





Owairoa Primary School, 85S Nelson Street, Howick, Auckland 2014, New Zealand. Principal Mr Alan McIntyre J.P.,B.Ed., G.D.I.T.E., Dip. Tchg., Cert Sch Mkting (CMS)., A.N.Z.E.I. Phone 0064 9 538 0060 Email officemanager@owairoa.school.nz www.owairoa.school.nz



Dear Parents and Caregivers

It's a pleasure to welcome back our returning students and families for 2025, as well as extend greeting to those joining the Owairoa 'Family' for the first time. Whether you are new to our school or continuing your journey with us, we are confident that your time at Owairoa Primary School will be both fulfilling and successful.

A special welcome also goes to our new staff members. We are delighted to have you on board and look forward to the positive contributions you will bring to our team. We hope your experience at Owairoa will be both enriching and rewarding.

Our dedicated teachers have been working hard to build strong connections with their students in the past few days, creating a warm and engaging learning environment. We invite you to join us at our Open Home event next week, where you'll have the opportunity to meet the Teachers and explore the learning experiences planned for the year ahead. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our <u>School Mission Statement</u> is an important intention to ensure quality learning opportunities and equitable outcomes for all students.

Our Mission is to provide pathways to access challenging, stimulating, quality education that creates self-motivated, lifelong learners equipped for a changing world.

This statement is further supported by our School Vision Statement:

Owairoa Primary School – Pathway to the Future

Our vision is to lead children along the pathway, which prepares them for the future and challenges them to continually strive for new horizons.





Students 7

- Tianqing Dong
- David Wu
- Hannah Van Jaarsveld
- Georgia Lee
- Talia Leo
- Emme Gin
- Ian Liu
- Elli Peturbos
- Hanna Stolarska
- Jayden Sun
- Hope Howard
- Resandi Jayawickrama
- Alexia-Raquel Shortland
- Ganimat Walia
- Michael Guo
- Anna Borovikov
- Kaden Teo
- Naimal Fatima
- Chloe Tang
- Amber Mann
- Karson Wan

- Immanuel Bernesto
- Meshwa Patel
- Deyana Naurunna
 Acharige
- Zion Bernesto
- Abi Berry
- Harry Berry
- Ane Du Plessis
- Oliver Herewini
- Dan Fernandes
 De Morais
- Zayden Delport
- Maria Sebold Santos
- Luca Kinnear
- Fusi Taukeiaho
- Saanvi Sharma
- Rudra Sharma
- Lucien Wahl
- Chad Alisangco
- Orzyah-West Fox-Henry
- Ela Luafa Feagaiga

