

## Kia ora OVSwhānau

**Celebrating Our Unsung Heroes:** Support Staff Week !

This week, we took a moment to acknowledge, spoil and shine a spotlight on the incredible Support Staff who make Ōtaika Valley School the special place it is.

From our dedicated Teacher Aides - Darcie, Robyn, Katriona, Lisa, Gina, Anika and Jen (admin) to Mr T and Sid –you are the heartbeat of our kura. Whether it’s providing specialized learning support, keeping our grounds beautiful, or ensuring the school office runs like clockwork, your mahi happens behind the scenes but its impact is felt by every single staff member and student. You don't just "do a job"; you build relationships, offer kind words when a student is struggling, and go the extra mile to ensure our tamariki have everything they need to succeed.

So... a huge thank you for your passion, your patience, and the massive difference you make every day. OVS just wouldn't be the same without you!

**Attendance - shout it from the rooftops!**

A fantastic **91.4 %** attendance for our kura over the last 2 weeks. Well done OVS keep up this awesome effort...EVERY DAY COUNTS!

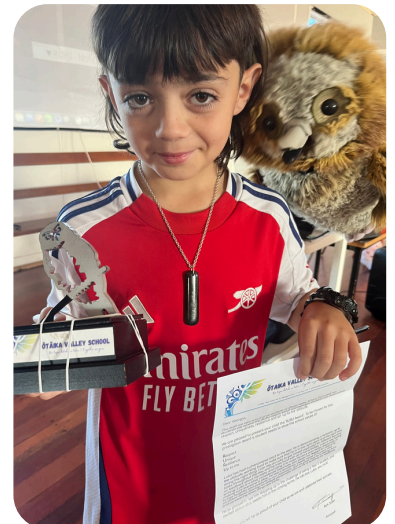
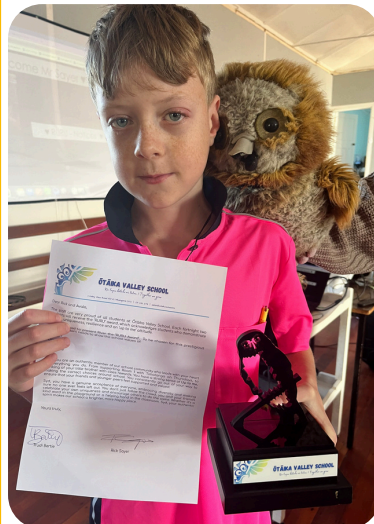
Ngā mihi nui,  
Rick Sayer

Tumuaki/Principal

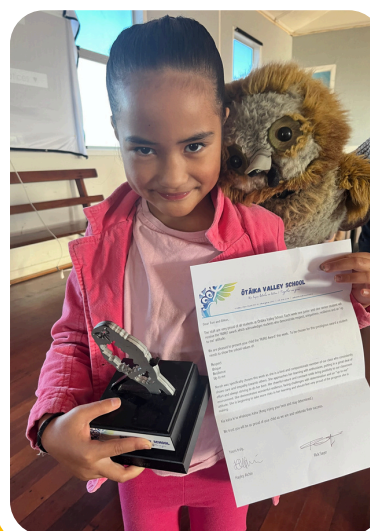
## R.U.R.U AWARDS

Every fortnight at assembly we celebrate our super OVS students, and this week’s ‘shout out’ is to say a huge congratulations to our R.U.R.U award winners over the last 2 weeks .

### Senior RURU: Syd and Luka



### Junior RURU: Norah & Luna



If you need any help feel free to contact us.



admin@otaika.school.nz



09 432 2731



## Ruru RockStar!

### Class Attendance Award

Each fortnight at assembly we are acknowledging the class with the best attendance for the week...and they win the 'Ruru Rockstar' Award.

The last 2 weeks' winner with 94% attendances (drum roll please...)



## BOT Spot

### Property

The school painting is now completed and we hope you are enjoying the bright new OVS look. Scaffolding will be down this weekend.

