



## 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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Week 8 Term 1, 2026

Kia ora e te whānau, welcome to Week 8!

The end of T1 has rolled around fast. It has been jam packed, full of learning, fun and new experiences. I have loved getting to know you all, and for those I am yet to meet, please know my door is open and I welcome visitors!

I know it's been hectic with sports and other EOTC events - thank you to everyone who gets the permission slips returned quickly - it sure makes planning these things easier.

Next term, we are moving to an online app for the majority of school communication. It is called HERO. From your HERO app, you will be able to let us know of absences, pay fees/bills, receive School Reports and much more. Don't panic, we will be making it a slow and simple process, and we will also provide paper copies of things for those of you who don't use Apps (and School Reports will still go home as a paper copy also). We will introduce HERO properly early next term and walk you through how to log in. You will be able to access information to your child - like updating their medical details and other useful tools which will help us run the school seamlessly.

**Kapahaka** - We are incredibly blessed to have Wai and Hone volunteer their time, yet again, for our Kapahaka. An email has been sent out to whānau with links to the waiata our tamariki need to start learning for our production. It is so lovely to hear students singing these waiata, and watching the senior girls already have success using poi. Kapahaka will start for all tamariki next

term, and more details will eventually come in regards to the roopu heading to Taiopenga.

I'll attach the travel plans for today at the end of this newsletter - I understand that it means we've already gone, and apologies for that - it has been a juggle to get this sorted prior to today. Thank you to those who have offered transport, as always, we appreciate you!

**Last day of term this Thursday - children are able to come in mufti!**

Senior class whānau - at this stage, we have been invited down to Kaitieke School, **Friday 24 April**, to help for a day of regenerating their ngahere, supporting them in planting 700 new natives. I was involved in the start of this project last year, and it will be so neat to take my 'Friday' class down there. They will learn a lot about their ngahere, trapping, conservation, supporting others, and giving back. Kaitieke School has offered to pick us up in their school bus, and I will take my car - so no transport needed - however more hands on deck are always welcome if you're keen to join us. It will be a half day excursion, and we will make sure it links back to our core curriculum learning.

### Dates to Remember:

Wk 8	Wed 1 Apr - Whole School EOTC; Taranaki Falls hikoi Thur 2 Apr - <b>Last Day T1</b>
Holidays!	Easter 3 - 6 April <b>Term 2 begins 20th April</b>

Term 2	20 April - 3 July
Term 3	20 July - 25 September
Term 4	12 October - 18 December

### TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR HOCKEY

Wednesday 1st April

Last night for FUN STICKS beginner hockey players - top turf 3.45pm - 4.20pm.

5.05pm Turaki Dragons vs Ōwhango

6.25pm TBC - play off vs TBC - play off

B grade game: Top Turf –

4.25pm St Pats Saints vs Small Sticks and Extras

### TAUMARUNUI PRIMARY NETBALL

Opening day is Wednesday 22nd April, week 1 of Term 2. I will share the draw with you as soon as this is made available. Once we have confirmed our teams and they have been registered, I will advise you of the fees for the season, which will be payable to the school office.

*A date for next term to put in your calendars and start planning for - **World Book Day!** To celebrate, we invite your children to dress up as a book character! **Thursday 23 April.***



**Pool is now closed.** Keys are now due back to Karen please. Thank you to everyone who used our pool over the summer - it was well looked after.

**BoT - Election information** - We sadly farewell Dale Closter from our Board of Trustees as she leaves us for the other side of the ditch! Thank you Dale for everything you have done in this role, we appreciate you. You will receive information about next steps from a Returning Officer soon, with dates and how to nominate. We look forward to filling in Dale's place with someone just as passionate about our kura. It is a good time to think if it is something you would be able to commit to, as we are an active board, who want to continue our mahi in honouring Te Tiriti and making sure that our tamariki receive

the best education we can possibly provide. Secretarial skills are a bonus as the new position will be taking the minutes and sending out the board packs pre hui. We generally meet once a term on a Wednesday evening, and communicate via email where necessary.

