



OTAHUHU PRIMARY SCHOOL

"He wahi tutaki mo nga tamariki o te ao - A meeting place for the children of the world"

Newsletter No. 18 - 05/11/2025

Kia ora, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Namaste, Fakaalofa atu, Bula, Kia orana, Mauri, Nihao, Salam, Sawasdee, Kumusta Kayo, Hola, Xin chao, Vanakkam, Choum reap sor, Ming-gah-lah-bahr, Akkam, As-salaam 'alykum

Principal's Message:

Tena koutou e te whanau o Ōtāhuhu Primary School!

As we move through a busy and exciting Term 4, we want to take a moment to thank our wonderful community for your ongoing support.

The latest announcement by the government to remove Te Tiriti o Waitangi from board governance is concerning. The **Treaty of Waitangi** is important to New Zealand because it is the **founding agreement** between Māori and the British Crown, signed in 1840. The Treaty is seen as a symbol of **partnership, respect, and cooperation** between Māori and the Crown. Overall, the Treaty of Waitangi is central to New Zealand's national identity, helping to shape a fairer and more inclusive society. To take this away from our obligation to the treaty in education is a worry. Being silent is being complicit. Please speak up about this and write to the government voicing your views.

It has been fantastic to see such strong attendance across the school this term. Regular attendance makes a huge difference to our tamariki's learning, wellbeing, and confidence. Every day at school counts - it helps children build connections, stay engaged, and reach their full potential. Ngā mihi for encouraging your children to be at school every day, ready to learn.

This term, we also say a heartfelt farewell to **Whaea Ngaire**, who is leaving OPS after an incredible **24 years of service**. Whaea Ngaire has been an important part of our school whānau, supporting countless learners and their families over the years. Her kindness, dedication, and passion for our tamariki have made a lasting impact on our community. We wish her all the very best in her next chapter and thank her deeply for everything she has given to OPS.

Our **school Fun Run** is coming up on **Friday 7th November**, and we are thrilled with how much enthusiasm everyone has shown! The students are doing a fantastic job raising funds for our school - thank you to everyone who has supported them so far. It's going to be a fun-filled afternoon of energy, teamwork, and celebration - students will need some spare clothes and a towel to participate! Remember if we raise over \$10,000 Whaea Jenny and Whaea Rachelle will be slimed! We all enjoyed watching Matua Josh being slimed at assembly, let's see if we can continue raising money so we can watch Whaea Jenny and Rachelle being slimed - you only have this week to push for those funds.

The term ahead is full of important events and celebrations as we head toward the end of the year. There's a lot happening - from class activities and performances to our **end-of-year Prize Giving**, where we'll celebrate the achievements and efforts of our amazing learners. It's a busy time, but also one of joy, reflection, and community.

Our kai celebration for Te Wiki o te Maori will happen on **Friday 14th November**. Each akomanga (classroom) will have their own celebration with their tamariki. This will be a shared meal to acknowledge all the learning that has occurred since we started our Te Wiki o Te Māori journey. Te Whānau Tūtakitanga will have a hangi on this day. Whānau are most welcome to join us for this kai celebration.

Thank you again for your continued support and for being such an important part of our OPS whānau. Together, we make our school a place where every child can thrive.

Ngā mihi nui,
Whaea Jenny

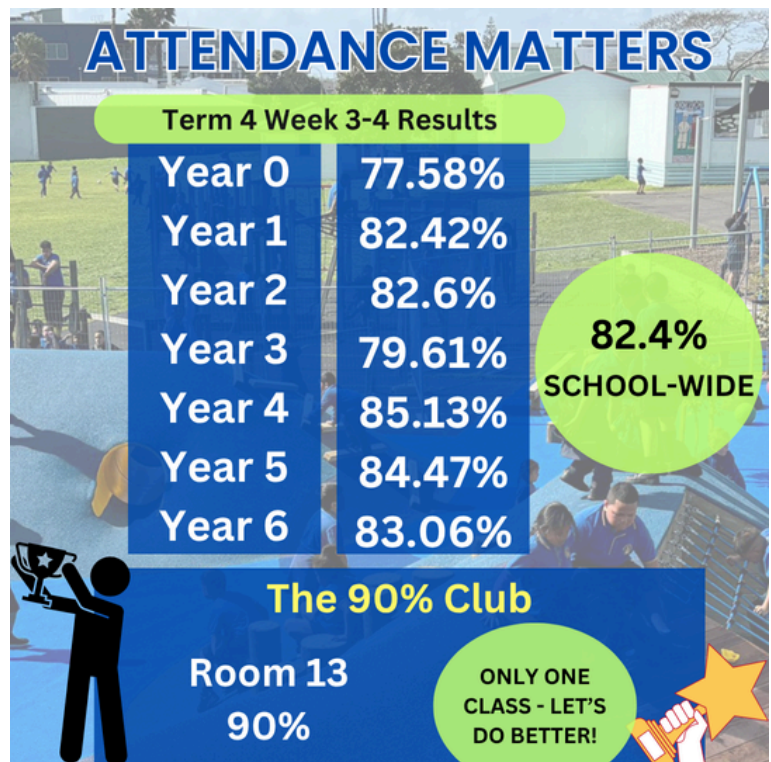
CLICK TO SEE THE SLIMING!

