



## Newsletter - Early Week 8 Term 2 - 2024

Kia ora e te whānau

As we approach the end of the term we have been busy over the past fortnight preparing for the Technology challenge events and the Speech competition within the Upper Waitaki cluster. These are great events and we are fortunate to be included, as we are at the crossroads for various school clusters. Our students all had a wonderful time with the home challenge at the events held at the respective school.

We will be returning to our Local Curriculum studies this week and this will include reaching out to our community to hear about the old days in Omarama and the importance of schooling to install sound values that impact on running a business and becoming successful.

We have begun a little programme called 'Headstart' on a Wednesday afternoon and we invite any 4 year olds in the area that may wish to come along at 1:30pm. This is an informal afternoon where children can visit the classroom and participate in some fun activities, while meeting new friends. Please advise the office if you know of anyone that this may appeal to.

On a staffing matter, Clair Winslade is taking some personal leave until Term 3. Pip Smith is relieving in Clay Cliffs and learning programmes will continue as usual. Our students know Pip very well and this will not disrupt learning as she has been associated with Omarama School for many years. We thank Pip for stepping into Clair's shoes and for doing such a great job! Relievers are extremely hard to come by and so we are very fortunate that Pip has chosen to relieve at our school for now.

I have decided Clay Cliffs conferences will take place early next term.

Nga Mihi Nui  
Alison Holden  
Principal

### Dates to Remember:

Thur 20th June	Speech Competition - some students will head to Waitaki Girls High for the next phase of the competition
Mon 24th June	Board meeting at 6pm - anyone welcome to attend
Thur 27th June	Matariki celebration with Play group (yet to be decided)
Fri 28th June	Matariki - Public Holiday ( <b>school closed</b> )
Tues 2nd July	Goal setting conferences from 2:00pm (Ahuriri only) Clay Cliffs conferences will take place early in Term 3
Wed 3rd July	Ice Skating at Tekapo - if transportation permits
Fri 5th July	End of term assembly

### Important notices

- Policies currently being reviewed - ***Conflict of Interest and Concerns and Complaints.*** We have not had many reviews or comments made in regard to these two policies as yet. This either means everyone is happy or has overlooked the policies. I encourage you to go on to the school docs website and look up these policies. Search up Omarama School and type in these policies. Username is Omarama and the password is light. Select the review option / message icon up the top of the page in green. We really would appreciate your feedback please.

- Claycliffs mid year conference report and interview will be postponed until early term 3. Ahuriri will continue as planned on Tuesday 2nd July from 2pm. Please note the time change. School will be open as usual until 3pm.

Bookings for these conferences will be made via the booking system on School Loop. I will open up the bookings next week. If you have any difficulty with the booking process then please email or phone the school. We are trialing this system.

### Junior Technology day

On Monday 10th June the Y1 - Y3 students went to Duntroon to participate in the junior technology events. This was a fun day with 5 rotations of activities. Ms Smith and Mrs Holden ran an event called the Parachute man with a focus on gravity.

Other activities included:

Tower of Power - Structures

Zoo animal enclosure - Shelter

Building an aircraft - Aerodynamics

Jellybean Kete (basket) - Collaboration and problem solving



At the conclusion when the home challenges “float your boat” was judged Carter Golder received a certificate for 1st place for the Year 3 section. Congratulations Carter!



## Senior Technology day

The senior students spent their technology day at Waitaki Valley school and by all accounts enjoyed a great day also. Their rotations included the following activities: Bridge to Nowhere, Pole Vault and Wind Turbine,

At the end of the day when their Cannon ball Launcher projects were judged these students received certificates. Well done everyone from Omarama School, you showed initiative and plenty of enthusiasm and kiwi ingenuity!



### Cannon Ball Launcher - Home Challenge

Winners from Omarama school: Paige Doree Y7 (3rd),  
Eira Warnock Y6 (2nd), Briar McKerchar Y5 (2nd)

**Winning groups on the day:** Pole Vault (3rd) Amelia W, Amelia P, Paige D, Nicole M - Y7/8  
Wind Turbine (2nd) Paige H, Jimmy M, Lleyton M - Y5/6  
Bridge to Nowhere (1st) Eve M, Charlotte H, Eira Warnock - Y5/6



★HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!

