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‘Ka Tupu Kotahi Ai Tātou
...Together we Grow
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Newsletter-Quick Bits

ŌTAIKA VALLEY SCHOOL TERM 1: WEEK 9, 2026 Issue #04

Kia ora OVSwhānau

End of Term 1 Update: A Collective Success

As we wrap up the final week of Term 1, 2026, I want to extend a huge thank you to our incredible staff, students, Board of Trustees, and school whānau. It has been a truly positive and successful start to the year, and that is a direct result of our community working together with a shared sense of purpose.

Looking ahead to next term, there are some exciting additions to our OVS "way of working." We are thrilled to see our Student Council springing into action to give our learners a stronger voice in school life. Furthermore, we will see our OVS House/Roopu Groups launch for the very first time—a move designed to strengthen our sense of belonging and Tuakana-Teina across all year levels.

I wish everyone a safe, happy, and restful Easter break. Take this time to recharge and enjoy the company of friends and family.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday, 20th April, refreshed and ready for a very busy and exciting Term 2!

Ngā mihi nui,

Rick Sayer

Tumuaki/Principal

Outstanding Attendance

We all know the critical role that **Regular Attendance** plays in students success both now and in later life, so I am thrilled to acknowledge our growing group of students who are striving for excellent attendance. This term the below students achieved our 'Outstanding' attendance acknowledgement



OVS Triathlon Triumph!

What a spectacular day we had on Tuesday for our recent school Tri-athlon! The energy on the field and the determination on our students' faces was truly a highlight and a great way to finish the term.

I am incredibly proud of the attitudes and efforts displayed by every single participant. Seeing our students push through the swim, bike, and run was a perfect live demonstration of our R.U.R.U. values in action.

In particular, our **Up to Me** and **Resilience** values shone through. Whether it was a student battling the bike track or finding that "second wind" during the final run to the finish line, they proved that they have the grit to tackle any challenge. It wasn't just about who crossed the line first; it was about every student showing the **resilience** to keep going and taking **personal responsibility** for their own performance.

A huge thank you to our wonderful whānau and parents—the turnout was fantastic! Your cheering and support from the sidelines make a world of difference to the kids.

An event of this scale doesn't happen without a massive team effort. My sincere thanks go to:

- Our hardworking PTA and all the school whānau helpers who marshalled and kept things running smoothly.
- Max from the Whangarei Tri Club for his invaluable expertise and the team at Sport Northland for their resource support.
- A very special shout-out to Kate Atchison. Kate's tireless hard work in setting up and managing the logistics of the day was the backbone of this event's success. Thank you, Kate!

Given the success of the day, this is certainly going to become an annual event on our school calendar, and we celebrated our champions and those recommended for super Resilience and Sportsmanship awards.

For those students who have caught the "tri-athlon bug," the Northland Tri is being held at the beautiful Kai Iwi Lakes on the last Saturday of the school holidays. This is a fantastic opportunity to keep that momentum going! If your child is interested in entering or forming a team, please contact Kate Atchison at kate.atchison@hotmail.com.

(PS: Check out the Champions below and all the TRI pics on our facebook page)



Triathlon Results

ROOM 7

Boys:

1st Sydney Knight
2nd Leo Robertson
3rd Matteo Nieddu

Girls:

1st Annabelle Griffiths
2nd Megan Griffiths
3rd Sophia McGregor

ROOM 6

Boys:

1st Mack Atchison
2nd Locky Bourke
3rd Liam Mason

Girls:

1st Ruby Peterson
2nd Kate Stevens
3rd Thea Mitchell

ROOM 5

Boys:

1st Axel Crane
2nd Callen Drake
3rd Jackson Knight

Girls:

1st Indie McGregor
2nd Kayley Claris
3rd Lexie Ashurst

ROOM 4

Boys:

1st Brooklyn Yeates
2nd Max Mason
3rd Noah Clark

Girls:

1st Sasha Atchison
2nd Eve Cowan
3rd Luna Lin



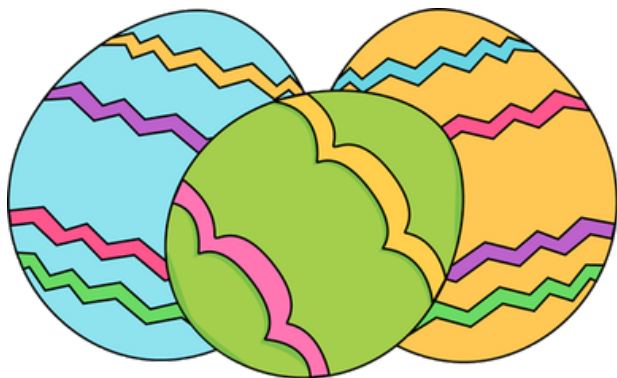
Room 5&6 Camp Easter Raffle Winners

Thank you so much for your support of our Easter Raffle. Our winner was drawn yesterday, and it was ticket #921, Dani (sold by the Knight whānau).