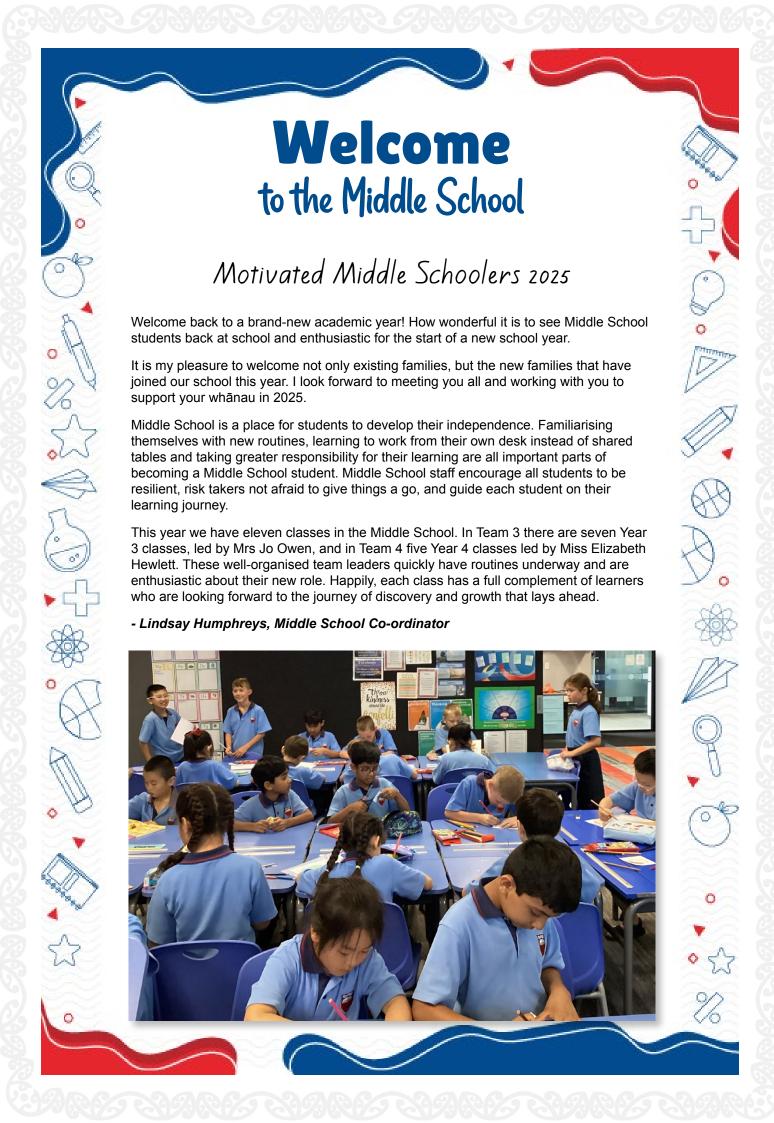
- Hazel Luafa Feagaiga
- Milani Luafa Feagaiga
- Amy Graham
- Clyde Dabalos
- Hunter Bentley
- Winston Wu
- Suri Tat
- Elijah Mondejar
- Mia Wipiiti
- Zander Ragavan
- Ruby-Rozay
 Toivao-Toailepaialii
- Dylan Qu
- Kenny Shimizu
- Sunny Shimizu
- Ann Miyashita
- Ryo Miyashita
- Anna Sawa
- Linc Harada
- Lino Harada
- Camelia Cheng

New Staff

- **Daf White-Chambers**, Year 3 Teacher
- Ella Gribble, Year 4 Teacher
- Campbell Parkinson, Year 4 Teacher
- Abbie Jones, Year 5/6 Teacher
- Karyn Patterson, ESOL Specialist

- Louis Hewitson-Chambers,
 - Trainee Teacher
- Neeru Arya, Teacher Aide
- James Brown, Teacher Aide









OUR PROFESSIONAL TEAM FOR 20

SCHOOL SENIOR MANAGEMENT

 Alan McIntyre Principal Shane Devery Deputy Principal Kirsty Rice Associate Principal Assistant Principal Anita Randhawa Lindsay Humphreys Middle School Co-ordinator

ADDITIONAL TEACHING STAFF

 Sally Taka Senco Sonia Smith Remedial Jonathan Basson Sports Specialist ESOL Specialist · Marjorie Parkes Karyn Patterson ESOL Specialist Sarah Won Music Specialist William Howard Digital Dream Lab • Lee-Anne Trebilco First Call Reliever • Louis Hewitson-Chambers Trainee Teacher

CRT TEACHING STAFF - CLASSROOM RELEASE TEACHER

 Richard Yates Rochelle Bradley Dawn Burgess Susan Green Janet Twentyman Don Campbell

 Monika Solanki Angela Wallis

SUPPORT STAFF

Science Technician Eiman Farid Mia Petford Swimming Assistant School Chaplain Mony Neale New Era ICT Technician Pratik Jivanji

SUPPORT STAFF - TEACHER AIDE SPECIAL NEEDS

· Andrea Wade-Gill · Penny Teague · Deborah Bielby Dove Huang • Jill McIntosh · Shelley Williams • Hannah Zhou Greer Turner · Shelby Broskie Ashleigh Brown • Wei-Ling Tu Angela Lau · Hana Sotutu James Brown Neeru Arya

