



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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34/2025

5th November 2025

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

If your car could travel at the speed of light, would you need headlights? – Unknown

DATES TO NOTE

5 th Nov.	Kowhai Space Centre Trip
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
27 th Nov.	Science Roadshow
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
16 th Dec.	5 pm Break Up and BBQ Reports Issued
17 th Dec.	Last Day of the Year

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

I have nothing to say this week.

CLASSROOM KŌRERO

Technology Lessons in Rimu Class – Cooking and Sewing

Cooking

Last week we were lucky enough to have Molly Jeffries and Cherie McDowall from REAP come and visit our class to run a fantastic "Cooking on a Budget" programme over three days. In groups of four, students were challenged to plan a nutritious meal for under \$20—considering cost, time, and nutrition. The preparation included searching through New World brochures to choose specific foods. They then worked on the Chrome book to search the costs and to ensure the final meal was under \$20. It was a great opportunity to practise teamwork and budgeting

skills, as well as enjoy cooking in our beautiful multipurpose room. What a dream to work in! Meals included tasty chicken stir-fry, sausage pasta, spaghetti bolognese, and meatballs—each group proud of their delicious creations.



New World, here we come!



Checking the total price at the checkout. Each groups total had to be less than \$20 per meal. All groups managed to do this!



Ivy and Lachlan get all their equipment needed for cooking their meal.



Cherie offers advice to Luke and Beau.



Molly supports Zurich, Tahu and Monty in the kitchen.



Beau, Luke, Chanae and Hayzin with their completed scrumptious meal of sausage pasta.



Dicing, chopping and cutting up vegetables and chicken.



Monty, Zurich, Tahu and Darcy worked brilliantly together to make a yummy chicken noodle stir-fry.



Ka mau te wehe tamariki mā! Jonny, Mason, Charlotte and Gin received a \$10 New World voucher each for the group with the lowest cost of their meal. Lachlan, Poppy and Ivy won a \$10 New World voucher for having the most filling meal. Ngā mihi Molly and Cherie for bringing the 'Cooking on a budget' programme to Ōwhango School. It was delicious and the tamariki had a ball! Thank you both so much, Jessie Smith.

Sewing

Over two full days, while half the class was cooking, the other half were sewing with our wonderful volunteers, Toni Grass and Michelle Wharton Allen. Toni generously supplied all the material and cotton. Before starting on material, the students had to practise sewing using a piece of paper to prove they could sew on the sewing machine with control. Students were then able to choose some material for their frog. They were given a frog pattern to trace, cut carefully and pin. Their frogs would eventually be filled with rice, perfect as little heat packs. Some of those that finished quickly were given the opportunity to make small fabric bags. Our tamariki practised how to use sewing machines safely and effectively, showing great focus and creativity. It was a wonderful hands-on experience that combined technology, teamwork, and practical mahi.



Michelle supports Gin on the sewing machine.



Grace proudly shows her material frog just before sewing on the sewing machine.



Toni helping Tilly thread the cord through her bag.



No pressure Soren! Jonny and Toni look on carefully.



Tilly hand sewing button eyes onto her frog.



Hayzin and Poppy with their beautifully completed bags.



Some of Rimu class with their completed frogs and bags.

Ngā mihi to Toni Grass and Michelle Wharton Allen. We appreciate your expertise, your patience and your sense of fun with our tamariki. We had such an amazing time, we are looking forward to having you back again! We are very grateful for your valuable time and knowledge.

Kindness counts

In Rimu class this week, we have been learning about the power of *kindness* and *positivity* — how even the smallest act of care can brighten someone's day. Our tamariki have been reminded that their words and actions are powerful, and that showing *manaakitanga*, *awhi*, and *tautoko* helps build a classroom and school where everyone feels valued and supported. These are the key words we want our learners to hold at the forefront of their minds each day — to be kind, to lift others, and to spread positivity wherever they go.

Jessie Smith.



Lachlan highlights the importance of the words such as whanau and accomplish.

KI-O-RAHI FESTIVAL DAYS- year 5-8

We have two ki-o-rahi days coming up. One for the year 5 & 6 on Friday 21st November, the other for the year 7 & 8 students on the 5th December. These are compulsory as part of our physical education programme. Please fill in the form below so we can organise our transportation. The purpose of these days is to build our students' leadership skills, physical skills and learn the story behind the game and the rules. Departing school at 9am, returning by 3pm

SPELLING BEE

Thursday 13th November 2025 - 10am to 2pm at the Miriama Community Hub.

