



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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30/2025

8th October 2025

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

""If you want a rainbow, you must put up with the rain" Unknown.

DATES TO NOTE

8 th October	PTA Hui 3:15
9 th October	RNZ Ballet Workshops
13 th October	Pet Day
14 th October	Yr 7 & 8 Ngati Haua Kakahi Careers Morning- Kakahi Marae
15 th October	Yr 7&8 Rippa Finals- Taupō New School Board Hui 7pm
17 th October	Dress Up Day- Book Character Theme
21 st October	Senior Class Abseiling with Hillary Outdoors
22 nd October	Power to the Pouro Concert and Workshop
23 rd October	School Closed- teacher strike
24 th October	Mountain Schools' Athletics Day
27 th October	Labour Day
29 th October	Mountain Athletics (Postponement Day)
31 st October	Bikes at School Day
4 th Nov.	Duffy Theatre Visit
7 th Nov.	Inter-School Athletics
11 th Nov.	School Photos
13 th Nov.	Spelling Bee
14 th Nov.	Inter-School Athletics (postponement Day)
21 st Nov.	Ki-o-rahi Year 5-6
28 th Nov.	Mountain Schools' Softball
5 th Dec.	Ki-o-rahi Year 7-8
11 th Dec.	School Grounds Overnighter
12 th Dec.	Brock's Farm Trip
15 th Dec.	5 pm Break Up and BBQ
16 th Dec.	Reports Issued
17 th Dec.	Last Day of the Year

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

Term Four

Welcome to term four. As you can see by our diary above, there is a lot on.

One of my important tasks is to advertise one teaching position- to fill in for Jessie Smith for 2026 while she is on study leave.

Once we have finalised our staffing for 2026, I will let you know what it is and what levels each teacher will be teaching next year. After that I will be working out which year groups and students will be in each class. This is always based on numbers we have at each year level, as well as what would be best for the child's learning.

School Closed- teacher strike

Please note that the school will have to close on Thursday 23rd October as the NZEI union has called a strike on this day.

Measles cases in Aotearoa

The Ministry of Education has asked me to share the following information with you.

Recent measles cases linked to overseas travel have been reported in Te Tai Tokerau and Queenstown. Cases were active in the community while infectious and there is a risk of measles circulating there, and more widely in Aotearoa.

Points to share with parents, caregivers and the school community:

- *Measles is very contagious and can make people of any age very sick.*
- *Watch for measles symptoms – fever, cough, runny nose, sore eyes and a blotchy rash.*

[Measles: Locations of interest in Aotearoa New Zealand – Health New Zealand \(click to follow the link\)](#)

- *If anyone in your whānau has measles symptoms keep them home and contact a*

doctor or Healthline urgently on 0800 611 116.

- Vaccination is the best protection from measles. Check all whānau are immunised.

[Measles immunity – Health New Zealand Measles, mumps and rubella \(MMR\) vaccine – Health New Zealand \(click to follow the link\)](#)

- Anyone closely exposed to measles who has not received two MMR vaccinations cannot attend their school / kura for at least eight days.

CLASSROOM KŌRERO –

These will begin again next week.

MOUNTAIN SCHOOLS ATHLETICS HELP NEEDED

On Friday 24th October (or the postponement date of Wednesday 29th) Ōwhango School will be hosting the Mountain School Athletics at the Ōwhango Domain. This is a major event requiring a lot of help for it to run smoothly. Please fill in the form below and return it to school if you can assist.

RNZ BALLET WORKSHOPS

Tomorrow we will again be having the RNZ Ballet educator running a workshop for each of the three classes.

SENIOR CLASS ABSEILING WITH HILLARY OUTDOORS PURSUIT CENTRE

This will be held on Tuesday 21st October. We will require whanau transport for this activity. More information will be in next week's panui once we have received all the details from Hillary Outdoors Pursuit Centre.

TE ARA PIKINGA KI TE PAE TĀWHITI – CAREERS DAY

Te Ara Poutama nā Rehua is a career pathways series designed to give our rangatahi meaningful opportunities to connect with community, whānau, whanaunga, and iwi Māori to learn about their career journeys.