### Classroom Kōrero - Kahikatea

It has been a busy and rewarding term in Kahikatea! In writing, students have been exploring biographies, learning about well-known people throughout Aotearoa's history. This has been a great way to prepare for our upcoming production, bringing their roles to life with enthusiasm and creativity. Our production preparations are well underway, with students learning both choreographed and interpretive dances. It has been fantastic to see their confidence grow as they practise and perform together.

In science, we have begun our topic on Forest Health. Students have explored trees and the rich communities of living things found in, on, and around them. Highlights have included calculating the height of trees, using our sense of hearing to investigate the soundscape of healthy Aotearoa forests and learning about the different layers within a forest. Maths learning has been full of challenge and success, with a focus on factors, multiples, and fractions. It has been especially rewarding to see students move from finding concepts tricky to experiencing a real sense of accomplishment by the end of each lesson. In PE, we have been playing ki-o-Rahi, which they absolutely love. A standout moment was our fantastic day at the Ki-o-Rahi festival in Taumarunui with the iSports and TYCT team.

We have also been fortunate to have Whaea Regan relieving in our class this term. She has supported students in a range of areas, including writing skills such as punctuation and grammar, proofreading, maths, and art. The class especially enjoyed creating amazing miniature 3D

landscapes, along with her signature touch of food technology learning.

Last week, we said goodbye to our dear friend Rosa. We will miss her greatly, but we are excited for the new adventure that awaits her and her whānau in Penguin.

It has been a wonderful term in Kahikatea, and we are all ready for a well-deserved break. Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday with their whānau.



Ainsley's miniature 3D sculpture of the seasons



Kyston, Nico and Stan discuss the best way to measure their tree



Our finished pieces under Whaea Regan's expert guidance



Rosa with her friends, Haylee and Te Hana

### Taranaki Falls Hikoi Transport

**DATE:** 1 April, 2026

**SITUATION:** Tongariro National Park

**TEACHER ORGANISING THE ACTIVITY:** Annelies

**TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS:** leaving school at 9 am returning before 3 pm

Driver	Can take	Students
Owhango Adventures	21	Beau, Poppy, Juan, Jonny, Mason, Lachlan, Kaelyis-Rae, Tahu, Billie, Millie, Patrick, Charlotte, Brodie, Kyston, Stan, Jack, Lennox, Kruza Kate, Libby, Jahbon (20)
Melissa Blackman	6	Grace, Lily, Rose, Janey
Deb	4	Elliot, Remy, Mila, Briarni
Theresa Brewer	4	Nico, Blake, Ngakuru
Sally Bramley	0	Harry, Leiki (meet there)
Erin Wind	4	Libby, Corbin, Ainsley, Jordie, (Katie)
Maree	4	Hayley, Te Hana, Sheeran, Eric
Theresa Owen	6	Monty, Soren, Zurich, Kotuku, Levi
Libby Ogle	6	on bus
Janeen Couper	2	Connor, Jackson (and Archer)
Sandra (grandma)	4	Harper, Leo, Romana
Annelies	4	Noa, Harrison,
Hari	2	Aria (and Alfie)
Lakenn	4	Hayzin, Hunter, Azalela, Haven-Skye
Danielle	3	Lucy, Harley-John, Benny
Kaaryn	4	Olive, Quinn, Ataahua
Parent Helpers		Melissa, Libby, Erin, Sally, Theresa B, Deb, Katie, Sandra, Hari, Lakenn, Danielle, Jahbon
Teachers/TA	5	Annelies, Maree, Theresa, Lisa, Kate

Whanau coming with preschoolers	Hari, Janeen
Meeting us there	Lisa, Sally, Harry and Leiki
Potential changes	Levi and Mila may meet us there with parents