ATTENDANCE:

The Ministry of Education is making it very clear to schools across Aotearoa - in order for our learners to achieve to the best of their abilities, attendance **MUST** improve!

We know that the only way we can improve attendance is by connecting with whānau and ensuring you have what you need to make attendance an achievable goal for your children.

Read this short story to better understand why regular attendance is so important!



Don't Miss the Best Part: Why Regular Attendance Matters

Imagine you're excited to see a great new movie, but you arrive twenty minutes late. You stumble into the dark theatre - you can't find your friends who are already settled, enjoying their snacks, and focused on the screen. Worse, you missed the opening scenes, so you have no idea what's going on in the story!

This feeling is just like missing a day of school. On Monday, your classmates connected with each other, discussed their weekends, and the teacher set up the week's key activities and introduced important concepts. When you arrive late or on Tuesday, you've missed crucial social connections and the essential foundation for the week's learning, making it tricky for both you and your teacher to catch up.

Now, imagine that just as you finally start to grasp the movie's plot and the tension is building, your brother suddenly taps you on the shoulder and says you have to leave. You are pulled out toward the climax of the film, missing the moment of victory and the exciting conclusion.

This is similar to missing a day like Friday. Just as you were catching up and reaching the peak of the week's learning, you miss the important finale. You don't get the satisfaction of completing your work, celebrating a successful activity with your peers, or receiving vital feedback on your learning. You miss the best part - the sense of accomplishment and the final moments of connection!

Regular attendance isn't just about showing up; it's about staying connected to the ongoing narrative of the classroom. To fully succeed, understand the material, and feel a true sense of belonging and achievement, students need to be present for the entire show—from the opening credits on Monday to the wrap-up on Friday. **Let's make sure every child is in their seat, ready to learn and enjoy the whole experience!**



2026 Camp - Term 1

Year 5 students will now have received their forms for 2026 Year 6 Camp. We want to get all students signed up this year so that we are ready to go for camp on February 16th in Term 1.

We are holding an information evening about camp on Tuesday 11th November in the school hall, so if you would like to learn more about camp and what it looks like for your child, please come along. Matua Josh will explain how camp works, what is required of parent helpers, and all the amazing reasons why your child should participate!

Digital copies of the camp notices can be found using the links below:

[Camp Notice 2026](#)

[Camp Form 2026](#)

[Camp Parent](#)

[Helper Form 2026](#)



Assembly Certificate Winners - Week 4 Term 4

These students were awarded certificates for displaying the HEART Value **HONESTY** over the last two weeks of this term.

JUNIORS

Room 10: Hunter Cardwell & Ine Matekuolava
Room 15: Nukai Funafuti & Espranze Van Der Walt
Room 16: Phoenix Ulugia & Jay Kawiti
Room 23: Jaxon Kawiti & Mirah Stowers
Room 24: Arvan Prasad & Vivaan Singh
Room 25: Taslyn Green-Thompson & Krishav Prasad
Room 26: Ezer Sila & Oliver Hicks
Room 27: Nur Halia Norul Haq & Sativa Lani Olsen



SENIORS

Room 5: Daryle' Lyn Ellia & Maanvir Prasad
Room 6: Jaziah Misi & Rhythm Henare
Room 7: Rayan Chand & Shivansh Naicker
Room 8: Fareeha Faiyaz & Dalores Pale
Room 11: Atilini Uta & Liam Tohi
Room 12: Avrish Kumar & Vaimoana Masila
Room 13: Lopesa Mesake & Stephanie Tuleaga
Room 14: Kareem-Lamarr Moala & Julius Lewis