ADMINISTRATION TEAM

 Sharleen Morrow Administration Assistant Administration Assistant Clare Burton Valerie Wee Administration Assistant • Sharleen Brown Librarian / Resource Manager

Graphic Designer · Cecilia Perez

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Executive Officer - Jane Huang Finance / Human Resources

Finance Assistant · Atul Garg · Angela Lau Finance Assistant

INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Director of International Diane McIntyre Education / Sales and Marketing International Parent Class / • Jill McIntyre International Student English Support International Administration Assistant

PROPERTY TEAM

Greer Turner

 Andrew McCallum Property Manager · Ronald Dragt Assistant Caretaker Ben Hansell Assistant Caretaker

SATELLITE CLASS

 Jocelyn Bernesto Teacher Jody Howie Teacher Aide Quinn Scorgie Smith Teacher Aide Teacher Aide Josephine Sit

Class Teacher

Junior School

Team1A Year 1	Sam Wood Tracey Haugh	Room 3 Room 4
Team1B Year 1	Michelle Geddes Sharlene Naidoo Nicole Basson	Room 6 Room 7 Room 8
Team 2 Year 2	Kristina Ellis Joline Kennard Alex Cornea Alex Garrett Nikki Eccles	Room 9 Room 10 Room 11 Room 12 Room 13

Michaela Lee

Room 1

Middle School

Team 3 Year 3	Sheree Blake	Room 23
	Helen Stevens	Room M4
	Jo Owen	Room M5
	Namrata Nand	Room M6
	Amy Liljewall	Room M7
	Daf White-Chambers	Room M8
	Amy Clarkson	Room M9
	Ella Gribble	Room 24
Team 4	Monique Muller	Room 25
Year 4	Campbell Parkinson	Room M1
	Liz Hewlett	Room M2
	Cavleigh Leslie	Room M3

Senior School

Team 5 Year 5/6	Neandri Byron Anneli Minnaar Alisha-Maree Pethig Abbie Jones Luke O'Brien Babette Maas	Room 20 Room 26 Room M15 Room M16 Room M17 Room M18
Team 6 Year 5/6	Glenda Obbes Debbie Job Gareth Rossiter Claire Findley Leanne Johnson	Room M10 Room M11 Room M12 Room M13 Room M14



The term dates for 2024 have been sets and approved by the School Board as follows:

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Friday 7 February - Friday 11 April 2025

Term Three

Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September 2025

Term Two

Monday 28 April – Friday 27 June 2025

Term Four

Monday 6 October – Friday 19 December 2025

The school will also be closed for:

Friday 7 March Curriculum Day 1

Monday 2 June King's Birthday

Friday 20 June Matariki

Monday 27 October Labour Day

THE IMPORTANCE OF STRONG ATTENDANCE HABITS

Regular school attendance is essential for student success. Missing just one day of school every two weeks may not seem like much, but over time, it adds up—by the age of 16, that's an entire year of lost learning. As parents and caregivers, you play a vital role in fostering good attendance habits alongside the school.

Attending school every day is not only a legal requirement but also a shared responsibility. Every school day matters, and ensuring your child is present and engaged in learning from their very first day sets the foundation for future success.

If your child needs to be absent—for example, due to a medical procedure—it's important to inform the school. However, family holidays or non-medical reasons are not considered valid absences.

We understand that some families may face challenges in getting their child to school. If this is the case, please communicate with us. Our school is committed to supporting regular attendance by:

- Fostering strong relationships between students, families, and staff.
- Creating an inclusive school culture that values every student's identity, background, and aspirations.
- Working together as a community to ensure all students are attending, participating, and making progress in their education.



We are excited to welcome you to our annual Open Home event next week on Thursday 20th February. This is a wonderful opportunity for Parents to visit the school, meet their child's teacher, explore the learning environment, and gain insight into the routines and expectations for the year ahead.

To accommodate busy schedules, we are offering three session times—no appointment is needed:

- 3:15pm 4:00pm
- 4:15pm 5:00pm
- 5:15pm 6:00pm

The event gives the opportunity for the Teacher to introduce themselves to you, provide feedback on the start to the year, and to discuss things pertinent to their classroom.

