

The Owairoa Primary

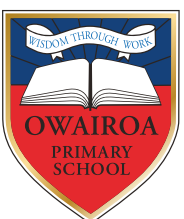
School Scribe

news and views from around our school

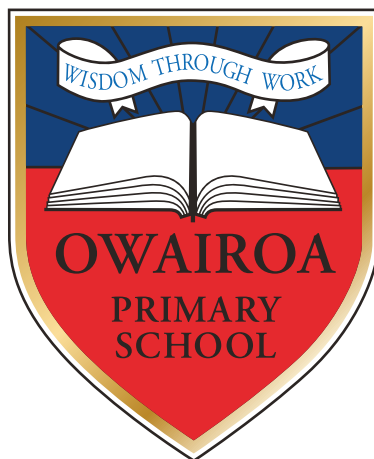
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Issue No 8, 19th September 2023



Owairoa Primary School, 85S Nelson Street, Howick, Auckland 2014, New Zealand.
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Phone 0064 9 538 0060 **Email** officemanager@owairoa.school.nz
www.owairoa.school.nz



Dear Parents and Caregivers

It's hard to believe that we've already reached the end of Term Three! It has been a productive and enjoyable term for our students here at Owairoa Primary School. This newsletter is a great way to celebrate the achievements of our wonderful students over the past month.

This term has been a whirlwind of learning and growth for our students with the many learning opportunities on offer. Our students have embraced every opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills, both inside and outside the classroom, with many students practicing their public speaking skills through the speech competitions this term.

We are proud of the sporting successes as our students have actively participated in various sporting events, both within our school and in the various interschool competitions. Their teamwork, sportsmanship and enthusiasm are a credit to them.

With the end of term comes a much-needed school holiday break. It's a time for everyone to recharge, spend quality time with loved ones and return refreshed for the final push toward the end of the academic year. I hope you have a fantastic break filled with relaxation and memorable moments.



WELCOME
to our Owairoa "family"

- Mason Cowley
- Aimee Ao
- Bentley Garnett
- Cornelia Kuresa
- Rylee Munthree
- Thea Ng
- Mieke Le Roux
- Tyler Le Roux
- CoCo Li

Uniform Transition

With summer fast approaching, it is almost time for students to switch to their summer uniform options. This includes short-sleeved polo shirts, shorts for the boys and culottes for the girls. Both boys and girls are required to wear black leather sandals. All students need to wear their hat, as we have a 'no hat, no play' policy during the summer months.

Full summer uniform is expected to be worn from the start of Term Four, on Monday 9th October.

Brand New uniforms items can be purchased from Argyle, our school uniform supplier, who courier items directly to your home, or you can purchase second hand items from our PTA Uniform Shop. For more information on both of these options, please head to our school website

www.owairoa.school.nz/parents/uniform



INTERNATIONAL DAY



On Thursday 24th August Owairoa Primary School celebrated International Day. Despite the weather being slightly overcast, spirits were high as students arrived at school dressed in their cultural attire. How spectacular they looked as they proudly walked to their classrooms to prepare for the day's events.

International Day commenced with a magnificent parade around the school. Students were given a central point to start, according to their country of origin. Senior students were selected as banner holders to lead and support younger students along the route. Parents watched and cheered as their children marched, waving flags to accompanying music.

At the end of the Parade all 57 represented nationalities assembled on the Astroturf and sat in groups. Mrs Humphreys and Mr Rossiter facilitated the proceedings which included students giving greetings in different languages, a short item querying "What makes a kiwi a kiwi?" and two songs. Whānau gathered around the Astroturf as flags representing an assortment of nations hung from the balustrade above, adding to the ambience of the event.



Culturally themed activities in classrooms and a concert in the hall showcasing the talent of Owairoa Students, were two of the highlights of International Day. The students aging from Years 1 -6 performed culturally significant dance, poetry, musical items, and songs in front of their peers. How confident they looked performing the items, and in turn were rewarded by loud clapping from the appreciative audience. We also had the pleasure of welcoming a Pasifika group from Bucklands Beach Intermediate School and a choir from Macleans College who performed for our students.