This initiative, facilitated by Ngāti Hāua, aims to inspire and empower our young people through real-life examples of Māori success and leadership.

We would like to acknowledge Whaea Jenny Allen for her ongoing mahi in nurturing kotahitanga, manaakitanga, whanaungatanga, and mātauranga within the schools and community of Taumarunui.

Whāia te pae tāwhiti kia tata – Kōtahi te waka, kia kōtahi te hoe.

Our final Te Ara Poutama nā Rehua event for the year will take place on: **Tuesday 14 October at Kākahi Marae, 40 Ako Street, Kākahi.**

Programme for the day:

- 8:45 – Depart Ōwhango School
- 9.00am – Manuhiri, schools, and kura assemble at the marae
- 9.30am – Whakatau and morning tea
- 10.15am – Opening of Te Ara Poutama nā Rehua 3 | Sessions 1–4
- 12.30pm – Lunch
- 1.00pm – Sessions 5–6
- 2.00pm – Closing karakia

Throughout the day, rangatahi will be able to choose from a range of kaikōrero, each sharing their career journey and insights into their mahi. Additional speakers and organisations will also be on hand to engage and inspire our ākonga.

Industries confirmed so far include: Early Childhood Education, Digital Creatives, Graphic Design (Publishing), ICT, Infrastructure and Construction, Real Estate, and Fashion.

A huge thank you to Grant Lethborg from Ōwhango Adventures for providing transport to and from Kākahi Marae. We will leave Ōwhango School at 8:45am.

Our Rimu Class (Years 6–8) will be attending this exciting event. Please contact the school if your child does not have permission to attend this event.

Ngā mihi, Jessie Smith

KCRU RIPPA CARNIVAL FINALS- TAUPŌ

Congratulations to our Ōwhango Girls and Ōwhango Boys teams who qualified for the KCRU Wide Rippa Carnival Finals, being held at Owen Delany Park in Taupō, next Wednesday 15th October. Thank you very much for all the offers of transport, and to Lakenn for coaching and managing the girls' team, and Rex for coaching and managing our boys' team. The manager's

meeting is at 10.15am, with games beginning at 10.30am. Depending on how the day goes, it's expected the estimated time of arrival back to school will be 3.45pm at the latest. I will email the draw and maps for your information. Sports t-shirts will be given out this week. Please see the transport arrangements below, don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Driver	Passengers
Michelle Gavegan	Lucas Oliver
Cara O'Donnell	Hazel, Tilia, Hopaea, Dylan Moke
Michelle Ross	Ivy
Mara/Reuban Hardwidge	Darcy, Chanae
Simone Sharples	Zurich, Soren, Beau
Regan Hoban	Gazebo , Monty
Rex Pierce	Jack
Lakenn Te Ahuru	Hayzin
Jahbon Te Ahuru	Kaelyis-Rae

PTA HUI

The Parent Teacher Association have a meeting today, Wednesday 8th October at 3:15pm, in the staffroom. You are all welcome to attend.

PET DAY AND SPRING FESTIVAL- This Monday

Pets

All pets need to be registered- please fill in the form below and return it to school tomorrow.

Homemade Activities

I have again inserted the Pet Day activities that the children need to do at home to participate in Monday's classroom competitions. We encourage each child to do between two and four of the categories.

Timetable

Here is a timeline for the day, note that the times are approximate:

8:30-9:00 Bring your art and craft entries to your classroom.

9:00-10:30 Classroom activities are done, and displays are organised.

11:00- Judges arrive and start judging the classroom exhibits. If wet, an email will be sent out cancelling the pet part of the day.

12:00 Parents and pets arrive.

12:15ish the rafts are floated and judged.

12:30ish the pet judging starts and classrooms are opened for viewing of the exhibits.

1:30ish the sales table is opened with the children selling their wares. Remember to bring some cash.

Leading of pets around the agility course.

Certificates are handed out.

2:30ish tidy up and then take everything home.

