ŌWHIRO BAY NEWSLETTER

Issue #15, 3 September 2026

Notices & Upcoming Events

Onesie Day: Friday 11 September
Wear your onesie or pyjamas and bring a gold coin donation if you can.
All donations go to support Wellington Free Ambulance.

Brew & Banter
Monday 7 September, from 2.15pm - 3pm. Pop in for a hot drink and a chat.
See page 2 for details.

Weekly Events
Monday: Briefing 9am
Tuesday: Kapa Haka (starts from 2pm for seniors, 2:30pm for juniors), music lessons
Thursday: Buddy reading 1.30pm - 1.45pm
Friday: Assembly @ 2.30pm in the hall. Please join us if you are able.

A note from Vikki (our Acting Tumuaki)

Kia ora e te whānau,

Isn't it nice to see the sun today! I think we're finally over the worst of our winter bugs and everyone is back on board. Thanks to everyone for being flexible over this time!

As part of our school value Aroha, we are focusing on the way we speak to and treat one another. We are encouraging our tamariki to use kind words, respectful language and a calm, friendly tone when talking with their friends, teachers, and other adults at school. **It's not always what we say, but how we say it that shows Aroha.** As we approach the end of term, we know that everyone can start to feel a little more tired, and sometimes our patience can wear thin. This is when our value of Aroha becomes even more important!

The kaiako and tamariki are busy preparing art for the South Coast Arts Trail next week. There's some amazing auahatanga coming through and it will be great to have the children's work on show. Please get out and support all the local artists in our area - **click here to head to the website and grab a map.**
Special thanks to Caitlin for leading the charge on this event.

Parentlink is also hosting our Family Fun afternoon on Sat 12th September from 3pm-5pm. We will have Kelly Club coaches here running games and activities - a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon (and check out the Arts Trail at the same time!). A post will be sent out via HERO on Saturday morning if the weather doesn't play ball and we need to postpone.

Noho ora mai,

Vikki and the team.

Whanake has been bustling with creativity, colour, and connection as students created their shoebox art pieces for the upcoming South Coast Arts Trail. Rooted in our learning about forests and food chains, this project goes far beyond art - it is a live reflection of whanaungatanga. By sharing our unique perspectives on our environment, weaving together what we've learned about native bush and waterways, and supporting one another's designs, we have deepened our connections to our place and each other. We can't wait for you to explore our miniature worlds on the trail!

Student Voice:
- We got to share our ideas and create something that we all love.
- Being creative and helping my buddy when they needed help was fun.

School Calendar

Term	Start	End	Public Holiday & Teacher Only Days
3	Monday 20th July	Friday 25th Sept	
4	Monday 12th Oct	Friday 18th Dec	Labour Day - Monday 26th October

Parentlink

The next Parentlink meeting is NEXT WEEK!
Monday 7 September at 7pm - in the staffroom.

The first 15 minutes of this meeting will be a special meeting as per the Parentlink Rules to elect the new Chairperson.

The next Parentlink event is:
Games afternoon, 3pm - 5pm on Saturday 12 September.
You may now have seen the posters around the school. This family fun event is being supported by Kelly Sports coaches and will be in the school field.

What to bring:
- Koha - to pay for Kelly Sports
- Drinks bottle
- Snacks

Have a great few weeks.
Your Parentlink Team 🙂

The Brew & Banter

The Brew & Banter is a relaxed afternoon of connection and conversation with a hot mug of something that will happen the first Monday of every month.

Whether you're new to the school or a familiar face, drop in for a cuppa and meet other parents. We'll have a few book related jobs too if you would like to keep your hands busy.

No need to bring anything or register - just turn up if you are free.

Monday 7 September from 2.15pm - 3.00pm in the staffroom. Younger siblings are welcome.

Save the Date

Save the date for community consultation on our Strategic Plan: Tuesday 20 October, 6.15pm - 7.45pm.