The International Day "Kiwi Lunch" promotion, introduced for the first term this year, was extremely popular with students of all ages. Featuring typically kiwi items such as a sausage in bread, Cookie Time cookie, Just Juice drink and mini chocolate fish was a hit with the students. Our thanks go to the PTA and parent helpers who took this from being a dream plan to an event success story.

International Day 2023 was a truly memorable event. I for one will remember the faces of tamariki throughout the day, the awe, the smiles, and the laughter. But, most of all I recall the feeling of being united, as we came together to celebrate the many.

Mrs Lindsay Humphreys
International Day Committee



A Blast from the Past

Our Year One and Two students recently had a wonderful adventure as they stepped back in time to explore the local Howick Historical Village. The trip was part of our Term 3 inquiry into Toys, which has been a big part of their learning journey in Science, Literacy, and ISTEAM.

At the Howick Historical Village, our young learners had the opportunity to discover toys from long ago. They explored olden day toys, which are very different from the toys they have at home today. They compared the materials used in the older games to their own toys at home. There were no electronic devices in sight!

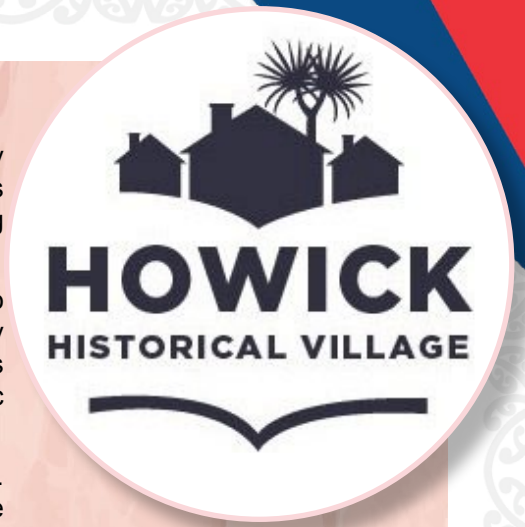
The children also got to see what it was like to go to school in the olden days. Unlike our own classrooms years ago boys and girls were always in separate lines, with the boys acting like gentleman in letting girls enter the classroom first.

This was unheard of for many of our learners and there was a great uproar from some. The teachers were amused with students having to bow and curtsy as a greeting each morning. Writing on a slate with a piece of rock or even using a special tool called 'the cane' was part of the usual school day. We are grateful education has changed over the years!

The students didn't just stop there; they went on a self-guided tour around olden day shops, houses, and buildings. It was like traveling back in time as they explored and learned about how people used to live.

It's safe to say that our Year One and Two students had an absolute blast during their trip to Howick Historical Village. They learned so much about olden day toys, schools, and life from the past that can be used in the classroom to design our own toys.

We were grateful for the opportunity for our students to explore history in such an engaging way. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to accompany us on the day, as well as those at home who helped their children dress for the occasion.



Year 3 Speech Competition Finals

There were smiles aplenty as the proud parents and whānau of our Year 3 speech finalists strolled into the hall for the Year 3 Speech Competition. It was slightly different from previous years in that there was a special air of excitement after past restrictions due to Covid-19.

From the beginning of term, each learner in Year 3 was asked to create an imaginative and informative speech on an interest or hobby they took part in or would like to do. Class finalists were then selected to take part in the Grand Final.

One of the first speechmakers, Layla Nasimi, began her speech with a 2,4,6,8 chant, then talked about the finer aspects of cheerleading and how it all began. Other topics included Go Karting, Tennis, Piano, Fortnite, Dinosaurs and Dogs

All contestants certainly deserved their place in the final, and although it was tough for the judges to decide on a winner the place getters were selected. May Li from Room M4 took first place with an entertaining speech on her love of football. Second place was awarded to Stella Collings who also selected football as her chosen topic. Third place went to Caysie Lowry, who shared her passion for Art and how it inspires wellbeing. It was inspiring that the top two contestants focused their interests on women's sports. Well done to all our talented competitors, you certainly did us proud!

