ŌWHIRO BAY NEWSLETTER

Issue #14, 20 August 2026

Notices & Upcoming Events

Uike Kātoanga'i 'o e Lea Faka-Tonga fiefia | Tongan Language Week
Celebrate Tongan Language Week tomorrow with delicious chop suey; $4 a bowl.

School Photos
Inspire will be at school on Thursday 27 August to take class, individual, sibling and group photos.

We are immensely grateful to Pub Charity for the grant that funded the replacement playground pieces. The upgrades look fantastic, and ensures the space remains safe so it can continue to be enjoyed for years to come. Thanks again to the wonderful parents that installed the replacement parts.

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)

Malo e lelei!

Phew, the winter bugs have hit us hard lately! This has hit both staff and students alike. Thank you for keeping your children home when they are unwell, and keeping us informed. We need to know each day when a student is absent due to illness, so that we know where all our students are for safety reasons. Thank you to those who are already calling the school or putting absences through the HERO app — we really appreciate it.

Just a reminder that our classrooms open at 8:30am, as teachers use the time before school to prepare classrooms, organise resources and lessons, and get ready for the day ahead. We have noticed some students arriving quite early, with some being dropped off as early as 8:00am. We understand that sometimes logistics can be tricky, however we are unable to actively supervise your children this early. Thank you for your understanding.

We have had the Ngā Iti Kahurangi team onsite continuing our building project, with the carpeting now complete. We are extremely lucky to have them support us with upgrading our windows, heatpumps and other areas of the building. Thank you to you and the tamariki for your patience and flexibility as we've moved teaching spaces around to accommodate this work.

Student Council are hosting a special Tongan Language Week Chop Suey fundraiser tomorrow - $4 a bowl for Chop Suey and rice. Delicious! Malo 'aupito Louise Halafihi for supporting this!

Special thanks for Cameron for his organisation of the SZ Mini Ball tournament. Cam was both organsing, managing a team and being the MC on the day! The tamariki were fabulous, well done!

Vikki and the team

Auahatanga on the Mound - Fairyville



A group of us have been busy in the mound creating 'Fairyville'. We used the materials we found on the mound to make houses for the fairies.

Some of our houses were destroyed with the weather, but we've rebuilt them, and we are very proud of them. Sometimes we all come together by the campfire we made and roast marshmallows.

By Lucy T and Violet

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



Student Council

Student Council attended a local Energiser day alongside the kindy and our beautiful awa. They sorted rubbish, learnt how to track mokomoko, and together shared their learning in a banner and poems via voice notes to be collated into a podcast.













Thanks to Rutherford & Bond Toyota for the use of their community van. We couldn't have got the team to Miniball without you!



Parentlink

ARE YOU THE NEXT PARENTLINK CHAIRPERSON?

Due to a change in our current chair's circumstances, Katie will be standing down from the role at the end of term 3.

Main duties of the chairperson:

- Organising and running the twice a term Parentlink meetings - meaning you will have to attend most, if not all meetings.
- Collaborating and supporting the other named members of Parentlink - currently Diane (treasurer) and Annie (secretary).
- Alongside Diane, authorising reimbursements to people for events and the awhi fund.
- Writing the annual report, alongside Diane.
- Completing comms for the fortnightly newsletter, events and for other reasons, as deemed appropriate.
- Supporting the people who are running the social events, and providing decision making as required.
- Ensuring Parentlink adheres to its legislative requirements - sounds scarier than it is.

If this sounds like you, or you'd like more information, contact Katie, she can be found at drop off and pick times in the playground, or via the Parentlink email: parentlink@owhiro.school.nz

The new chairperson will need to be elected at the next Parentlink meeting (details below), thus allowing a handover from Katie.

Please note: The Parentlink Chairperson is not responsible for organising the upcoming fair, there is already a dedicated team doing that. Ideally, you will be able to support that team, and be available on fair day to help.

Next Parentlink meeting:
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:
Games afternoon 3pm - 5pm, Saturday 12 September. More details to follow.

Have a great few weeks,
Your Parentlink team 🙂

Policy Reviews Term 3

This term the Board and staff are reviewing the below policies. You can also do so by going to www.owhiro.school.nz and clicking on 'Policies & Procedures' using the login: **owhiro** and password: **happy**

- School Community Engagement Policy (board)
- Inclusive School Culture (board)
- Enrolment
- Student Attendance (board)
- Student Uniform/Student Dress Expectations
- Concerns and Complaints Policy (board)

THANK YOU

- **Thank you to all the whānau that supported us at the Kapa Haka Festival, and to the parents that joined us on our trips to Zealandia**
- **Thank you to Sondra for the generous donation of a freezer for our Pātaka Kai**
- **Thanks to Andy for your assistance with the monthly checks of our smoke alarms**

School Noticeboard



⭐ Order Subway and Be in to Win! ⭐

Subway is running a **special promotion for Owhiro Bay School**, and everyone who orders during the promotion period has the chance to win!

Place a Subway order between Monday 24 August and Monday 31 August and go in the draw to win:

Prize Draw #1
One lucky winner from all Subway orders will receive a **6-inch Sub, Cookie, and Drink**.

Prize Draw #2
New to Ezlunch/Kindo? Register and place your first order during the promotion period to go in the draw to win a **6-inch Sub**.

Subway is available through Ezlunch and delivered directly to school, making lunchtime easy for families and students alike.

To order:
Simply log in to your Ezlunch/Kindo account and place your order as usual. New to Ezlunch? No worries, Sign up here!

Promotion runs from Monday 24 August to Monday 31 August.

Good luck!

The Ezlunch and Kindo Team

South Coast Arts Trail

Photographer

Do you have an interest in photography? We are looking for someone to photograph our beautiful art pieces. If you can help us out, please see Vikki, Kate or Caitlin.

To help us produce our amazing piece of art, we would appreciate any clean bottle caps (eg, milk bottle tops). Please drop them to the office.

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**

Community Noticeboard



Premiering at the TAHI festival in September is a live music version of "Flutter": the magical story of a glow worm who fell from the stars and a bat who is afraid of the dark.

This show is about friendship, bravery, and the very real threat of introduced predators in the New Zealand bush.

Interactive, whimsical and heartwarming, Flutter is perfect for children aged 3-7, and is sure to delight audiences young and old.

Dates: 11 - 13th September
Venue: BATS theatre
Tickets: https://www.tahifestivalnz.com/flutter



