



Kia ora e te whānau

This pānui opens with a mixture of sadness and congratulations as we announce the departure of two of our incredible staff. Amanda will be leaving us at the end of this school year to pursue a new teaching opportunity. Amanda made a significant, positive impact on her students, our team and our school community. We are incredibly grateful for her commitment and energy and professional wisdom. We wish you the very best of luck and success in the next chapter of your career, Amanda.

After an incredibly rich and dedicated career spanning nearly 31 years, we share the bittersweet news that our very own superhero of the front office, Wendy, has announced her well-deserved retirement!

For more than three decades, Wendy has been the organisational wizard who has calmly solved the myriads of daily crises brought to her by countless teachers, students, and parents. She has served as the right hand and confidant of every principal she has worked alongside, and has been at the heart of everything significant in the life and running of our school.

We are immensely grateful that Wendy has kindly agreed to stay on to help induct someone with feet big enough to fill her shoes. She will assist us through the start of Term One and depart once her replacement is ready to take the reins. If you believe you possess the organisational superpowers and the diplomatic skill to come close to Wendy's standard, or know someone who does, please look out for the vacancy being advertised on Seek early next week.

There is so much more to say, and we will all have the chance to thank Wendy and share stories in a celebration of her fabulous career early in Term 1, 2026.

And on those sad notes, I wish you the very best for the rest of your week! Thanks for supporting your child and our staff during this busy term!

Noho ora mai

Cilla and the team :-)



Thank you!

To the families that supported the Yummy Apple Sticker campaign. We have been awarded \$603.00 of sports equipment for our school. Well done everyone!!!!

To Nick Law for the long hours spent water blasting our courts to prepare them for line painting. We are so very grateful to you Nick for giving up your weekends to do this big job!

To all of you who were able to attend our Dance Expo last Friday. Brilliant sunshine, great moves and a fabulous turn out to make it really special - ngā mihi nui!

To Amie Roberts for putting her hand up to coordinate the Hāngi coming up on the 21 November. And to Hirini Stewart for agreeing to be our hāngi master on the day. Please look out for emails requesting help to prepare food and the hāngi pit, sell tickets, etc.,...

To everyone that supported Waffle Wednesday yesterday. The student council have raised \$273 which will be put towards new swings for the playground. A huge thanks to Bonnie for assisting greatly yesterday morning with the waffles.

To the Pelorus Trust and Grassroots foundation for their support with the Basketball Hoops which have proved extremely popular both during school hours and after. Thanks again to Nicole for all the hard work behind the scenes applying for grants.



Don't forget your togs!

- Wednesdays: Māhuri team
- Fridays: Whanake and Harakeke

Policy Reviews Term 4

This term the Board and staff are reviewing the following policies. You can also do so by logging into schooldocs.co.nz
login: owhiro
password: happy

- Bullying and Harassment
- Behaviour Management
- Searches, Surrender, and Retention of Property
- Minimising Physical Restraint (board)
- Stand-down, Suspension, and Exclusion
- Staff Wellbeing and Safety

Values Refresh: From ROCKS to AWA

The Board are delighted to announce the culmination of our Values Refresh project, a process enriched by the thoughtful contributions of our students, whānau, staff, and wider community. This collaborative effort has resulted in the affirmation of three core values that will guide and inspire our school culture: **AWA – Aroha** (to show attention, kindness and empathy), **Whanaungātanga** (to foster strong relationships and a sense of belonging), and **Auahatanga** (to embrace creativity, innovation, imagination and courage). These values are intended to represent the heart of our community, aiming to articulate the shared beliefs that underpin our learning and interactions. The understanding of these values we will continue to explore. We look forward to seeing AWA woven into the fabric of our daily life, and becoming a real testament to who we are as a school community. These values are intended to represent the heart of our community, aiming to articulate the shared beliefs that underpin our learning and interactions and our continued commitment to honouring Te Tiriti.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has shared their whakaaro (thoughts/ideas) on this important work. We offer a special acknowledgement to Ricky Prebble for his inspiration and wisdom, and to Makere and Erena Derbyshire, along with local kaumatua Ray Ahipene Mercer, for their invaluable advice and guidance. Our journey forward is also supported by OBVIOUS Brand Partners, who are currently distilling and developing the visual identity of our values. We look forward to providing a comprehensive update as we launch into 2026!