Below are all the finalists and the hobbies that inspired them to succeed!

Participants:

Room M7 - Caysie Lowry – Art

Room M4 – Layla Nasimi – Cheerleading

Room M5 – Charlie Williamson – Go Karting

Room M7 – Keanu Campbell – Soccer

Room M6 – Jasmine Buchan – Tennis

Room M4 – Stella Collings – Football

Room M9 – Eli Marais - Dinosaurs

Room M5 – Oliver (Ollie) To – Fortnite

Room M6 – Anna Ho – Piano

Room M8 – Ellie May – Dogs

Room M4 – May Li – Football



Year 4 Speech Competition Finals

On Thursday 7th September, Middle School students gathered in the Hall for the Year Four Speech Final. They had been preparing for this moment throughout Term 3, so this event was a showcase of the best speakers from each room. The eleven participants all appeared eager to deliver their best performance. Mrs Humphreys and Miss Randhawa were selected as judges and at 1:30pm, once everyone was seated, including the finalists whānau, the competition began.

The students recited their speeches with a new-found confidence. Most had even memorised their entire speech by heart which was quite a feat! Although it may have been a little more daunting standing in front of a larger crowd than their classroom peers, they were able to give it their best effort. What an accomplishment!

Topics ranged from The Secrets Behind Sport, Sharks, Why Boys Should Wear More Pink, China, and Ritchie McCaw. Other topics explored Boredom, Trees, The Kakapo, Ocean Pollution, Nursery Rhymes and Mana. How informative they sounded.

After thoughtful discussion, the judges stood before the gathered students and announced the winners. Excitement was high. First place was awarded to Connor Thompson, second place to Jack Chapman and third place to Tabatha Norrie. The other participants received a Highly Commended placing for their effort.

Well done to all the Year Four students who participated in this event and to invited whānau who came along to support this event.



Senior School Speech Competition

Towards the end of Term 2 and the beginning of Term 3, Senior School students were tasked with writing and presenting a speech themed around the topic 'kaitiakitanga.' This required students to think about what they valued and wanted to cherish and protect. The theme lent itself heavily towards looking after our environment.

After many weeks of writing and practising, each class held its own competition. The top speeches made it through to the semifinal, with the best ones being selected for the Owairoa Primary School Y5/6 Speech Final.

The speeches covered a wide range of topics, from animals to trees to human rights. All participants received certificates acknowledging their involvement in reaching this level. However, after the judges deliberated, we identified our top three winners. In third place was Jack Mills with his speech on "Space Junk," second place went to Grayson Kennedy with his presentation on "Clean Energy," and in first place was Annabelle Hadley with her speech addressing "Plastic Pollution."

Annabelle then went on to represent our school at the APPA speech final. She thoroughly enjoyed the experience and proudly represented Owairoa, despite not securing a placement.

Thank you to friends and whanau for their support during this year's speeches.



Dressed in Yellow for Daffodil Day

Our recent Daffodil Day fundraising efforts raised \$1,232 which we proudly donated to the Cancer Society, to help support New Zealanders facing cancer.

Over 25,000 New Zealanders are diagnosed with cancer every year, so we are pleased that our "Owairoa Family" was able to play a small part to help make sure they don't have to face this journey alone.



Your acknowledgement with thanks

13 September 2023

The Principal
Owairoa Primary School
85 Nelson Street
Howick
Auckland 2014

To the wonderful staff and students of Owairoa Primary School,

Thank you so much for your incredible support this Daffodil Day.

Your support, kindness and generosity ensure no New Zealander with cancer goes through cancer alone. New Zealander's like, 27-year-old Jess who was diagnosed last year.

"The ongoing support from [Cancer Society] and having somebody on the other end of the phone that I could call at any time if I was feeling overwhelmed or scared or needed answers to questions - it's really invaluable."

Having the Cancer Society there offering that support, it completely changes the experience and makes it so much easier, and they wouldn't be able to do that without people funding them."

