



OHAKUNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Newsletter



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**November 22 2023. #17**

**Kia ora koutou/Greetings**

## Upcoming events

Friday 24 November: Teacher Only Day. School closed

Monday 27 November: Middle School Activity week

Wednesday 29 November: Year 8 BIG Day out

Wednesday 29 November: Little Day Out - Junior School

Friday 1 December: Reports home

Friday 1 December: Ambassador Fundraiser - Sausage sizzle and Moosies/Juicies

Monday 4 December: Vision and Hearing testing

Monday 4 December: Celebration Assembly 2pm

Tuesday 5 December: 3 way conferences

Friday 8 December: Leavers Dinner

Thursday 14 December: Final Assembly - Junior 10.30am Middle/Senior 12.30pm

Friday 15 December: Last day of term

2024 Term 1 starts on Wednesday 31 January

## Principal's Message

The weeks are now counting down into days and when you receive this newsletter, we officially only have 16 school days left in our school year. This term has flown by but we have so much to do before it ends!

A reminder that our school is closed on **Friday 24 November** for our staff to prepare for changes in our New Zealand Curriculum - Te Mātaiaho.

There has been a great deal to celebrate with teams heading off to compete in multiple activities - a huge congratulation to our PCT Team of Ezekiel, Vanessa and Mackenzie who represented Whanganui at the national competition in Auckland placing second (by just 1 second)!

We also had a small team represent our school at the contributing schools athletics yesterday - our results have been remarkable. The thing that makes us so proud of our kids is when they head away they show our values of PRIDE.

Our end of year assessments are complete and we are super proud of the progress our learners have made - Reading and Writing have been a major focus through the structured literacy approach. This will continue to be on top along with Maths in 2024. There are so many other life skills our tamariki need in life too and we are focusing on our learners being respectful, kind and caring young people.

Our 2023 William Pike Challenge 'pikelets' are heading out on another adventure- this time to Taupo to climb Mt Tauhara (up and down!) and then head to Acacia Bay for a kayaking challenge. These young people have been amazing, taking on challenges, contributing to the community and learning new things- kia kaha!

Today we celebrate with our Dance Off - photos will be in the next newsletter.

## End of Year Reports

An end of year report will be sent home on Friday 1 December and we are following these up with 3 way conferences for those learners that need it. The date for these will be Tuesday 5 December from 3.30pm. This will be on School Loop next week.

## Morning tea with the Principal



## End of Year Celebrations

The Year 8 leavers are heading out on their Big Day Out to Tāupo and have their Leavers Dinner in Week 9. The learners are definitely looking forward to these celebrations and we are looking forward to celebrating them and all they have achieved during their time at OPS.

Our Final Assembly preparation has begun and we will hold two assemblies this year. These will be on **Thursday 14 December at 10.30am for the juniors and Middle/Senior school at 12.30pm.**

## Heading into 2024

The classes for 2024 will be on display at the office at the beginning of Week 9. There will be some changes of classroom spaces and year levels for a few teachers. We are working hard to accommodate individual learners' needs and are keeping our class sizes down. If you do know of any families wishing to enrol their children for next year, please encourage them to enrol as soon as possible to help us with our planning. We are heading into 2024 with all teaching spaces utilised and fully staffed. The staffroom/administration refurbishment is taking shape and the next project when this is completed will be our senior school classrooms.

## Office updates

Could everyone please ensure that the personal details that we have in the office are the correct phone numbers and addresses. We understand that for some families circumstances do change and updating the office can be overlooked. In the rare case of an emergency or if a child needs immediate home assistance, it is very much appreciated if we can contact a family member. Can you please contact our office staff if you need to update anything.

## Head Lice

Again with the warmer weather, head lice seem to have featured in some of our classes. We can assist with head lice treatments as we are supported by KidsCan with products. Please call into the office, if we can be of any assistance as we would like to get on top of any issues.

## Positive Behaviour for Learning

We are a PB4L school and with that comes teaching positive behaviour at school. Our school-wide values are PRIDE and each week in our newsletter we share the focus for the fortnight and include a definition of what that is. Our children respond well to the positive behaviour tokens that they can earn when they are caught doing the right thing. These tokens accumulate for their house and lead to an end of Term House reward.. Can you please talk to your children about how they manage themselves especially as some have struggled with tiredness. We will not be tolerating bullying behaviour and our goal is for everyone to be treated well and be part of a safe, happy school environment. We have a fantastic school that we are very proud of and we have a positive family-like environment. With that comes ups and downs but if we work together, we will develop wonderful young people with a sense of belonging and service to others. Kind kids win hearts but it takes everyone to input into this.

### Morning Tea with the Principal Weeks 6-7

<b>Room 5:</b> Tawiri Bishop, Reef Thompson, Mason Kristiansen	<b>Room 9:</b> Turtle Kumeroa-Ruri, Lachlan Sefton	<b>Room 14:</b> Tohumarangi, Suriya Kristiansen
<b>Room 6:</b>	<b>Room 10:</b> Charley Coutts, Empress Sullivan	<b>S Block: Room 1</b> Jordan McManaway, <b>Room 2</b> and <b>Room 4</b>
<b>Room 7:</b> Art King, Jahvarn Anderson, Anahera Hansen, Wairere Mareikura, Reann Baker	<b>Room 11:</b> Ariella Tuck, Cade Crossfield	
<b>Room 8:</b> Evie Macdonnell, Aaron Loram, Te Rau Aroha Mareikura	<b>Room 12:</b> Sebastian Paul-Te Huia	

### Contributing Schools Athletics

A small team of Year 3-6 headed to Whanganui for the contributing school athletics event in Whanganui on Tuesday. A huge thank you to our staff and whānau who supported this event. Well done to our kids!

Results from the day:

Bella Cranston Year 3 300m - 3rd, 80m - 3rd, Long Jump 3rd

Bear Soverel Year 5 300m - 2nd Reale Richards Year 3 - 2nd

Araceli Marsh Year 6 300m - 1st Makinli Nation Year 4 - 3rd

## Celebrating Children's Achievements

		
<p><b>Junior Awards</b></p>	<p><b>Duffy Awards</b></p>	<p><b>Middle/Senior Awards</b></p>

<p><b>Ki O Rahi - Whanganui</b></p>	<p><b>PCT Nationals - Auckland Second Place</b></p>	<p><b>PCT Team in action</b></p>
		

**Board news:** Our board have sent out a survey on SurveyMonkey to consult with you on our Literacy programme as part of our review and strategic planning for our school - please click on the link give feedback -

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YKCV7SX?fbclid=IwAR2240ZWeAhDUW\\_wAyojiHFfCb9PuvxBJgLOe3KBPrKkjuO337yRaV93pXo](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YKCV7SX?fbclid=IwAR2240ZWeAhDUW_wAyojiHFfCb9PuvxBJgLOe3KBPrKkjuO337yRaV93pXo)



### Value of the Week Determination

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

Ngā mihi  
Lisa Clark  
Principal

FRIDAY 1st OF  
DECEMBER



**SIZZLE**



Moosie  
or  
Jucies  
\$2

Sausage w/  
onions/t  
Sauce/mustard \$3



**DEAL!**  
Moosie or  
Jucie and  
Sausage  
together  
\$4

YOUR AMAZING  
AMBASSADORS



