



OHAKUNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter



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April 11 2024. #5
Kia ora koutou/Greetings

Upcoming events

Friday 12 April: Duffy role model Assembly 9.30am
Friday 12 April: Celebration Assembly 2pm
Friday 12 April: End of Term One
Monday 29 April: Term Two Begins. Powhiri 9.15
Wednesday 1st May: School Photos including siblings
Wednesday 22nd-24th May: Senior Blue Mountain Adventure Camp. Raurimu
Tuesday 28 May: Sports Agility Day
Monday 3 June: King's Birthday. School closed
Tuesday 18 -19 June: 3 Way Conferences
Friday 28 June: Matariki Day. School Closed



Morning Tea with the Principal Weeks

9 & 10

Principal's Message

We have reached the end of the term and what a productive one it has been, full of fantastic learning opportunities for our tamariki. From swimming events, enviro work, basketball, William Pike Challenge, leadership opportunities, farm visits, TOI wearable



arts and camps to mention just a few of the highlights. All great opportunities that provide space for our learners to shine and grow.

I want to thank all of our whānau who have shown an incredible amount of support for our school. This was clearly evident at our whānau breakfast on Wednesday morning with probably the largest group we have had in attendance sharing kai and great conversations together. We sought feedback on what you appreciate and value for your children at our fabulous school. Thank you to those who shared at the Breakfast. If you would like to add your voice to this feedback please pop into the office and share- all of your feedback is valued and will be collated and shared back to you early next term!

A massive thank you to our staff for the early start in preparing the kai and our kitchen chef manager Gary for supporting the team.

Next term has a wide range of schoolwide events including our annual Bookfair, electives, interschool sports events, school wide Puanga celebrations and Venture Lodge for our seniors to name a few. New to term two, we will be running our dance classes leading to Dance Off in week 8, and selecting a team to represent OPS at Inter School Dance Competition in Whanganui. Winter sports will also start and we have had a great deal of interest for Football - check out Skool Loop to sign up.

We do not, however, forget the day to day learning that needs to occur and the progress our learners are making in all areas of the curriculum will be shared at 3WC later in Term 2 - a time we all look forward to!

A reminder that I am away on sabbatical for Term 2 with study around trauma informed practices. This will include study and visits to New Zealand schools and Berry St School in Melbourne. In my absence Miss Rose Martin will be acting principal, the school is in fabulous hands with Rose along with our senior leadership team, staff and board. I look forward to sharing my new learning when I return at the start of Term 3.

Farewell

Sadly we farewell two staff members at the end of the term and I would like to thank Sunita Kumar for her incredible energy and service to our school in her cleaning role. Sunita has been with us for five years and now moves on to new adventures. We also farewell Holly Fleming who has been working as a teaching assistant since the start of the year. Thank you Holly as you certainly have made a difference to the learning of our tamariki in a very short time.

We have two new staff who have joined us with the board appointing Jen Van der Lubbe to our kitchen team and Joel Clark into a learning assistant role within our middle school. We are certainly seeing the impact both Jen and Joel are making for our team and learners.

Congratulations

A big congratulations to all our tamariki for the efforts they have made in and out of the classroom this term.

We recently saw a large group of over 100 children attend the annual Tough Kid event in Raetihi supported by our friends at Sport Whanganui. I wish to emphasise that every single participant from our school displayed our values of determination and showed grit while having loads of fun.

This event was supported with a fundraiser from our ambassadors who shared fabulous hot chocolate, slices and despite the cooler day, moosies and juices with our community of school. They made an amazing \$1160.50 for their efforts and are continuing with their goal to get swings in our playground.

Congratulations also to Maire House who have won the house award for Term 1 – they will be treated to popcorn and a movie as their treat.

Kapa Haka Information

Keep an eye out on Skool Loop for upcoming details for our learners to commit to the Kapa Haka rōpū – over 100 tamariki turned up to our first practice on Wednesday! Your support is vital. Please help them to stay committed, to be positive about the challenge and be ready to enjoy the togetherness of this special group. So, when the forms come out, please get them signed up. A huge thank you to Brenda Akapita for taking up the role to support our learners and to the staff who will be there alongside her; Suzi Couch and Rene Allen.

Powhiri

We are starting term 2 with our powhiri to welcome our new whānau on Monday, 29 April at 9:15 am. Everyone is welcome to join us in this school celebration.

End of term celebration

We will be having a celebration assembly on Friday at 2pm to celebrate achievements over the term of our tamariki.

Uniform

Please ensure all uniforms, including a polar fleece are named and being worn and that shoes are appropriate for the winter months and wet weather ahead. If your child is not wearing uniform, a note from home would be greatly appreciated.

There is a great deal of clean, second hand uniform available at the office!

Exciting Snow Sports news

Pure Tūroa would like us to share the following pānui with you in anticipation of the winter snow season ahead and we are excited to support them.

Pure Tūroa Ltd has chosen our school to be part of their new initiative with complimentary season passes being offered to tamariki for the 2024 winter season at Tūroa Ski Area. Every full-time enrolled learner at Ohakune Primary School will be eligible for this opportunity.

The management at Pure Tūroa is committed to providing every child with the opportunity to enjoy snow sports and explore Mt Ruapehu anytime this winter. This initiative offers more than one visit a year, allowing students to experience skiing, snowboarding, and sledding at a nominal cost in addition to the FREE season pass.

Further details and information on how we will issue these season passes will be provided at the beginning of the next school term.

