



Ormond School Newsletter

6th March 2026
Week 34 Term 1

Kia ora Ormond School Whānau,

Thank you to everyone who turned up to support our swimming sports yesterday. It was fantastic to see the community in full voice—it makes a big difference to our students to see a friendly face in the crowd.

After listening to community feedback last year, we made several changes to this year's event in direct response to the ideas put forward. For our senior students, we introduced both non-competitive and competitive heats. This allowed everyone to participate comfortably while giving our top swimmers the chance to compete under the conditions they would experience at the upcoming inter-school event in a few weeks time.

We couldn't make this happen without the adult volunteers who spent their day timekeeping, marshalling, officiating, and checking adherence to the rules. Thank you to those that put their name forward to help - you did a great job! A huge well-done to Mrs. Parsons for leading the event and organizing our volunteers to ensure everything ran smoothly.

Our junior events are always a highlight, and it was brilliant to see the little ones with smiles on their faces and plenty of laughter. Next year, we may look to adjust the schedule so our juniors are first up, ensuring they aren't waiting too long in the loud and hot environment of the pool complex - it gets a bit chaotic having our little ones sitting around after a while - I think I was pretty dysregulated myself by the end!

As the year gets underway, we all understand that student success is built on a strong home-school relationship. Academic achievement can also be enhanced when students experience learning at home that aligns with their classroom work.

We certainly would not encourage this on a daily basis - as we believe "kids should be kids" and enjoy their afternoons and weekends, however a few parents have asked for ways to provide a little extra support. The Ministry of Education (MoE) has published a Parent Portal for whānau and caregivers, which provides practical ideas for supporting your child's growth.

If you choose to check it out, the direct link is here: [MOE Parent Portal](#)

Next week is another busy one! We have interschool cricket on Wednesday for some of our senior students, followed by our Ormond School Triathlon on Friday. If you can make it, we would love to see you there!

FRIDAY 20th MARCH: Please book this date into your calendars. This will be a combined meet the teacher / working bee / family BBQ afternoon / evening. Details on how it will run will be communicated in our next newsletter.

Have a great weekend,

Shane Hooks
Tumuaki / Principal



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www.ormond.school.nz

Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata



Ormond School F.L.A.X Awards



KEA

Wow, Kea! Your resilience has been shining lately. I have been so proud of the way you've tackled challenges, even when you felt a little unsure. Whether it was the Whānau Competition or Swimming Sports, you gave it your best go and discovered just how much fun those events can be! You also showed what a powerful 'Self-Manager' you are by taking my recent absence in your stride and adapting so beautifully to having other teachers in the room. It is wonderful to see your confidence growing every day. Keep up that brave pirate spirit! Ka pai, Kea!



TATE

Tate, I have been really impressed with the way you have transitioned into Karaka so easily. You are already showing what a powerful Learner Superhero you are! You get stuck into your learning, you ignore distractions and move yourself away and you are happy to work with anyone in our class. You are a cool customer, staying calm even when you are faced with challenges. Keep up your amazing attitude
Tate, tau kē



ELLY

Elly, you are learner that has the right attitude to all that you do. You make sure you have your learning tools ready each day before school and this shows you are a self manager. You make sure everyone is included in your group tasks or challenges and this shows how you contribute to our class. You are the first to offer to help others or do extra tasks to help and this shows how you relate to others. The stars and moon see you heading their way Elly. Ka mau te wehi! AWESOME.



ARCO

Arco, you have consistently demonstrated the Key Competency - Relating to Others this week. As a respectful listener and a positive role model for junior students, you make our school a better place. We especially appreciate your initiative in helping teachers clean up after the swimming sports. Thank you for your helpful nature and for always looking out for your peers! He aroha whakatō, he aroha puta mai. If kindness is sown, then kindness you shall receive.

TIDY KIWI – WEEK 4 KARAKA

HOUSE POINTS:

To be continued...



