



Newsletter Week 5 - Term 1 - 2024

Kia ora e te whānau

It is hard to believe we are at the end of week 5 already. It has certainly been a very busy couple of weeks with Leadership Camp and swimming.

In regard to our LIGHT awards, this system will be back up and running this week. After having our PB4L facilitators work alongside staff, we have taken the opportunity to reflect on our reward systems.

Students have also been given the opportunity to consider any changes to the LIGHT acronym wording, the certificates and the tangible rewards. It is nice to have some student voices to determine if this system is working well for our students also. Our next visit from the PB4L facilitators will provide support around our management system. As a school team we are endeavoring to incorporate the teaching of these values in our everyday lessons.

Having had the Ministry of Education visit this week, I would like to signal that Omarama School is not showing excellence in attendance and this is an area that will need to be addressed next term. Expectations for attendance are above 90% and I expect this requirement is about to get even more regimented.

We would love to see a higher proportion of students completing weekly homework as this is the foundation for good work ethic and consolidation of classroom learning. Please support your child to complete their daily homework tasks and contact us if there are any questions or concerns around homework. In particular we really encourage you to read with your child each night and practice their words (spelling or recognition), as this is the reading mileage that is required when students are learning to read.

Nga Mihi Nui
Alison Holden
Principal

Leadership Camp at Peel Forest

Last week our senior Leadership Team of Year 7 and Year 8 students travelled to Peel Forest Outdoor Education Centre for their Leadership camp. Students were challenged on the first day at the high ropes course at Geraldine High School. Students overcame their initial fears and all managed to conquer the high rope bridge and took on other high rope challenges.

It was amazing to see how far the students came in a little over three hours. They challenged themselves, supported and encouraged their peers to keep going.

Day two involved using orienteering skills to locate points on a topographical map, alongside team building activities, this day developed communication, listening and applying problem solving skills. Students had to learn from their mistakes, question why they made mistakes and what they could do differently to achieve a common goal.

The last day was spent rafting on the Rangitata River. We headed out on two rafts into the rapids. This was about listening to instructions, working together as a team and having as much fun as we could. Our guides were fabulous. They were very supportive and encouraging of our students and pushed them outside their comfort zones. This was an exhausting day but the smiles and laughter of students showed it was a really memorable experience for them.

Thank you to parents and members of the Omarama Community that supported the students' efforts with fundraising so they could have this incredible experience.





Thank you to Omarama four square for sponsoring food for the leadership camp. This was very much appreciated.

School Swimming

This week Omarama School held a swimming display for parents and whanau to come and view.

The younger students shared water confidence activities and were supported in the pool by our teacher aid, who is also a swimming instructor.

The older students competed in Breaststroke, Backstroke, Butterfly and Freestyle heats. This was followed by a medley for our more confident swimmers and then a whanau freestyle relay. We concluded our display with a fun relay race between students and teachers.

A great day was had by all and we thank our parent community for supporting this event.



Kurow Swimming Sports

Results from this will be shared in the next newsletter as the results have not come through as yet.



Ahuriri Classroom

The junior class has welcomed another 2 new students into their room over the past fortnight. We are enjoying watching the class grow and interacting with new families. We now have 4 new entrants and will have another 2 join us at the beginning of term 2.

A very big welcome to Ava Sloan and Sienna Nelson, who have made a lovely smooth transition into Omarama School.



Welcome to Tigger

Ahuriri also has a class pet tiger named 'Tigger'. Each Friday a student is chosen to take Tigger home for the weekend to have adventures together. A story then gets written up about Tigger's adventure with that student and shared with the class. This is an excellent motivation for oral language and written language.



Term 1 Dates - 2024 (29/1/23 - 12/4/23)

Wed 6th March	Water safety day (ClayCliffs) - Twizel pool 11-12:40pm
Wed 13th March	Science Van show at the old church building - change of venue due to planned power outage that day, so can't use community hall.
Wed 13th March	Netball coaching at school @ 1.30pm
Fri 15th March	Bike Safety day + fancy dress
Wed 20th March	North Otago Swim - for some students
Wed 27th March	Cyber Safety with Jay (Police Officer)
Fri 29th March - Tues 2nd April	Easter (no school on the Tues, 3 days off)
Fri 12th April	Last day of term
	EPR08 Challenge - date TBC (maybe term 2)

Skool Loop

Please remember to download the Skool Loop app, as this is now our primary source of communication.

Below are some fliers to guide you through downloading the Skool Loop app and getting set up. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you are having difficulties with this.

Omarama School website

Our website is almost updated and completed, so I will advise when that is live.





Kurow Netball Club Junior Registrations for the 2024 Season

Thursday 14th March, 3-4pm

This is for years 3-8 who will play Friday afternoons in Oamaru.

*Ball Skills sessions for 5-7 year olds will be held during term 2 contact Anna for
more information*

Any questions/queries please contact club secretary Anna Haugh 027 291 5416