



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 9 Term 2, 2026

Kia ora e te whānau, welcome to Week 9!

Well it now definitely feels like winter! We have the fires roaring in the classrooms to keep everyone toasty.

This pānui will be sent out shortly before our Bike-a-Thon - we are so excited! Please remember that if you are taking your child home afterwards (before 3pm) you must let their classroom teacher know. This is for safety reasons and very important. A massive thank you to our wonderful PTA for organising this event - this fundraising opportunity is amazing.

Uniform: I know it has been in previous newsletters, however many children are still not coming to school in the correct uniform. Blue or Black shorts or pants only please and their branded uniform tops. Understandably, a warm winter jacket over top of their uniform is a great idea for travelling to kura in.

Sponsorship: We are still looking for businesses or local families that would like to contribute to the sponsorship of Duffy Books. This can be any amount, and helps us by being able to send multiple books home with each child every year. Duffy books are fun, engaging, inspiring and important. Flick me an email if this is something you would be interested in.

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.

Board Elections:

Congratulations to Karen Komene who now sits on the Ōwhango School Board.

Ōwhango School	
School Board Elections	
Parent Elections Results Declaration	
Parent representative votes:	
Name	Votes
Erueti, Stacey	16
Komene, Karen	26
Parkinson, Hamish	9
Invalid Votes	0
I hereby declare the following duly elected: Komene, Karen	
Maree Hodges Returning Officer	

Have a lovely week, Annelies

You're Invited to a Community Pop up Art Day!

Bring the whole family along to the Taumarunui Art Centre on Saturday 27th June at 11.00am for a fun-filled community art event. Come and take part in some creative art activities, and help celebrate an exciting new public artwork for our community.

This is your chance to meet sculptor Raynor Dunn, who is creating a new artwork that will be installed outside the Taumarunui Art Centre on Hakiaha St. The theme of the sculpture is Kotahitanga/unity - Together we are Stronger. We'd love to hear your ideas, stories, and thoughts about what Kotahitanga means to you as part of this special community project.

This artwork has been funded by Pub Charity and organised by the Mayoral Arts Advisory Group. Huge thanks to Ruapehu Creative for their support with the funding application.

Everyone is welcome, so bring your family, bring your creativity, and join us for a fun pop-up art day. We can't wait to see you there, and yes, there will be a sausage sizzle!

Can You Help Us?

We are doing a small scale quilting project for the last three weeks of school and are looking for a small amount of spare fabric if you have any that you are willing to give away. Any colours or patterns will do but we would prefer if there were a few different ones. If there are any small donations please place them in a paper bag, label them and drop off to Rimu Class or Mrs Erni in the office.

Nga Mihi,
Charlotte and Poppy.

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! "

Dates to Remember:

Wk 9	Wed. 17 - Bike-a-thon! Fri. 19 - Interschools Soccer Y5-8
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

KAHIKATEA CLASSROOM KŌRERO

This term, Kahikatea has been exploring the fascinating world of pekapeka-tou-roa (long-tailed bats), a taonga species that lives right here in Ōwhango. Through our Living World science unit, we have been learning about the unique features of New Zealand's only native land mammals, the habitats they depend on, and the threats they face in the wild.

Students began by researching pekapeka habitats and creating informative posters. Their research focused on the four essential needs of all

habitats: food, water, shelter, and safety. They investigated how these needs are met in native ngāhere environments and why healthy habitats are so important for the survival of pekapeka.

Using their research, the students then designed and created detailed habitat dioramas that showcased an ideal pekapeka environment. They demonstrated fantastic creativity and problem-solving skills, using a variety of mixed media including paint, cardboard, clay, card, and natural materials such as moss and sticks sourced from nature.

Throughout the unit, students developed an understanding of kaitiakitanga by exploring how people can help protect native species and their habitats. Their dioramas are a wonderful reflection of their learning and we had so much fun making them.



Elliott's finished diorama



Brodie and Kyston worked together wonderfully, demonstrating great cooperation and decision making skills, to produce a top-notch pekapeka habitat diorama.



Billie and Harry are underway with their Dioramas



Libby, Te Hana and Azalea hard at work preparing their pekapeka habitat dioramas.

TAUMARUNUI PRIMARY NETBALL

A reminder from the Taumarunui Netball Centre:
We are writing to formally remind our entire Netball Community—including players, coaches, officials, schools, clubs, and supporters of the expectations regarding conduct while participating in or attending activities at the Taumarunui Netball Centre.

Maintaining a positive, respectful, and safe environment is a collective responsibility. Whether you are playing, officiating, or supporting from the sidelines, we ask that you consistently model the values of fair play and mutual respect.

