

Oruaiti School Newsletter

Established 1896



**CARING, RESPONSIBLE, CONFIDENT
LIFE LONG LEARNERS**



2554 State Highway 10, R D 1, Mangonui 0494

Phone: 4060300

Principal Mobile: 0273117406

Email: office@oruaiti.school.nz

www.oruaiti.school.nz

Friday 2 February 2024

Term 1, Week 1, Friday 2 February 2024

Important Dates to Remember

05.02.2024 - Teacher Only Day No school for students

06.02.2024 - Waitangi Day - No school.

26.02.2024 - 28.02.2024 - Year 4/5 camp Coopers Beach

Kia Ora e te whānau,

Welcome back to Oruaiti School for 2024. We hope you all had a relaxing break and are ready for another fun year. Special welcome to our new students:

David Thompson, Hudson O'Donnell and Wairama Davis Henare who have joined Kowhai class. Waiora Henare who has joined Rimu class, Kaia Ogle who has joined Puriri class, Nelson Bold who has joined Totara class, Harper Yakas who has joined Ngaio class, Ariya Dowman, Heath Renata, Helena Bold, Madeline Ogle, Estella Thompson-Harris, Kea Tomars, Charley Toren and Millie Toren who have joined Kauri class, Mostyn Bridson, Breeze Broadhurst, Rangitamoe Maika Paget and Gene Wright-Peterson who have joined Nikau class. Also welcome back to Rosie Gao, Arnya, Brielle and Indigo Smith.

We are looking forward to getting to know all our new students and their whānau.

Staffing for this year

Our classroom teachers for 2024 are as follows, please contact teachers via email if you need to.

Kowhai - Serenity Osborne-Timmermans - serenityt@oruaiti.school.nz

Rimu - Kara Fleming - karaf@oruaiti.school.nz

Puriri - Leonie McLean & Hannah Bailey - leoniem@oruaiti.school.nz hannahb@oruaiti.school.nz

Totara - Kaiya Lafotanoa and Cindy Wihongi - kaiyal@oruaiti.school.nz cindyw@oruaiti.school.nz

Ngaio - Rob Arrowsmith - roba@oruaiti.school.nz

Kauri - Meg Van der Laarse - megv@oruaiti.school.nz

Nikau - Sarah Mendham - sarahm@oruaiti.school.nz

Manuka - Mark Pickard - markp@oruaiti.school.nz

School Lunches

Our School lunch menu has quite a few changes this year and we are able to change lunches if we find that the children do not like a particular meal. If your child has 'opted in' for school lunches they will receive a lunch everyday. If they do not eat the lunch at school we ask that they take it home (This is so that whānau know that your child has not eaten and may be extra hungry)

Camps

We have camps planned for our senior students this year. Year 4/5 students (Totara and Ngaio classes) will be going on camp on Monday 26th February, returning on Wednesday 28th February. Year 6/7/8 (Kauri, Nikau and Manuka classes) will be going on camp on Monday 8th April, returning Wednesday 10th April. Both camps will be at the Coopers Beach Christian Camp. Children will be involved in activities in the local area and also travelling to Cape Reinga for a day trip.

If you were wanting to stay overnight on either of these camps and have not yet completed a police vetting form you may be able to have it processed by the camp dates, forms can be collected from the school office. Only whanau who are police vetted are able to stay overnight on school camps.

Junior classes will be involved in a range of fun activities and day trips during week 5 (more information will follow)

Bike Park

We had an amazing day last Friday with the unveiling/blessing of our school bike track. We walked to each of the tracks, unveiling the pou ingoa at each stop. Our students are now able to use this bike track during some lunchtimes and also if their class teacher takes them there. Any whanau who would like to use the bike track outside of school hours are able to purchase keys (contact the school office if you are interested)

Well done to Rob Arrowsmith and the students who have worked on this project. A big thank you to all the contractors and businesses who have helped in the planning, design and building of this bike track.



Communication

It is important that we have correct contact details for all whanau. If anything has changed over the summer break please let us know. Our [school App](#) is one of our forms of communication with whanau, please download the app so that you are able to receive alerts. If your child has moved classes you will need to update your child to their new class on the app. This can be done by clicking on the menu bottom in the top left corner, select classrooms and select your child's new class. Information is also available on our [school website](#).

Download The Oruaiti School App

To download the App Scan the QR code
For access from a compatible Android or iOS mobile device



[Click here to download the app](#)

Once installed, you can access the app from this icon on your phone's homescreen...



Student info sharing

Instead of a 'Meet the Teacher' evening this year staff will make themselves available to whanau from 3.00pm - 5.00pm on Wednesday and Thursday next week (Feb 7th & 8th) This is an opportunity for whanau to meet their child's teacher and also to share any information about your child that you think we should know. If you would like a time to meet with your child teacher please email them directly to let them know which day would work best for you and an approximate time, they will get back to you to confirm. Staff emails are shown in this newsletter.

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Incredible Years Programme.

Information regarding this programme for anyone interested.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite whānau to join us for the next intake of [Ngā Tau Mīharo The Incredible Years](#). Ngā Tau Mīharo is a powerful, positive parenting programme for parents and caregivers of 3 to 8 year olds. The programme has made such a difference for many of our families in Kaitāia and Te Hiku, and we would love for whānau to join us. Please [register today](#) and we will be in touch to organise a time to complete enrolment.

For our whānau who have graduated or started with us in the past – we'd love to have you back! There are no limits on how many times you can complete or restart the programme – we totally understand that life happens.

Please feel free whānau, to share this pānui – you could receive a \$50 voucher!* Check out the details in brief below, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

- For parents and caregivers of 3–8-year-olds.
- 14 weeks, 10am-1pm, starting 7th March to 28 June.
- Thursdays **or** Fridays at Toka Tūmoana, 26 Matthews Ave.
- Kai and childcare provided, travel assistance also available.
- Weekly \$50 spot prizes and a big celebration lunch upon completion.
- All resources are provided, just bring yourselves.
- Friday online option also available (must be able to collect resources in Kaitaia).

Refer a friend and receive a \$50 voucher* upon their completion of the programme.

Attendance

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school. As we enter 2024, every day of school matters.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent for a day or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to us! Our school is committed to supporting your child to attend school and building a culture that fosters excellent attendance by having:

- School staff who have strong relationships with students and whānau.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who they are, where they come from and who they want to be.
- A school community that does everything to make sure students are at school, and they are participating, and progressing in their education.

New Bell Times

We have changed our bell times slightly for the start and end of the day to fit in with new bus times. The bell for the start of school will ring at 8.40am (we are hoping the Taipa bus will be at school by then) In the afternoon the bell will ring for the end of the school day at 2.25pm. the Taipa bus will leave school then so children will be at 'drop off stops' 5 minutes earlier. Whanau who pick children up from school can do so from 2.25pm. Children on the Taupo Bay/Taratara bus will leave school at 2.40pm