



## School Newsletter #17 - November 17th 2025

Dates to remember	
Thur 4th Dec	School Presentation at the community hall
Fri 5th Dec	Year 8 water day
Mon 8th Dec	Board meeting
Tues 9th Dec	Health nurse Y7 / Y8
Wed 10th - Fri 12th	School camp
Mon 15th Dec	Christmas party / dress up day at school
Tues 16th Dec	Assembly & last day of term

Principal's Message	<i>'Mā muri ka ora a mua'</i> <i>Those who follow give life to those who lead</i>
<p>With less than 4 weeks left of term we are super busy completing assessments for end of year assessment, planning for camp and of course practicing for our school presentation to the community.</p> <p>As well as all that work going on, we have a significant amount of announcements and curriculum changes coming through from the Ministry of Education. It is quite a challenging time in Education at present, however we are soldiering on with the hope that 2026 will bring some closure to all the curriculum and assessment changes, with a curriculum that reflects rural schools and multi level teaching.</p> <p>The good news for Omarama School is that our staffing will increase to accommodate additional learning support. This is a small financial contribution to our operational grant, but will go some way to supporting students further.</p> <p>You may have also heard chat about the bus service for next year. The Ministry is wanting to combine our 2 bus runs into 1 bus route with some amendments. The Ministry works on a formula for bus runs and does not understand our geographical landscapes. I have a meeting with GO BUS, in person on Dec 4th, so will update you then. I assure you we are working hard for resolution on this matter.</p>	

## Athletics Results

## North Otago & Otago

North Otago - results previously shared but proud so sharing once again!

Toby Gloag - 400 metres

Maddie McCabe - discus

Nicole McMurtrie - high jump

Charlotte Hales - relays



Otago - Maddie attending the discus event at The Caledonian in Dunedin.

Congratulations to you all on your achievements.

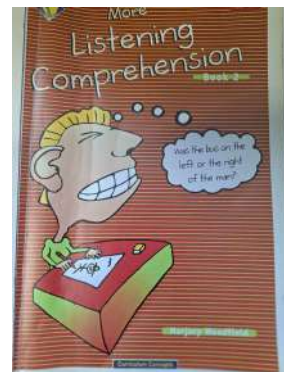
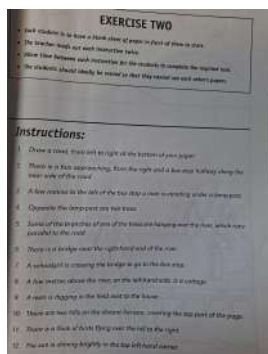
## Ahuriri sharing

## Listening Comprehension

Ahuriri students regularly participate in a listening comprehension activity, where they are asked to follow a set of oral instructions through Art.

Year 1 and Year 2 students have a picture that they are asked to add detail to and Year 3 and Year 4 students are given a blank piece of paper and follow a list of instructions from scratch to represent the picture in the book. Our Clay Cliff students gave this a 'go' the other day and embraced the challenge also!

A great activity to help develop listening skills, without the focus being your Art skills. Our students love this activity and do really well.



## Clay Cliffs sharing

## Ki o Rahi

11 students from Clay Cliffs travelled to Oamaru on Thursday to take part in the Ki o Rahi tournament hosted by Youthtown.

They represented the school with great sportsmanship and energy throughout the day. The team played four competitive games, earning two solid wins and showing improvement each round.

Students also had the chance to try out a new game — Gaga Ball — which quickly became a favourite and had everyone laughing, diving, and dodging.

It was an awesome day out, and our students did Clay Cliffs proud. Well done to all involved, and thank you to Youthtown for organising such a fun and active event!



## School Presentation

## Dec 4th at Community hall

We are in the midst of preparation for our school presentation to the community, to share the learnings made from our history unit last term.

We are currently practising lines, creating dramatizations, sorting our costumes, making props and generally getting ready to present this to our community.

Students may start to bring home lines to practise and requests for props and clothing, so we would appreciate your support in helping them prepare for their role in this presentation.

I would like to stress that this is not a 'fancy production' but a time to share and reenact what they learnt from the Inquiry topic about the history of Omarama.

