

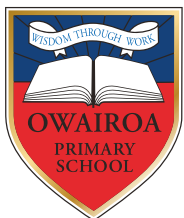
# The Owairoa Primary

# School Scribe

*news and views from around our school*

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Issue No 1, 16th January 2024

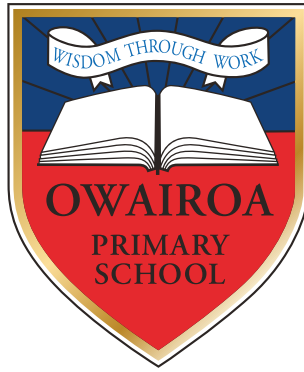


Owairoa Primary School, 85S Nelson Street, Howick, Auckland 2014, New Zealand.

Principal Mr Alan McIntyre J.P., B.Ed., G.D.I.T.E., Dip. Tchg., Cert Sch Mking (CMS), A.N.Z.E.I.

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[www.owairoa.school.nz](http://www.owairoa.school.nz)



## Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back for the 2024 academic year. It is wonderful to see the familiar faces of our returning students, and an equally warm welcome goes out to all the new families, both domestic and international, joining our Owairoa 'family' for the first time. We are confident your association with Owairoa Primary School will be a long and successful one.

We also extend a very special welcome to our new members of the staff team this year. We believe your journey with Owairoa Primary School will be enriching and rewarding and we are excited to have you as part of our wonderful team.

We are positive about the year ahead and the journey of discovery and development for our students as they meet new challenges, overcome obstacles and master new learning experiences. Thank you for your part in assisting both your children and their teachers in having a smooth start to the school year. Your partnership is invaluable and together we can make this year another successful one.

Our dedicated staff have been hard at work building positive relationships with each student, laying the foundation for a year of growth and achievement. We invite you to join us next week at our Open Home event, where you can meet the teachers and get a glimpse into the exciting learning opportunities that await your children this year. We look forward to seeing you there.

*Our School Mission Statement is an important intention to ensure quality learning opportunities and equitable outcomes for all students.*

***Our Mission is to provide pathways to access challenging, stimulating, quality education that creates self-motivated, lifelong learners equipped for a changing world.***

*This statement is further supported by our School Vision Statement:*

*Owairoa Primary School – Pathway to the Future*

***Our vision is to lead children along the pathway, which prepares them for the future and challenges them to continually strive for new horizons.***





# WELCOME

to our Owairoa "family"

## Students

- Benjamin Martelo Restrepo
- Manaia Gelling
- Nihaan Gopal
- Laith Sultan
- Emily Overton
- Danika McNeil
- Mia Webby
- Althea Ting
- Maruha Kim
- Millie Mens
- Saanvi Narwal
- Methuli Rajapakse
- Nicholas Samuel
- Emaya Undugoda Pathirage
- Amy Zhou
- Raphael Haque
- Haochen Ma
- Abby Le
- Syed Zaidi
- Hanson Lu
- Ethan-Rome Hurter
- Gursaanjh Kaur
- Xiaoqu Yu
- Tianle Chen
- Ethan Pratt
- Wilson Cai
- Carter Blair
- Thamindu Rathnasinghe
- Yathindu Rathnasinghe
- Adrina Rezayee Hagh
- Valerie Ye
- Mihlali Batala
- Max Wang
- Rylin Hampson
- Emma Wang
- JC Simbulan
- Willow Taylor
- Thea Ng
- Jaxon Van Wyk
- Hiruja Mapa
- Thejan Mapa
- Thamashi Adambarage
- Kean Cazar
- Cassy Vinluan
- Ava Sykes
- Sarang Jeon
- Luke Yang
- Kitty Hsu
- Melody Hsu
- Seoyeon Lee
- Henry Lee
- Grace Guan
- Jack Yu
- Woo Na
- Lucas Bae
- Katherine Zheng
- Miki Jiang
- Tindra Yang
- Beibei Liu
- Minjun Kim
- Minseo Kim
- Paul Choi
- Lucas Ai
- Annie Liu
- Justin Liu
- Cherry Liu
- Rossie Liu
- Jayden Park
- Vivian Wu
- Coco Zhu
- Raphael Eun
- Jimmy Lee
- Norah Chen
- Frances Zhao
- Sarah Choi
- Alice Li
- Youngbi Choi
- Yuna Ra
- Brad Han
- James Yu
- Jing Fang
- Jason Ko
- Yixin Zhang
- Judy Zhu
- Kitty Fang
- Alya Zhang
- Dylan Zhu
- Aron Liu
- Leo Xu
- Yunseol Choi
- Sunny Li
- Leo Yu
- Aaron Li
- Alex Sun
- Lucy Yu
- Jennie Jin
- Anno Boku
- Leo Li
- Stella Eun
- Jenny Cao
- Emily Han
- Spring He
- Ethan Hung
- Ivan Jiang
- Simon Li
- Riya Liu
- Remie Miyagi
- Jayden Qi
- Miri Sakata
- Ritsu Sakata
- Feifei Wang
- Xing Zhang
- June Zhang
- Jing Zhang

