

ŌWHIRO BAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue #20, 4 December 2025

Kia ora e te whānau

Wendy and I have decided to change up the Newsletter for this week as there is so much information to share with you! No frilly bits this week folks :) Our apologies in advance for the overload of info, however, it is all important!

1. **Reunification Drill - Thursday 4 Dec TODAY!!**

- You will receive a text today that says "This is a practice. ŌB School is evacuating..."
- Adults are to collect students from Tawatawa Dog Park in Murchison St from 2:30pm
- Two adults with clipboards will be releasing the students to parents or nominated emergency release people. One adult will be releasing students with surnames starting A - K, and the other L - Z.
- Please tell the adult with the clipboard your name and who you are collecting. A runner will fetch your child/ren and bring them to you.
- We will only release children to adults listed
- Please look out for our children - there will be a lot of cars and people trying to get parks.
- If your child is attending Enjoy (after school care) they will be walking back to school with Maye.
- Children will not be allowed to walk home on their own or with friends - they need a nominated adult to collect them

2. **Celebration of Learning - Friday 5 Dec**

- Bring your \$\$ for a coffee from Bean Here (from 8am)
- Assemble in the hall for a briefing (9am)
- Off to classes around 9:15am

3. **Ōwhiro Bay's Got Talent - Friday 5 Dec**

- See note below from Parentlink

4. **Premier Hockey League this weekend**

- Tickets went to Kim and Lynne. Anyone else keen to support, please contact Pip Henwood directly.

5. **School Athletics Day - Tuesday 9 Dec**

- [Please see this doc](#) for all the details

6. **Year 6 Leavers overnight stay - Thursday 11 Dec**

- More information for the year 6 whānau from Mrs Martin to come

7. **Whole School Fun afternoon**

- Kelly Sports has kindly donated a Bouncy Castle for our fun day. Classes will each have a small session. We have other fun activities planned for the day to acknowledge the students' hard work and for filling the taonga jar!

8. **End of Year Reports**

- Coming home with stationery lists and class for 2026 on Friday 12 December.

9. **School Finishes - Thursday 18 Dec at 1pm**



And in other news....

Welcomes and Farewells

- We are excited to welcome Kate Blakeley into the Office Manager role starting in January 2026. Wendy will be in the office for the first few weeks helping to impart over 30 years of wisdom to Kate!
- We have two fabulous teachers who will be teaching in the New Entrant/Year 1 classroom in 2026. We will follow up with more details in our final newsletter.
- Cameron Laing successfully secured the middle school teaching position for 2026. Congratulations Cam!
- For those who aren't aware, we sadly farewell Amanda Smith and Joey Cassar (Joey has been our release teacher). We wish them an exciting and happy 2026 in their new teaching roles.

Returning School Property

Library books, journals, sports shirts and any other school belongings - please return :-)

Unpaid school donations or sports fees

Wendy will be sending invoices for the last time this year for anything outstanding. We appreciate your support with getting these paid.

Lost Property!!!

We have SO much! Please come and have a look in the meeting room before it goes to a charity.

Help moving furniture

Teachers will be moving classrooms on Wednesday 17 December after school. We are looking for volunteers to assist with moving furniture for approximately 30 minutes. If you can help, please contact your child's teacher.

Swings

Our new swings are almost ready for use. We hope to have a little opening celebration on Monday 8 December at 9am. The oldest and youngest student will cut the ribbon to then swing us into summer! Feel free to join us!

A final **NewsFlash** with dates and news for 2026 will be out before school ends on the 18th December at 1pm.



It was so lovely to see some many people at Dub Hub on Sunday afternoon, hopefully a good time was had by all.

It was with a heavy heart we said haere Rā and ngā mihi nui to Amie and Kate who have been pillars of the Ōwhiro Bay Learning Community for many years. As a token of our appreciation they were presented with a beautiful pounamu and a voucher each. Here they both are modelling their new taonga.



And finally for 2025... a MASSIVE thank you to each and everyone one of you for: helping to organise events; supporting the decision making; attending the Parentlink meetings and Parentlink events!

We've got some big shoes to fill, but we have a great team who are dedicated to the Parentlink kaupapa and 2026 is going to be awesome.... !! And don't forget the first Parentlink meeting for 2026 is Monday 23 February, lock it in!