Congratulations to the following children who will be representing Ōwhango School at the inaugural Spelling Bee competition next week.

Harry, Hinemoa, Billie, Charlotte, Poppy, Monty, Lachlan, Oliver, Soren and Hopaea.

This event was postponed from term three.

INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS

We will be **departing school at 8:15** as we need to be there for the briefing at 8:30 and get the gazebo up and ready for the first race at 9:00am. Please do not be late as we cannot wait.

Note that all spectators must only use the terraced and grandstand area, whanau are not to enter the competition zones at any time.

Transport

Driver	Passengers
Meet There	Jordie, Ainsley, Lennox, Lachlan, Blake, Kotuku, Kyston, Kaelyis-Rae, Monty, Hayzin, Tilia Azalea, Haven-Skye,
Theresa Owen	Charlotte, Chanae, Gin, Darcy, Beau, Billie,
Maree Ashcroft	Haylee, Jack, GAZEBO
Ewan Starkey	Grace, Rose, Libby, Corbin
Michelle Gavegan	Lucas, Oliver, Mason,

Interschool Athletics Changes

The divisions for interschool athletics were changed at the last minute, after our Mountain School athletics event. This has made it difficult to work out our team attending the event.

Division	Year of Birth
Mini Midget	2020
Midget	2018 / 2019
Intermediate	2016 / 2017
Junior	2014 / 2015
Senior	2012 / 2013

We ran our event with four divisions based on the children's class year, however we had to enter them to interschool based on the year they were born.

Some children who were not in the finals and could have made it under this new arrangement may have missed out. We apologise, but this decision was not made by us.

DUFFY THEATRE VISIT

Yesterday we had a visit from Duffy Theatre, who performed their latest show Duffy and Scruffy's Pawesome Adventure.

Here is the synopsis:

Duffy and Scruffy's Uncle Ben is the best! He is the epitome of a cool uncle, but he has some sad

news, he needs to move to Australia for their job! Duffy and Scruffy are devastated until Ben suggests they start a book club and write physical letters to each other as a way of staying in touch. The letters spring back and forward between Aotearoa and Aussie until one day when they mysteriously stop; Uncle Ben has gone missing! Scruffy thinks they know why and is ready to solve another mystery. This story is full of super-hero adventures and furry animals, will reading be able to save the day again!

Here are some photos...



Duffy and his younger sister, Scruffy



They both love reading books



Uncle Ben turns out to be a super hero!



Uncle Ben's super hero lair



Duffy waters the audience, for dramatic effect



After the show

BIKES AT SCHOOL DAY

This was a lovely way to enjoy a sunny Friday during the playtime and lunchtime. See the photos below...



Ainsley helps to make a track



Daithi Òg makes a ramp



Brodie tests it out



Soren and Jonny do wheelies



Mason jumps another ramp



Brodie going around the pump track in the domain



The senior boys built a new track through the trees



Jonny on the skate park



Elliott gets some air on the skate park



Patrick and Billie designed a drag race track



Ainsley and Haylee made a hoop-la challenge

KŌWHAI SPACE CENTRE KIHIKIHI TRIP

Kōwhai is away on this trip today.

P.T.A. FUNDRAISER – a reminder

Recently we applied for and received a beautiful, handmade quilt from the Ruapehu Quilters to raffle. We are working on sourcing some other exciting items too to offer a Christmas hamper raffle in order to raise funds for new kapa haka uniforms, sports shirts, class trips and other treats for our tamariki.

We are seeking donations to make our hamper bigger and better so if all whānau who are able to, could please donate an item (such as non-perishable foods, sweet treats, toys, Christmas decorations etc) to add to the Christmas hamper that would be greatly appreciated. There will be a container for donated items in the school office.

Please bring your items in before Friday the 7th of November. After that, we will share more information on the raffle and prizes.

If you are not sure about the mahi our amazing P.T.A. do to support wonderful opportunities for

our school, please ask a staff member about adding you to the P.T.A. Messenger group.
Nā Siobhan McKenna

OUR KIDS ONLINE Two Minute Parenting Tips

This week: Slugs and Mud Therapy

I think the title says it all... :-)

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



Control + Click to follow the link

SKI MONEY DUE- final reminder

Adult skiing costs have been processed. Invoices were emailed out four weeks ago to parents who participated day by day with the amounts now due. Please pay these promptly to Westpac 03 0426 0141783 00 reference "Adult skiing". Thank you.

Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

JUNIOR GOLF a reminder

The Junior Golf programme will again start up at the Taumarunui Golf Course from 4 to 6 p.m. every Friday. The event will start on **7 November 2025**, and the last day for 2025 will be **Friday, 12 December**. Then, junior golf will restart on **13 February 2026**, and the last day for the summer will be **27 March 2026**.

Cost: \$2 per player. There will be a **drink, a treat, and spot prizes at the end of every session**. You don't need any balls or golf clubs, but if you have them, bring them along. Players only need to bring:

- a hat
- water bottle
- footwear (closed shoe, not sandals, jandals or bare feet); and
- a "positive" attitude.

Parent volunteers who can support the programme are welcome. Parents are encouraged to join our **Messenger group "Taumarunui Junior Golf"**. Notices will go out to the group, especially when we encounter bad weather that would lead to cancellation/s. Also, you can use the group for any general questions. Signed Rupert Lerm

Community Notices

Are these your glasses? They are in the office.



PAYING BY INTERNET BANKING DETAILS:

Ōwhango School: Uniform/stationery/sport fees pay to 03 0426 0141783 00

PTA: Fundraisers 03 0426 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

Mitre 10 25 buckets for drumming

Ōwhango Adventures: Free bus use for trips

Sue Morris and Darren Brown Contactors for the firewood logs and delivery

Ruapehu Quilters a quilt for PTA raffle

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Ōwhango School Class Photograph Order Form 2025

PTA CLASS PHOTO FUNDRAISER - \$20 each

Family Name _____

Class	Number	Total
Room 1 (Kahikatea)		
Room 2 (Rimu)		
Room 3 (Kōwhai)		
Whole School Photo		
	Total Payment	
	Date paid	

Please include payment with your order. If paying by internet banking, please deposit payment into the

PTA Bank Account: 03 0426 0156205 00 reference "School Photo"

Ref: School Photos with your family name.

Thank you very much for your support!

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Central King Country REAP
Te Manu Korero O Nga Matauranga

Presents

SPELLING BEE CHAMPION

Spell Your Way to Victory!
Te Reo and English

For registration
Google Form Link
Registration closes 11th November

PRIZES
Certificate and Voucher
For 1st Place
Certificate
For Participants

Nov 13th
Miriama
Community
Centre
10am to 2pm

**FREE
REGISTRATION FEE**

EVENT RULES
Each school may enter up to a max of 5 students per age group, age groups are Yr 5, Yr 6, Yr 7, Yr 8
spell in either Te reo or English.

- Spellers take turns being given a word to spell aloud.
- Each speller must say the word, spell it, and then say the word again.
- Example: "Word. W-O-R-D. Word."
- If the spelling is correct, they continue to the next round.
- If incorrect, the speller is eliminated.



YEAR 5-8 KI-O-RAHI FESTIVAL PERMISSION / TRANSPORT SLIP
Year 5 & 6 Friday 21st November / Year 7 & 8 Friday 5th December
Departing School at 9:00am, Returning to School 3:00pm

Family name _____

My child / ren _____ may attend the Ki-o-rahi Festival at the Taumarunui Domain.

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 _____

INTERSCHOOL KI-O-RAHI YR5-8 FESTIVAL DAYS INFORMATION

The purpose is to build our student's leadership skills, physical skills and learn the story behind the game and the rules.

START: 9.30am FINISH: 2.30pm

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

- Tell the story and explain the rules of the game; Breakout into mixed groups (students will be mixed up and working alongside students from other schools)
- Games - playing the game is a great way to learn as they play.
- Mini tournaments

TIME SCHEDULE

- 9.30am Briefing
- 9.40am Split out teams - name teams
- 11am Drills & Skills

DRILL & SKILLS

- 15 min games x4 Stations - Touch Down / Tag Rip / Bust the Hut / Target Practice
- 11am - Station 1
- 11.15pm - Station 2
- 11.30 - Station 3
- 11.45 - Station 4
- 12pm - LUNCH

MINI TOURNAMENT

7-minute halves / 2-minute half-time / 4 minutes between games.

1. 12.30pm - Round 1
2. 12.50pm - Round 2
3. 1.10pm - Round 3
4. 1.30pm - Round 4
5. 1.50pm - Round 5
6. 2.10pm - Round 6
7. 2.30pm - FINISH