



# Ormond School Newsletter

5th December 2025  
Week 9 Term 4

Kia ora Ormond School Whānau,

As the final full week of our school year begins, the pace of life seems to accelerate. I know many of you, like the staff and students here at school, are caught up in the whirlwind of end-of-year activities, preparations for the holidays, and the inevitable rush to meet deadlines. We often find ourselves rushing from one thing to the next, checking off lists, and trying to fit everything in before the final bell rings. It is at this moment of heightened activity that we should all take a collective deep breath. While the schedule is full, this is perhaps the most crucial time to pause, reflect, and genuinely appreciate the multitude of factors that make our school and community the special place it is.

In the rush, it is easy to let the moments blur together. Instead, let's make a conscious decision to slow down and be intentional. Let's choose to fully immerse ourselves in the remaining days, savouring the unique energy that permeates the school at this time of year. Take a moment to observe your child or a group of students interacting, noticing the small acts of kindness, the shared laughter, and the pride in completing a final project. Slow down and connect with other parents, neighbours, and staff. These connections are important to strengthen as they provide the base from which our community can build from. We must also acknowledge the tireless effort of our staff—the teachers, support staff, and volunteers—who have poured their dedication into creating a positive and challenging learning environment in 2025.

Next week is filled with opportunities to celebrate our students' achievements and growth. We have a number of special events planned, which are outlined in this newsletter. We would love to see you if you can make it. These events are the perfect setting to soak up the last week and really enjoy the school and the people around us, acknowledging firsthand the culmination of a year's worth of learning and effort. Please check the 'up-coming events' section for specific dates and times.

I would like to take the time to acknowledge Angela Scott for her outstanding efforts in organising and running the Rimu Y5 and Y6 home camp. An event like this takes a huge amount of effort to bring together and we really appreciate Ange's time and enthusiasm. The students had a great time and I am sure each of them will take special memories with them from across the week. A big thank you to all the parents and volunteers that helped out on the camp – we could not do it without you!

I look forward to sharing these precious final moments of the year with you all.

Nga mihi nui,

Shane Hooks  
Tumuaki / Principal



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**Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata**



# Ormond School F.L.A.X Awards



## KORTEZ

KorteZ, you are such a kind and resilient friend! You are always keen to help welcome new students to our class, and I appreciate your resilience when you are not chosen – you quickly bounce back and find others to play with. Although you naturally love to move at speed, you are excellent at taking feedback on board and slowing down straight away when asked. Ka pai, KorteZ. Keep being a kind and thoughtful pirate; those are great qualities that will serve you in the future!



## BELLE

Belle, you are a great role model in Karaka. You are a quiet, but determined learner, who likes a challenge and you always try your best in all of your mahi, with great focus and no fuss. We appreciate your kind and caring nature – you are a good friend to all and you are helpful, considerate and thoughtful to both staff and students. What a Powerful Learner Superhero you are Belle, ka pai tō mahi!



## JAKE

Jake you are confident and capable learner of Pohutukawa. When there is learning to be done, you get stuck in. You are always ready to help others and do tasks both inside and outside the classroom. You have an inquisitive mind and come up with great ideas to work problems out. You are not someone who shies away from hard learning, going into the Learning Pit doesn't bother you at all. You are soaring to the moon. Noho manawanui Jake, stay determined!



## MICHAEL

Michael, you have consistently shown great behaviour throughout the week. Whatever activity we have been doing, you have put your best foot forward, showing a positive attitude, giving everything a go and being supportive of those around you. It has been great to see you making new friends and being respectful to everyone you are travelling with. Our day at school was no different, as we saw you put in your best effort at Kapa Haka practice yet! A great way to end the year!  
Mauri mahi, mauri ora!

## TIDY KIWI – WEEK 9

## RIMU

## HOUSE POINTS:

1st: **Horouta & Takitimu**

2nd: **Ahititi**

3rd: **Waipaoa**





Te Ako Mahi

# Learning in Action

## Learning Enquiry – Kaitiaki of our community

Our Kōwhai, Karaka, and Pōhutukawa tamariki have been busy learning important life skills through an in-class first aid course. They explored how to care for others in an emergency, including how to place someone in the recovery position and how to manage basic wound care and bandaging. The tamariki showed great enthusiasm and confidence as they practised these vital skills. As part of their learning inquiry, Pōhutukawa also extended their care to the community by donating dog toys and treats to the doggy daycare next door. In return, the daycare gifted us a lovely thank-you card, which was greatly appreciated.