## New Staff

- **Shane Devery**, Deputy Principal
- **Jacqueline Atha**, Year 2 Teacher
- **Amy Liljewall**, Year 3 Teacher
- **Cayleigh Leslie**, Year 4 Teacher
- **Alisha-Maree Pethig**, Year 5/6 Teacher
- **Leanne Johnson**, Year 5/6 Teacher
- **Mia Hirschfeld**, Music Specialist



# Welcome to the Junior School



Welcome to our Junior school community! We are so excited to have you and our junior students join us in 2024.

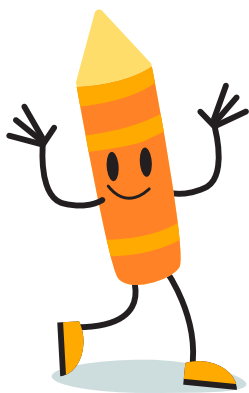
Wednesday 7th February was an exciting morning for many junior students at Owairoa Primary School as they eagerly walked into school excited to meet their new teacher and catch up with their classmates. For just over 20 students it was extra exciting as this was their very first day at school.

We have started the year with seven Year 1 classes and six Year 2 classes. These classes are divided into three Junior teams and led by three experienced Team Leaders: Miss Tracey Haugh (Team 1A), Mrs Michelle Geddes (Team 1B) and Mr Alex Cornea (Team 2).

It was so pleasing to see how everyone settled into their classroom so quickly and get on to learning new routines and expectations. Making friends, relating positively with others, learning new routines and expectations, and creating a warm, safe, learning environment are initially taking priority in programmes in all classes.

Our Junior Staff and I look forward to working with all our junior students and their whanau this year. We are here to make this journey a smooth and enjoyable one for you and your child. Let's make 2024 an incredible year of growth and discovery.

**- Kirsty Rice, Associate Principal**





# Welcome to the Middle School



The first week back at Owairoa for our Year 3 and 4 students has been filled with excitement, curiosity and a lot of happy chatter. From the moment our young learners stepped into their classrooms, the air was abuzz with anticipation, as students with eager smiles came bounding through the doors.

From the very first day, teachers welcomed their students with reassuring smiles, ready to begin an exciting 2024 learning journey. They wasted no time in introducing the curriculum, with a special emphasis on New Zealand's rich history and culture.

One topic that has captured the imaginations of our young learners is the Treaty of Waitangi. Students have been unravelling the story of this important document, learning about the promises made and the partnerships forged between Māori and European explorers.

The Treaty of Waitangi has provided a fascinating lens through which our Year 3 and 4 students are beginning to understand the values of respect, partnership, and fairness. Through storytelling, art, and engaging discussions, they are gaining a deeper appreciation for the significance of the treaty in shaping our nation's past, present, and future.

These first few days have been marked by a strong sense of community and friendship. Students have been eagerly making new friends, sharing stories of their summer holiday adventures, and embracing the joy of learning together.

We are so excited to have the Middle School up and running, ready for an amazing year ahead!

**- Lindsay Humphreys, Middle School Co-ordinator**





# Welcome to the Senior School



**Welcome Back to 2024!** We have welcomed two new teachers to the Senior School this year - Ms Johnson in M11 and Miss Pethig in M14.

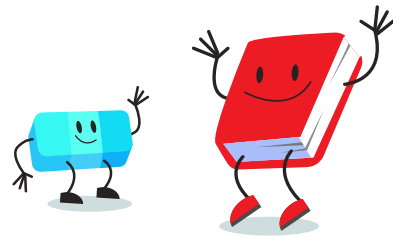
We have made an excellent start to the year with ten Senior classes, five in Team 5 led by Mr O'Brien, and five in Team 6 led by Ms Findley. Learning programmes are up and running in each room and the children are settling in well. Senior students will continue to have ISTEAM every Friday.

