



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.

07 895 4823 / 027 895 4823

Principal (Annelies Resink) principal@owhango.school.nz

Office (Karen Erni) office@owhango.school.nz

Presiding Member (Guy Hoban) guy@doyleevaluations.co.nz

Week 9, Term 3, 2026

Kia ora e te whānau,

What a great week to be celebrating both te wiki o te reo Māori and our love of kapa haka with our amazing effort at the Ngāti Tūwharetoa Taiopenga Kapa Haka festival in Taupō yesterday. As always our performers and supporters made all of the kaiako extremely proud. The calibre of all the performances was extremely high and our tamariki were no exception.

It's been yet another busy week since the last pānui with the Year 5-8 Rippa Tournament, Global Games for girls last weekend, Year 0-3 ski day, Taiopenga plus of course all the other amazing mahi in and outside the classroom at school each day. Still to go this week, we have three students representing us at the Waikato Full Primary School Association Cross Country on Thursday, a Duffy Role Model visit from a young scientist this morning and Global Games for boys and mixed teams this weekend. Next week we have our S.T.E.M House Challenge, assembly, and (hopefully) our full school skiing day to finish off the term. Our students really do get such a great variety of learning experiences!

Finally, Annelies is away until the end of the week at a principal's conference. She will still be able to answer emails, but if you have any other pressing issues that your classroom teacher can't solve, please feel free to see me.

Emma Tylee

Te wiki o te reo Māori

This year's focus for te wiki o te reo Māori is Te Reo Towns. If you are early in your te reo journey a great way to begin is to ensure you are pronouncing place names correctly. Check out this video for how to pronounce some common place names in Aotearoa. If you're not sure about

some of our local place names, our tamariki have learnt to pronounce these correctly at school so let them be your teacher and help you.

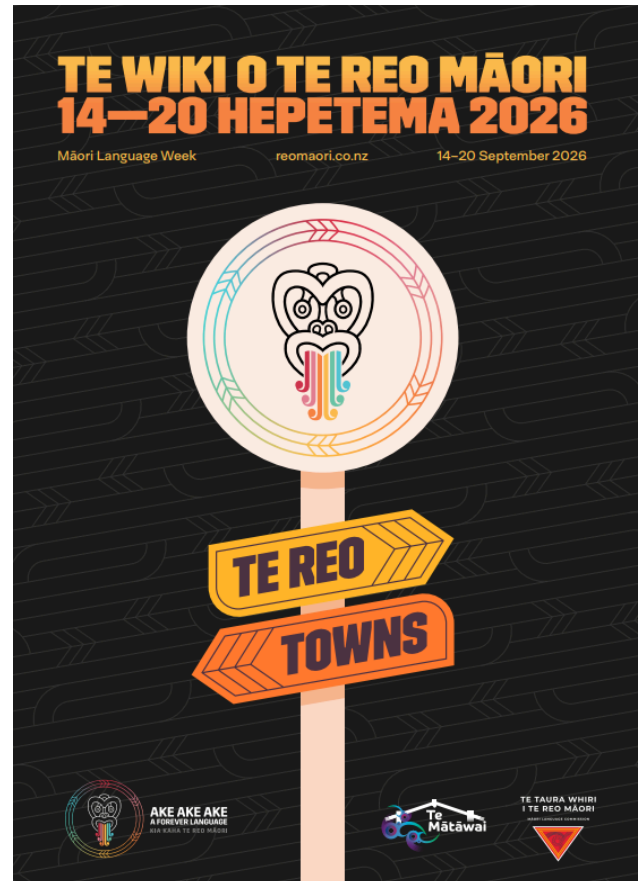
 New Zealand Placenames in Māori - Speak Māori

For other ideas to celebrate and learn te reo Māori this week and at any time try this website as a starting point.

<https://www.reomaori.co.nz/ideas>

Korerotia te reo e ngā wa katoa

Speak the language at all times



Dates to Remember:

Wk 9	Whānau Performance Mon 14 Sept, 2.30 pm Ōwhango Hall Ngāti Tūwharetoa Taiopenga (bracket scheduled at 12.40 - 1 pm) Tues 15 Sept WFPSA Cross Country Thur 17 Sept Y0-3 Ski Day - Friday 18 Sept - CANCELLED
Wk 10	Tōtara Assembly 2pm (date change) Thursday 24 Sept Whole School Ski Day - Friday (<u>last day of term</u>) 25 Sept
<u>Term 4</u>	Begins Mon 12 Oct
Week 2	Mountain Schools Athletics - Friday 23 Oct
Week 3	Pet Day - Tuesday 27 Oct Candy Land Disco - Friday 30 Oct
2026 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

Junior Skiing

We had an amazing time skiing last week. The students were incredibly resilient with everyone participating enthusiastically. The progress each student made was simply outstanding. Unfortunately this week's forecast is for a chill factor of -13 so we have made the decision to cancel. Fingers crossed for one last great day in Week 10!