The daffodil is a symbol of hope, and thanks to your Daffodil Day fundraising efforts, you have given hope and practical support to Kiwis like Jess at an incredibly difficult time. You are ensuring cancer patients get all the free care and support they need and deserve from specialist cancer nurses and psychologists, as well as accommodation and help getting to treatment. You're also helping fund vital prevention programmes and ground-breaking cancer research - it really is an incredible gift!



Jess, celebrating being in remission.

On behalf of the guests that stay at Domain Lodge, their families, our incredible volunteers, and the rest of the team at Cancer Society, thank you again for your support, hard work and enthusiasm for Daffodil Day 2023. It really does mean so much to so many. The support services would not be available without you.

Ngā mihi,

Andrew Young
Chief Executive

Thank you for your support!

Owairoa Primary School
85 Nelson Street
Howick
Auckland 2014

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Donor ID: 21110
Date: 13 September 2023
Donation Amount: \$1,232.00
Donation raised from fundraising activities



Celebrating Tongan Language Week

Mālō e lelei! From 4th to 8th of September, Owairoa Primary School students and staff celebrated Tongan Language Week. This annual event is a special time for our school community to come together and honour the rich Tongan culture, traditions, and most importantly, the beautiful Tongan language.

The theme for Tongan Language Week 2023 was 'E tu'uloa 'a e Lea faka-Tongá 'o ka lea'aki 'i 'api, siasí (lotú), mo e nofo-'a-kāingá, which translates to "The Tongan Language will be sustainable if used at home, church, and in the broader community."

Throughout the week we learnt various basic Tongan phrases, indulged in traditional Tongan stories, created beautiful Tongan artwork, and ultimately embraced the culture in our classroom environments. As we celebrated Tongan culture and

language, we gained a profound appreciation for the importance of preserving and promoting the Tongan language, not just within our school but in our homes and the wider community as well.



End of Year PRIZEGIVING EVENTS

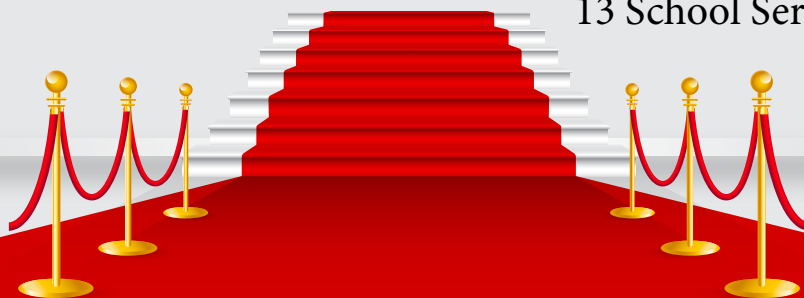
To help with your calendar logistics as the next few months get busier with the upcoming Christmas season and end of year, the dates for our end of year prizegiving and concert events have been finalised as follows:

November

- 27 Junior Concert A (Rooms 1, 5, 6, 8, G3, G5)
- 28 Junior Concert B (Rooms 2, 3, 9, G6, G1, 20)
- 29 Year 3 Concert
- 30 Junior Concert C (Rooms 4, 7, G2, G4, 21 22)

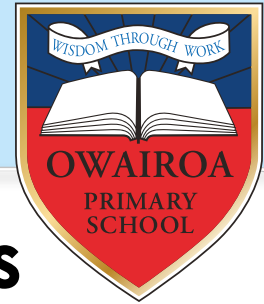
December

- 4 Year 4 Concert
- 6 Team 5 Concert
- 8 Team 6 Concert
- 11 Senior Prizegiving 7pm
- 13 School Service Awards





2024 Term dates



The official term dates for the 2024 Academic Year have been set and approved by our School Board as follows:

- Term One: Wednesday 7 February 2024 – Friday 12 April 2024
- Term Two: Monday 29 April 2024 – Friday 5 July 2024
- Term Three: Monday 22 July 2024 – Friday 27 September 2024
- Term Four: Monday 14 October 2024 – Friday 20 December 2024

The school will also be closed for the following public holidays:

29 March	Good Friday	3 June	King's Birthday
1 April	Easter Monday	28 June	Matariki
2 April	Easter Tuesday	28 October	Labour Day



Netball Stars in the Making



We were pleased to welcome a team of Netballers from neighbouring Cockle Bay Primary School to our school last week. Our C Team played Cockle Bay C Team on Monday 11th September on our new Astro Turf.