Mrs Duncan is designing some sale tickets and a flyer about the cast. We will advise when these tickets are ready for purchase. Meanwhile please keep Thur 4th Dec free for a small Omarama presentation around 5:30pm.

## Attendance

As we are in the serious stage of preparation for this presentation, we desperately need all of our students at school all of the time.

Most students have lines to learn and key roles throughout the presentation and when students are absent it makes practice difficult if they are not at school. On Fridays we employ Mrs Sweney (from Twizel) to teach guitar, song and dance. Therefore we need to maximise this learning opportunity in preparation of this history presentation.

We are also in the middle of end of year assessments and shortly we will begin to write reports. We cannot carry out assessments when students are absent.

## Last day of term

**Tues 16th Dec**

Our last day of term falls on the 16th of Dec, only a couple of days after camp.

Our assembly will be around lunch time on the 16th as we farewell our Year 8 students:

Liam McLeod heading to Cromwell College, James Mason heading to Twizel Area School, Paige Doree heading to Dunstan High School and Nicole McMurtrie heading to Twizel Area School.

We will also celebrate the achievements of our William Pike challengers and will share a slide show about Camp Columba.

Please put this date in your diary.





## Pet day

## Thank you to everyone.

Our school day was a wonderful success and the children really enjoyed bringing their pets along to be judged.

Students have written many thank you letters to show their appreciation and I would like to formally thank the following people.

**Jo Golder** - for initiating and driving this event, locating the judges, sourcing the prizes, advertising, liaising with many people and giving up her time to organise such a successful event.

**Omarama school staff** - for supporting this event

**Pam Harding, Tony Gloag** - for judging the animals

**Kathy Kerr** - for face painting'

**Ngawai & Keith Shaw** - for providing pony rides

**Gloags** - for providing gates to house some animals

**Josh Brosnahan & Rata Smoke House** - for the deer and processing

**Kim Doree** - gazebo for the cats

**Sponsors/Prizes** - Nth Otago Pastoral, PGG Wrightson, Farmlands, Topflite, LIC, Veterinary Centre Omarama

Here are some snaps of pet day - However there are many more photos.



## Swimming

## Pool will be available soon

Andy Moore has very kindly been assisting us to get the pool ready for use again this summer and we are hopeful our students will be having a swim later this week. We will advise students when they are to bring their swimming togs to school.



## LIGHT Value Celebrations

Congratulations to these students for receiving LIGHT awards recently. Well deserved and great to see you all upholding our school values! Keep it up.

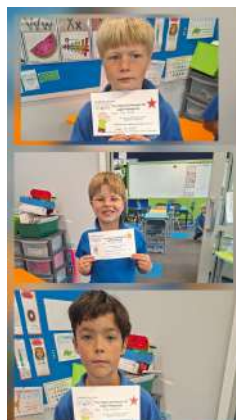


Conrad - 20, Arlo - 20,

James H - 20, Leona - 50

Max - 30, Louis - 50, Gray - 30

Briar - 50, Maddie - 50, Mazie - 50





## **Birthdays to celebrate this fortnight.**

**There have been no birthdays this fortnight.**

### **Headstart, Enrolments, Website, Facebook**

- Headstart is on a Wednesday afternoon - 2pm - 3pm, all 4 year olds in the area are most welcome. Please contact the school if you intend on coming along.
- School Website at [www.omarama.school.nz](http://www.omarama.school.nz)
- School Facebook page is now live.
- Skool Loop app is our preferred means of fast communication or reminders.

Please **install the Skool Loop** app as we have now been using this form of communication for the past 18 months now for fast communication.



### **New Friday take-away menu for the pub**

Chicken burger – lettuce, tomato, onion, beetroot, cheese, bacon BBQ sauce & aioli \$15.00

Beef burger – lettuce, tomato, onion, beetroot, cheese, bacon BBQ sauce & aioli \$15.00

Hot dog \$6.50

Crumbed dory \$7.50

1/2 scoop chips \$4.50 (serves 2)

1 scoop chips \$6.50 (serves 3)

Battered blue cod \$15 (160g -180g)

Fish bites \$2.00 ea (5 for \$8)

Chicken nuggets \$1.00 ea (10 for \$6)

Squeezy Tomato sauce \$1.00 ea

Squeezy Aioli \$1.00 ea