Pet Day

Just a quick reminder that next term we will be having our annual Pet Day. This will be on Tuesday the 27th of Oct, (straight after Labour Weekend). Pet Day is not just about pets though, it is a celebration of spring and creativity. While students are encouraged to create some of their masterpieces at home, they will also complete some art work at school. This means that there is something for everyone, whether they have a pet to bring or not.

More detailed information will go out next week so that you can plan and prepare over the holidays!

Head Lice

We have had a couple of cases of head lice again this week. Please check your children's hair thoroughly. If you need help with any treatment, we have some available at school. Let your classroom teacher or the office know.

Assembly

Next week on Thursday the 24th of September, 2pm, we have this term's assembly. This will be hosted by Tōtara and will be held in Tōtara Class. All are welcome to attend as our students share some of their learning from this term and celebrate achievements.

Ngāti Tūwharetoa Taiopenga

This is just a brief well done to all our performers, tutors and supporters who attended yesterday. It was amazing to see so many whānau there to support our tamariki. We will do a full write up about it for next week's pānui but for now, enjoy these photos of our wonderful tamariki. There is also a photo wall display in the corridor at school for more photos. (Photo credits to Jahbon Te Ahuru and Whaea Siobhán).

I will share the link to rewatch it as soon as it becomes available.



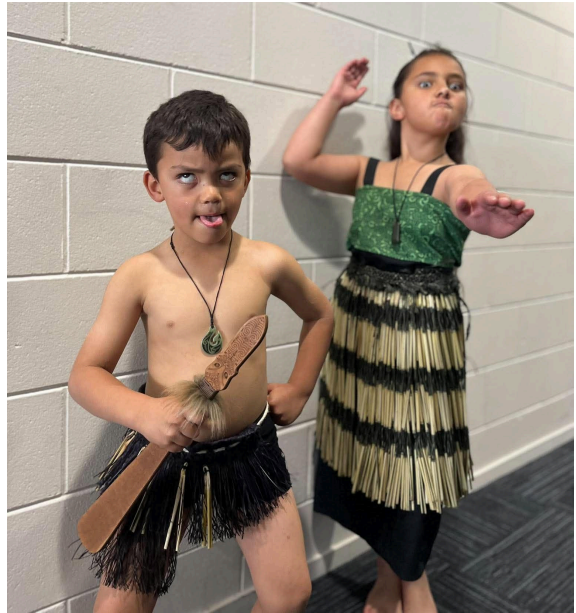
Te Hana, Ainsley, Haylee and Azalea back stage



Brodie, Patrick, Nico, Kyston, Elliott, Daithí Óg, Harry and Stan



On the big stage and the big screen!



Romana and Janey (above), Taimana and Brodie (below) practise their pūkana



Poppy, Hayzin and Te Hana get their piupiu moving



Kaelyis, Kruza and Kyston

Molly and Jack

Classroom Kōrero - Tōtara

As a class we have had yet another busy second half of the term. We've continued our brain science, had lots of kapa haka, the Year 4s have been skiing with the Year 5-8s and the Year 3s got to ski last week with the Year 1 & 2s. I was particularly impressed with our Year 3 skiers who quickly moved beyond the little snow school lesson area, and out into the big wide open of happy valley and were zooming around all over the place!

I'll keep this week's kōrero short as the students will share their learning in more detail next week when we host our assembly.

One of the activities we did while the Year 4s were skiing was to create some Joy Bots (or any other emotion/feeling). From the BotJoy website: "The idea is simple: You draw a tiny robot on the back of a domino, transforming it into a loving art object that you gift to people in your life, spreading joy, courage, and inspiration one domino robot at a time."

We did ours on larger pieces of card than a domino and have placed them around the school to bring a smile to the faces of our friends.



We have also completed our persuasive writing that we have been working on for several weeks. The students chose their own topic to write about with a goal to include an introduction, 3 body paragraphs (with a different supporting argument in each paragraph), and a conclusion. This took a lot of planning and persistence to complete over several sessions as we learnt about topic sentences, supporting details, general statements, specific statements and thesis statements. They also had to ensure that their arguments did in fact support their position.

Dodgeball is better than Buildup. Dodgeball is more fun because you have to dodge the ball. Buildup has running that makes your legs hurt. Dodgeball is more fun because you have the chance of getting someone out. The seniors are faster at getting you out. Dodgeball is better than Buildup because it has the best throwing and dodging skills. More kids love to play dodgeball. Dodgeball is a better game than build up. I love Dodgeball.

- Sheeran

Messi is one of the best players. Messi has the most Ballon'd'Ors in the world. Obviously, Messi is the best dribbler.