The friendly game was close and both teams played their best. The C Team have been training for two terms and demonstrated all they had learnt.

While Cockle Bay won by a couple of points, both teams played well. Congratulations to both sides for a great game.



HPPA Interschool Boys Football Tournament



The time of year we all look forward to arrived with a hiss and a roar once more as the Owairoa Lions were in action at the HPPA Football Tournament in Week 8 of Term 3.

Despite weeks of preparation, the boys began in sloppy fashion against Beachlands, allowing a crisp move hammered home by Saxon to be cancelled out by a goal that was reminiscent of the parting of the Red Sea. Not to be perturbed by their initial lackadaisical defending, Owairoa turned on the flair against Macleans in their second game. Three thunderous counter attacks, coupled by an assured penalty from Jace, allowed Zach to switch on the afterburners and leave a bamboozled defence desperate to get off the pitch as the boys in blue smashed four past them before the break. A touch of arrogance saw the Owairoa wheels fall off momentarily, as the opposition grabbed one back with a hit and hope and then another with a smooth counterattack of their own.

The Lions followed their 4-2 rollercoaster win with a much more poised performance against a physical Misson Heights. In a game of cat and mouse, both teams were reduced to efforts from distance until Charlie's incessant pressing finally paid off, as he stole the ball and made it Mission Impossible for the other team to progress further in the tournament. The boys followed this professional performance with another display of maturity against a wily Star of the Sea outfit.

Despite their players and parents playing on the parameters of footballing legality at times, Zach was in no mood for mind games, as he proved once more to be deadly in front of goal by first dribbling past four to wrong foot the keeper and then by smashing home a ruthless volley that killed the game, the hopes of our rivals and broke the net. The last game of the day saw Owairoa serve up a sumptuous offering of attacking football as they dismantled a lacklustre Pigeon Mountain outfit 5-1. The team's captain and postman, Jace, delivered another emphatic display of pragmatic finesse as the goals were shared amongst our talented youngsters.

The second day of the tournament saw the boys play off for the coveted HPPA trophy after finishing an impressive second place out of twenty-one competing schools. Unfortunately, the Owairoa Lions met their match and sadly, football wasn't coming home following a heavy defeat to Beachlands and draws against Maraetai and Shelly Park.

Nevertheless, the young men conducted themselves in a mature manner, displayed pride in themselves and their school and took great enjoyment out of being part of a hotly contested tournament. Flynn, Karamveer, Matthew and Max K were rock solid at the back, Max B, Jace and Isaac were influential through the centre of the park, Saxon, Zach and Vigness were fluid in the final third, Ryan and Charlie showed the lion hearts with their relentless midfield battling and super Cooper Delaney displayed the agility of an acrobat and the reflexes of a cat.

As a team, they performed out of their skins, played hard but fair and set an example to everyone there on how to behave when representing their school and local community. They have made their parents and coaches incredibly proud and with the core of the team being made up of year 5s, the Owairoa Lions will be hunting down the Pohutukawa Coast poachers in search of 2024 vengeance.



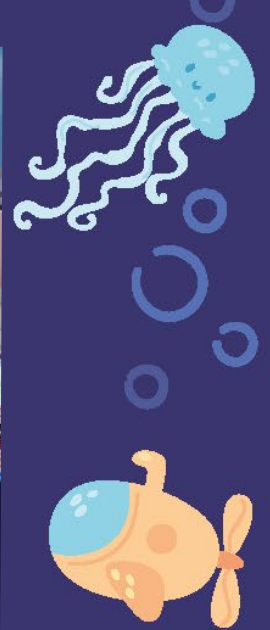
Making a Splash at the PTA Disco

The Owairoa School PTA was thrilled to host another fantastic disco for the school community.

The theme 'Under the Sea' made waves among the students and teachers who came up with creative ways to dress up and have fun!

The PTA is thankful for the parent helpers and staff who make these events possible.