Arlo Zeestraten (10)

## Speech Competition at school

Yesterday we shared our speeches with our parent community and fellow students. This is in preparation for the speech competition at Waitaki Girls on Thursday night.

Internal Judging focused on 4-5 main areas -



- Introduction with title & poet / author shared
- Speaking voice - clarity, volume, expression, pace, voice variation, pausing
- Posture - speaker relaxed, confident, eye contact, facial expression / gestures
- Appeal - choice of poem / book, use of humour, speaker's own words

Congratulations to the following students who will be participating in the speech competition on Thursday evening down in Oamaru.

**Y1 / Y2 - Ava Sloan & Louis Aubery - 1st equal**

**Y3 / Y4 - Mazie Paton 1st place**

**Y5 / Y6 - Briar McKerchar - 1st place**

**Y7 / Y8 - Amelia Paton - 1st place**

We will be giving out certificates at our end of term assembly, to celebrate all the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placements. It was lovely to listen to all the speeches and the judges told me they thoroughly enjoyed their roles today and commented on the wonderful behaviour and respect shown by all students.

Thank you Lindsay Purvis, Kate Sutherland and Megan Talarico for coming along and supporting our school speeches, we really appreciate your interest in the school.

## Youthtown cultural activities with Y4 - Y8 students

Omarama school is participating in the Te ara hākinakina meaning the pathway to sport, it is a programme centred around the traditional Māori games of Tapu ae and Ki o rahi.

The end of the programme will culminate with a tournament where schools can come together and show off their skills and learnings playing against other kura in the Waitaki district! The tournament's emphasis is on inclusion, celebrating Māori traditions, and improving hauora (well being). We take part in these activities onsite 6 times a term and we are very fortunate to do so.

Youthtown is also looking at supporting our end of year whole school camp also. They are very skilled and our students respond well to their instruction and the activities / games they teach.



## Y7 & Y8 Technology projects at Twizel Area School



Our Year 7 and Year 8 students attend technology lessons at Twizel Area School every Thursday and are pictured here showing off their recently completed lolly dispensers!

## Whanau group activities

About every second Friday our Whānau groups get together and the leaders organize a range of activities. The recent criteria for our leadership team was to run an event for students to learn and participate in inside quiet games. I am very impressed with the leadership and organization skills they display. Charades featured quite popular this time around.



## Absences & Bus Service

Please remember to contact Lex or Jan if your child is not going to be on the bus, either in the morning or after school. There are a few days that the bus is arriving with no children to collect and Jan and Lex have not been notified.



Please notify them so that the bus service is used efficiently.

## Student Achievement

We are currently in the midst of student achievement testing to determine and analyze mid-term data. All students will undertake a reading and comprehension test and a numeracy test. Writing assessment will be based on descriptive writing genre for this term.

Year 4 - Year 8 students will participate in the P.A.T standardized test (progressive and assessment tests) also, to determine where they sit in relation to other students in New Zealand.

Year 1 - Year 3 students will participate in assessment at their respective levels also. This testing formulates ongoing goals that we will share at conference interviews at the end of term. Our students are working hard and utilizing structured literacy programmes to support literacy, using rich tasks for maths development and engaging in fun ideas to motivate writing. Small group support is given where additional support is required and Mindplus is an external programme we connect with for extension.

## LIGHT VALUE Rewards





Awesome Achievement - well done to you all!

***Learning and thriving in the place of light. Ki te Whei Ao, Ki te Ao  
Marama e!***



OMARAMA  
RODEO CLUB

# Hill Billy Hunt

Friday July 12-14  
Registrations from 6.30pm Friday  
The Wrinkly Rams Omarama  
\$50 Teams of 2-4, Weigh in Sunday 3.30pm

Awesome Prizes - New hunting Categories - All ages Welcome

OMARAMA RODEO CLUB

# MID WINTER QUIZ NIGHT

TEAMS OF 4 \$50 ENTRY FEE

The Wrinkly Rams Omarama  
7.30pm July 12