At Owairoa Primary School, we believe in fostering strong relationships—not only with our students but with their families as well. This event is a great opportunity to

connect with your child's teacher, discuss your aspirations for their learning, and lay the foundation for a successful year.

A strong partnership between school and home is key to a child's success, and your involvement in their educational journey makes a meaningful difference. If you would like to discuss any specific educational, health, or wellbeing concerns in more detail, you are welcome to arrange a separate meeting with your child's teacher following the Open Home.

We look forward to seeing you there.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY



We value strong communication with our school community and strive to keep families informed through our main school newsletter, published approximately every three weeks. In addition, special notices are sent out as needed, to share important updates.

All school communications are published digitally via the Audiri App, which can be easily downloaded from the Apple Store or Google Play Store by searching for Audiri App. Stay connected and up to date with all the latest school news.



Install the App in 4 easy steps! Audiri

The free Audiri school app offers parents a convenient way to stay up-to-date with the school calendar, last-minute forms, newsletters, all school communications, and even make cashless payments. With Audiri, you can get started in just a few minutes by following these simple steps:

- Open the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store and search for 'Audiri'. Install the app.
- Create an account and follow the prompts. Click 'Sign up'. Enter your email address, create a password and click on 'Sign up'. A confirmation email will be sent to confirm your account.

 Open the confirmation email and confirm your account.
- Open the app, and click 'Add/Remove'.
 Type your school's name and press
 enter.
- Tap the + icon to add. Now you can see your school, under My Schools & Services.



Search Audiri in the app store





audiri.com.au



Making A Splash

You will have received a notice last week with details about our swimming programme for Term One, which started this week. Swimming is part of the New Zealand Curriculum and our school is very fortunate to have a swimming pool on site, allowing us to offer weekly swimming sessions for our students.

We expect all students to attend their weekly swimming sessions. If your child is not swimming, please send a note explaining the medical reason for this.

On their allocated swimming day, we ask that students bring their togs, a towel, goggles (optional) and their swimming cap in a named bag. Swimming caps are available from our school office for \$5.



Curriculum Day One - School Closed

We will be having the first of two Government-allocated Curriculum Days on Friday 7th March. School will be closed for students on this day.

On this day our staff will be undertaking professional development on the new Mathematics Curriculum that has been implemented this year.

A second Curriculum Day will be scheduled for later this year. Once the date has been confirmed, we will let you know.







Owairoa Primary School, like other schools, ask parents for a voluntary donation. This donation is a vital source of income in our school budget and is used to provide additional staffing, programme, and resources, all dedicated to enhancing educational outcomes for students.

The donation for 2025 has been set at **\$360 per student**. The School Board would appreciate your contribution so that we can maintain the various resources and programmes offered here at Owairoa Primary School.

Payment can be easily made online through our Kindo Online School Shop. Please use the link https://kindoshop.owairoa.school.nz to register if you haven't already done so. All school donations are tax deductible and can be claimed from Inland Revenue after 1st April.

School Board

Our school is fortunate to be governed by a very supportive School Board who are committed to ensuring that the best possible learning opportunities are available to the students of Owairoa Primary School.

We have ten members on our School Board, consisting of eight members, the Principal and a Staff Representative. The Board is elected by the school community every 3 years. The next elections are to be held later this year.

The monthly School Board meetings are held in the Howard Room, starting at 7pm. The first meeting of the year is scheduled for Tuesday 25th February. Parents and the wider community are welcome to attend. The 2025 School Board Meeting schedule is available on our school website www.owairoa.school.nz/our-school/school-board/



Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is an integral part of the Owairoa Primary School community. The PTA is responsible for supporting Owairoa through fundraising and parent assistance of social activities run by the school.

All parents with children at Owairoa Primary School are automatically members of the PTA and are very welcome to attend the monthly meetings. Meetings provide you with an opportunity to find out what is happening in and around the school and to share ideas on social events, fundraising activities and other school initiatives.