The funds raised help the school provide lots of opportunity for the kids and we are glad everyone who came had a spectacular time.



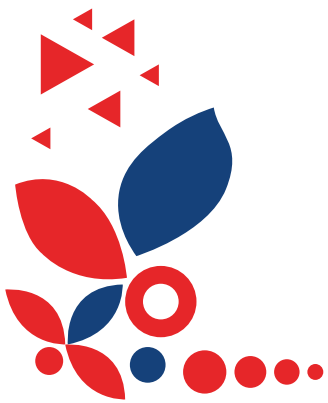
Upcoming Teacher **ONLY** DAY



The Ministry of Education has allocated us a Teacher Only Day on **Monday 13 November** (Week 6 of Term Four.) Our school will be closed for all students on this day.

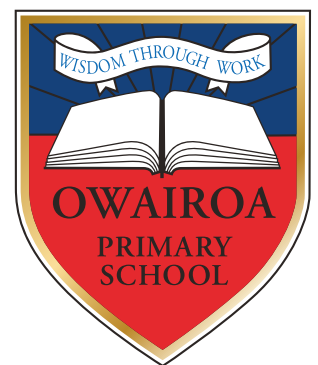
Over the course of the day, our Teaching Staff will spend time understanding, preparing for and supporting the implementation of changes across The New Zealand Curriculum refresh.

This day is designed to provide our staff with dedicated time to unpack and gain an understanding of the Common Practice Model and how it will be implemented in our school. The Common Practice Model focuses on how literacy, communication and maths is taught, supporting students with their progress across the curriculum.



Enrolments are Open for

2024



Parents are encouraged to pre-enrol their children now for late 2023 and 2024 enrolments. If you know any families in zone who are wanting to have a child start this year or during 2024, please encourage them to make contact with our school, to aid in our planning for 2024.

HOUSE LEADERS-**Spotlight**



Tingting Ye – Tokomaru Deputy House Leader

My name is Tingting Ye and I am in Room M11. This year I am one of the Deputy House Leaders for Tokomaru. I enjoy swimming and art. I also like playing the piano because it makes me feel calm and peaceful. I love to watch movies with my family, especially Avatar.

I am excited to be a Deputy House Leader and have such an incredible opportunity to be a role model for the Junior, Middle and Senior students. I am committed to carrying out my duties and responsibilities as a Deputy House Leader for 2023.

My advice for other students is to be brave and take risks with your learning and give new things a go, and to work hard to be the best you can be.



James Vipan – Tokomaru Deputy House Leader

My name is James Vaipan and I am honoured to be one of the Deputy House Leaders for Tokomaru. I have dreamed of being a House Leader since Year 2 and take my role seriously.

I love Owairoa because the children are respectful and have fantastic manners. I am committed to being a good role model and promoting our school RISE values.

At Owairoa there are so many opportunities for everyone, these include Choir, Kaitiaki, Kapa Haka and so many more. There are also many sports on offer like softball, cricket, swimming, football to name a few. I especially loved the football fun day it was amazing. The sailing this year was awesome too.

This year I want to help others enjoy Owairoa as much as I do. My advice for the younger or new students is follow the RISE values and treat others the way you want to be treated.



TOKOMARU





Junior Blog Mad About Construction



In Room 3 we have been learning about construction which was inspired by our visit from the New Zealand author, Sally Sutton during Book Week and the destruction of the Countdown on Aviemore Drive in Highland Park.

The learners enjoyed learning about the names and uses of the different construction vehicles. They learnt interesting vocabulary like blades, trestles and rigging. We read Sally Sutton's shared reading book called Big Machine Boogie and loved doing the construction boogie dance too.

We used our imaginations to imagine we were construction workers and what we might do if we were in that profession and the learners came up with some interesting ideas. Some would drive the big yellow diggers and scoop up the dirt, some would work on the high cranes using safety harnesses, some would be the designers and interiors decorators, while some would be the bosses of the construction sites.

Each morning we would hear stories of how different learners drove past houses being built in Howick and surrounding areas and were told about each different vehicle that was being used and the progress on different construction sites. Look out New Zealand, we have some inspired construction workers coming in the future.