Bella (R6) and Lexie (R5) won the prize draw for returning their raffle books.

We have another two fundraisers in the words already- keep your eyes peeled for more details early in Term 2.

Easter Egg Jokes



Why did the Easter egg hide?

A: He was a little chicken

What's the Easter Bunny's favorite nursery rhyme?

A: Hop Cross Buns."

What's the best way to catch the Easter Bunny

A: Have someone throw him to you!

PTA UPDATE

Kia ora!

We recognise that times are tough for many families, and with other fundraising taking place within the school, we want to be mindful of the pressure this can create. This year, the PTA wants to focus on fundraising activities the kids love, such as the disco, ice block days, and Ag Day.

To do this, we need to explore other ways to raise funds for the school. One area we would love your help with is connecting with businesses or individuals who may be interested in sponsoring specific projects or items from the school's wish list.

Sponsorship is tax deductible, and we can offer advertising in return.

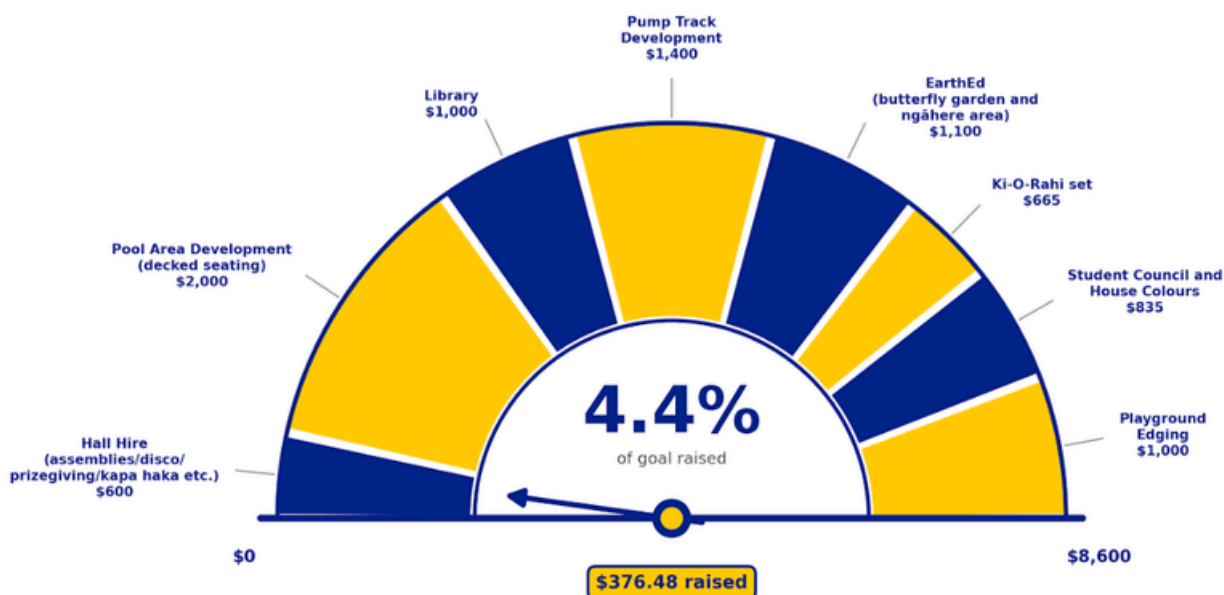
Finally, we're introducing a fundraising tracker. We have decided to fund projects as the money is raised, rather than committing to everything upfront. This means the order of items may change depending on current needs or if we secure funding for particular projects along the way.

If you have any ideas, contacts, or would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of our school.

PTA Committee.

PTA Fundraising Target

Help us reach our \$8,600 goal — every dollar counts!



Term Dates

Terms	Start	Finish
Term 1:	Wed, 4 Feb	Thurs, 2 April
Term 2:	Mon, 20 April	Fri, 3 July
Term 3:	Mon, 20 July	Fri, 25 Sept
term 4:	Mon, 12 Oct	Thurs, 17 Dec

If you need any help feel free to contact us.



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