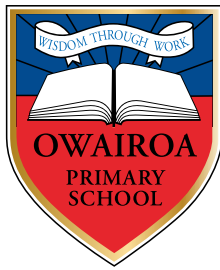
The House Leaders assembly has taken place and mediator training will begin soon. All Year 6 students will have an opportunity to have monitoring roles across the school to develop their leadership and citizenship skills.

We are looking forward to a busy term full of exciting learning opportunities for our Senior students to enjoy.

I would like to extend a special welcome to all the new families joining the Senior school this year and welcome back all our returning families as well!

**- Anita Randhawa, Assistant Principal**





# OUR PROFESSIONAL Team for 2024

## SCHOOL SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Alan McIntyre	<i>Principal</i>
Shane Devery	<i>Deputy Principal</i>
Kirsty Rice	<i>Associate Principal</i>
Anita Randhawa	<i>Assistant Principal</i>
Lindsay Humphreys	<i>Middle School Co-ordinator</i>

## ADDITIONAL TEACHING STAFF

Sally Taka	<i>Senco</i>
Sonia Smith	<i>Remedial</i>
Jonathan Basson	<i>Sports Specialist</i>
Marjorie Parkes	<i>ELL Specialist</i>
Joan Stevens	<i>Reading Recovery</i>
Tosca Frederiksen	<i>Reading Recovery</i>
Mia Hirschfeld	<i>Music Specialist</i>
Agnessa Kulakova	<i>First Call Reliever</i>

## SUPPORT STAFF

Eiman Farid	<i>Science Technician</i>
Mony Neale	<i>School Chaplain</i>
Tejay Ross	<i>New Era ICT Technician</i>
Hana Sotutu	<i>Swimming Assistant</i>

## SUPPORT STAFF – TEACHER AIDES

Andrea Wade-Gill	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Penny Teague	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Deborah Bielby	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Dove Huang	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Jill McIntosh	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Sandy Rothery	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Shelley Williams	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Hannah Zhou	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Greer Turner	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Shelby Broskie	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>
Ashleigh Brown	<i>Teacher Aide Special Needs</i>

## ADMINISTRATION TEAM

Sharleen Morrow	<i>Administration Assistant</i>
Clare Burton	<i>Administration Assistant</i>
Valerie Wee	<i>Administration Assistant</i>
Sharleen Brown	<i>Librarian / Resource Manager</i>
Cecilia Perez	<i>Graphic Designer</i>

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Jane Huang	<i>Executive Officer – Finance / Human Resources</i>
Atul Garg	<i>Finance Assistant</i>

## INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Diane McIntyre	<i>Director of International Education / Sales and Marketing</i>
Jill McIntyre	<i>International Parent Class / International Student English Support</i>
Greer Turner	<i>International Administration Assistant</i>

## PROPERTY TEAM

Andrew McCallum	<i>Property Manager</i>
Ronald Dragt	<i>Assistant Caretaker</i>
Richard Song	<i>Assistant Caretaker</i>

## SATELLITE CLASS

Nicole Bache	<i>Teacher</i>
Jennifer Wu	<i>Teacher Aide</i>
Ripa Kakkad	<i>Teacher Aide</i>
Vivien Lin	<i>Teacher Aide</i>

## Class Teacher Junior School

<b>Team 1A Year 1</b>	Michaela Lee	Room 1
	Susan Carswell	Room 2
	Sam Wood	Room 3
	Tracey Haugh	Room 4

<b>Team 1B Year 1</b>	Michelle Geddes	Room 6
	Nicole Basson	Room 8
	Kristina Ellis	Room 9

<b>Team 2 Year 2</b>	Alexandra Garrett	Room G1
	Joline Kennard	Room G2
	Lee-Anne Trebilco	Room G3
	Nikki Eccles	Room G4
	Jacqueline Atha	Room G5
	Alex Cornea	Room G6

## Middle School

<b>Team 3 Year 3</b>	Helen Stevens	Room M4
	Jo Owen	Room M5
	Namrata Nand	Room M6
	Amy Liljewall	Room M7
	Sheree Blake	Room M8
	William Howard	Room M9

<b>Team 4 Year 4</b>	Gail Russell	Room M1
	Elizabeth Hewlett	Room M2
	Cayleigh Leslie	Room M3
	Monique Muller	Room 25
	Richard Yates	Room 26