PARENTLINK

Hāngī

A HUGE ngā mihi to everyone who helped make the Hāngī a success. It took a village to pull together such an incredible event and we are thankful to everyone who helped and turned up to enjoy the hāngī!

Thank you, thank you, thank you 😊

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Ōwhiro Bay's Got Talent This Friday, 5 December

Get ready for the big show!

Ōwhiro Bay's Got Talent will take place this Friday 5th December at 6pm in the school hall.

The performers are ready with their amazing acts. We just need you in our audience! Come prepared to be entertained by dancing, singing, gymnastics routines that defy the laws of gravity, and some magic.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

T-SHIRTS

Need a t-shirt or two for Summer? You're in luck as we have plain t-shirts in a range of colours with sizes from youth 8 to adult.

Come to the quad, or the library if wet, on Wednesday 10 December from 2.45pm – approx. 3.30pm.

Koha appreciated with all donations going towards stocking the pātaka kai.

Thank you!

To all of the parents who have supported the Year 6 ākonga with their snorkelling experience. You were amazing, ngā mihi!





Community Newsletter

Kia ora friends, it's community snorkel season once again!

 Saturday 6 December

 Saturday 14 February

 Saturday 21 February

Community snorkel events are completely free! Please share with your friends & whānau. Read on below for more info.... we'll sea you there!



COMMUNITY SNORKELS
TAPUTERANGA MARINE RESERVE



Greater
Wellington
Te Pane Matua Taiao

**Water
Safety**
NEW ZEALAND



Dive into Taputeranga Marine Reserve and take part in a free snorkelling event this summer!

Beginners welcome! We provide all the necessary gear and experienced guides to ensure your safety and enjoyment in the water. Participants just need to be at least eight years old and confident swimmers. Those under sixteen must be accompanied by an adult.

Registrations open at 9.45am. Come down to book a snorkel time for the day, as spots may fill up quickly. Bring your togs, towel, refreshments and make a day of it exploring the activities and environment at Taputeranga Marine Reserve.

Cancellations/Postponements

Events are weather dependent. Stay updated by checking the Mountains to Sea Wellington Facebook event listings for any cancellations, postponements, or location changes.

These free events are brought to you in partnership with Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Find out more

Calling all (very social) Basketballers!

Come along on a Tuesday night and shoot a few hoops at the school! Starting at 7:30 pm and going for as long as there is daylight or, more likely, as long as we last.

Just turn up or message Chris on 022 319 0495 and he can add you to the WhatsApp group. All abilities welcome - even if you have never played before and just want to try it out. Would love to see you there!



INNER CITY ART STUDIO
School Holiday Art Workshops
For kids that love art

Paint with Light Work with Cyanotype - hand painted photographic emulsion
1 day course. Teenagers Ages 13 -17 , December 15th. 9am-3pm
Ages 8 -12, December 17th or January 22nd, 9am-3pm
Cost \$95 materials Included





Garden Magic - A Day exploring the Botanical Gardens, drawing painting and sculpting wonderful plants.
1 day course, either December 18th or January 23rd 9am-3pm.
Ages 9 - 14 Cost \$90

French Cafe and Art Scene - Drawing and inking like the masters
1 day course, December 19th or January 26th, 9am - 3pm.
Ages 9 -14 Cost \$95 materials and a hot chocolate included





A Day of Clay Beginners Hand Building
1 day beginners clay course, December 22nd or Jan 28th, 9am-3pm
A Day of Clay 2 Beginners Clay December 23rd, 9 am - 3 pm.
Ages 8 -14 Cost \$130 materials included

Designer Planters - working in clay with templates
1 day course, January 27th, 9am - 3pm. Ages 10-14
Cost \$135 materials included





Clay Creatures - Scientifically study an insect and recreate it in clay
1 day course, January 29th, 9am - 3pm.
Ages 10-15 Cost \$90 materials included



Sculpted Animal Dish - Students learn sculpting methods turning 2D images of an animal into a fabulous 3D ceramic animal bowl
1 day course, January 30th, Ages 11-16, 9am - 4pm, Cost \$150 materials included
All bookings and enquiries
www.innercityartstudio.com, Innercityartstudio@gmail.com,
FB:@ InnercityArtStudio Insta@Innercityartstudio Ph: 0226407506
Paintings and sculpture on this poster made by kids (the turtle and clay was made by the tutor)

