owen	Haylie Martin	Michelle Gavegan
Jessie Smith	Te Hau Blackman	Bill or Sally Bramley
Lakenn Te Ahuru	Danielle Mitchell	Dave Murphy
Deb Pritt-Stewart	Erin Wind	
Mark Bramley		

✂-----

Year 5-8 KCRU Rippa Rugby Tournament Permission Slip

This is a compulsory activity, part of our physical education programme.

Friday 5th September 2025

Taumarunui Domain 9:00am start, Departing School at 8:20am

Family name _____

My child / ren _____ **may attend the Year 5-8 KCRU Rippa Rugby Tournament at Taumarunui Domain.**

ADULT HELP

YES / NO I can stay and support all day

YES / NO I can take the gazebo

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.)

Do you live outside Ōwhango and will be **meeting us at the venue** in Taumarunui because it is closer to travel there rather than help bring children to this event? **YES / NO**

If you are assisting with transport:

Name of driver _____

ADULT BEHAVIOUR AGREEMENT

By signing this form, I acknowledge and agree to support the following expectations:

- I will uphold **Positive Sideline Behaviour** by encouraging all tamariki, showing respect to referees, coaches, and other whānau, and supporting fair play.
- I understand that **coaches coach and referees officiate**, and I will not interfere or give instructions from the sideline.
- I will ensure that my behaviour contributes to a **safe, inclusive, and respectful environment** for all participants.
- I agree to the Taumarunui Youth and Community Trust's **Positive Vibes Only** approach and will support their officials, staff, and volunteers in delivering sport for our tamariki.
- I understand that **poor sideline behaviour may result in myself or my child being removed** from the activity or event.

Let's work together to make school sport a positive experience for every child. By signing below, I agree to the above conditions.

Parents/Caregivers Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____