## Senior School

<b>Team 5 Year 5/6</b>	Alisha-Maree Pethig	Room M14
	Debbie Job	Room M15
	Stuart Crook	Room M16
	Luke O'Brien	Room M17
	Babette Maas	Room M18

<b>Team 6 Year 5/6</b>	Glenda Obbes	Room M10
	Leanne Johnson	Room M11
	Neandri Byron	Room M12
	Claire Findley	Room M13
	Gareth Rossiter	Room 24



# TERM DATES for 2024



The term dates for 2024 have been sets and approved by the School Board as follows:

## Term One

Wednesday 7 February – Friday 12 April 2024

## Term Three

Monday 22 July – Friday 27 September 2024

## Term Two

Monday 29 April – Friday 5 July 2024

## Term Four

Monday 14 October – Friday 20 December 2024

### The school will also be closed for:

Friday 29 March	Good Friday
Monday 1 April	Easter Monday
Tuesday 2 April	Easter Tuesday
Friday 31 May	Teacher Only Day One
Monday 3 June	King's Birthday
Friday 28 June	Matariki
Friday 25 October	Teacher Only Day Two
Monday 28 October	Labour Day

## Building Strong Attendance Patterns

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent, you, alongside the school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school. As we enter 2024, every day of school matters.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent for a day or intends to be absent from school eg. for a medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for non-medical reasons are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, please communicate with us. Our school is committed to supporting your child to attend school and building regular attendance patterns by having:

- School staff who have strong relationships with students and families.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who they are, where they come from and who they want to be.
- A school community that does everything to make sure students are at school, and they are participating and progressing in their education.







**MEET THE  
TEACHER**



We are looking forward to our annual Open Home event next week on Thursday 22nd February, where Parents are invited into school to meet the Teacher, understand the learning environment and hear about the new routines and expectations for your child for the year ahead.

Our Open Home will offer three sessions, to help fit into your busy schedule. No appointment is necessary.

- 3.15pm—4.00pm
- 4.15pm—5.00pm
- 5.15pm—6.00pm

The event gives the opportunity for the Teacher to introduce themselves to you, provide feedback on the start to the year, and to discuss things pertinent to their classroom.

At Owairoa Primary School we nurture relationships and we value connections, not just with our students, but with their families too. This Open Home opportunity will allow families to establish a connection with the teacher early in

the year, where you can talk about your goals for your child and set them up for a successful year.

One of the keys to the success of a child's education is the school and community working in partnership. Parents taking an active interest in their child's educational journey makes all the difference.

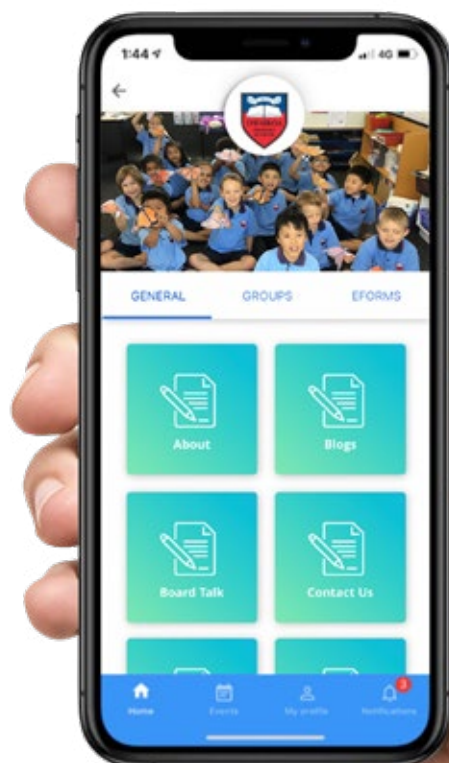
After the Open Home, parents wishing to communicate in more detail about any educational, health or wellbeing issue are welcome to set up a time to meet with the Teacher directly as needed.



## Communication with Parents

Communication with our school community is achieved through these main school newsletters, which is published approximately every three weeks. This is supplemented with special issue notices that are sent out as and when required.

All notices are published digitally via our Audiri App, which can be downloaded from the Apple Store or Google Play Store by searching 'Audiri App'.