THANK YOU

- **A massive thank you to the wonderful parents who help supervise our road patrol.**
- **Thank you to the amazing whānau that top up the Pātaka Kai and provide delicious baking - your support is hugely appreciated.**

School Noticeboard

Celebrating Ōwhiro Bay School and Kindergarten Artists!

We are very excited to celebrate our young artists as part of the upcoming South Coast Arts Trail!

Come be a part of the celebration at Ōwhiro Bay School and Ōwhiro Bay Kindy, as we explore The Buzzing of the Forest and show aroha for te taiao. Celebrating the connections between our awa, Papatūānuku, Tāne Mahuta and Tangaroa, our exhibition inspires curiosity, creativity and kaitiakitanga.

Details for your calendars:
Where: Ōwhiro Bay School and Kindergarten.
When: 12-13 September, 10am - 4pm
Looking forward to seeing you there!

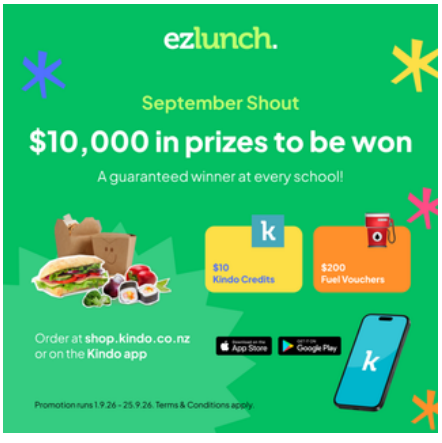
For more info about the South Coast Arts Trail, check out: https://www.southcoastartstrail.co.nz/ . Printed copies of the guide and local artist map are available at local libraries, cafes and shops.

Week	Date		What's on in Term 3
1	20 - 24 July	20 July	**Term 3 begins** **Mihi Whakatau 9.30am**
2	27 - 31 July	27 July 28 July 30 July 31 July	**3-Way Conferences this week** **Parentlink/Fair Meeting** 7.00pm staffroom **Road Patrol Training** 9.00am **SWIS Visit** 8.45am staffroom **Vikki at SENCO Conference**
3	3 - 7 August	3 August 4 August 5 August 7 August	**Brew & Banter** staffroom from 2.15pm **Cook Island Māori Language Week** **Board of Trustees Meeting** 5.30pm staffroom **SWIS Open Day** Year 6 visit **SWIS Open Evening** 6pm - 7.30pm **Te Haruru o te Kahui Tonga Kapa Haka Event** whole school
4	10 - 14 August	10 August 11 August 12 August	**Zealandia Mini Beasts Trip, Harakeke** **Zealandia Pests & Predators Trip, Whanake & Māhuri** **Student Council Stream Day**
5	17 - 21 August	17 August 19 August	**Tongan Language Week** **Miniball Tournament**
6	24 - 28 August	27 August 28 August	**School Photos** **Māhuri Poetry Cafe** 2.15pm in the hall **Daffodil Day** wear yellow today and bring a gold coin donation if you can
7	31 August - 4 Sept	1 Sept	**Southern Zone Swimming**
8	7 - 11 Sept	7 Sept 8 Sept 11 Sept 12 Sept 12 - 13 Sept	**Parentlink/Fair meeting** 7.00pm staffroom **Board of Trustees Meeting** 5.30pm staffroom **Onesie Day** **Parentlink Games Afternoon** 3 - 5pm **South Coast Arts Trail**
9	14 - 18 Sept	14 Sept	**Te Wiki o te Reo Māori**
10	21 - 25 Sept	25 Sept	**End of Term 3**

Weetbix TRYathlon

Are you a Year 6 student entering SWIS in 2027 who wants to compete in the Weetbix TRYathlon?

This event fills up quickly by the end of the year. To make sure you don't miss out, please email office@swis.school.nz to request the SWIS registration link.



