



# 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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[www.owhangoschool.co.nz](http://www.owhangoschool.co.nz)

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Principal- Ewan Starkey- [principal@owhango.school.nz](mailto:principal@owhango.school.nz)

School Board Presiding Member- Nicole Hosking- [nichosking44@gmail.com](mailto:nichosking44@gmail.com)

1/2025

5<sup>th</sup> February 2025

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK / WHAKATAUKĪ

“Experience, the name men give to their mistakes.” Oscar Wilde

## DATES TO NOTE

6 <sup>th</sup> February	Waitangi Day- school is closed
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Teacher Only Day- school is closed
25 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	Year 1-4 after school basketball starts
26 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	After school hockey starts
5 <sup>th</sup> March	School Board Hui
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Mountain School Swimming Event
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Rotopounamu Trip
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Interschool Swimming Competition
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Whakapapa Rubbish Pick Up Day
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Optional Touch Tournament
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Senior Netball Grading Day
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day of Term One

## PRINCIPAL MESSAGES

### Welcome Back

I hope you all made the most of the sunny weather, when it was here. I had a lovely eight days exploring a part of Aotearoa that I didn't know well- the Marlborough Sounds. It reminded me of how large our country is and how many amazing corners there are where people are living.

### Professional Development

Over the holidays the staff attended an excellent course in Te Kuiti on neurodiversity. We look forward to applying this knowledge in our practise.

## WELCOME TO ŌWHANGO SCHOOL

A warm welcome to the five new students at our school. Hinemoa Ormsby-Tuakoi and Libby Wind are both in Kahikatea room; Kaiataarangi Ormsby-Tuakoi, Corbin Wind and Connor Couper are in Kōwhai class. Our school roll is currently at 64 students.



Corbin, Libby, Hinemoa, Kaiataarangi, and Connor on their first day at Ōwhango School

## CLASSROOM KŌRERO

This will start next week

## SWIMMING LESSONS EVERY DAY

We have started our swimming lessons. Please ensure that every child brings their togs and towel to school every day so they can participate and make progress in their swimming and water safety skills. Anyone unable to participate must have a note from home. We still teach swimming on rainy days as our pool is heated.

Please support these lessons; the recent Swim Safer Report has revealed nearly half (43%) of NZ kids don't attend swimming lessons and only 30% of parents reported they were confident their child has the skills to help themselves in a water emergency.



Kahikatea have their first swimming lesson for the season

### THIS WEEK

Just a reminder that tomorrow (Thursday) is Waitangi Day, and Friday is a Teacher Only Day. See you back on Monday for our first full week of instruction.



Whaea Siobhan teaching in Kōwhai room

### BUILDING WORK

Over the holidays we had new carpet laid in the corridor and the principal's office. This completes our recarpeting programme, having now replaced all of the old carpets. This work was carried out by Ruapehu Flooring.



The new carpet in the corridor

We also replaced the fires in Kōwhai and Rimu rooms, so that all four rooms now have new, efficient fires. This work was carried out by Mike's Plumbing and Gas.



The new fire in the senior room

We also had three concreting jobs completed: replacing the entranceway, replacing the wall

between the pool and the road, and constructing a gutter to divert the pool overflow away from the garden. This work was carried out by J Levien Builders.



Before and after photos of the pool wall



Before and after photos of our driveway



We expect to have Max McKenzie Builders onsite next week to start the building of our new staffroom and installing ceiling insulation in the corridor and office block. This will cause some disruption, but it is planned to be completed by the end of term one. Fingers crossed!

After term one we will be refurbishing the old staffroom into a Tech and multi-purpose room. During the holidays the staff moved the art and craft materials into there.

### STATIONERY 2025

All the students have been given their stationery packs. These packs are designed to last all year and if your child needs further stationery, we will provide it free of charge. The cost of the pack is \$23 per student. Please pay to the school account

03 0426 0141783 00 and put STATIONERY 2025 as the reference.

## SUNSMART HATS

Students may bring their own style of hat to school; it can be any colour. The only rules are ones that are based on being SunSmart:

- The hat must either have a brim that goes all around the hat with a minimum width of 6cm (this is the size of the current bucket hats)
- Or a cap with neck protection so that the back of the neck is covered

Your hat should have your name on the inside so if it is found we can return it to you.



Coby and Sheeran reading in the tent

### Extra-Curricular Sports Notices

#### TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Taumarunui Junior Basketball will be running the Y1-4 Basketball competition in Term 1, beginning on Friday 21st February. Games will be played on Fridays at the Taumarunui Athletic Rugby and Sports Club on Turaki Street. Entry is \$15 per player, to be paid to the office. If your child is interested in playing, please

return the permission form by Wednesday 12th February.

#### TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR HOCKEY

The Taumarunui Junior Hockey season will start on Wednesday 26th February, 4pm at the THS hockey turf. Games will begin from the 5th March. Shin pads and mouth guards are compulsory and will be for sale at the turf. Fees are \$20 and can be paid to the school office. If your child is interested in playing hockey this season, please complete and return the permission form to the school office.

#### Community Notices

None this week

#### PAYING BY INTERNET BANKING DETAILS:

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

**PTA:** Fundraisers 030 426 0156205 00

#### TERM DATES 2025

**Term One** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April (Teacher only day Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February)

**Term Two** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June.

**Term Three** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September.

**Term Four** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October to Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

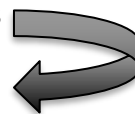
#### THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THIS YEAR:

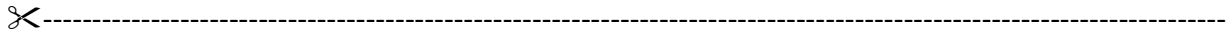
**Duffy Books in Schools:** W & C O'Donnell, Doyle Valuations, Ōwhango Motors, Awa Rere Hideaway, Tania and Mark Bramley.

**Fern Energy Fuel for Schools Scheme**

**Ōwhango Adventures:** Free bus use for trips

See Over for Permission Slips





**YEAR 1-4 TAUMARUNUI JUNIOR BASKETBALL COMPETITION**

(This is an extra-curricular activity- outside of school hours, and will need parental support)

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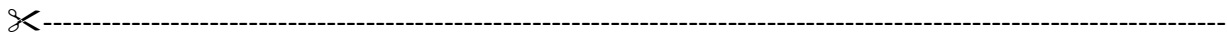
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Child/ren's Name/s.....

School Year/s.....

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

Adult's Name.....



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