# Install the App in 4 easy steps!



The free Audiri school app offers parents a convenient way to stay up-to-date with the school calendar, last-minute forms, newsletters, all school communications, and even make cashless payments. With Audiri, you can get started in just a few minutes by following these simple steps:

- 1.** Open the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store and search for 'Audiri'. Install the app.
- 2.** Create an account and follow the prompts. Click 'Sign up'. Enter your email address, create a password and click on 'Sign up'. A confirmation email will be sent to confirm your account. Open the confirmation email and confirm your account.
- 3.** Open the app, and click 'Add/Remove'. Type your school's name and press enter.
- 4.** Tap the + icon to add. Now you can see your school, under My Schools & Services.



## Search Audiri in the app store



[audiri.com.au](https://audiri.com.au)



## Making A Splash

You will have received a notice last week with details about our swimming programme for Term One, which started as from yesterday morning. Swimming is part of the New Zealand Curriculum and our school is very fortunate to have a swimming pool on site, allowing us to offer weekly swimming sessions for our students.

We expect all students to attend their weekly swimming sessions. If your child is not swimming, please send a note explaining the medical reason for this.

On their allocated swimming day, we ask that students bring their togs, a towel, goggles (optional) and their swimming cap in a named bag.

**Swimming caps are available from our school office for \$5.**



# 2024



## School Donation



Owairoa Primary School, like other schools, ask parents for a voluntary donation. This donation is a vital source of income in our school budget and is used to provide additional staffing, programme, and resources, all dedicated to enhancing educational outcomes for students.

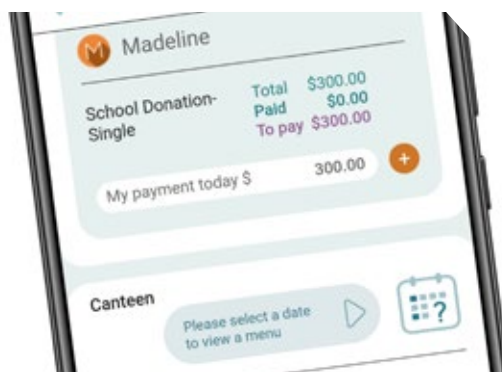
The donation for 2024 has been set at \$360 per student. The School Board would appreciate your contribution to the donation for 2024 so that we can maintain the various resources and programmes offered here at Owairoa Primary School.

Payment can be easily made online through our Kindo Online School Shop. Please use the link <https://kindoshop.owairoa.school.nz> to register if you haven't already done so. All school donations are tax deductible and can be claimed from Inland Revenue after 1st April.

## Kindo

Kindo allows families to manage and pay for students' school activities online. If you do not have a Kindo account already, visit [www.mykindo.co.nz](http://www.mykindo.co.nz) or use the link on our school website [www.owairoa.school.nz/parents/online-school-shop/](http://www.owairoa.school.nz/parents/online-school-shop/)

It is easy and secure to pay through Kindo. You can also download the mykindo app to your Apple or Android phone.



## Kindo ezlunch

Again this year, you can order hot and cold meals, sushi and more through our Online School Shop. ezlunch provides a school lunch service Monday to Friday. Order (or cancel) online before 9am on the day of delivery.

The Term One ezlunch menu is available here: [www.owairoa.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Kindo-Menu-term-one-2024.pdf](http://www.owairoa.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Kindo-Menu-term-one-2024.pdf)



## School Board

Our school is fortunate to be governed by a very supportive School Board who are committed to ensuring that the best possible learning opportunities are available to the students of Owairoa Primary School. We have ten members on our School Board, consisting of five elected members, three co-opted members, the Principal and a Staff Representative. The Board is elected by the school community every 3 years. The next elections are to be held in 2025.

The monthly School Board meetings are held in the Howard Room, starting at 7pm. Parents and the wider community are welcome to attend. The 2024 School Board Meeting schedule is available on our school website [www.owairoa.school.nz/our-school/school-board/](http://www.owairoa.school.nz/our-school/school-board/)

## School Uniform

School uniforms help students to identify with their school and assists with the development of a corporate spirit and a pride in themselves and the school. It also performs a valuable role by projecting a positive image to the community.

Please note that students are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times.

Please also remember to name all uniform items, so if they are misplaced, they can be returned to your child as quickly as possible.

New Owairoa Primary School uniform items can be purchased online from Argyle Schoolwear: [www.argyleonline.co.nz/shop/auckland/owairoa-primary-school](http://www.argyleonline.co.nz/shop/auckland/owairoa-primary-school)

Second hand uniform items can be purchased from our PTA Second Hand Uniform Shop.

