



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

23/2025

6th August 2025

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

"Tama tu tama ora, tama noho tama mate"

An active person will remain healthy while a lazy one will become sick

DATES TO NOTE

6 th August	Mountain Schools Cross Country Board Election Nominations Close
8 th August	Senior Group Ski Day Four Junior Rippa Rugby Tournament
15 th August	Senior Group Ski Day Five
22 nd August	Senior Group Postponement Ski Day 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 Postponement Ski Day
17 th Sept.	Interschool Quiz Competition
19 th Sept.	Whole School Postponement Ski Day Last Day of Term Three

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGES

Term Dates 2026- a correction

Sorry, there was a miscalculation in the term dates published last week, we were open for one day less than required. Therefore, we will now be finishing on Friday 18th December. Hopefully you hadn't rushed out and booked your holidays already!

Term One: Monday 9th February to Thursday 2nd April

Term Two: Monday 20th April to Friday 3rd July

Term Three: Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September

Term Four: Monday October 12th to Friday 18th December

CLASSROOM KŌRERO – Kahikatea

Over the last couple of weeks, the students in the senior class have been exploring the art of narrative writing, focusing on bringing their stories to life through the 'show, don't tell' method.

Instead of simply stating facts, students learned to use vivid descriptions, actions, and dialogue to reveal characters' personalities, paint rich settings, and build tension within their plots. This approach has helped their writing become more engaging and immersive, allowing readers to feel like they are right there in the story.

We have seen amazing improvement in the way students capture emotion and atmosphere—well done to all our talented storytellers!

Please find below are some extraordinary opening paragraphs and examples of this.

Ngā mihi, Whaea Jessie.

Realisation

On a sweet spring day, a young girl named Brooklyn sat outside longing into the curves and gullies of the trailing farm surrounding the old wooden house. She scratched at the gap of chipping paint that floated off in tiny speckles. Her mind weaved in thoughts as she imagined all the different things awaiting her in the daring bush that peacefully called her name.

By Hopaea Blackman.

Beached Whales

She could feel the warmth of the sun rays beating down on her back. She strained her legs pedalling as hard as she could racing up the long windy road. Her old rusty bike creaked with the work of pulling itself through the warm sand. The salty breeze whipped past her face, and she heard the distant cry of seagulls and the waves crashing against the beaten rocks.

By Tilia Brewer.

The Call of the Lion

The dark and dingy forest felt spooky as Flint and Bob crept through the brush. They stalked their stag that was grazing in a clearing a few hundred yards away. The sun was rising in the east over the mountains; Bob lifted his bow and TWANG then ROAR, the stag fell like a sack of potatoes. The boys ran forward to the deer, it was lean but enough to feed their family. SNAP "what was that?" Bob sounded scared. His ears cocked for any more noises.

By Monty Hoban.

Excitement

A beautiful shining sun glimpses through the window. Tia leaps out of her big luxury comfy bed full of excitement for her first day of school. It's not just a sweet ordinary day but what she doesn't know is what's ahead of her....

By Kaelyis-Rae Te Ahuru-Watson.

The Forest Disaster

One cold frosty morning as the sun started to rise, Jane Dohe, John Dohe and Clark Dohe woke up in a rain forest with towering trees searching the sky. They were scared, lost and far, far from home. They trudged along the thick, muddy ground hoping to find a way to escape.

By Zurich Hosking.



You can hear the concentration



Jonny, Mason, Luke, Jack, Beau and Soren work diligently on their narrative writing.

MOUNTAIN SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY

We are away at this today. We will have a report and photos in the next Pānui.

A FREE BOOK EACH- 'Not Yours to Carry'

We are grateful to Matt and Sarah Brown, authors of *She Is Not Your Rehab* and passionate advocates for ending domestic violence, for generously donating a copy of their latest children's book 'Not Yours to Carry' to every student at our school.

This powerful and important book is based on the author's own experiences growing up in an unsafe home and helps children understand that domestic violence is not normal, not okay, and should never be accepted. It gently communicates the message that adult problems are not theirs to carry and that they deserve to feel safe, heard, and protected.

While the topic is heavy, the book is thoughtfully written in an age-appropriate way that allows children to engage with these important ideas safely and supportively.

We encourage you to read it with your child and talk about its messages together as the global issue of domestic violence is unfortunately a very real and ongoing problem in our community and

wider region and we want to empower our tamariki to identify their self-worth.

You can read more about Matt and Sarah's kaupapa here:

<https://www.sheisnotyourrehab.com/>



Daithi Òg, Te Hana and Charlotte with their copies of the book

YEAR 1-3 RIPPA RUGBY

This Friday 8th August, our non-skiing Year 1–3 students will be taking part in the Interschools Rippa Rugby tournament at **Cherry Grove**, Taumarunui, (not the Taumarunui Domain as stated in the permission slip).

Games kick off at 9:30am, with a delegate briefing at 9:00am. **We will be leaving school early by bus at 8:40am**—many thanks to Grant Lethborg and Ōwhango Adventures for kindly providing transport for the day.

Thank you to our wonderful parent helpers: Sarah Nicholson (managing the Year 1–2 Ōwhango Kickers), Paul Lacy (managing the Year 1–2 Ōwhango Speedies), and a Kaitieke parent who is managing the Year 3–4 Ōwhango Rippas. If anyone else can lend a hand with subbing players on and off the field, your support would be greatly appreciated, talk with Siobhan on the day, she is the teacher in charge of our group at this event. Please remember to wear your green sports t-shirt, bring a big lunch, pack a full water bottle.