Wednesday 17th June

3.30pm Ōwhango Tōtara v Turaki Kākāriki C4

4.10pm Ōwhango Kahikatea v Winner Game A C3

4.10pm Ōwhango Rimu v Te Mahuri C1

4.50pm Ōwhango Tōtara v Manunui Kiwi C4

YEAR 5-8 INTERSCHOOL SOCCER

The Year 5-8 Interschools Soccer Tournament is this Friday 19th June at Cherry Grove. We will be leaving school at 8.45am for the 9.10am delegate meeting, games begin at 9.30am. If you are meeting at Cherry Grove, please make sure you are there no later than 9.15am. Make sure you wear your new Ōwhango sports t-shirts with your uniform hoodie or polar fleece, and either sneakers/rugby or soccer boots with plastic moulded studs. Barefeet / crocs / gumboots / metal sprigs are not allowed. Pack a big lunch and a drink of water. There is usually a bbq for sale as well.

Driver	Students
Nicole Hosking	Soren, Zurich, Beau, Jonny
Regan Hoban	Charlotte, Te Hana, Monty,
Melissa Blackman	Grace, Lily,
Mark Bramley	Harry, Elliott, Lachlan, Mason
Kaaryn Ward	Olive, Millie, Haylee
Erin Wind	Libby, Ainsley,
Dave Murphy	Daithí Óg, Stan, Billie, Brodie
Meet there	Jack, Hayzin, Poppy, Patrick, Juan, Kaelyis-Rae, Kyston, Tahu, Nico, Lucy, Azalea

YEAR 1-4 INTERSCHOOL SOCCER: 12th OF JUNE

It was a chilly start down at Cherry Grove but it did not take long to warm up, with everyone giving 100% effort in every game. The festival feeling of the day allowed tamariki to feel success with continuous player of the match celebrations and a focus on positive vibes, great teamwork and having fun. Ngā tamariki o Ōwhango did us

proud as always. We had a large number of new students who did not hesitate to get stuck in and try the skills they had been practicing back at school. Congratulations to these students who stood out to the iSports teams and were awarded certificates for Player of the Day:

Ngakuru Takarangi - Kōwhai

Lennox Tomlinson - Kōwhai

Sheeran Leach - Tōtara

Molly Pierce - Tōtara

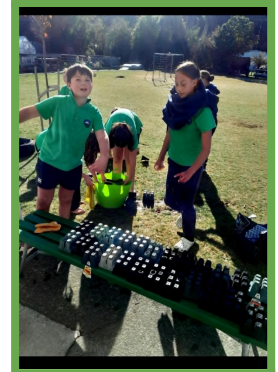
Thank you again to all of our team managers, volunteer drivers and helpers on the day which helped make the day memorable for all tamariki. And all teams looked sharp in our new school sports shirts, courtesy of our P.T.A., ngā mihi nui!



KŌWHAI KIWI HOUSE TRIP: 22nd OF JUNE

Thank you to all whānau who returned permission slips on time and to those who have offered transport and assistance on the day of our class trip. We will leave school at 8.30am sharp on Monday so please arrive a few minutes earlier

for a briefing. We aim to return at 3pm. We will stop at the Jim Barker Memorial Playground, if time and weather allow for this. The kaupapa for the day is to solidify and celebrate our learning about ecosystems, specifically those connected to our native bugs, bats and birds. All students will need to wear their full school uniform and can wear one of our class raincoats too. They will need a water bottle, substantial lunch and comfortable walking shoes. Further information will come home with students on Friday. Our transport arrangements currently look like this but are subject to change:



Driver	Passengers
Deb	Remy, Briarni
Janeen	Connor, Blake, <i>Archer</i>
Mike	Lennox, Kruza, <i>Jahbon</i>
Katie	Jordie, Mila, <i>Kyla</i>
Sarah	Leo, Harrison, Alfie
Karen	Reese, Jolene
Danielle	Harley-John, Noa
Dianah	Ngakuru, Taimana
Siobhán	Haven-Skye, Hunter, Romana

It's not a very glamorous job, but our Kaitiaki Crew got stuck into disinfecting hundreds of seed cells this week in preparation for planting native seeds later this week and early next week. We managed to have some fun scrubbing away traces of weeds and educating observers on our plan of attack. He taonga nui koe tamariki mā / You are a great treasure kids!

KAITIAKI CREW UPDATE

It's been a quiet week with wet weather and many illnesses but we have some amazing community members working away in the background getting our native nursery looking more professional! Thanks to Kim and Owen Petersen, Richard Worsnop, Dean Wilson , Andrew Dewing, Mark Fredericks, Sally Lashmar and Rex Pierce, for persisting and erecting our new greenhouse where we will nurture our native seeds and seedlings. It looks fab!

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

We are working hard at raising attendance in our school as part of our Strategic Plan - following the STAR Guidelines (Stepped Attendance Response). If you receive an email from us regarding your child's attendance level, it means that they are out of the Green step and will be in the Yellow, Orange or Red step. If you need support with your child's attendance, please know that we are here to support you. You will have a clear update on your child/ren's attendance percentage for this year in their upcoming reports also.