Ka rawe, tamariki — wonderful mahi in looking after your community!



Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata





## Year 5 and 6 Home Camp

Our Year 5 and 6 tamariki have had an action-packed Home Camp this week, filled with adventure, fun, and plenty of new experiences!

**Monday:** We kicked things off at Tolaga Wharf with fishing, epic bombs off the wharf, and surfing.

**Tuesday:** Tamariki explored the beautiful Tauranga Loop Track, cooling off with swims in the refreshing water holes along the way.

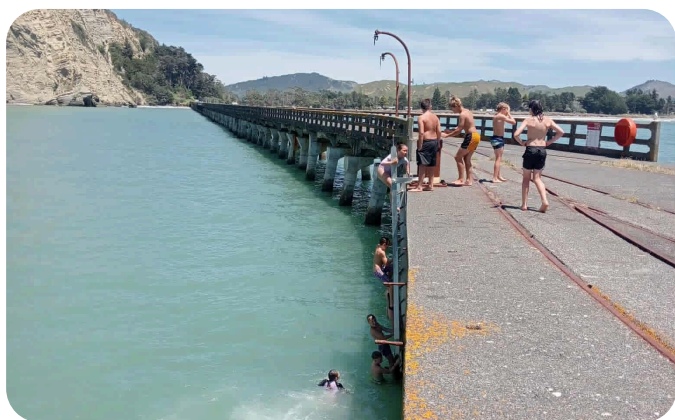
**Wednesday:** A highlight for many stingray feeding! Afterwards, everyone enjoyed time at the adventure playground.

**Thursday:** Although our snorkelling trip was cancelled, we made the most of the day with board games, table tennis, movies, and pizza.

**Friday:** To wrap up our amazing week, we're heading to the movies and finishing with a fun scavenger hunt around town.

A huge thank you to all our parent helpers who provided transport this week wouldn't have been possible without you. And a very big mihi to Koka Ange for the time, energy, and aroha put into organising this awesome camp.

Ngā mihi nui!







# Notices & Updates

## KEY DATES TERM 4

- 8<sup>th</sup> December: BOT Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup> December: Coaches afternoon tea.
- 11<sup>th</sup> December: Year 6 Leavers Dinner 4.30pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> December: Prize Giving 1:00pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> December: Reports sent home
- 15<sup>th</sup> December Kiwa Pools Day
- 16<sup>th</sup> December: Last Day / Water Fun day / finish 12:30pm

### TERM 1, 2026:

Our School office will be open Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Stationary packs will be available to pick up from Office Products depot from mid Jan onwards.

TERM #1 = Monday 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> of April.

**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 NOTICES / EVENTS

### 2026 TERM DATES

School office open Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> and Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> Feb.

TERM #1 = Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb – Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April.

TERM #2 = Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> of April – Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July.

TERM #3 = Monday the 20<sup>th</sup> of July – Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> of September.

TERM #4 = Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October – Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of December.

### HOLIDAY SWIM LESSONS AVAILABLE.

Swim coach Toni Durston who has been working with our students and families across term four, will be offering a holiday program for swim lessons if there is enough interest from our community.

The program is scheduled for the following dates / blocks of dates:

#1 = 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> Dec: 9:00–1:00pm.

#2 = 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> Jan: 9:00–1:00pm.

Children would swim everyday at allotted times – please contact Toni directly if you wish to book a spot for your child – or would like further information 0275131888.

The cost is as follows (lessons are 30min):

4 children = \$10 per child / 3 children = \$11 per child / 2 children = \$15 per child / 1 child = \$30



# Ngā Kaitautoko Kura Sponsors: Ngā mihi!



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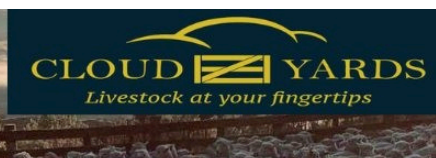
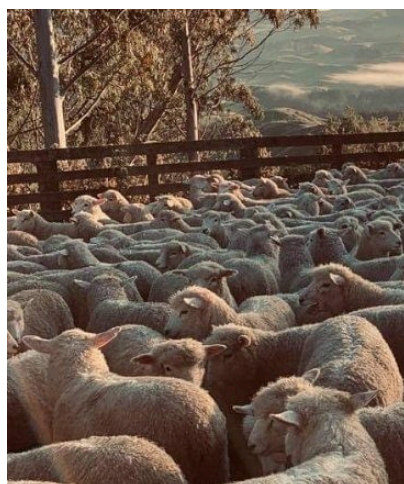
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