Details, including shop opening hours can be found here: [www.owairoa.school.nz/parents/uniform/](http://www.owairoa.school.nz/parents/uniform/)



## PTA Parent Teacher Association

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is an integral part of the Owairoa Primary School community. The PTA is responsible for supporting Owairoa through fundraising and parent assistance of social activities run by the school.

All parents with children at Owairoa Primary School are automatically members of the PTA and are very welcome to attend the monthly meetings. Meetings provide you with an opportunity to find out what is happening in and around the school and to share ideas on social events, fundraising activities and other school initiatives.

The first meeting of the year is scheduled for **Tuesday 27th February**. We look forward to welcoming some new faces to join the team.

I join

I join

I join

I join

I join

I join

I join

I join

I join

I join

## Term One Sports Squad Trials

We will be holding trials for various sporting codes during Term 1. These trials are to make different sporting squads. All your child has to do is inform their classroom teacher who will sign them up on the trials list for the sporting code they want.

Once the trials have taken place, a squad will then be chosen, and will have a specific training day allocated to them. Training squads will also be trimmed closer to the event if needed.

The coaches will then choose the team from the squad to represent our school at the HPPA events.

Those students that are successfully chosen will receive further information about the event through a letter.

The preliminary dates of the trials are below with which year groups can trial.

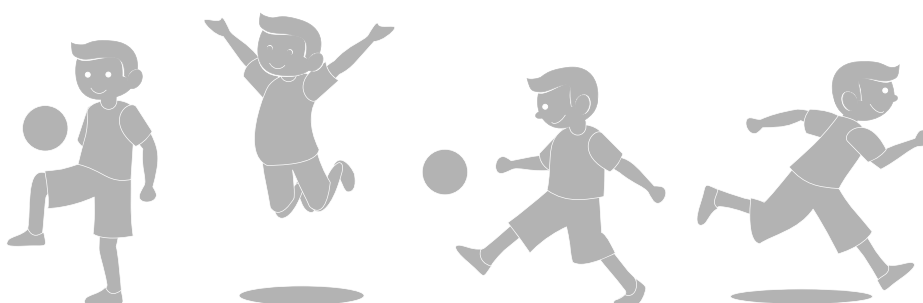
Please note that the dates can be moved, added, or omitted, this is depending on the weather and how many students want to trial. Your child will be informed if the date is moved by their teacher or through the daily notices.

Preliminary trial dates:

Date	Sporting Code	Year Level
20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Girls cricket trials internal	Year 5/6
28 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Boys football trials round 1	Year 4
29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Girls football trials	Year 4
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Swimming trials	Year 4-6
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Boys football trials round 1	Year 5
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Girls football trials	Year 5 and 6
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Boys football trials round 1	Year 6
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Netball internal trials	Year 6
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Netball internal trials	Year 5
14 <sup>th</sup> March	Netball internal trials	Year 4
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Rugby weigh ins	Year 4-6 Weight category applies
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Rugby trials	Year 4-6 who have made weight category

**Jonathan Basson**

Physical Education Specialist



## Year of the Dragon



Chinese New Year or Spring Festival (as it is called in China) is also referred to as Lunar New Year and was observed on Saturday 10th February. This festival focuses on customs, cultural practices and traditions around the Lunar New Year.

People from China, Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Singapore, and other Asian countries celebrate the Lunar New Year as a national holiday. Customs and traditions differ between countries but the dates of celebration are similar because many countries in Asia interpret the lunar calendar the same way.

Our students have enjoyed learning about the Lunar New Year and the traditions observed in many Asian countries, and have enjoyed some interesting classroom activities around this theme.

For those families who celebrated Chinese New Year, I wish you all much prosperity and good health for the year of the Dragon.





## Launchpad Champions

**LAUNCHPAD**  
Christian Values Education

Launchpad is a not-for-profit organisation that presents a Christian Values Education programme at our school, under the name Launchpad Champions.

Our Launchpad Champions programme is offered to Year 2 – Year 6 students for 30 minutes a week. The programme encourages students to make positive life choices and grow their sense of mana, self-worth and character. The programme is delivered in a fun and interactive manner.

The Launchpad Champions programme teaches students things like:

- What it means to be a good friend
- Self-control
- Being brave and doing the right thing
- Respect
- Making good choices
- Doing your best and helping others
- Forgiveness
- Self-discipline and perseverance
- Working together and partnerships

We live in a multicultural nation with many different world-views. Every student, no matter their views, upbringing or religion, is welcome to join in the class. In our programmes, every child is affirmed and encouraged.

