



Ormond School Newsletter

20th March 2026
Week 6 / Term 1

Kia ora Ormond School Whānau,

Our students have had some awesome opportunities over the last few weeks. Swimming Sports, Triathlon, Snorkeling and Marine Reserve, Aurora Leadership, Inter-school Sports and so on. These "extras" are vital to their holistic development, building their self-esteem and shaping their personal stories as they grow. It may seem hectic at times – but the effort is worth it. To all the students stepping up and getting involved—well done!

Last year we consulted with our community on our strategic direction for the next three years, and through this process the Board has developed our plan for the next three years. This plan guides our initiatives and actions across the school and through achieving its outcomes will ensure our kura achieves its vision of "Growing Great People". You can view this plan by clicking here: [Ormond School Strategic Plan 2026-2028](#)

From this plan, we then develop a road map across the next three years and create annual improvement plans for each year in turn – specifying goals, actions and outcomes we wish to prioritise as we move forward. This year's Annual Improvement Plan is focused on the following goals and outcomes:

PRIORITY STRATEGIC INITIATIVES 2026

- Strengthen inquiry based learning (integrated curriculum).
- Develop our Local curriculum to reflect service learning and citizenship
- Deliver robust literacy and numeracy programs reflective of best practice
- Value and be deliberate with PLD & resourcing: prioritising Literacy, Numeracy and Assessment.
- Embed quality planning, teaching and assessment practices.
- Ensure a systemic, evidence based approach to improvement.
- Prioritise Professional Growth for all staff (PGC).
- Encourage attendance through shared understanding of its importance and use of our Attendance Management Plan.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES 2026

- Our students have the skills, knowledge & understanding to be successful learners now & in the future.
- Our students view themselves as strong and capable learners.
- Our students understand the importance of contributing and service.
- Students are empowered to take ownership of their learning.
- All students are supported to achieve their academic potential.
- All students make progress from their academic starting point on an annual basis.
- Improved student outcomes in literacy and numeracy.
- PLD is relevant and used to improve student outcomes.
- Teaching is well informed and deliberate resulting in student improvement.
- Continue to develop highly capable and engaged Teachers.
- Strengthen teacher practice and pedagogy.
- Increase student attendance: Achieve the MOE goal of 80% of students attending 90% of the time.
- Students attend school on a regular basis and understand the importance of doing so.

For these goals to be achieved, everyone in our school community must play a role: our Board, teaching and support staff, parents, whānau, and, of course, our wonderful students. When we are all on the same kaupapa, we create the cohesion and synergy needed to give our tamariki the greatest chance of success. If you wish to discuss any of these initiatives, please reach out and we can set a time to meet. Thank you for working alongside us to create a great education for all of our tamariki!

Shane Hooks
Tumuaki / Principal



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Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata



Ormond School F.L.A.X Awards



Evelyn-Spencer

Ahoy there, Evelyn-Spencer! All the teachers on the Kōwhai ship have been impressed by the way you've been navigating our classroom lately. You have been a much more settled and happy sailor, staying on deck and following instructions! Even when things get tricky, you bounce back like a brave pirate. We have noticed how you can be a brilliant team player, sharing the loot and contributing your best ideas to our classroom adventures. Your positive spirit makes the whole ship a happier place for everyone. Keep up this golden attitude, Evelyn-Spencer—you are going to sail far!



Corban

Corban, we have been focusing on the key competency of relating to others in our class and you consistently show that you are a great team player and friend – you are kind to everyone with your words and your actions. A fine example of this was at our triathlon last week, when you were running to the finish line and your friend tripped. You showed what a great person you are by stopping, helping them up and letting them run ahead of you. What a legend! We are so proud of you Corban, ka rawe atu koe!



Belle

Belle, you are such a great member of Pōhutukawa. You get ready each day and are one of the first to start on your learning tasks. You are an independent learner and your quiet manner means that others like to sit beside you because you help them to stay focused like you are. You give everything a go and will go into the Learning Pit when you need to. Watch out moon and stars, Belle is heading your way. Ka mau te wehi! AWESOME.



Casey

Casey, you receive the FLAX Award this week for facing every challenge with a smile and total determination. You showed us all what it means to be brave by plunging into the ocean despite never having snorkelled before and you proved your 'can-do' spirit by being the very last person to leave the water! Kia Kaha, keep exploring!

**TIDY KIWI – WEEK 6
RIMU**

**HOUSE POINTS:
To be continued...**



Te Ako Mahi

Learning in Action

KŌWHAI MARBLE RUN & KARAKA TOWER BUILDING

Our Kōwhai students have been busy learning how to participate and contribute as active team members. They worked together to design and build an exciting marble run, sharing ideas, solving problems, and celebrating their successes along the way.

Meanwhile, our Karaka students put their creativity and teamwork to the test with a fun towel-building competition. Using only towels and their imagination, they collaborated to create unique and impressive structures.

It's been wonderful to see students across both teams developing confidence, cooperation, and a strong sense of contribution through these engaging activities.