Community Noticeboard

SOUTH COAST ARTS TRAIL

TE ARA TOI O TE ĀKAU TONGA

12–13 SEPTEMBER 2026

ARTWORK My favourite time of day © Nicola Jackson

Supported by Absolutely Positively Wellington City Council Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Gold sponsors NW New World EMPIRE H2R CONSULTING GRAMERCY.

love tennis

FUN - FREE - FOR EVERYONE

WIN

A VIP TRIP TO THE ASB CLASSIC

A FREE FAMILY membership

T's & C's apply.

Come visit our club and enjoy tennis (adults & children), games, face-painting, competitions, food & coffee!

SUN 13 SEPT
10AM - 2PM
lovetennis.kiwi

ISLAND BAY
TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB
2 The Parade, Island Bay

Enviroschools invite you to a day of **celebration!** Ōwhiro awa from the mountain to the sea!

Ōwhiro Community Day

Sunday 20th September

2:00pm-4:00pm

Ōwhiro awa

Access opposite 137 Happy Valley Road

Between Happy Valley Park and Ōwhiro School

Come and learn how to look after your local awa

- Map courtesy of Holden Hohia

Join FOOS (Friends of Ōwhiro Stream), the STREAM team, S.E.A Tawatawa Reserve, Earth Science, Predator Free Wellington, Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington for an afternoon of hearing tamariki voice, catchment education, building bug hotels and locating them on Ōwhiro kindergarten's map.

Community Noticeboard

WELLINGTON SCHOOL DIVING CHAMPS

19TH SEPTEMBER 2026
WELLINGTON REGIONAL AQUATIC CENTRE

WHO IS IT FOR?
Anyone who attends a Primary, Intermediate or Secondary School in the Wellington Region.
No diving experience needed!

HOW DO I SIGN UP?
contact your sports administrator or development@wellingtondiving.org.nz

WWW.WELLINGTONDIVING.ORG.NZ

SIGN UP HERE!

STEM Holiday Programme

MAKEROOM Wellington

This Holidays Choose from 3 Awesome Projects in 3 Convenient Locations

Miramar, Lower Hutt and Crofton Downs

One Day, Take Home Builds For Young Makers Aged 10-15

Small Group Sizes With Friendly Experienced Instructors

$140 For The Day, 2nd Oct - 9th Oct

To Learn More and Book Your Place visit:
www.makeroomwellington.nz

Ellerslie School is turning 150 years old in 2027!
Are you a former student or staff member of Ellerslie School?
We welcome you to be a part of our Alumni community!
Please join us in celebrating our history - share your memories with us
and connect with past whānau of Ellerslie School.
If you would like to be kept up to date on all the festivities to celebrate our special 150th birthday occasion to be held in 2027, please sign up to our database by completing this form: https://forms.gle/X1QTFxnRcNGpPyfK9

Please sign up to our Ellerslie School Alumni Facebook page, with an Instagram page coming soon:
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61582768932221
If you have any queries please email: alumni@ellerslie.school.nz

ELLERSLIE SCHOOL ALUMNI

EASYSWIM HOLIDAY SWIMMING LESSONS

Easyswim lessons are run out of Khandallah, Tawa, Johnsonville, Newtown and Plimmerton School pools. Early Childhood through to Adults are welcome in our warm private pools. Holiday program lessons are now taking bookings and are running Week 1 Monday September 28th to Thursday 1st October at our Johnsonville and Plimmerton School Pools. Week 2 Monday October 5th to Thursday 8th at our Johnsonville and Newtown School Pools. Easyswim is also running our 1000m Community Swim Challenge which is open to everyone in the community free of charge. This is a fun way to challenge your child to see how many lengths they can swim in 45 minutes. Bookings are required for our sessions running at Johnsonville School Pool, Monday 5th October at 3.15pm, Khandallah School Pool, Tuesday 30th September at 2.30pm and Tawa School Pool, Wednesday 29th September at 10.30am. We also have our Free Water Safety Session open to the community at Tawa School, Tuesday 29th September at 3.15pm, please contact our office for bookings via 234 7946 or book@easyswim.co.nz. For general information visit www.easyswim.co.nz