



OHAKUNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter



Phone: (06) 3858384

Email: principal@ohakune.school.nz

www.ohakuneprimaryschool.co.nz

December 7 2023. #18
Kia ora koutou/Greetings

Upcoming events

Monday 11 December: Road Patrollers to Whanganui

Wednesday 13 December: Volunteers morning tea. 10.15

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

Pictured top right: Morning Tea with the Principal.

Principal's Message

As 2023 draws to a close - we would like to thank everyone for their support of the school and learners. The kids have been incredible and I know after a holiday break they will be raring to go again in 2024.

Spending time with family and having a rest are, I'm sure, on the menu for everyone.

Our final assembly is on Thursday 14 December with our **Junior final assembly at 10.30am** and our **Middle/Senior final assembly at 12.30pm**.

Our staff and I want to wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season. I especially wish to thank our Board and PTA for all their work to support our staff, students and our school. I also want to thank our staff at OPS for the incredible work they do to support our learners - often beyond teaching in and out of the classroom.

We also acknowledge our Year 8 leavers and farewell with our best wishes and aroha as they head off to their next learning adventure - we know you are all going to go on and make us and your whānau very proud. Keep the memories of OPS dear to you, your friendships and learning. They had a fabulous time on their Big Day Out in Taupō. Thank you all for the contributions you have made to OPS and enjoy your leavers dinner tomorrow night.

Thank you to our Year 8 leavers parents and families, who have given much time and energy to our place, enjoy the next stages of your young person's life - time will fly in the blink of an eye! Many of you have contributed a great deal over your time at OPS, for some of you this is the end of your time with us, and we are deeply grateful.

Activities

Our junior and middle school had a variety of activities across our community last week and loads of fun and learning was to be had. Thanks to all our families who supported us through transport and supervision - a massive thank you to Michael Proude who donated the sausages for the Junior Little Day Out. All events were a great success. Middle school learning fun included the Waiouru Museum, pools not forgetting the 'drive in' movie with those brilliant cars!

Ambassadors

Our ambassadors ran a wonderful fundraiser last week making around \$800 towards a swing project - thank you to everyone who supported this legacy project and our ambassadors for the mahi they have given this year - you are a great team and we appreciate the efforts you have given to our school over the year.

Farewells

We are farewelling three staff at the end of this year - Mrs Sarah Rowe is taking time to focus on family, Amy Hawira, who has been with us for many years in a support staff roll is going on to new adventures in her creative arts and Ebony Wood is heading off to be the chef manager at Orautoha School. We wish these three incredible ladies all the very best and thank them for their mahi supporting our tamariki and school.



Mrs Miriama Lucas has taken on the Sport Whanganui - Healthy Active Learning position in a fixed term role and will return in 2025.

Mrs Kate Whitehead is joining our junior team and Miss Robyn Wilson will be moving to our senior school. Miss Laura Baker will be our Middle team leader. Mrs Amy Lee and Mrs Jessica Bates will be working together in the Middle School.

Volunteers Morning Tea

We will be holding a volunteer's morning tea on Wednesday 13 December at 10.15am in our staff room to thank the wonderful people who have supported our school. Without these super people, there are many learning opportunities our children would miss out on. Please RSVP so we can be prepared with catering to thank you all properly! An invite will be coming out to you.

Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Maddie Whitehead, Ariella Tuck, Indi Taylor and MacKenzie Marsh for representing our region at the Whanganui Tough Kid event last week - there were over 2000 competitors at this event and our kids competed really well. Congratulations to Indi who gained 2nd place in the Year 5-6 girls event.

Classes for 2024

The classes for 2024 will be on display in the Noticeboard in the walkway to the junior area at the end of the week. There will be some changes of classroom spaces and year levels for a few teachers. We have worked hard to accommodate our class sizes and most have some room for new enrolments. If you do know of any families planning 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.

Start of 2024 arrangements

Our school year will be starting on **Wednesday 31 January at 8.50am**. We will be sending details nearer the time via email and Skool Loop around our powhiri plans.

Schoolwide Achievement

As a school we are very pleased with our overall performance and the schoolwide academic data for 2023 is to be celebrated. We have had a considerable amount of young people enter our school who were tracking well below where they should be in curriculum or with very little early years learning. Our staff and learners can be congratulated on the effort that has been given. Based on the end of year data we have 80% of our learners At/Above their curriculum level in Reading, 80% in Writing and 80% in Maths. We have continued to support those learners with necessary interventions and our planning into 2024 will include both Literacy, in particular structured literacy. Whanau engagement will also be a high priority with the continuation of School Talk across our school, one of many ways of raising this profile for the benefit of our learners. End of year reports have been sent home and we hope you enjoyed talking with your child about the progress they have made. Next year we plan to go live with School Talk so you can see your child's progress in real time and their next steps in learning that you may be able to support with. We also have celebrated the attendance in our school with over 85% attendance rate across the school.

Morning Tea with the Principal Week 9

Room 5: Alexis Fredricksen and Indee Crossfield
Room 6: Neiva Mcleman and Charlotte Williamson
Room 7: Matthew Williams and Jeffrey Donald
Room 8: Aaron Loram and Tiaki Lorimer-Awa

Room 9: Mila Williams and Addison Tuck
Room 10: Macy Bergman and Colton Deadman
Room 11: Dallas Williamson and Emma Church-Zweibruck
Room 12: Phoenix Warnock and Elise Drinkwater

Room 14: Tohumarangi Te Riaka
S Block: Sam Barlow, Jaylyn Hern, Christina Mccrae, Fenix Crossfield

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

Celebrating Childrens' Achievements

90% Attendance



William Pike Challenge



Enviro Leaders



Canterbury University Spelling Bee Awards



Celebrating Education Outside the Classroom

Middle School Activities Week



William Pike Challenge



Tough Kids Challenge. Indiana Taylor



World Famous in Ruapehu – The Kid is back in January 2024 as part of the 20th Anniversary Goat



Once again, we will be offering local primary school students a FREE opportunity to be part of all the action and excitement of participating in **The Kid Adventure Run on the afternoon of Saturday 20th January 2024** made possible by the proud support of the Ohakune Events Charitable Trust (OECT).

The 3km course around the Mangawhero Walkway at the bottom of the Ohakune Mountain Road in Ohakune has scenic beauty, adventure and discovery all wrapped into it. Even better that our Kid participants get to be welcomed back into the finish by all the Goat participants and their supporters who will be gathering for the prize giving.

There will also be a special edition medal for all Kid finishers and other treats at the finish line. *(If you'd like to sneak a peek at what it looks like... check out the photo attached to this email!)*

So if you'd like to get a FREE entry for your tamariki then go to the entry page located at [Entry Information - The Goat Adventure Run](#) and use the promo code **LOCALKID** to claim a free entry for your tamariki. Every child wishing to participate needs to put in an entry. For more information on The Kid Tongariro go to our website page at [The Kid Tongariro Info - The Goat Adventure Run](#).

Ruapehu District Libraries Summer Holiday Programme

Ruapehu District Libraries
presents
Get Wild with Nature
Summer Activity Programme
11/12/23 - 19/1/24

Amazing prizes to be won

Craft!
Cooking!
Reading!
Outdoor fun!

Finale Party!

Suitable for children between the ages of 6 & 12

Register and collect your activity packs from one of our libraries by 21st Dec



Value of the Week Environment

This week we are exploring the school value of “environment”. We are showing manaakitanga towards our environment by picking up the rubbish and making environmentally friendly choices in our school lunch box-reusable containers and wax wraps.

Ngā mihi
Lisa Clark
Principal