Messi is kinder than Ronaldo because he supports his team mates, unlike Ronaldo. Ronaldo is a show off because he tries to flex. Google said Messi is kinder.

Messi is the best dribbler because he goes fast with the ball and he is way better at dribbling than Ronaldo. Google said he's the best dribbler in the world and Eric agrees too.

Messi has more awards, like the Ballon'd'Or, than Ronaldo. Messi has 8 Ballon'd'Ors and Ronaldo has 5. Messi has won more world cups than Ronaldo.

And of course, Messi is the best because of these amazing facts. You can be an expert and they will tell you it's true. Everybody should know that Messi is better.

- Quinn

S.T.E.M House Challenge

On Tuesday the 22nd of September we are having a S.T.E.M. Day. Students will be split into their maunga groups and rotate around four activities representing science, technology, engineering and maths. They will receive house points for our values of Participation, Achievement and Respect as well as Innovation, Thinking Outside the Box, Problem Solving, Creativity and Team Work.

Students can dress up in their house colours for the day and whānau are more than welcome to pop in and join us in celebrating their S.T.E.M. skills throughout the day.



Hayzin, Kaelyis-Rae, Poppy, Charlotte, Grace after their final game. (Rilee and Meilah absent)

KCRU Year 5-8 Rippa Rugby Carnival

Last Wednesday was a fantastic day of rippa rugby, teamwork, skills and plenty of fun at the KCRU Year 5/6 Rippa Rugby Carnival, held at the Taumarunui Domain. Ōwhango was well represented with our Year 5/6 Girls – Ōwhango Panthers, Year 5/6 Boys – Ōwhango Kahikatea, Year 7/8 Boys – Ōwhango Rimu, and Year 7/8 Girls – Ōwhango/Matiere teams. A special mention to Zurich, Soren, Tahu and Juan, who jumped in to play with Matiere, allowing us to field teams in both the girls' and boys' grades. A great example of teamwork and supporting others. A huge thank you to all our parents and whānau who came along to support. Special thanks to Lakenn, Hamish, Rex and Kereama for their coaching and management expertise, your support is greatly appreciated. Our Ōwhango/Matiere team — Kaelyis-Rae, Hayzin, Charlotte, Poppy, Grace, Meilah and Rilee — finished 1st in their pool and 2nd overall, qualifying for the King Country Rippa Rugby Carnival in Taupō next month. Well done kōtiro mā. Further information about the Taupō Carnival will follow when it becomes available.



Te Hana making a break-away



Monty going for the try line

Global Games

Thank you Jahbon for this write up for our pānui, celebrating our kōtiro mā: This past weekend, Taupo hosted the NZ Junior Girls Rugby Festival, a three-day event drawing teams from across the country. The kaupapa is about courage, confidence, connection and sportsmanship - using sport to empower young girls, build friendships and create positive experiences both on and off the field. Eight of our girls got in amongst it: Haylee, Te Hana, Millie, Ainsley, Lily, and Rose all represented Taumarunui Junior Rugby Rippa Team, while Hayzin and Kaelyis-Rae represented Nga Kohine O Te Rohe Potae in Tackle for the third year. It was a proud moment for our Nga Kohine O Te Rohe Potae club as our Kohine, who played in previous years and is now co-coaching, spoke at the opening ceremony as the home team, followed by a waiata led by all the girls. Despite the wind, the sun shone bright as the girls dove into the competition and delivered some great performances. What made this tournament so special was the growth and resilience the girls displayed, building both their confidence and lasting friendships while creating unforgettable memories. We are so proud of our girls for rising to the challenge.

A number of our students will be back in Taupō this weekend for another Global Games NZ Junior Rugby Sports Festival. We wish them all the best.



Taumarunui Junior Basketball

The Year 7/8 Taumarunui Junior Basketball finals were played on Monday, with our Ōwhango

Breakers finishing 4th in the competition. A fantastic effort from the team; they played hard, supported each other and represented our kura well. A huge thank you to Lakenn for coaching and managing the team throughout the competition. Your time, energy and commitment are very much appreciated. Congratulations to Poppy, who was recognised by the iSports team for 'Positive Vibes and Sportsmanship'. A special congratulations also to Jack, who finished as the team's top scorer for the season and was also named in the Dream Team. The Year 5/6 grades are still going strong, with their semi-finals being played this week and finals next week.



Year 7/8 Ōwhango Breakers



Jack - Top Scorer of the season and named in the Dream Team

Waikato Full Primary Cross Country

Congratulations and good luck to Jack Pierce, Mason Wheeler and Monty Hoban who qualified for the Waikato Full Primary Cross-Country event. They are competing on Thursday 17th September at Rotokauri School near Hamilton.