The first meeting of the year is scheduled for **Tuesday 4th March**. We look forward to welcoming some new faces to join the team.

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School Uniform Expectations

Our school uniform plays an important role in helping our students create a sense of belonging, school pride, and unity among their peers. It also helps to create a positive and professional image within the wider community.

Students are expected to wear the **correct uniform at all times** as part of their commitment to representing Owairoa Primary School.

To help prevent lost items, please ensure that **all uniform pieces are clearly named** so they can be quickly returned if misplaced.

New uniform items can be purchased online from Argyle Schoolwear: www.argyleonline.co.nz/shop/auckland/owairoa-primary-school

Second hand uniform items can be purchased from our PTA Second Hand Uniform Shop.

Details, including shop opening hours can be found here:

www.owairoa.school.nz/parents/uniform/

Thank you for your support in maintaining our school's high uniform standards.



Term One Sports Squad Trials

We will be holding trials for various sporting codes during Term 1. These trials are to make different sporting squads. All your child needs to do, is inform their classroom teacher, who will sign them up on the trials list for the sporting code they want.



Once the trials have taken place, a squad will then be chosen, and will have a specific training day allocated to them. Training squads will also be trimmed closer to the event if needed.

The coaches will then choose the team from the squad to represent our school at the HPPA events. Those students that are successfully chosen will receive further information about the event through a letter.

The preliminary dates of the trials are below, with which year groups can trial.

Please note that the dates can be moved, added, or omitted, this is depending on the weather and how many students want to trial. Your child will be informed if the date is moved by their teacher or through the daily notices.

Preliminary trail dates:

Date	Sporting Code	Year Level
14 th Feb	Year 4 Boys Football trials	Year 4
24 th Feb	Year 6 Chess trials	Year 6
25 th Feb	Year 5 Chess trials	Year 5
26 th Feb	Year 4 Chess trials	Year 4
12 th March	Netball internal trials	Year 6
13 th March	Netball internal trials	Year 5
14 th March	Netball internal trials	Year 4
25 th March	Dunkumaink in a	Year 4-6
25" March	Rugby weigh ins	Weight category applies
27 th March	Dumbustriala	Year 4-6
	Rugby trials	who have made weight category

Jonathan Basson

Physical Education Specialist

Auckland Regional Dental Service

The Auckland Regional Dental Service (ARDs) is a Health NZ/Te Whatu Ora-operated service, which provides FREE dental care to children across the greater Auckland areas. In order to prevent any eligible children missing out on receiving free dental care, ARDs is cross-checking their own records with school rolls.

For our children's better oral health and wellbeing, our school roll will be shared with the service as required. To find out more information about ARDs, please visit ards.co.nz or call 0800 TALK TEETH (0800 825 583).





Launchpad Champions



Launchpad is a not-for-profit organisation that presents a Values Education programme at our school, under the name Launchpad Champions.

Our Launchpad Champions programme is offered to Year 2 – Year 6 students for 30 minutes a week. The programme encourages students to make positive life choices and grow their sense of mana, self-worth and character. The programme is delivered in a fun and interactive manner.

The Launchpad Champions programme teaches students things like:

- What it means to be a good friend
- Self-control
- Being brave and doing the right thing
- Respect
- Making good choices
- Doing your best and helping others
- Forgiveness
- Self-discipline and perseverance
- Working together and partnerships

We live in a multicultural nation with many different world-views. Every student, no matter their views, upbringing or religion, is welcome to join in the class. In our programmes, every child is affirmed and encouraged.

Attendance instructions as advised previously will be adhered to this year. If this has changed, email your response to officemanager@owairoa.school.nz

The first Launchpad Champion session will start on **Wednesday 12th March**.

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Kindo

Kindo allows families to manage and pay for students' school activities online. If you do not have a Kindo account already, visit www.mykindo.co.nz or use the link on our school website www.owairoa.school.nz/parents/online-school-shop/

It is easy and secure to pay through Kindo. You can also download the mykindo app to your Apple or Android phone.