Middle Blog A Busy Term Three Lineup



The start of Term 3 has been nothing short of fantastic for the Year 3 students, who have eagerly participated in many different activities already. From developing their math skills to exploring the world of science, Term 3 promises to be an exciting term.

In maths, Year 3 has been learning about measurement. From different units of measurement, to making estimations, the students have been engaging in hands-on activities that make learning math exciting. Measuring everyday objects, the distance a paper aeroplane can fly and even measuring each other has not only made math fun but also helped the students develop a practical understanding of using measurement in their daily lives.

During science, the students have been busy discovering the basics of electricity. Through engaging discussions and making comparisons, they have learned about electricity sources, safety, and how electricity works. Students have shown a keen interest in learning about electricity through their inquisitive questioning and participation in a range of fun activities.

Our year 3 students are currently working on speech-writing. They have been encouraged to share their passions and interests, as they write a speech which is both informative and interesting for their audience to listen to. The enthusiasm around their topics has been a fantastic motivator and as we move forward, there is much excitement around presenting their speeches to their classmates.

Overall, the Year 3 students have had a great start to Term 3. Looking forward, they will continue to take on new challenges and opportunities for growth, not only in academic learning, but also in practicing the school RISE values in everyday school life. We are excited to see what exciting experiences we have in store for the remainder of Term 3!

Senior Blog The Senior School Thrives on International Day



On a brisk winter's day, Owairoa Primary School came alive with a vibrant tapestry of cultures as it hosted its annual International Day event. The school grounds resonated with the buzz of excitement as more than 50 different countries found representation.

Amid the cool start to the morning, students and teachers alike revelled in the diversity that adorned the atmosphere. A highlight for the children was for them to experience a tradition kiwi lunch! This included a sausage sizzle and of course a chocolate fish for dessert.

The day's festivities kicked off with a spirited school parade, where each country was showcased through vibrant costumes and heartfelt enthusiasm. The cultural extravaganza continued with an amazing concert, graced by remarkable performances from the school's very own talented students. From dance to music, the stage was alive with the colours and rhythms of the world.

The Senior School students took charge of engaging activities tailored to immerse their peers in an interactive learning experience. Mask making, international mapping activities and flag designing helped foster a deeper understanding of global geography and customs.

Owairoa Primary School's International Day remains a testament to the unity that can be forged among cultures, transcending geographical distances and bridging diverse backgrounds. We look forward to celebrating this special day again in 2024 and beyond!



Honey for Sale

The bees in our Owairoa Honey Factory have been hard at work and we are excited to announce we have some fresh school honey available for purchase.

A limited number of our very special 'Owairoa Multi Floral Honey' is now on sale at our school office for just **\$14 per pot.**

Get in quick to secure your very own pot of Owairoa gold today.

Looking ahead

☺ September

- 22 End of Term Two – last day of winter uniform
- 24 Daylight Savings ends 2am

☺ October

- 9 Term Three Starts – full summer uniform
- 14 New Zealand General Election. Polling booth at Owairoa Primary School
- 17 Kapa Haka Festival at BBI
- 17 School Board Meeting 7pm
- 23 Labour Day – School closed for public holiday
- 24 PTA Meeting 7.30pm
- 25 Parent Teacher Conferences 1-8pm. School closes at 12.30pm
- 26 Parent Teacher Conferences 3.30 – 6.30pm

☺ November

- 13 Teacher Only Day – school closed

☺ December

- 20 End of Term Four



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

Daylight savings ends on **Sunday 24th September at 2am.** Don't forget to put your clocks forward one hour.

Whakatauki

Tē tōia, tē haumatiat

Nothing can be achieved without a plan, workforce and a way of doing things

This whakatauki speaks to the importance of having a plan of attack.

With kind regards,
Alan McIntyre
PRINCIPAL





Before School Care: 7.00am - 8.30am
After School Care: 3.00pm - 6.00pm
School Holidays: 7.30am - 6.00pm

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For all questions or queries please contact our office or the programme

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