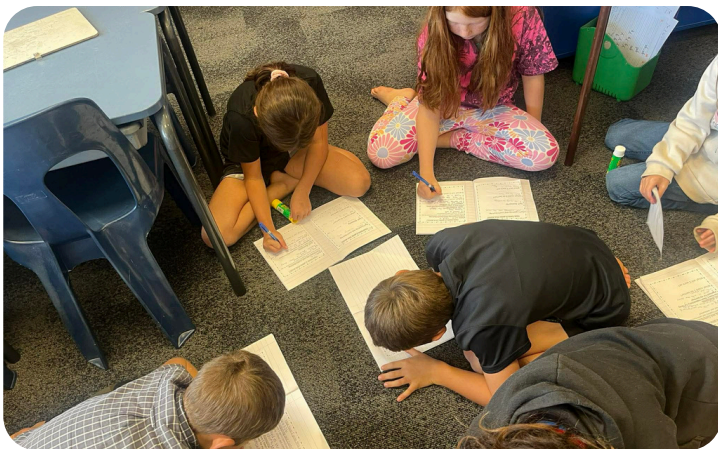
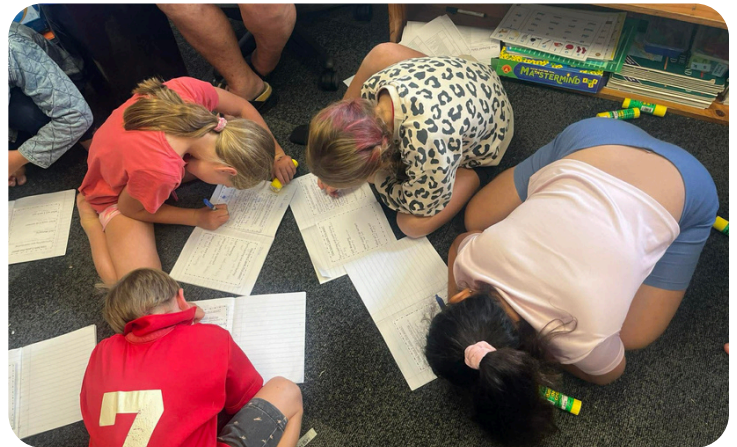
Te Ako Mahi

Learning in Action

POHUTUKAWA REFLECTION WRITING

Our Pōhutukawa students have been working on their weekly reflections. During this time, they think carefully about their learning and behaviour throughout the week. The children write about what they did well, how they managed themselves during their learning, and what they could improve on next time.

This reflection time helps students build self-management skills and take responsibility for their learning. It's great to see them thinking honestly about their progress and setting goals for the week ahead.



Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata

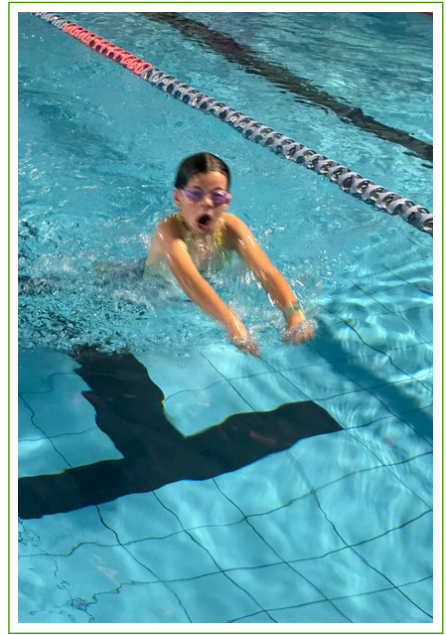
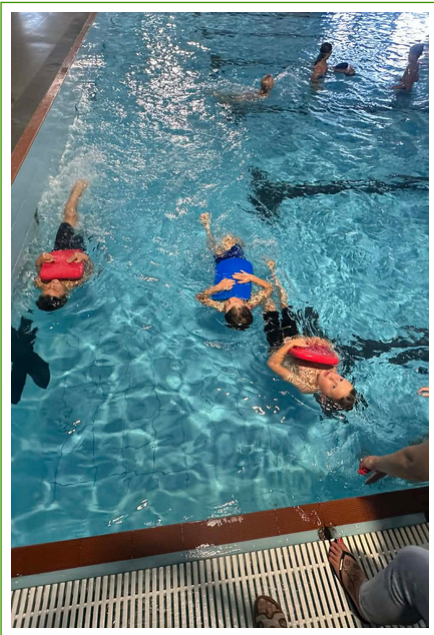


