



Ormond School Newsletter

5th September 2025
Week 8 | Term 3

Kia ora Ormond School Whānau,

What a fantastic and busy week we've had at Ormond School! I had the chance to get out of the office and join our students on a few special trips. We had the Pohutukawa students' wetland planting on Tuesday, the inter-school netball tournament on Wednesday, and the Motu rural cross-country on Friday.

I also spent time in our classrooms, seeing firsthand the amazing teaching and learning that happens every day. A massive shout-out to our incredible teachers, staff, and whānau volunteers who made all of these experiences possible!

The wetland planting was a real highlight for me, as it demonstrates what we mean by an integrated curriculum – the outcome of our inquiry learning kaupapa. This approach weaves together learning within different subject areas and aligns conceptual ideas to one key topic (our T2 & 3 focus has been the environment) to create a more holistic and meaningful learning experience. After studying content and concepts in a classroom, our students were able to connect the dots in a tangible way. The planting wasn't just about putting seedlings in the ground; it was reinforcing concepts learnt across the term, a lesson in local ecology, a hands-on exercise in environmental stewardship, and a lesson in community cooperation.

When students get to apply their classroom knowledge to the real world, it's a great way to embed learning. It moves concepts from abstract ideas to concrete, memorable experiences. Learning becomes more meaningful and students are more engaged. A lesson on native plants becomes unforgettable when they're actually planting those natives to help restore a local ecosystem. This type of hands-on learning transforms students from passive recipients of information into active participants in their education and their community.

These experiences are also crucial for developing the Key Competencies of the New Zealand Curriculum. The Key Competencies are essential attributes students need to develop in order for learning to occur in any context of situation. The wetland planting highlighted a number of the key competencies: Managing self, Participating and Contributing, Relating to Others, and Thinking. It's in these moments, outside the traditional classroom, that these essential skills flourish. They foster a sense of purpose and connection, showing children how their actions can have a positive impact beyond the classroom. It's about empowering them to see themselves not just as students, but as active and capable citizens.

Have a great weekend!

Nga mihi nui,

Shane Hooks
(Tumuaki / Principal)

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Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata



Ormond School F.L.A.X Awards



KIAN

Kian, I love the way you look after the new people in our class, especially how you have been caring for Evelyn-Spencer and Kea. You are always keen to play with them and show them around, which shows such great responsibility on your part. This helps others feel welcome, making our classroom a better place for everyone.
Ka pai hoki koe! Keep being a kind friend, Kian!



GEORGE

George, you've had a great week in Karaka, very focused on your mahi and a great role model for others, encouraging them to make good choices so that we can earn our ping pong balls. You have finished all of your learning to a high standard and you are always keen to help others, without doing the learning for them. Keep making good choices and being a good role model
George, you are a Powerful Learner Superhero!



LYRIC

Lyric you have settled into Pohutukawa with ease. You are a quiet learner who is gaining in confidence. You take care with your work and know where a good spot for yourself is. You know that new learning is hard and it's ok to make mistakes. You show resilience with your learning and keep going even when you think you can't do it. Keep this great attitude going Lyric, you are heading the moon's way. Ka mau te wehi!, Awesome.



MASON

Mason, you are a shining example of what it means to be an exceptional learner and a great friend. Your commitment to learning, shown through your excellent focus and great effort, and your willingness to help others, is something to be truly proud of. Your willingness to volunteer and play Netball in the Fast 5 tournament when the team needed an extra player showed great sportsmanship, courage, and teamwork. Ka pai, Mason you made a real difference, and we're proud of you!

TIDY KIWI – WEEK 8

KŌWHAI

HOUSE POINTS:

1st: **Horouta & Takitimu**

2nd: **Ahititi**

3rd: **Waipaoa**



Te Ako Mahi

Learning in Action

POHUTUKAWA: WETLAND PLANTING

Pohutukawa had the absolute best day out at Matt and Megan Humphreys' farm, where we got stuck in and planted 714 native trees! The kids were enthusiastic, hardworking, and totally hands on. We also learned so much about the importance of planting natives in wetland areas and how it helps restore and protect our whenua. A huge thank you to the Humphreys whānau for having us and letting us be part of something so meaningful!



Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata



Marautanga Taapiri

Extra-Curricular

GROWING GREAT PEOPLE

Part of our kaupapa at Ormond is holistic learning – hence our vision of Growing Great People. These opportunities help our tamariki develop skills, knowledge & understandings that develop them as people, with the goal of leaving Ormond confident to take on the world. Below is the Motu Cross country that was on today!





Ngā Panui Nui

Notices & Updates

KEY DATES TERM 3 / 4

TERM 3:

- Every Friday: Primary Rugby & Netball.
- 8th Sept: He & Me celebration 1:30pm
- 10th Sept: House comp (PM).
- 10th Sept: Ormond Speech Finals 5:30pm
- 17th Sept: Inquiry-learning celebration WOW event.
- 19th Sept: Last day of term 3.

TERM 4: Key dates week 1...

- 6th October: First day back T4
- 9th October: Pet Day
- 10th October: Teacher Only Day (MOE Math PLD).

Note: Depending on circumstances we may not attend all events. Dates are subject to change.

STARTING AT ORMOND

If you have a child ready to start school, or know someone that does – we would love the opportunity to sit down and have a chat about what our amazing kura has to offer and how we dedicated to achieving our vision of "Growing Great People".

Please contact our office to make an appointment, or pop in when you can.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS:

AFTER SCHOOL CARE TERM FOUR:

If you would like to utilise our After School Care program in term 4... please click on the link to do so: [After School Care T4 25](#)

HE & ME CELEBRATION:

Celebrating the amazing men in our children's lives. Fathers, Uncles, Brothers, Cousins, Koro, Grand-dad etc.

Monday the 8th Sept at 1:30pm. Please meet in the school hall.

ORMOND SPEECH FINALS NIGHT:

Wednesday the 10th of September – 5:30pm start – School Hall.

INQUIRY LEARNING CELEBRATION: WORLD OF RECYCLABLE ARTS

A mind blowing show put together by our students to showcase their inquiry learning across term 3.

Wednesday the 17th of September – 1:30pm start. School Hall.



Ngā Panui Nui

Notices & Updates

PET DAY

Pet Day this year will be on Thursday the 9th of October, the first Thursday back in Term 4. We trust you will be thinking about Pet Day and hope your children will use the holidays to get ready to enter their pets and items of choice.

The categories for entry items are as follows:

THINGS CHILDREN CAN MAKE AT HOME:

- Wildflower and Grasses in a Jar
- Floral Arrangement
- Miniature Garden – Junior/Senior
(No bigger than 20cm x 30cm)
- Recycled Wind Chimes
- Vegetable Novelties
- Pikelets and Cupcakes (2x on a plate for judging)
- Plain Iced Cake
- Hospital Box – Decorated shoe box with a get well card, posy and small chocolate bar.

These are taken to the hospital for patients at the conclusion of Pet Day.

PET CATEGORIES:

- Best Dressed Pet and Owner
- Birds (in cages)
- Cats and Horses Photos
(send to office@ormond.school.nz)
- Puppies (under 1 year old)
- Large Dogs
- Small Dogs
- Open Pet Section
(if your pet has not been entered in another section)
- Best behaved pet
(must show obedience / follow instructions)
- Dog Obstacle Course
- Lamb / Champion Lamb

SAND SAUCER arrangement to be made at school.

Please bring a saucer and flowers.





Ngā Kaitautoko Kura Sponsors: Ngā mihi!



BAYLEYS

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rural communities

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