



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 10 Term 2, 2026

Kia ora e te whānau, welcome to Week 10!

We are almost ready for Term 2 School Holidays and look forward to resting, recuperating and attending some Professional Development as a team in Hamilton.

It has been another eventful term and we are so proud of how our ākongā handle all the amazing opportunities offered to them. School Reports are heading home with each child this Friday and we hope you will take the opportunity to book in a Parent Teacher Interview on the slip that will be provided. These are an amazing opportunity for you to come and talk to your child's teacher about their progress, how you can support at home, and share in the celebration of learning.

You will notice some new wording in what are otherwise our traditional Ōwhango School Reports - this is to ensure that we are meeting MoE expectations, yet also maintaining the integrity of what we know has traditionally worked for, and been celebrated by, our community.

A few repeats in this pānui. We really appreciate that the majority of our tamariki are coming to school in the correct uniform - please remember that children must wear **blue or black shorts/pants**. Another consideration that we'd like parents to note is that there is an expectation of children bringing their own water bottles on school trips. This helps in the organisation of the morning where kaiako are checking off lists, organising transport and accommodating last minute changes. School trip notices have all the details you need on them (what to pack and when to meet), and we really appreciate it when whānau send their tamariki to school ready to have a great day!

A huge thank you to Melissa and Daniel Blackman, and Mandy O'Reilly and family, for their kind donations for our Duffy Book Programme. This is a special initiative that we love and we are so grateful for your support. They join Bill and Carol O'Donnell, Ōwhango Motors, Awa Rere Hideway, and Doyle Valuations in supporting this initiative - we are ever so grateful.

Our bikeathon was a huge success as always - I would love to thank the PTA for running this and Maree for all her organising behind the scenes. There are very few days before the end of term, so we would appreciate monies to be paid into the PTA account asap. As you can appreciate, this all needs tallying and following up, which our volunteers do a wonderful job of. (PTA Bank Acc #03 0426 0156205 00).

We look forward to letting you know the final amount fundraised soon, and can't thank you enough for your support with this fundraising.

Have a lovely week, Annelies

Y5-8 InterSchool Soccer

I was lucky enough to head to Cherry Grove last Friday to watch our Y5-8 students play soccer against some amazing teams. I was so blown away by our children's beautiful sportsmanship and their resilience on this cold, busy, but fun day. Thank you to our awesome parent helpers too!

⚽ RESULTS: ⚽

5/6 Winners ~ St Pats Wolves

5/6 Runners-Up ~ Ongarue/Matiere

7/8 Winners ~ St Pats All Stars

7/8 Runners-Up ~ TKKM Te Puwaha Tahī

Kia ora e te whānau,

As we look ahead to the upcoming Ngāti Tūwharetoa Taiopenga festival, our kapa haka tutors have been working on selecting this year's performance roopu (group). Kapa haka is a beautiful taonga tuku iho—a treasure handed down to us—and our main goal is to whakamana (uplift) every single taura who joins in.

For this roopu, we've focused on; honouring the commitment of students who have proudly performed for our kura before, honouring those who participate in the weekly kapa haka lessons with enthusiasm and focus, those that consistently show interest and effort to learn the waiata, poi and haka and welcoming those who are keen to give it a go.

We really want to encourage a supportive space where a willingness to try and be brave is what matters most.

When our roopu steps out onto the stage, they are not just performing, they are proudly representing Ōwhango School and our entire wider community. It is a special opportunity for our tamariki to showcase the spirit and heart of our community to everyone watching. However, the Ngāti Tūwharetoa Taiopenga performance is typically in front of a few hundred people, so confidence on stage is highly considered during the roopu selection process.

A foundational aspect of our kapa haka is celebrating and connecting with Te Ao Māori. For our Māori taura, this is a powerful space to embrace their identity, heritage, and unique voice as Tangata Māori. At the same time, we view kapa haka as a gift to be shared, and we want to remind all of our families that Ōwhango School is a completely inclusive space. We welcome and value students from all backgrounds, walks of life, and beliefs. Everyone has a place here, and every student helps enrich our roopu.