POWER TO THE POURO CONCERT AND WORKSHOP

On Wednesday the 22nd of October the whole school will be travelling by bus to the Taumarunui Memorial Hall to see the Power to the Pouro concert where the students will *"Hear and see our collection of over 50 individual and diverse Taonga Puoro played by Jerome, from the Nguru (whales tooth nose flute), Porutu Pounamu (greenstone long flute), Putaatara (shell trumpet), to the majestic Koauau Toroa (Royal Albatross wing bone flute)."*

After the concert the year 1-3 will return to school and the year 4-8 will participate in an ukutangi making and learning to play workshop.

They will then return to school by 3pm.

Please contact the school if you do not want your child to attend.

SCHOOL BOARD HUI

Our new school board meets for their first hui on Wednesday 15th October at 7pm in the staffroom. You are all welcome to attend.

COOKING LESSONS

Last term Regan Hoban took a cooking lesson with the senior class in the multi-purpose room, christening our cooking facilities.



A hive of activity



Jonny and Chanae on food prep



Grace cleans up

DRESS UP DAY- BOOK CHARACTER THEME

On Friday 17th October we are having a Book Character Day. Come dressed as an interesting person or thing from a book!

OUR KIDS ONLINE

This week: The Secret to Raising Resilient Kids
Why are so many kids struggling with resilience today? In this video, I break down why resilience is falling and how we can help our kids build grit, patience, and strength by doing hard things.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0oKgia7KIM>



Control + Click to follow the link

WANTED PLEASE

Kōwhai will be doing a little art project that requires some cardboard rolls. So, when you're next done with your paper towels, tin foil, cling film, receipt rolls, wrapping paper etc. please keep your cardboard rolls and donate them to Kōwhai. (No toilet roll holders please, for hygiene reasons).

Much appreciated, Whaea Siobhán.

WHOLE SCHOOL SKI DAY

On the last day of term, we were treated to some fine weather and lots of snow for our whole school ski trip. Due to poor weather in the previous three weeks, the junior group was up for their first trip, so they started with a lesson in Happy Valley, and some decided to continue and have a lesson in the afternoon as well. For the senior group they got to explore the whole mountain, with almost all the lifts operating after the recent large dumps of snow.

It was wonderful seeing how much the kids have progressed this season and for them to have a final chance to enjoy the beautiful place we live in.

Once again, thanks to all of the parents and whānau who have supported this programme this year; we couldn't do it without you.



Lining up for their lesson



Going up the magic carpet



Remy, Ben, Rosa and Haylee have a break



Te Hana and Jessie



Sheeran, Kim and Coby



Coby learning to stop
Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

MOTOR CROSS (MX) SUCCESS



Congratulations to Corbin Wind, year two, who came second in the Aotearoa New Zealand 2025 Mini MX National Competitions in the Intro MX50cc 4-7 years category in Auckland over the holidays.

GLOBALS U11 RUGBY TEAM

Te Whakahaere tamariki mō te whutuporo - Running kids for rugby.

Well done, Hayzin, Jonny, Kaelyis-Rae, Lachlan, Mason, Monty, Nico who were part of the U11 Taumarunui Junior Rugby team (out of 120 teams), who participated in the Globals Rugby Tournament, in Taupo at the beginning of the school holidays. Special mention to Nico who was the youngest in our team and took every opportunity to hit the rucks and chase with strong tackles.



Globals Management fosters: enjoyment / hākinakina, sustainability / toitū, sportsmanship / whanonga tapatahi, empowerment / whakamana - as their pillars. Looking around and being in the atmosphere on the sidelines these pillars were evident from majority smiling, content, passionate players / coaches / managers / whānau. Implemented at Globals by "Without Waste NZ" was, Leaf No Trace - leaf based packaging that's fully compostable, made without glue, PFAs, additives and composted at local community gardens was 515.2kg. I know how much our kura loves to do our part for our taiao, big and small it all helps.