### Policy reminder

We are currently reviewing the following Term 2 policies: Daily School Bus, EOTC Governance Roles and Responsibilities and EOTC Risk Assessment and Management

- We welcome your feedback on these policies. To review them go to our Website, Go to About Us then The Board of Trustees Section, login and complete the review, it doesn't take long.

### Matariki Survey

Thank you everyone for your survey responses. Based on your feedback we will be continuing with our usual 'Evening Matariki Celebration' on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. See you there!

## Student Spot



### Room 5 Writing!

**Room 5** have been working on writing recounts in which we 'zoom in' on a moment in time, and try to describe our experience so well that the reader feels like Room 5 Writing!

were there too. Here is a selection of 'zoomed in' recounts about times we did scary things. If you want to see more, pop

in and check out our writing wall!

When you go on a roller coaster for the first time you don't know what to expect. I was only seven but Eva was twelve. She was practically an adult to me because she was so mature and she had been on it before. I was extremely nervous, yet Eva seemed calm. I wanted Eva to think I was brave like her. I thought that I was having a heart attack with every step I took. My heart trembled once I got to the top. My right foot stepped on first. Once I was on, I squeezed my mum's fist shut. It was time. I shut my eyes, and the roller coaster took off. My heart was going as fast as a leopard. We got to the drop. Butterflies started to rise while the ride went down. The roller coaster came to a stop. I bravely hopped off. I was relieved that it was done, because when you go on a roller coaster for the first time you don't know what to expect.

- Lexie

I was only eight and Syd was 10, and that was a teenager to me. I was about to go on this huge coaster called The Mountain, and there was even a rattle snake on it. I felt like I had the survival instincts of a nugget, but mum said I could pick a crystal from the shop if I did it.

When we got to the mountain bit, it was like 1000 miles high. I felt like my eyes were slowly closing. I could hear the seats creaking, and my dad was watching me from the bottom. When I was done I knew that I would be able to pick a crystal. I couldn't believe that I did it, and I'm never doing it again!

I went to the crystal shop. I couldn't believe my eyes. I could see pink, purple, red, blue, yellow. There were lots of fascinating crystals. I think I chose the best. I chose a nugget of opal.

- Jackson

I was only seven when I jumped off a bridge. The water was so deep, but my dad and brother promised me \$10 if I did it. My legs clenched tightly and I folded my arms as tight as I could. I thought I'd drown. Surely the water was over my head?

My dad counted down, "3, 2, 1, go!" But I didn't listen. I couldn't jump. I was so scared that I froze in place.

At last, I jumped. As I swooped through the air, my arms froze in place.

When I hit the water I burst with happiness. When I got out of the water I couldn't believe my eyes. I had done it! My friend Ava did it too.

It was so fun!

"\$10 please!" I said.

- Ella

# Room 7 Foodies! More amazing Food Tech creations by our budding chefs!

**MY CONCEPTUAL STATEMENT**

I am designing a (what?) **smoothie**

For (stakeholder) **Annabella, Ella, Megan, Sophia**

Using (materials) **blender, 1 cup - ~~100g~~**

Table **spoon, Spravula**


Because (why) **they are healthy and delicious**

Attributes (criteria for your smoothie)  
I want my smoothie to be -

- creamy - add yoghurt, milk, and bananas.
- sweet - add maple syrup and vanilla essence.
- Fruity - add lots of berries.
- ~~fresh~~ - drink after we make it.

Your smoothie will need to be made up of items from each of the following groups.

<b>Fruit (1 cup)</b> Banana Mango Strawberry	<b>Liquid (1 cup)</b> Apple Juice Orange Juice	<b>Protein (1-2 tbsp)</b> Nuts Oats Pumpkin seeds Sunflower seeds Peanut butter LSA	<b>Sweetener (1 tsp) - if needed</b> Honey Maple syrup
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• Think about the attributes your smoothie must have.

• Select items up to the quantities for your smoothie.

• Create a name for your smoothie.



## Pink Shirt Day

Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora! 🌸

Check out this OVS sea of pink! Today, our entire kura stood together for Pink Shirt Day, sending a powerful message that kindness is our common language.