Marautanga Taapiri

Extra-Curricular

SWIMMING SPORTS

On Thursday we held our annual School Swimming Sports, and what an amazing day it was! Our students showed fantastic effort, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the event. It was wonderful to see so many children giving it their best in the pool and cheering each other on from the sidelines. A huge thank you to our wonderful parents who helped on the day with timekeeping and recording places. Your support helped the event run smoothly and is greatly appreciated. Events like this wouldn't be possible without our supportive school community.





Te taenga atu Attendance

ATTENDANCE

A few newsletters ago, we outlined the importance of attendance and our attendance management plan – which sits alongside the Ministry of Education's STAR approach to raising attendance across NZ. The more students are absent from school, the less chance they have for success – especially within academic attainment.

This makes sense – as like any endeavor – if you are only completing 80% of the work needed on an on-going basis – you quickly fall behind and are constantly playing catch up. This is true for full day absence, and also constant late drop offs, or early pick ups.

With the MOE raising the bar with the new NZ curriculum – increasing what students should know and understand within each year group – it is especially important that children are at school as much as possible. Each week a report is generated which shows how our kura is doing in relation to the overall goal of having most students attend school at least 90% of the time. This has been attached below.

As part of the attendance initiative – when students move between the zones – green, yellow, orange and red – parents and caregivers will be receiving an email / letter outlining the worry about missed learning time, and the goal of improving attendance. These letters are templated via the MOE – but sent out by schools across the country. Please note that this response is aligned with students being Truant / or unexplained absence – so if your child's absence has been explained to the office, you may not receive one – however we may still contact you to discuss reasoning etc. Each zone below initiates a different response – these responses are outlined in our AMP – which if you didn't see it a few weeks back – is linked here:

[Ormond school AMP](#)

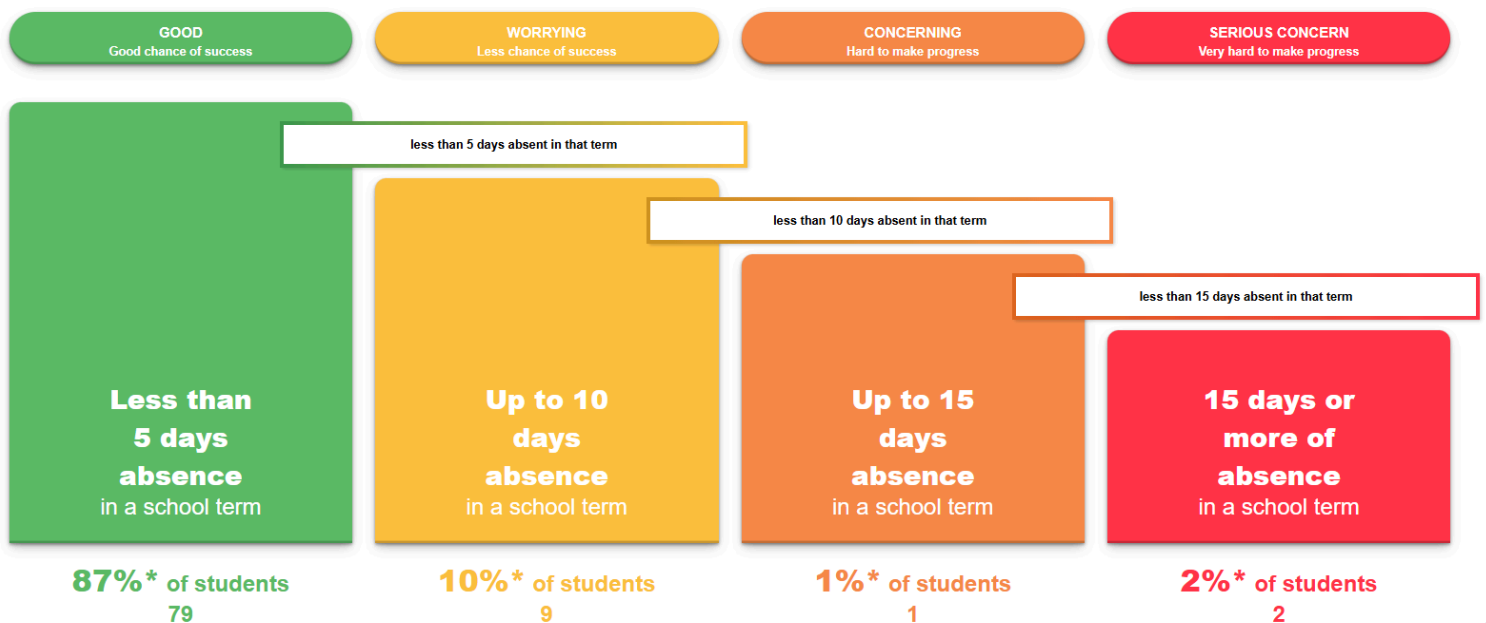
If you receive an email / letter about attendance – it is not us trying to make things difficult – but rather an attempt to work together to increase attendance of your child, so they can learn and grow to their full potential in our school setting.