Our senior students are playing a big part in this journey by stepping up as leaders and paving the way for the younger ones. By showing everyone what it looks like to be brave and focused on stage, they are setting a wonderful example and helping our younger tamariki feel confident to stand tall too.

If your child wasn't selected for the stage group this time around, please let them know not to be disheartened. This is just one part of their school journey, and there will be plenty of opportunities in the coming years for them

to join in, grow, and represent our school on stage. Every student in the school will continue to be taught kapa haka every week with our teachers, however our tutors will be focusing on the Ngāti Tūwharetoa Taiopenga group. Every single student is a valued part of our kapa haka collective, and we are so proud of the effort they are all putting in.

We would also like to note that although a Ngāti Tūwharetoa Taiopenga roopu has been selected, this group will be refined over the coming weeks as the taura become more familiar with the performance requirements and demonstrate their commitment and enthusiasm. This process will help identify those best suited to represent our kura at this event, and as the selection process continues, the size of the final roopu may be reduced to reflect the commitment, readiness, and performance requirements of the event.

Nga mihi,
Waitangi Patena-Mariu

TAIOPENGA 2026
NGĀTI TŪWHARETOA SCHOOLS KAPA HAKA FESTIVAL
15 - 18 HEPETEMA 2026
TAUPŌ EVENT CENTRE
Tuesday - Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm Daily

Ngāti Tūwharetoa
Taiopenga 2026
celebrating 40 years of
Schools Kapa
Haka Festival

Featuring

PERFORMANCES FROM
EEE
KOHANGA REO
PRIMARY
INTERMEDIATE
SECONDARY
PĀKĀRE

ENTRY
KOHA

All stall queries
email with details about your stall to
taiopenga@gmail.com

Dates to Remember:

Wk 10	Fri. 26- Reports go home.
Wk 11	Tue. 30th - Parent-Teacher Interviews Thur. 2- Last day of term: 1.15 pm Assembly 2 pm Matariki House Challenge Fri. 3- Teacher Only Day NO SCHOOL for tamariki
School Term Dates	Term 1 9 Feb - 2 April Term 2 20 April - 3 July Term 3 20 July - 25 September Term 4 12 Oct - 18 December

Policies via SchoolDocs: We are now officially a SchoolDocs School! SchoolDocs is a company that the majority of NZ School's use to cover policies and procedures - ensuring that we are up to date with legal requirements and that information is readily available to our staff, our whānau and our community. You are even able to review policies when they are due, and give us feedback. Staff/Parents/Community have their own login & password which are:

Login Details	Who can use this?	What can they access?
Community	Other members of the board	All policies and procedures on your SchoolDocs site The review tool and feedback tool on your site
Username: owhango	School staff	
Password: community	Parents and whānau Students	

In-Zone enrolments for 2027: We are wanting to create a list of our newest learners starting in 2027! I know it feels like a while away yet, however there is planning going on behind the scenes here to make sure we are conscious of class sizes and the likes heading into 2027. If you know of any whānau with pre-school aged tamariki in our zone, please do get them to reach out to me asap.

Sunday July 26th, 2026, 9 am - 11 am

We are happy to announce that Emily Jasmine from The Ruapehu Council will be hosting a Pruning Workshop here at Ōwhango School! We have a plethora of beautiful fruit trees and our goal is to make sure they are in the right condition to help

feed our community over many years. So, thank you Emily! All welcome.

"The pruning and grafting workshop is designed to empower people with the knowledge and confidence to prune fruit trees. This knowledge can be used with other garden plants too. Basic grafting and pruning techniques will be covered. Come along with an open mind and questions. Please bring your own secateurs and loppers as this is a hands-on practical workshop. This event will be held regardless of the weather – wear appropriate clothing!"