Kindo ezlunch

Again this year, you can order hot and cold meals, sushi and more through our Online School Shop. ezlunch provides a school lunch service Monday to Friday. Order (or cancel) online before 9am on the day of delivery.



Road Safety

Thank you to those parents who have set up good routines of dropping students off at school each morning, ready for a prompt start at 8.45am. Keeping our students safe around our school is always a priority for us, especially during daily drop-offs and pick-ups when traffic congestion is significant. Your support for mitigating risk around our school site is appreciated.

You may have noticed that some of our Year 6 students are now operating a Road Patrol service on our school pedestrian crossings again this

year. We are excited to bring back this student-led service for the first time since Covid, offering this important leadership role for our senior students.

To ensure the safety of both our students on patrol and the families walking to and from school each day, we ask that you please slow down when passing the school, and be mindful and patient of vehicles around you.

The start of the year is always a timely reminder for Parents to practice good road safety etiquette:

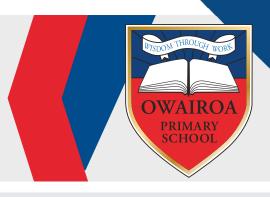
- all students and parents need to cross the road using the pedestrian crossing
- please do not stop on the yellow lines to drop off or pick up your children
- avoid parking across driveways when dropping your child off or picking them up
- it is safest for your child to get out of the vehicle on the footpath side, not the roadside
- the official speed limit around schools is 40km from 8.20am – 9am

Road rules around schools are designed are to keep our children, you and others protected. Please appreciate it is a community effort to help keep everyone safe.



Updated Contact Details

It is important that we have up to date addresses, email addresses and mobile phone numbers at all times. If you have had any change to your contact details for your child over the holidays, please email officemanager@owairoa.school.nz so we can update your records. This includes updating contact details of those people who collect your child from school.



Early Signing Out of Students

- The law states that all school age students should attend school for the full hours every day that the school is officially open. In addition to the issues we are having with students late for school on a daily basis, a re-emerging trend is for parents signing students out early, especially on a Friday afternoon where Parents want to get away earlier for a weekend break to beat the traffic.
- Please remember the official school day finishes at 3pm every day. The only valid reason for an earlier sign out is for an appointment eg. Specialist, dental or not feeling well. Your co-operation in this matter would not only meet the legal attendance guidelines but also enhances your child's education opportunities with their learning.

Year of the Snake

Chinese New Year / Spring Festival / Lunar New Year was observed on Wednesday 29th January 2025. This festival focuses on customs, cultural practices and traditions around the Lunar New Year.



People from China, Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Singapore, and other Asian countries celebrate the Lunar New Year as a national holiday. Customs and traditions differ between countries, but the dates of celebration are similar because many countries in Asia interpret the lunar calendar the same way.

For those families who celebrated this special festival event, I wish you all much prosperity and good health for the Year of the Snake.

Looking ahead

- February
 - 20 Open Home Meet the Teacher 3.15pm 6pm
 - 21 Fruju Friday
 - 25 School Board Meeting 7pm
- March
 - 4 PTA Meeting 7.30pm
 - 7 Curriculum Day 1 School Closed for students

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Health Matters

If you 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 mediation is to be brought and stored in a named container at our school office.







Before School Care: 7.00am - 8.30am After School Care: 3.00pm - 6.00pm

School Holidays: 7.30am - 6.00pm

Enrol via our website or pop into our programme WINZ subsidies are available For all questions or queries please contact our office or the programme

www.bizzybodz.co.nz | 09 530 9020 | 021 837 051



Jon Jaksic vour local real estate professional

021 113 9963 jon.jaksic@raywhite.com







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Strengthen the skills your child learns at school with Kumon Maths and English. Contact your local Kumon Centre to hear how we can support your child's learning.

KUMON HOWICK

EDUCATION CENTRE
Unit 2, 230 Wellington Street Howick, Auckland, 2014 Instructor: Vincent Lam tel: 021 297 7681

http://nz.kumonglobal.com



B.D.S., M.D.S.(OTAGO)

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