Let's get our kids to school and get them learning!

Stepped Attendance Response - STAR

Responding to all absences

The Government's target is for **80% of students to attend regularly**, that is to attend school more than **90% of the time**.





Nga Panui Nui

Notices & Updates

KEY DATES TERM 1

- Monday 9th March - School Board meeting
- Wednesday 11th March - Interschool Cricket. Friday 13th March - Ormond School Triathlon
- Friday 20th March - Community working bee / meet the teacher / whānau BBQ 3:00pm-6:00pm.
- Wednesday 18th March - Interschool Swimming.
- Wednesday 18th March and Thursday 19th March - Pohutukawa and Rimu Snorkeling experience.
- Wednesday 25th March - Interschool Triathlon.
- Monday 30th March - School Board meeting.
- Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April - Aspiration hui / whānau and teacher.

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

HEADLICE / NITS / KUTUS

Hi everyone, just a quick heads-up that we have had a few cases of head lice (nits) reported at the school. Please take a moment to check your child's hair at home.

We have a couple of bottles of nit shampoo available in the office. If you would like one, please come and see Ash. There is a limited amount available, so it will be first in, first served.

Thanks for your help in keeping this under control.

HOCKEY

PB Hockey are running a 'Give it a go day'. If you are interested in your child be involved in this - please click into the following link to access the information and sign them up!

[PBH Give it a go!](#)

FRIDAY 20th MARCH

Please book this date into your calendars. This will be a combined meet the teacher / working bee / family BBQ afternoon / evening. Details on how it will run will be communicated in our next newsletter.



REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR NGATAPA NIPPERS!

If your child is interested in playing rugby, netball or football (soccer), you can now register at **ngatapa.co.nz**



Junior Rugby Registrations:

Jess Claffey: jessclaffey@gmail.com



Junior Netball Registrations:

Helena Connon: helenaconnon@gmail.com



Junior Football Registrations:

Jessica Arthur: jessmaud@hotmail.com





Ngā Kaitautoko Kura

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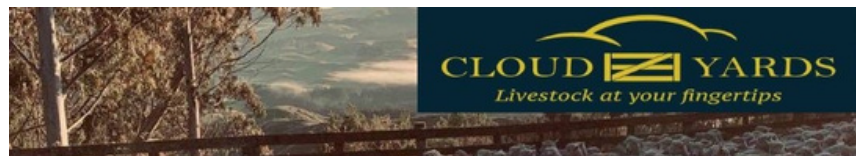
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