This isn't just about wearing a different colour for a day; it is a true reflection of the fantastic tone and culture we live every day at Ōtaika Valley School. From our newest Starting OVS kids to our senior leaders it is a great reminder of our RURU values and that when we lead with empathy and look out for one another, our whole kura thrives. **TOGETHER WE GROW** is our vision and together we are building a school where everyone feels safe, valued, and like they truly belong.



# Year 7&8 Winter Sports

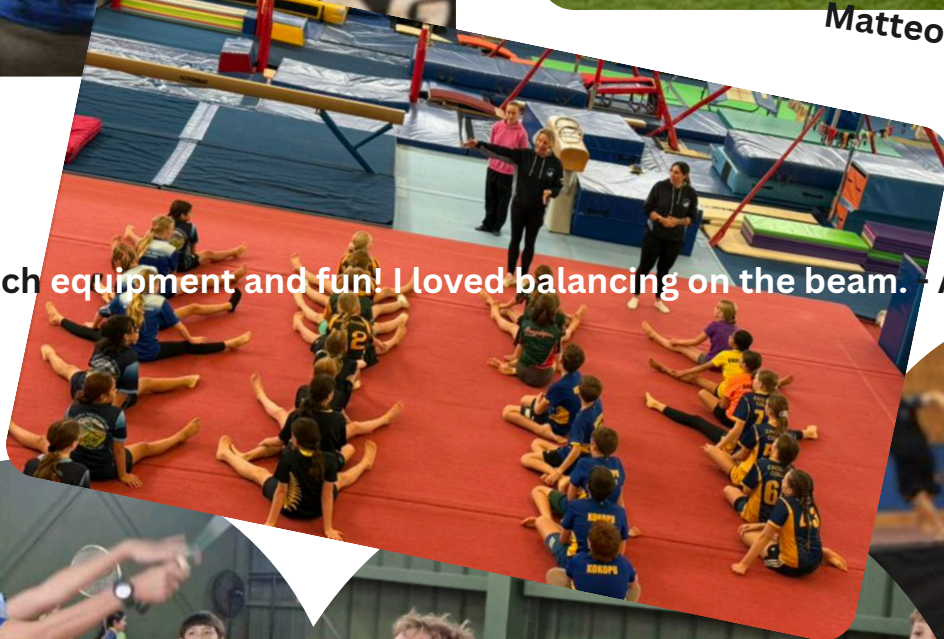
On Wednesday our year 7s went to compete in the Year 7&8 Winter Sports day...and winter it was! After a fairly fine start the weather closed in and the rain settled in sweeping across Kensington Park! Eventually the outside activities were called off but not before they had some great games and showed a lot of OVS character. The inside activities were not effected and all our students had a great day, many trying new sports for the first time.



It was ping pong perfect! - Ivy



It was wet, it was wild, but football is the best! - Matteo



So much equipment and fun! I loved balancing on the beam. - Annabelle



Serve, swerve and dash - heaps of wins - awesome day! - Beauty and Leo

# Community Planting day

Tēnā koutou,

As part of our learning about te taiao- the environment, we have the opportunity to take part in a community planting day. This is a great opportunity for our tamariki to connect with and care for the environment, in collaboration with the wider Ōtaika community. The planting is taking place at 91 Loop Road, so we will be walking to the event.

We require parent help to supervise groups of students. Please let us know if you are keen and able to assist with our student/adult ratios.

Please contact Whaea Nat or get in touch with the school if you can help

When: 8 June

What: Planting Day, 91 Loop Road, 1130-330.



Bring your friends and whānau and help support native fish in your community by improving the local waterways

✓ 1500+ plants    ✓ Spades available    ✓ Gloves available

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 11.30am – 3.30pm**

**Meet at 91 Loop Road, Ōtaika**

Please bring warm clothes, wet-weather gear, suitable shoes, your favourite spade and gloves if you have some

Sausage sizzle will be provided

## Event Partners

Plants Funded by:  
Lotteries Environment  
and Heritage Fund

Sausage Sizzle  
Provided by:  
Fonterra

In Collaboration with:  
Ōtaika Community  
Catchment Group



# Student Council News

The student Council is pleased to inform the students and community that after taking our ideas to Mr Sayer we now have a new before school routine to announce. The before-school arrivers area has been extended to include the courts. Students may now choose between a quiet time on the seats outside room 3&4 or more active play on the court area.