RIPPA TRANSPORTATION- please check this is correct

Note we are **leaving school at 8:40-** don't be late!

Driver	Students
Kaaryn Ward	Quinn, Blake,
Karen Lord	Molly, Janey
Stacey Erueti	Eric, Corbin, Connor, Jackson
Sarah Nicholson	Harper, Remy

Jahbon	Hunter, Haven-Skye, Kruza
Meet there	Ben, Harley-John
Owhango Adventures' Mini Van	Whaea Siobhān, Kaiataarangi, Sheeran, Lennox, Jack O, Aria, Jordie, Ataahua, Briarni, Kotuku

SKIING

We have certainly chosen the sunny day of the week for our school skiing, so far, with our third beautiful day in a row! This Friday's forecast is for snow.

It was great to see most of the groups progress up to the intermediate (blue) slopes of the Rock Garden. There continues to be some great progress with their skiing skills. See the photos below.

Also, please check the transport arrangements at the bottom of this Pānui and contact me if they are not correct.

Ewan Starkey



At the top of the Rock Garden



Working their way down the Rock Garden



Rosa and Haylee follow their instructor Noah



Darcy, Chanae and Hayzin

We sometimes say that part of learning to ski is learning to fall over. Here are some good examples of the children developing this skill with style:



Darcy flies



Zurich eats some snow



Indiana tumbles

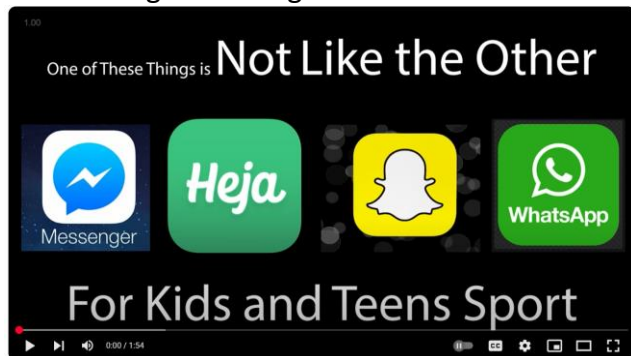


Oliver survived this without falling

OUR KIDS ONLINE

This week: The Go-To App for Kids and Teen Sport

My son's coach is using this App this season and it's been a game changer.



Control + Click to follow the link

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Nominations close today, Wednesday 6th August, at Noon. There will be information on the voting process in next week's Pānui.

Maree Hodges
Returning Officer

HOT LUNCH THURSDAYS

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

PTA HOT LUNCH THURSDAY MENU

Pies \$4
Sausage Rolls \$4
Hot Dogs \$4
Milo \$1 bring your own named cup.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Please note that these games in our Pānui are a week ahead so as to include the Year 7-8 game on a Monday night - **check the date carefully.**

Monday 11th August

4.30pm Manunui Lakers vs Ōwhango Breakers

Wednesday 13th August

Ōwhango Blaze (Year 5) BYE

Ōwhango Thunder (Year 6) BYE

Community Notices

None this week.

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

SENIOR SKI DAY 4 Friday 8th August

Please check this for accuracy

TRANSPORT				
Driver	Can fit	4WD	Students Coming (43)	
Trudie Wheeler	4	Y	Oliver Mason Juan	
Michelle Ross	3	Y	Ivy Hinemoa	
Te Hau Blackman	4	Y	Hopaea Tahu Tilia Nico	
Reuben Hardwidge	2	Y	Darcy Hazel	
Haylie Martin	3	Y	Poppy Patrick Jack P	
Regan Hoban	4	Y	Ewan Starkey Monty Zurich Soren	
Kaaryn Ward	3	Y	Olive Brodie Chanae	
Deb Pritt-Stewart	3	Y	Elliott Billie Beau	
Aunty Kelly	4	Y	Libby Charlotte	
Mitch	4	Y	Ainsley Lucy Katie Parkinson	
Kereama Watson	Meet there	Y	Kaelyis-Rae Kyston	
Jessie Smith	Meet there	Y	Te Hana	
Karen Komene	Meet there	Y	Lachlan	
Jesse or Dale Closter	Meet there	Y	Rosa Indie	
Tania Bramley	Meet there	Y	Harry	
Lakenn Te Ahuru	Meet there	Y	Hayzin Azalea	
Melissa Blackman	Meet there	Y	Grace Lily Rose	
Maree Hodges	Meet there	Y	Haylee	
Michelle Gavegan	Meet there	Y	Lucas	
Bill or Sally Bramley	Meet there	Y	Leiki	
Dave Murphy	Meet there	Y	Daithi Òg	
Kids Not Going			Millie Gin Jonny	
PASSES-ADULTS				
NEED A PASS & SKIS – 1 free:6 kids With 42+ kids, we get 7 free passes and 7 discounted passes @ \$79pp Any additional passes are at full price		NOT SKIING	HAVE OWN SEASON PASS	
Maree Hodges		Melissa Blackman	Ewan Starkey	
Reuben Hardwidge		Haylie Martin	Michelle Gavegan	
Regan Hoban		Te Hau Blackman	Tania Bramley	
Karen Komene		Michelle Ross	Bill or Sally Bramley	
Jessie Smith		Erin Wind	Dave Murphy	
Kaaryn Ward				
Katie Parkinson				
Lakenn Te Ahuru				
Trudie Wheeler				
Mitch				
Deb Pritt-Stewart				
Kereama Watson				

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