The proposed cost of school snowsports programme for 2024 will be as follows:

- Lesson and rental equipment (\$25.00) per visit
- Lesson only package (\$20) per visit
- Sledding Experience at our designated Sledding Zone for younger participants (\$15) per sled
- Sightseeing on the Park Lane chair. Further details of our Snowsports programme will be provided in Term 2 in preparation for our programme starting in Term 3.

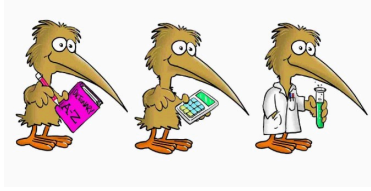
Electives

This is an exciting learning opportunity for our tamariki to experience a wide range of activities either exploring new ones or with spending time working on a favourite! The options range from Mountain Biking, Squash, through nature walking, papercraft, loom beading, upcycling and cooking and more! Teachers are running these Elective activities on Wednesday afternoons in week 2, 5 and 6. Your tamariki have already had an opportunity to select their elective and if there are any specific requirements for their chosen activity, Teachers will be sending information home in Week one of Term 2. We are all really looking forward to this!

Photolife Classroom Photos.

WEDNESDAY 1st May

Classroom photos will be on Wednesday 1st May. Your children would have brought home a flyer for online ordering. If you wish your child/ren to have a sibling photo please complete the back of the flyer and return it to school BEFORE 1st May. The Photo Access Keys will be sent out after photo day.



2024 Great Kiwi English, Mathematics and Science Competitions

The University of Canterbury is offering your child the opportunity to participate in the Great KIWI English, Mathematics and Science competitions. These competitions take place annually and are designed by New Zealand teachers for New Zealand students based on the New Zealand Curriculum.

The competitions are open to all Year 5-8 students in English, Mathematics and Science. Students can enter in one or more subjects.

The supervised online tests will take place in the last 3 weeks of Term 2. All participating students will receive a certificate and prizes will be awarded to top students.

Each exam costs \$9.90 to enter.

Students will have brought the notice home in the last few days. If you require a form or more information, please contact Rose Martin.

Entries need to be returned with the entry fee by Wednesday 8 May. (Week 2, Term 2)

No late entries can be accepted.

Please talk to your child's classroom teacher if this is something you'd like your child to do or alternately contact me to discuss!

rmartin@ohakune.school.nz / 063838384

Please note; Kiwi Exams for Spelling run later in the year

Enviro News



Our Enviro Leaders are working on a special project this year.

We are extending our native area behind S Block and developing an outdoor classroom for our school. We have received a grant for \$2000 from Horizons and have a lot of native trees to plant! Along with this mahi, we need some native logs (any size) or big branches to help us add to the biodiversity and develop this area successfully.

If you are able to drop these off at school please contact Suzi Couch (0210526035).

We are planning a planting day on Wednesday 7th May. All classes will help with tree planting during the day (Juniors between 9:15 and 10:15, Middle School between 10:50 and 12:00, Seniors between 12:45 and 1:45). We hope you can come along and help your child

plant a tree on the day.

The Leadership Rafting Trip



On the 13th of March the leadership group went to BMAC (Blue Mountain Adventure Center) and went rafting.

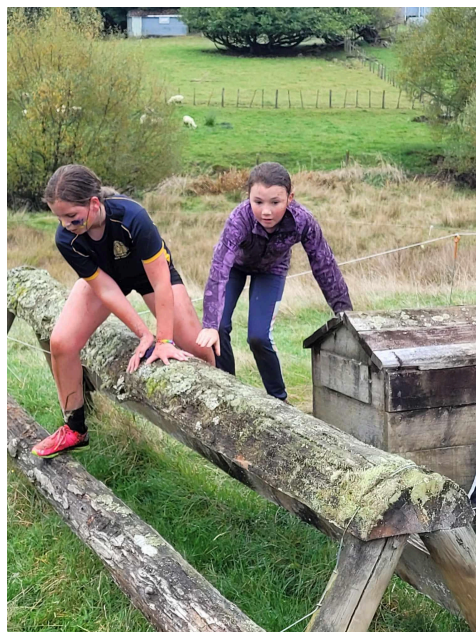
The team had an amazing time. We were pushed to thrive through multiple challenges during the day. To be honest the biggest challenge was to put the wetsuits on. One of our highlights of the trip was going through the huge rapids. Some of the rapids had names like 50/50, party rapid, rollercoaster etc. Another highlight of our trip was when we got to jump off the big cliff jump that was about 7 meters high. Some of us were really terrified to jump off but they took the challenge, even the parents. This made some of our team to step outside of our comfort zones. On the biggest rapid which was the last rapid we decided to take a leap of faith, As our instructor told us we had two options either to do 360 down the rapids or a 360 while doing a wheelie. We Took option two. We nearly flipped into the water!! Although it was a little bit scary, we really enjoyed it. Now we all want to do it again!

A Big Nga mihi to Blue Mountain Adventure Center for letting our leadership team participate in this awesome opportunity to bring our team together. Our leadership team is so grateful for this experience.

Whānau Breakfast and Bacon Butties



Tough Kid Challenge Sparks Determination For Our Learners



Value of the Week

Determination

This value is based around persevering in new learning, new relationships and taking on new experiences. We support our learners by giving them the opportunity to develop the skills through targeted experiences and classroom learning and they are amazing.

Wishing you a wonderful week ahead!

Ngā mihi

Lisa, Rose and the OPS team