Marautanga Taapiri

Extra-Curricular

Pōhutukāwa & Rimu Go Snorkling

Rimu and Pōhutukawa students had an incredible snorkeling experience on Wednesday, guided by Hana and Joe from He Awa Ora, He Tai Ora – Healthy Rivers, Living Sea Education Trust. Students explored the marine environment up close, learning about local ecosystems while building confidence in the water. A big thank you to our wonderful parent helpers for supporting with transport and to those brave enough to get in the water alongside the students. It was a fantastic day filled with learning, adventure, and memorable experiences for all involved!



Growing Great People – Te Whakatipu Tangata



Te taenga atu Attendance

ATTENDANCE

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.

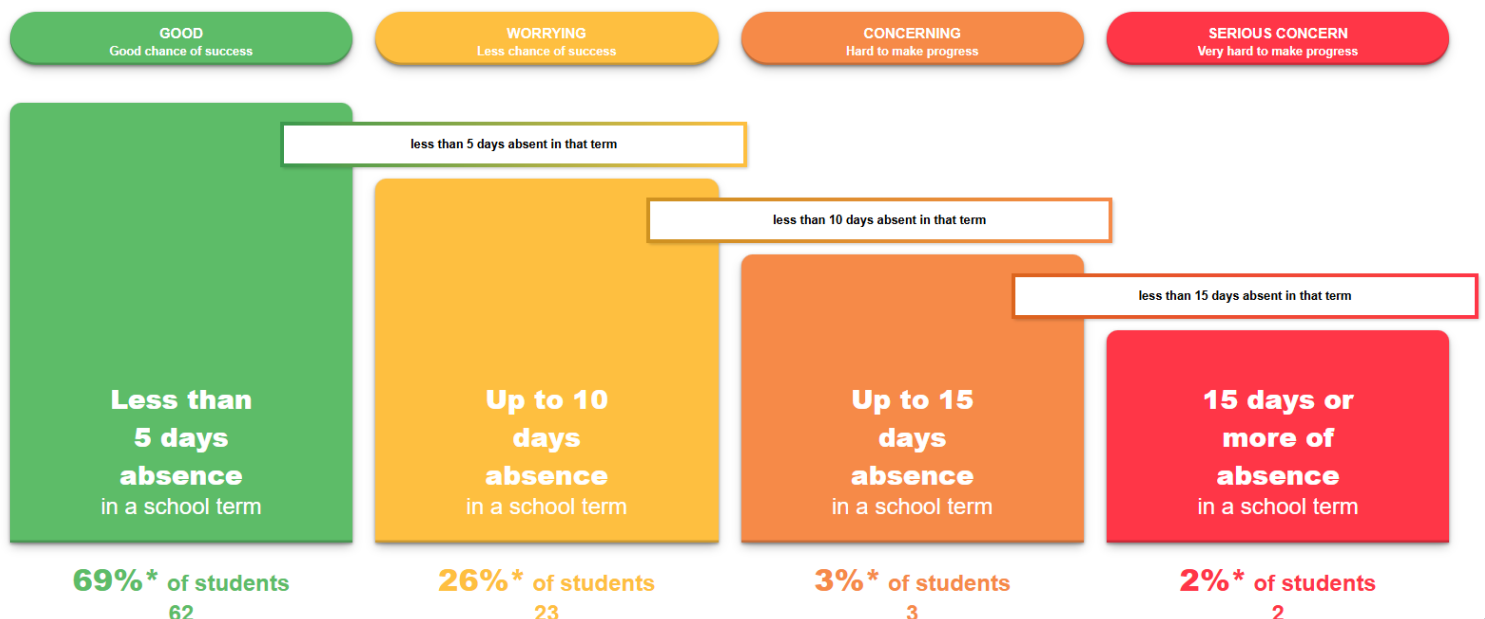
Let's get our kids to school and get them learning!

ATTENDANCE TO DATE FOR TERM 1 2026

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

- Wednesday 25th March - Interschool Triathlon.
- Monday 30th March - School Board meeting.
- Friday 27th March - Student Goals / Aspirations form sent home to discuss and add to as a family. Please return these to school the week after.

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

STUDENT GOAL SETTING AND ASPIRATION KAUPAPA.

Due to community feedback, we are running this important process a bit differently this year. Students will be working in their classes next week – on setting goals for the year, and identifying what they need to do to achieve them. This self awareness is a vital part of learning. This year, they will take this documentation home on Friday the 27th of March, to share and discuss with their family. Please take the time to sit alongside them and listen to their goals and aspirations as learners. Included in the documentation will be ways you can support learning at home, and a section that you as a family need to fill out, so your voice is included in your child's education. Once this process has been completed, please send the form back to school with your child, during the last week of term.

Teacher / family meeting:

If you wish to schedule a meeting with your child's teacher to discuss their learning or development, please reach out to them in person or via email to confirm a date / time.

Rimu: Angela Scott – angela@ormond.school.nz

Pohutukawa: Lynne Thompson – lynne@ormond.school.nz

Karaka: Raquel Parsons – raquel@ormond.school.nz

Kowhai: Sophie Garbett – sophie@ormond.school.nz



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





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