



Ormond School Newsletter

20th February 2026
Week 2 Term 1

Kia ora Ormond School Whānau,

Attendance Matters

While we are all aware that Regular Attendance is extremely important, this year there are new guidelines and processes to emphasize and monitor attendance across NZ. The Ministry of Education is placing a high priority on regular attendance with the goal of every student attending school at least 90% of the time. As part of this national focus, every school is required to implement an Attendance Management Plan that reflects strict Ministry guidelines and expectations.

Our school's plan is designed to ensure that every student is supported to be present and learning. This includes closer monitoring of attendance patterns and proactive communication with families when attendance begins to dip.

Our Ormond School Attendance Management Plan can be accessed below. Please take some time to read through it carefully and reach out if you have any questions or queries.

[ORMOND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN](#)

Why Every Day Matters

School is a community where children develop the skills they need for life. When students attend regularly, they are:

- **Securing Academic Progress:** There is a direct, proven connection between consistent attendance and classroom achievement. Missing even a few days can create gaps in understanding that can be difficult to bridge over time.
- **Building Belonging:** Consistent attendance allows children to form stable friendships and a sense of identity within their peer group.
- **Building Social and Emotional Wellbeing:** School provides the primary environment for children to develop empathy, manage their emotions, and resolve conflicts. These interactions build the self-regulation skills and confidence needed to navigate life's ups and downs.
- **Developing Resilience:** Navigating the daily routines and challenges of school builds the grit and confidence necessary for future success.

Attendance is a shared responsibility. As a parent / caregiver, you are responsible for making sure your child attends school every day. Our role as a school is to provide a safe, engaging, and inclusive environment that makes them want to be here. We acknowledge that at times there are genuine reasons for occasional absences, when these occur, please let us know ASAP.


If you are finding it difficult to get your child to school, please know that we are here to help. We want to work with you to address any barriers - whether they are emotional, physical, or logistical - before they escalate or become overwhelming.

Imagine what we could manage to achieve if all our Ormond students were at school at least 90% of the time... lets work together to make it happen.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in helping your child thrive.

Ngā mihi nui,

Shane Hooks
Tumuaki / Principal

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Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata



Ormond School F.L.A.X Awards



BRIAR

Welcome aboard the Kōwhai ship, Briar! You have sailed from Kindy into school life so smoothly that it feels like you've been part of our crew for a long time. It is impressive to see how quickly you have got used to our routines. You can follow instructions and focus on your learning. You are already showing what a kind shipmate you are by sharing your knowledge and always offering a helping hand to others. I can't wait to see what a powerful pirate you will become!



LEXI

Lexi, what a super week you have had in Karaka! You have been working hard on your mahi, taking time to make sure it is presented well. You have been a super tidy kiwi, going above and beyond to make sure that our classroom is looking amazing. You have also been a kind and caring friend, looking after people who have been hurt. We love seeing what a Powerful Learner Superhero you are Lexi, ka rawe atu koe!



BAIYOK

Welcome to Ormond School and Pōhutukawa, Baiyok, it is great to have you here. You have slipped into our class with ease. You are a kind and confident learner who is always ready to help others who are not sure what to do. Going into the Learning Pit is not going to worry you. I am excited to see you reaching for the moon and know that you will give everything a go. Whaia te iti kahurangi - reach for your goals.



WYATT

Wyatt, you have shone this week by mastering our key competency focus: Managing Self. You have shown great initiative by being organized, ignoring distractions by choosing a suitable learning space, and using your time wisely—even choosing to work on your writing before school! You also managed yourself brilliantly during team sports, focusing on your specific role and making a real difference to the team result. He kai kei aku ringa. You create success through hard work!

TIDY KIWI – WEEK 2

Pōhutukawa

HOUSE POINTS:

**Friday 27th of Feb –
1st House comp: Tabloids**



KEY COMPETENCIES – EXPLICIT AND DELIBERATE

Part of our TI focus is explicit and deliberate teaching and learning of the key competencies. These competencies allow our students to develop the skills required to learn in any given context. In Kowhai and Karaka – our teachers have implemented a new program, focused on this kaupapa. Students interact together for 15min at the start of each day, with the focus on management of self, building effective social skills, contributing with respect in small groups and creative / curious thinking. Teachers then draw out these key concepts and apply them throughout the day within a curriculum context.





Marautanga Taapiri Extra-Curricular

HOUSE SPIRIT!

This week we introduced our houses for 2026. This builds off a successful start to this kaupapa in 2025. For students who were at Ormond last year stay in the same house to build consistency, and new students are added as they enrol. Our first house competition is next Friday afternoon with our annual Tabloid event. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours and bring a positive attitude for what is sure to be a fun afternoon. May the best house win!





Nga Panui Nui

Notices & Updates

KEY DATES TERM 1

- Friday 27th of Feb – first House comp: Tabloids
- Monday 2nd March – Whānau night / meet the teacher – 5:00pm start.
- Wednesday 4th March – Interschool Cricket.
- Thursday 5th March – Ormond School Swimming Champs.
- Friday 13th March – Ormond School Triathlon
- Friday 13th March – Community working bee 3:00pm-6:00pm.
- Wednesday 18th March – Interschool Swimming.
- Wednesday 18th March and Thursday 19th March – Pohutukawa and Rimu Snorkeling experience.
- Wednesday 25th March – Interschool Triathlon.
- Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April – Aspiration hui / whānau and teacher.

Note: Depending on circumstances we may not attend all events. Dates are subject to change.

STARTING AT ORMOND

If you have a child ready to start school, or know someone that does – we would love the opportunity to sit down and have a chat about what our amazing kura has to offer and how we dedicated to achieving our vision of "Growing Great People".

Please contact our office to make an appointment, or pop in when you can.

IMPORTANT NOTICES / EVENTS

AFTER SCHOOL CARE: TERM ONE

If you would like to sign on for our after school care services, please click on the doc below for all information.

[After School Care T1 2026](#)

SWIM LESSONS AVAILABLE.

Swim coach Toni Durston who has been working with our students and families in 2025, will be offering swim lessons again this year if there is enough interest from our community..

Please contact Toni directly if you wish to book a spot for your child – or would like further information 0275131888.

The cost is as follows (lessons are 30min):

4 children = \$10 per child / 3 children = \$11 per child / 2 children = \$15 per child / 1 child = \$30

FRIDAY LUNCH ORDERS.

Every Friday – Hot pies and Juicies are available to order for your child's lunch.

All proceeds / profits from this initiative go towards our Rimu Y5 & Y6 end of year camp.

In 2026 these will be ordered per term – rather than week to week.

If you would like to order your child/ren lunch each Friday, please fill out the google form below.

Please note that full payment must be received before lunches will be given to students.

[Friday Lunch Order T1 / 2026](#)



Ngā Kaitautoko Kura

Sponsors: Ngā mihi!



BAYLEYS

Country

Proud to be supporting our rural communities

Simon Bousfield
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