Green for Kyra

On the Saturday of the tournament, to honour Whaea Kyra Leautuafi our tamariki wore green ribbon. He aitua! He aitua! Haere ki tou tipuna. These events are made possible by the collective of volunteers, community and whanau support, thank you to all who sent well wishes and for your tautoko to get our tamariki to Globals.
 Game 1 vs Ngatapa -35-15 to us
 Game 2 vs St Michaels Marist Rotorua -20-15 to us
 Game 3 vs Ponsonby -45-10 to them
 Game 4 vs Silverdale -35-25 to them
 Game 5 vs Glendale -55-30 to us
 Signed Karen Komene

Ngā mihi nui ki a Karen Komene for being a positive and highly organised manager for the team. Also thank you Karen for this wonderful write-up, beautifully capturing the achievements and spirit of our tamariki.



The Global Games team

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 Four Monday 6th October to Wednesday 17th December

TERM DATES 2026

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 12th October to Friday 18th 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



MOUNTAIN SCHOOL ATHLETICS HELP

Yes, I can help on the day.

Name.....

Comment if

necessary.....

.....



PET DAY 2024 PET REGISTRATION

Each child may enter one pet. Any pet is welcome.

Pets are to arrive at school at or just after 12:00. If the weather is unsuitable an email will be sent out at 11am to inform parents that we have cancelled the pet section. All pets must be contained or restrained, not roaming free.

All pets must have a water container. Pets must be able to be controlled by the child.

No aggressive dogs. Children must stay with their pets during judging time.

There will be areas for each type of pet to be tied, or for their cage to sit, please look for the signs or ask if you are unsure where to put them.

There will be a time for the judges to interview the pet owner and judge them for an appropriate award.

After this, pets that can be, will be led by their owner around an agility course and show their leading skills.

The focus on this is fun, rather than competition.

PET REGISTRATION FORM

Please return this Pet Registration form to school by Wednesday 23rd October

CHILD'S NAME: _____ TYPE OF PET: _____ PET'S NAME: _____

CHILD'S NAME: _____ TYPE OF PET: _____ PET'S NAME: _____

I will deliver these pets to school at or just after 12.00 on the day (Monday 4th November).

Pets cannot be left at school in the morning.

I will ensure that the pet/s are adequately secured and have water.

We agree to abide by the above conditions.

Signed by parent / caregiver _____



OWHANGO SCHOOL

PET DAY & SPRING FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

Our Pet Day and Spring Festival will be held on Monday 13th October 2025. On this day parents and the community can come along after 12:01pm to view the creations and watch the animals being judged.

Students may make a **minimum of two** and a **maximum of four** individual activities below:

A GIFT

- ◆ A gift for a grandparent.

COOKING

- ◆ Baking decorated like an animal or in a spring theme, packaged or sliced and priced if going on the sales table.
- ◆ Homemade sweets & other baking packaged or sliced and priced if going on the sales table.

GROWING

- ◆ A growing container garden, e.g., tub of vegies, hanging basket etc
- ◆ A decorative sand saucer or miniature garden

CONSTRUCTING

These two activities may be a group or an individual activity:

- ◆ A Lego creation- in either a spring theme or pet theme
- ◆ A large raft – judging criteria: that will support at least one person and can paddle the length of the school pool, bonus points for engineering skills and decorative skill.
- ◆ A small boat - judging criteria: that it will stay afloat while all of the rafts are paddled the length of the pool; bonus points for engineering skills and decorative skill.

PRESCHOOL

- ◆ There is a table for pre-schoolers to make something that fits any of the above categories.

RULES

- These are all to be **prepared at home**.
- Creations must be **made by the students**, NOT the parents and not store bought.
- Please **do not** name your work; we will give you stickers with your special anonymous code on it.
- Students will be doing additional activities at school that will be on display.
- You may make a **minimum of two** and a **maximum of four** individual activities
- Students wishing to sell their creation must price it beforehand.

Sales Table

After the judging of the displays, the children will be able to offer their work for sale. This year all of the money goes to the child who made the item for sale. The year 7 & 8 children will manage the sales table. The children will need to price their own goods on arrival at school.

House Points

The children win points for their house group in every event, as follows-

First= 3 points

Second= 2 points

Third= 1 point