Donations/Sports Fees

Each year we ask for a donation towards the running of the school for each child. This helps us to offer a variety of programmes, invite visiting coaches and creatives into the school and generally keep things humming along. We appreciate that it is tough out there and for some the donation is a cost that can't be met.

For those of you who can afford to pay, the cost is \$300 for your first child and \$280 for any other tamariki. Thank you for your support with this. You are most welcome to contribute a small amount each fortnight/month if that is more manageable.

Donations are tax deductible and you can claim ⅓ back from IRD

Sports Fees are compulsory for those who opt to play a sport outside the school. These are included in the statement. Please have these paid before the end of year - thank you.

Parentlink News

Breaking news!

We are having our incredible Hāngī again this year on Friday 21st of November.

The evening will start at 5pm with karakia and the lifting of the Hāngī.

Please save the date for this very special community event.

Tickets will go on sale from next week

Meat and vege parcels \$18

Vege only (plus stuffing) \$16

We will also put out a call for volunteers next week - we will need help with:

- setting up the Hāngī pit on Thursday night
- people to make stuffing (done at home and brought in)
- people to pre-cut tinfoil (a great job to do in front of the TV)
- people to help during Friday to shovel the dirt back onto the Hāngī
- Helpers to support the students to peel, cut and put together the kai parcels

Parentlink will send an email out with further information and seek volunteers next week, so please keep an eye out for that and let us know how you are keen to be involved.

Ōwhiro Bays Got Talent!

Your talent is here to rock the boat!

Whistling, Dance
Singing, Gymnastics
Magic, Music
Yoga, Jokes
Skits and more

Performances start at 6pm
Friday 5th December 2025
School Hall

Register using this QR code or pick up a form
from the Office
Registration are due on Sunday 30th of November



All friends and whānau of our Ōwhiro Bay One Learning Community may apply. Questions?

Email: obgt@owhiro.school.nz



FOUND!

Left at the Working Bee - if this belongs to you, please claim from the office.



MISSING FROM SCHOOL

A small bike missing from the bike stand on Tuesday. We have a very sad student missing his bike. Please contact the office if you have seen this bike.



Measles are still out there in the community! Please stay vigilant, seek medical assistance and let us know if you are worried about your child. You can find more public health information [here](#).

Help Needed

- We are about to add another layer of feathers to our Leaver's korowai. Are you handy with a sewing machine? Do you have some crafty ideas? Please let Vikki know if you can donate your skills and a little of your time to this important project :-)
- Helpers for the hāngi - please see the notice above.



Term 3 Attendance Summary

Below are the attendance rates for Term 3 against the Ministry of Education headings. It makes such a positive difference to learning and friendships if tamariki are at school everyday. The main reasons given for absence in term 3 were illness and holidays.

Ministry Headings	Attendance at School	Percentage of students attending school
Regularly attending	90% +	57% of students attended school 9/10 days a fortnight
Irregular absence	80 - 89%	29% of students attended school 8/10 days a fortnight
Moderately absent	70 - 79%	9% of students attended school 7/10 days a fortnight
Chronically absent	Less than 70%	6% of students attended school 9/10 days a fortnight

91% of students are arriving on time regularly (i.e. over 90% of the time).

If you require any help to get your child to school, please let us know and we will do our best to help you get them here.

You may also like to check out [this webinar](#) about school attendance if you are having difficulty getting your child to school. It has some useful information that may also help you in your parenting journey.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kia ora Friends of Owhiro Stream!