## But wait theres more...

The student council has been working behind the scenes and is proud to announce our first Student Council Event - our very own **OVS GOT TALENT!** We introduced this at assembly and would love to invite our parent whanau to the Grand Finnale which will be held in the Hall on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June



# OVS SCHOOL BAND

Is this you???

## \*\*EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST\*\*

We are exploring the possibility of starting an OVS School Band!

- Parents & Whanau... We'd love to hear from you if:
- You have musical skills and could help support the group, or
  - Your child already plays an instrument and may be interested in joining.

Please have a chat with Mr Sayer to register your interest.



# Sport Northland BIKE READY

Next Tuesday -Thursday year 5-7 students will be part of the Sport Northland 'BIKE READY' programme. These are practical sessions that look at skills and bike safety.

Sport Northland will bring in heaps of bikes and staff to run this great programme for or seniors. Sessions start on Tuesday.



## Room 5&6 Fundraiser



### FUNDRAISER

**FRIDAY 12 JUNE | 5.30-7PM**

JOIN US AT FLIP FOR A FUN FILLED FUNDRAISER!

FUNDS RAISED FROM TICKET SALES WILL GO TOWARDS AN EPIC CAMP FOR STUDENTS IN ROOMS 5 & 6 AT ŌTAIKA VALLEY SCHOOL

SEE NATALIE OR JEN TO PURCHASE TICKETS

**\$22**

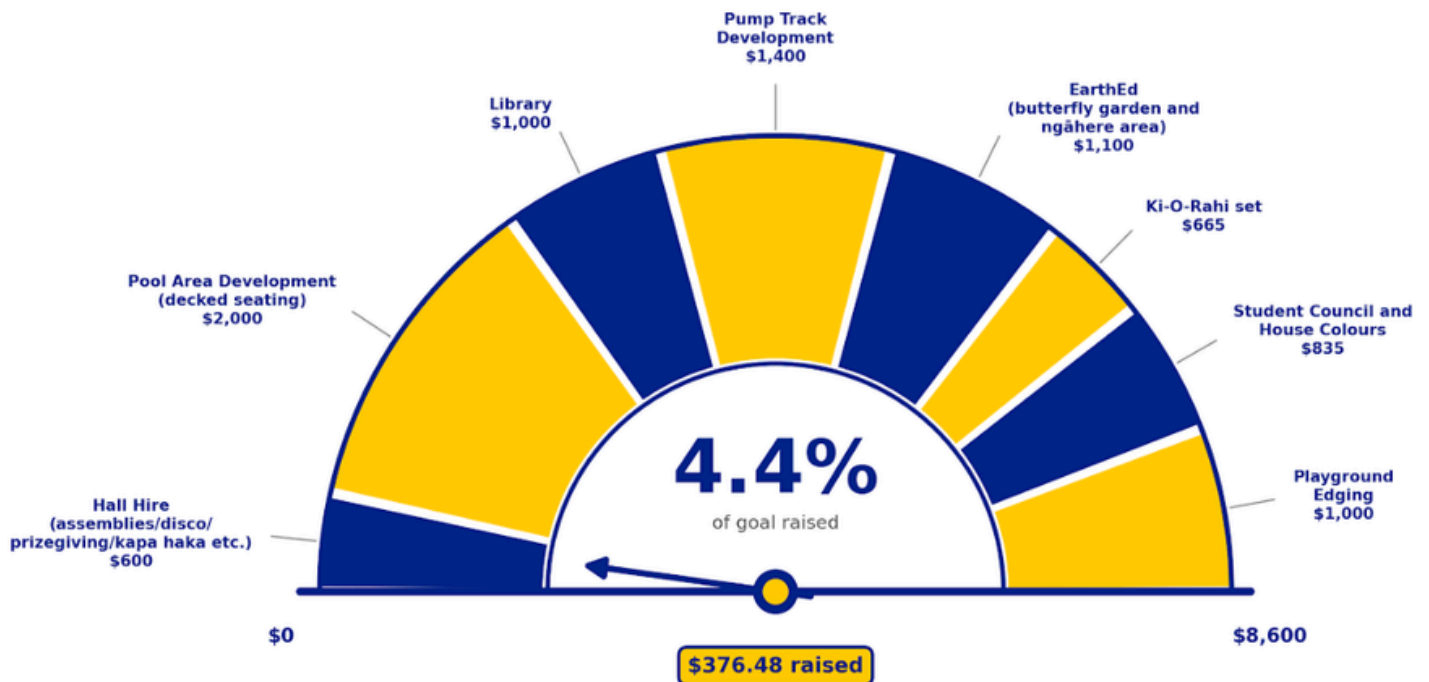
We recognise that times are tough for many families, and with other fundraising taking place within the school, we want to be mindful of the pressure this can create. This year, the PTA wants to focus on fundraising activities the kids love, such as the disco, ice block days, and Ag Day.

