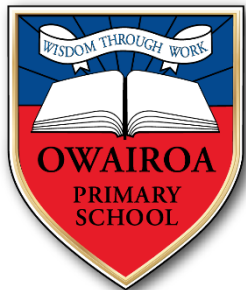


WELCOME TO THE OWAIROA FAMILY...



BUILDING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

You will now all be aware of the construction zone happening around the central part of the school. We are all excited to see the reconstruction of Rooms 6 ~9 to bring them up to Modern Learning Environment standards, similar to the upgrade of Rooms 1-4.

The contract for the work is costing in the vicinity of \$489,000 and is funded by the Government, as part of our school Capital Works Programme.

I regret any inconvenience that this may cause to you or your child as you move around the school, but the contract funding availability and timing was beyond our control.

Our main concern is for the safety of students, staff and parents during this construction period, so we ask that you be vigilant and take care.

We appreciate your co-operation and understanding in this matter.

ERO SUCCESS!!

Every three years our school is visited by the team from the Education Review Office [ERO]. ERO is a Government Agency which reports to the Ministry of Education and publically on the quality of education in all New Zealand schools.

"Our school welcomed the ERO team at the end of last year and our report is now available. This can be accessed through www.ero.govt.nz, or through our school website www.owairoa.school.nz, or on desk copy loan from the school office."

In the conclusion to the report the Education Review Office wrote:

"Owairoa School provides an environment where children engage in learning through trusting and respectful relationships with each other and teachers. Students achieve well against the National Standards, and their progress, achievement and wellbeing are central to school decision-making. The school's strong connection to its community enriches school processes and systems.

ERO is likely to carry out the next review in four-to-five years."

The Board of Trustees recently received a letter from the Minister of Education and she wrote:

"I have been informed by the Chief Review Officer that Owairoa Primary School has recently been reviewed by the Education Review Office and that the review report has been confirmed with the decision that ERO will next review the school in four to five years. She has sent me a copy of that report for my information.

I am aware that the criteria leading to this decision by ERO are demanding. I congratulate all involved for the work you are doing to ensure your school is providing a high quality of education for its learners.

This must be very encouraging for you and I commend you, your Board and the Principal, Alan McIntyre, for the leadership you have all shown, and the staff for their focus on learner achievement.

Thank you for the important contribution Owairoa Primary School is making to the education of New Zealand's young people."

M.P. Hekia Parata

FREE LITTLE LIBRARY

Three Free Little Libraries have been provided around the school, one each for Junior, Middle and Senior School.

These libraries are a new feature in our school to encourage student to read and store books.

The **Little Free Library** offers a way to share good books to read, favourite books you have read or books you would recommend to friends. All of us can help by keeping this collection stocked with good reading material.

We support reading for children, literacy for adults, and promote a love of literature at our school.

IN CONFERENCE

What a great opportunity we have had with over 96% of families represented at our recent Parent Teacher Student Conferences. Many a proud student was pleased to present to parents their academic progress, their next learning steps and the help that parents could do to support them. This strong home school partnership is so important to student success, so thanks to all parents who have played their part to support this partnership.



PINK BAG DAY

As part of our Environmental Education programme we are promoting a "Bring the Pink Bag to School Project". Every family will receive a pink plastic bag and on Wednesday 10th June are asked to bring the bag along to school filled with any good quality used clothing, blankets, soft toys, bags, belts and shoes that you may wish to get rid of. The school can earn up to \$1000 for the pink bags depending on the quality and



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HOMESTAY

We are expecting a number of International Students and Adult Visitors in July and August this year. They will be requiring paid homestays and we generally place two students (aged around 10~11 years) in each homestay. If you would like to extend some hospitality to our visitors you can contact Diane McIntyre, on 5380060 ext215, to register your interest.

ANZAC COMMEMORATION

Anzac Day commemorates all New Zealanders killed in war and also honours returned servicemen and woman. This year was particularly significant as it was the 100 year anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign. Our staff and student remembered the fallen in our school Anzac Service and also showed their respect at our Field of Remembrance.



HEALTH ISSUES

If your child requires medication to be administered at school we ask that parents complete a medication consent form, available from the school office. For asthmatics, we will work with you to formulate an action plan to assist with your child's individual needs. For safety reasons, all medication is to be brought and stored in a named container in our school office.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

The transition to Winter Uniform has started with the expectation that all students will be in full Winter Uniform as from Tuesday 18 May. All students are required to wear black leather shoes for winter. Please note this does not include black sneakers / sports type shoes.



MAY

- 18 Full Winter Uniform
- 19 Board of Trustees Meeting 7pm
- 21 PTA Lunchtime sausage sizzle
- 26 PTA Meeting 7.30pm
- 29 Jump Rope for Heart Day

JUNE

- 1 Queens Birthday holiday
- 10 Pink Bag Day

JULY

- 3 Last day of Term 2

With kind regards,
Alan McIntyre, Principal