It's hard to believe that November is here already. Where has the year gone? Among other things, some magnificent work on the Owhiro stream, which we can be more than proud of. Clearing weeds and rubbish, planting trees and generally caring for the Owhiro Stream and the community that lives around it.

So for this working bee, which is our last for 2025, we will be celebrating our year's mahi with a "light" working bee and a shared lunch.

The forecast is for sunny weather with some northerlies which will be fine as the Jamison site is remarkably sheltered.

If the weather turns out to be less than conducive to socialising, we will meet at Martin's place, 160 Washington Ave, Brooklyn. Look out for a FOOS email on Saturday morning if you think the weather is dicey.

So, please come along and join us, bring a little something in the way of food to share, and maybe a favourite drink, and enjoy the company of your fellow workers.

FOOS will provide some drinks, bread and spreads.

Look forward to seeing you on Saturday,
Martin

FOOS working bee

Saturday 8th November 2025 10am to 1:30pm

Location: South of Jamison Towing Building, 509 Ohiro Road

FOOS provide: Tools, gloves and morning tea

Please bring: Sturdy footwear, Warm gear and a raincoat

Weather Forecast: Fine. Strong northerlies, easing.

Health & Safety: Participants will receive a briefing on arrival to the site.

Contact: Friends of Owhiro Stream

Martin 027 4166 770

owhirostream@gmail.com



Week	Date	What's On in Term 4?
Considerations for Term 4		Assembly - will now be on Fridays from 9:05 - 9:25am. Swimming - Wednesday or Fridays
One	6 - 10 October	Monday 6: Mihi Whakatau to welcome new students and whānau Thursday 9: Health and PE Whānau Hui in the Orange Room. 6pm start. Saturday 11: Working Bee! All hands on deck would be amazing! 9 - 12 noon.
Two	13 - 17 October	Monday 13: Māhuri History Tour at Pukeahu (10 - 2:30pm) Monday 13: Parentlink Meeting 7.00 pm Wed 15: Senior Swimming starts afternoons Friday 17: Junior Swimming starts afternoons
Three	20 - 24 October	Monday 20: Diwali Tuesday 21: Board of Trustees meeting 6pm in the staffroom Wed/Friday: Swimming continues as above Thursday 23: NZEI Strike action No School today Friday 24: Calendar Art orders to be in
Four	28 - 31 October	Monday 27: Labour Day No School today Friday 31: Dance Performance for whānau - 9am in the hall.
Five	3 - 7 November	Tuesday 4: Mountains to Sea for Year 6 students, session 1 (at school) 9 - 11 am Wed 5: Waffle Wednesday - Student Council fundraiser This week: Relationships and Sexuality Education lessons begin
Six	10 - 15 November	Tuesday 11: Mountains to Sea for Year 6 students, session 2 (Kilbirnie Pool) 9 - 11 am
Seven	17 - 21 November	Tuesday 18: Mountains to Sea for Year 6 students, session 3 (Marine Reserve) all day Friday 21: Hāngi - Blessing for Hāngi and Kai from 5.00 pm
Eight	24 - 28 November	Monday 24: Two Authors Visiting the School Pita Mei and Te Kahu Rolleston Tuesday 25: Mountains to Sea for Year 6 students, session 4 (Marine Reserve) all day Tuesday 25: Board of Trustees meeting 6pm in the staffroom
Nine	1 - 5 December	Tuesday 2: Mountains to Sea Back up day Friday 5: Ōwhiro Bay's Got Talent Celebration of Learning - more details to follow
Ten	8 - 12 December	Tuesday 9: Whole School Athletics Thursday 11: Year 6 Leaver's Dinner with whānau and Overnight Stay at school Friday 12: School Reports go home
Eleven	15 - 18 December	Tuesday 16: Celebration of Success at SWIS, 6pm start Wed 17: Whole School Fun Day Thursday 18: End of the School Year - 1pm finish

Dates for 2026

4 February 2026	First day of school
6 February 2026	Waitangi Day
2nd April 2026	Term One ends (Thursday)