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR SOCCER

Taumarunui Junior Soccer is looking to begin in Term 3 however it will rely on the support of volunteers to go ahead. Taumarunui Junior Soccer has shared the following information. Please contact Amy if you can help. I will include a permission slip for interested players in next week's pānuī if soccer is to go ahead.

SOCCER
EVENT MANAGER & OFFICIALS WANTED!
TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR SOCCER - TERM 3

GAMES ARE INTENDED TO BE PLAYED ON FRIDAYS DURING TERM 3.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN ASSIST WITH:

- REFEREEING GAMES
- EVENT MANAGEMENT ON THE NIGHT
- SETTING UP & PACKING DOWN EQUIPMENT

LEVELS:
JUNIORS - YEARS 3, 4 & 5
SENIORS - YEARS 6, 7 & 8

Your contribution will help create a fun, safe, and positive environment for our young players while keeping community sport thriving in Taumarunui.
Every bit of help makes a big difference!

INTERESTED? Please contact: **AMY** ☎️ **027 635 3991** ➡️
 Please get in touch if you are interested in being part of the team.

PLEASE NOTE: This competition relies on volunteer support. If we do not receive enough interest from coaches, referees, and event helpers, unfortunately the competition may not be able to go ahead this term.

TAUMARUNUI PRIMARY NETBALL

24th June

3.30pm Ōwhango Tōtara v Manunui Tui C4

4.10pm Ōwhango Kanhikatea v St Pats Saints C3

4.10pm TPS Boom v Ōwhango Rimu C1

TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Junior Basketball begins Week 2 Term 3 in the Taumarunui Athletic Rugby & Sports Club - 39 Turaki Street.

Mondays: Year 7/8's (full court)

Wednesdays: Year 5/6's (half court)

COST: \$15 per player

Our registrations need to be entered this week so please complete and return your permission slip by Friday 26th June.

Kōwhai Class Trip - Ōtorohanga Kiwi House

Ngā mihi nui to our wonderful P.T.A. for funding this delightful and educational trip. It was a great way to wrap up our ecosystems/science learning for the term. We had amazing whānau support too which was very much appreciated, as we can not make these class trips happen without you all.

"I really liked seeing the kākāpō. It was good watching them looking for food underneath bushes. When they flew off their wings were brown, green and white with patterns underneath."

-Jolene Cornelius

"Tyler showed us a giant wēta. If it has a stinger sticking out of its bum, it is a girl but if not it is a boy. We saw a tuatara burrow. I think it was hiding in there because it was a cold day. It was a fabulous day!"

-Alfie Smith

"My favourite part was seeing the kiwi in the dark room. He was looking for food on the ground. I could see its long beak. I had a good day!"

-Taimana Takarangi

"It was a fantastic day because we got to play at the park after the Kiwi House. I liked the pied stilts or poaka, because they had long legs and can go in deep water."

-Briarni Leat



Class photo at the Kiwi House



Learning about giant wētā with Tyler

Kaitiaki Crew Update

Our native nursery is taking shape! This week the Kaitiaki Crew laid some old carpet and covered this in donated pallets, then placed our 200 tōtara seedlings here, ready for their shade frame to be built for protection. Later in the week, we will be potting up some native seeds and placing them in our greenhouse. Our rangatahi will be encouraged to think up their own environmental projects that we can launch into for next term so feel free to give your tamariki suggestions or support their ideas and we will action them soon.



Looking more professional. Proud of their mahi.

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TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL COMPETITION

(This is an extra-curricular activity- outside of school hours; and will need parental support)
Taumarunui Junior Basketball will be running a primary school competition for Term 3,

***beginning in Week 2.
Entry is \$15 per player.***

Year 7/8 (full court): Mondays (beginning Week 2, Term 3)
Year 5/6 (half court): Wednesdays (beginning Week 2, Term 3)

If you are interested in playing, please return this form by this Friday 26 th June, so we can register a team by the deadline.

Child/ren's Name/s.....

School Year/s.....

Parent: Yes / No I can coach or manage a team. (Please circle your answers)

Adult's Name.....