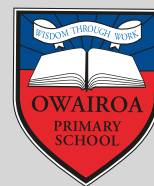
Preferences of attending this class will continue from the 2023 register.

**The first Launchpad  
Champion session will start  
on Wednesday 6th March.**



## PTA Give It A Go Day

Saturday,  
24th Feb 2024  
10am–2pm



# GIVE IT A GO!

AT  
OWAIROA

Proudly sponsored by  
**DALTON  
ELECTRICAL**



## Road Safety

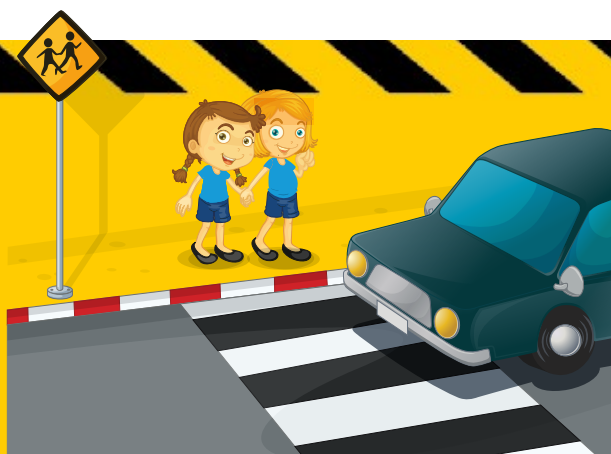
Thank you to those parents who have set up good routines of dropping students off at school each morning, ready for a prompt start at 8.45am. Keeping our students safe around our school is always a priority for us, especially during daily drop-offs and pick-ups when traffic congestion is significant. Your support for mitigating risk around our school site is appreciated.

To ensure we keep all of our students safe, please slow down when passing the school, and be mindful and patient of cars around you.

The start of the year is always a timely reminder for Parents to practice good road safety etiquette:

- all students and parents need to cross the road using the pedestrian crossing
- please do not stop on the yellow lines to drop off or pick up your children
- avoid parking across driveways when dropping your child off or picking them up
- it is safest for your child to get out of the vehicle on the footpath side, not the roadside
- the official speed limit around schools is 40km from 8.20am – 9am

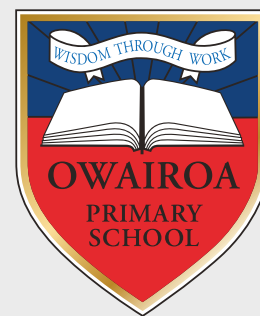
Road rules around schools are designed to keep our children, you and others protected. Please appreciate it is a community effort to help keep everyone safe.





## Updated Contact Details

It is important that we have up to date addresses, email addresses and mobile phone numbers at all times. If you have had any change to your contact details for your child over the holidays, please email [officemanager@owairoa.school.nz](mailto:officemanager@owairoa.school.nz) so we can update your records. This includes updating contact details of those people who collect your child from school.



## Early Signing Out of Students

The law states that all school age students should attend school for the full hours every day that the school is officially open. In addition to the issues we are having with students late for school on a daily basis, a re-emerging trend is for parents signing students out early, especially on a Friday afternoon where Parents want to get away earlier for a weekend break to beat the traffic.

Please remember the official school day finishes at 3pm every day. The only valid reason for an earlier sign out is for an appointment eg. Specialist, dental or not feeling well. Your cooperation in this matter would not only meet the legal attendance guidelines but also enhances your child's education opportunities with their learning.



## Looking ahead

### February

- 20 School Board Meeting 7pm
- 21 HPPA Softball
- 22 New Parents Meeting 9am  
HPPA Cricket  
Open Home – Meet the Teachers  
3.15pm – 6pm
- 24 Owairoa PTA Give It A Go Day
- 27 PTA Meeting 7.30pm

### March

- 6 Launchpad Champions Programme starts
- 7 HPPA Cricket
- 29 Good Friday – school closed

### April

- 1 Easter Monday – school closed
- 2 Easter Tuesday - school closed
- 12 End of Term One



## Health Matters

If your child requires medication to be administered at school, we ask that parents complete a medication consent form, available from the school office.

For asthmatics, we will work with you to formulate an action plan to assist with your child's individual needs.

For safety reasons, all medication is to be brought and stored in a named container at our school office.

*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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