BILINGUAL

Room 1: Rosemary Kolio & Wesley Tavai-Fisiiahi
Room 2: Tausi'a Afoa & Zechariah Sefo
Room 3: Shekinah Saua & Nu'u Wright
Room 4: Faasu Lesatele & Aliitasi Luamanu
Room 17: Deltay Hauti-Harrison & Saadiya Thompson
Room 18: Jennah Bailey & Zeeko Moleu-Chambers
Room 19: Helen Makaafi & Kelepi Funaki
Room 20: 'Akanesi Fonohema & Robert Vaiangina
Room 21: Otolose Makaafi & Paea Tuita
Room 22: Ikakoula 'Otuafi & Lepeka Tupou



Konā (R27) and Siana (R15) received awards for demonstrating kindness around our school to all students.

Konā received the Kindness Cup and Lego prize, and Siana received a special Principal's Award to recognise this amazing value and all they bring to our school community. Well done!



2025 Term Dates



Term 1

From: Tuesday, 28th January (Meet the Teacher Day)
To: Friday, 11th April

Term 2

From: Monday, 28th April
To: Friday, 27th June

Term 3

From: Monday, 14th July
To: Friday, 19th September

Term 4

From: Monday, 6th October
To: Thursday, 11th December



Nga Mihi
Jenny Bernard
TUMUAKI / PRINCIPAL

Ōtāhuhu Intermediate School Orientation & Enrolment

It is very important that all Year 6 students have enrolled for their preferred intermediate schools THIS TERM. Enrolling early gives the intermediate schools the information they need to manage resources and get students into the right classes with the right teachers.

DO NOT LEAVE IT UNTIL NEXT YEAR TO ENROL YOUR CHILD!

Enrolment forms for OIS are in our office and we are happy to help with the process.



Important Dates for Term 4 2025

Week 1	Fri 10 Oct	Pōwhiri for new whānau + Ōtāhuhu Schools Cultural Festival from 3-5pm - school hall 
Week 2	Mon 13 Oct	Year 6 Camp!! (all week) 
		Hindi Language Week (+ opening ceremony) 
	Fri 17 Oct	Whole School Assembly
		Hindi language closing ceremony
Week 3	Mon 20 Oct	Fiji, Niue & Other Languages Week 
		OIS Orientation Day (Year 6)
	Tues 21 Oct	Arataki Trip - Room 5 & 6 
	Wed 22 Oct	Arataki Trip - Room 3 & 19 
		Interschool Cross Country 
	Thurs 23 Oct	Scheduled Strike Day - School Closed
	Fri 24 Oct	Fiji, Niue & Other Languages Celebration
Week 4	Mon 27 Oct	Labour Day - No School
	Tues 28 Oct	Whānau Home Learning Workshops
	Wed 29 Oct	Arataki Trip - Room 4 & 17 
	Thur 30 Oct	Arataki Trip - Room 11 & 13 
	Fri 31 Oct	Whole School Assembly
Week 5	Mon 3 Nov	Teacher Only Day - School Closed
	Fri 7 Nov	Colour Run Day!! 
Week 6	Tues 11 Nov	Arataki Trip - Room 8 & 20 
	Thurs 13 Nov	Arataki Trip - Room 11 & 13 
	Fri 14 Nov	Whole School Assembly
		Te Reo Māori Celebration 
Week 7	Wed 19 Nov	Helper's Morning Tea 
	Thurs 20 Nov	Athletics Day 
Week 8	Tues 25 Nov	Reading Together Celebration  Date change!
	Thurs 27 Nov	Y6 Monitors Rainbow's End Trip 
	Fri 28 Nov	Whole School Assembly + Interschool Athletics (TBC) 
Week 9	Tues 2 Dec	Tafa o Ata Prize Giving 
	Wed 3 Dec	Te Whānau Tutakitanga Prize Giving 
	Thurs 4 Dec	Lalanga Mo'ui Prize Giving 
	Fri 5 Dec	Junior Prize Giving + Senior Prize Giving + Reports go Home 
Week 10	Mon 8 Dec	Year 6 Graduation Lunch 
	Wed 10 Dec	Meet Your 2026 Teacher + School Christmas Concert 
	Thurs 11 Dec	Last Day of School 