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.

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 Fundraising Target

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



## OVS 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

## Whats on this term?

- 13 May - Year 7&8 Winter Sports Day
- 15 May Pink Shirt Day
- 19-21 May - BikeReady sessions - yr 5-7
- 5 June - Y5/6 and Y7 Book Battle
- 17 June - OVS Kapahaka Fest
- 30 June - School Photos
- 1 July - OVS Matariki Celebration
- 2 July - Morningside Kapa Haka Festival
- 3 July - Reports go home

If you need any help feel free to contact us.



admin@otaika.school.nz



09 432 2731



KAMO & NGUNGURU FIRE STATION PRESENTS

# KAMO TOUCH-A-TRUCK

MAY

**2**

SATURDAY

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

**PORT NIKAU**

325 PORT ROAD, WHANGĀREI



FAMILY & COMMUNITY EVENT | GOLD COIN ENTRY

FIRE, AMBULANCE, POLICE

TRACTORS, DIGGERS + MORE

FOODTRUCKS & ICE CREAM

SUPPORTING THE KAMO AND NGUNGURU VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Golden Bay

more<sup>FM</sup>  
NORTHLAND 91.6



Port Nikau

# Digital Parenting

Raising kids in an online world  
PROGRAMME



*Struggling* to manage your kids and their devices?

**FREE**

WHO

Designed for parents/caregivers raising kids and teens with devices.

WHAT

Confidently manage devices, set boundaries, protect from online harm and create a healthy digital environment without tearing your hair out.

Free resources to share with your family



WHEN AND WHERE

Two sessions available:

Morning – 10am-11.30am

or Evening – 5pm-6.30pm

Starting 27 May for 4 weeks at Jigsaw North, 13A Te Mai Rd.

*Nibbles provided*

Fill in a referral form on our website  
[www.jigsawnorth.org.nz](http://www.jigsawnorth.org.nz)  
or  
call 09.4388852



Parenting Place

JIGSAW NORTH  
manaaki whānau

09 4388852 | [contact@jigsawnorth.org.nz](mailto:contact@jigsawnorth.org.nz) | 25 Otaika Rd, Whangārei 0110 | [www.jigsawnorth.org.nz](http://www.jigsawnorth.org.nz)

# Otaika Valley Community Hall

# ANNUAL MARKET

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

**SATURDAY**  
**09 May 2026**  
**9AM - 1PM**

Arts & Crafts  
Jewellery

Local Food & Products  
Garden Art  
Plants

Balinese and Indonesian Food  
Sour Dough Bread

Fudge  
Smouldering Hog  
Home Baking

Mr Bigs Coffee  
Mrs Bigs Cucina

Facebook Otaika Valley Community Hall

WHANAGREI TRI CLUB

# KIDS DUATHLON SERIES 2026

SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO ENTER



24<sup>TH</sup> MAY Pohe Island

28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE Kauri Coast MTB Park

26<sup>TH</sup> JULY Pohe Island

<https://events.mygameday.app/event/kidsduathlonseries2026>

SUPPORTED BY PAK'N SAVE WHANGAREI **PAK'nSAVE**