

O.V.S Newsletter

“
‘Ka Tupu Kotahi Ai Tātou
...Together we Grow
”

ŌTAIKA VALLEY SCHOOL TERM 3 WEEK 2, 2026 Issue #07

Kia ora OVSwhānau

Welcome to this fortnight's newsletter! As we push through the start of a very busy winter term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the fantastic events and connections that have been happening across our school community.

First, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our Matariki Evening. It was wonderful to come together as a whānau, celebrate our tamariki, and share in such a special tradition under this year's theme of Herenga Waka.

We also really appreciated seeing so many whanau at our Meet the Teacher sessions this week. Connecting with you to discuss your child's progress is essential and if you were unable to make it, please remember that you are always welcome to contact your child's classroom teacher to arrange an alternate time to catch up. Looking ahead, we have some exciting events on the horizon:

- Room 5 & 6 Auckland Experience: We are looking forward to sending Rooms 5 & 6 off on their big Auckland trip next week! It promises to be a fantastic week rich in learning, and we know they will create special memories that will stay with them for years to come.
- Zone Cross Country (11th August): Mark your calendars! The Zone Cross Country will be held at Waiotira on Tuesday, 11th August. Whānau are very welcome to come along, support our runners, and cheer on the OVS team.

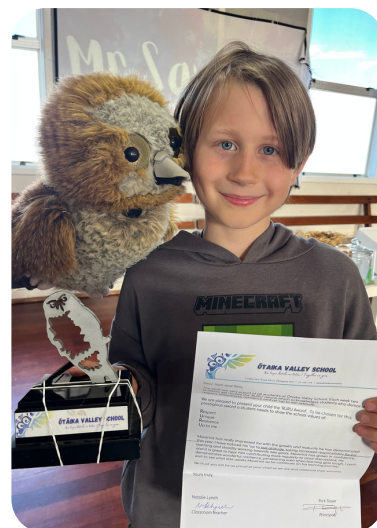
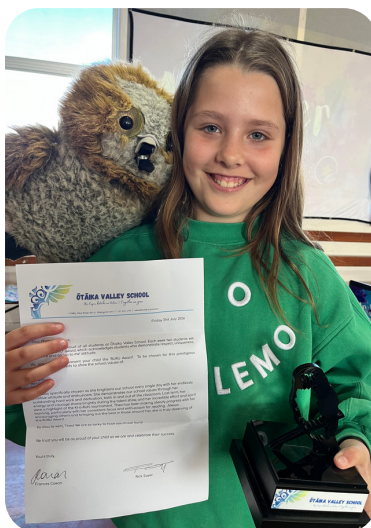
Thank you all for your ongoing support, involvement, and energy as we navigate this busy term together. Stay warm, stay well and have a wonderful weekend!

Ngā mihi nui,
Rick Sayer
Tumuaki/Principal

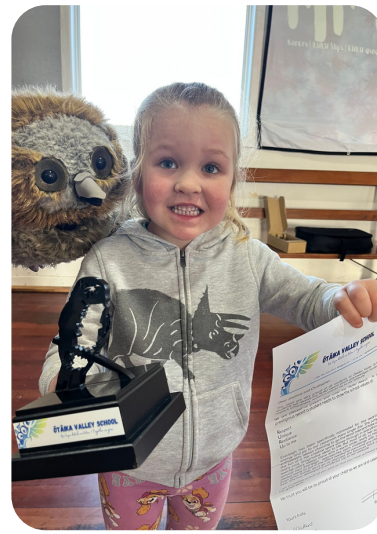
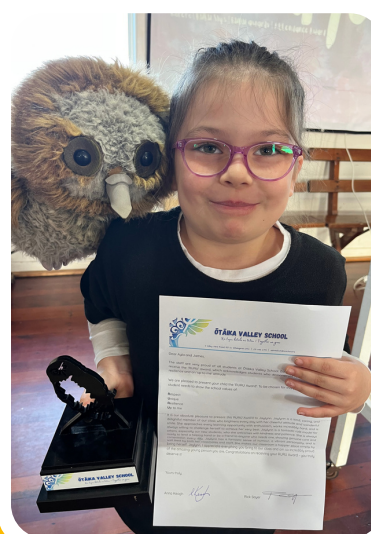
R.U.R.U AWARDS

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: Thea and Maverick



Junior RURU: Jaylynn & Everleigh



If you need any help feel free to contact us.



admin@otaika.school.nz



09 432 2731

OVS Matariki Evening

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the evening. Every year we continue to build on this special tradition, and it was lovely to see our community come together to connect and celebrate.

A Special Thanks An event like this takes a lot of coordination and effort behind the scenes. A sincere thank you to Whaea Darcie, Whaea Nat, and Mr T for all their hard work and dedication in bringing this evening together for our school.

Highlights of the Evening:

Our Tamariki: From Ngā Kahukura Kōwhai and Tau Fiti to the class tributes, it was fantastic to see our students participating so enthusiastically. Please let your children know how proud we were of their efforts.

Special Moments: The official opening of the ngahere, the sharing of kākano, and the hautapu ceremony were great additions to the night.

A Magical Finish: The ringing of the bells at the end was a memorable moment to close out the event, sending all of our tamariki's wishes off to **Hiwa-i-te-Rangi** for the new year.

Thank you again to everyone who contributed, helped out, and attended. We appreciate your ongoing support of our school events.

Ngā mihi nui,





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 84% attendance is (drum roll please...)



Term 3 Attendance

Every Day Counts

In Term 2, our overall school attendance rate reached **64%**. While this is a 12% improvement compared to Term 2, 2025 (**52%**), we still have a long way to go.

Our goal for regular attendance is over 90%.

Every day in class builds learning, confidence, and connection for our kids. Let's make attendance a huge whānau focus this term—working together to build great habits and get our tamariki to school every day!

Matariki Containers...need their owners!

We have a collection of left over containers from Matariki Evening. If you brought kai along in a container but it never got home - please check the table outside the staffroom.

After School Care and Ground Use 2026

Kia ora whānau - just a reminder to the operational adjustments we have made to ensure the best possible experience for all our students.

After School Care (ASC) Programme will be exclusively utilizing the school grounds from 3:30 pm as a core part of the service provided to families. This adjustment is necessary due to the high number of students enrolled in the programme and is essential for ensuring robust supervision and safety for all children in the ASC environment.

We absolutely love seeing our whānau and students enjoying a relaxed play on the grounds after the final bell! You are very welcome to continue this tradition, but we kindly ask for your cooperation with the following:

Please be mindful to conclude your after-school play session and vacate the main school grounds when the 3:30 pm bell rings. This is the moment the ASC students will be leaving the library and moving out to safely use the grounds for their supervised activities. PTA meetings and approved sports practices will be exceptions to this rule.

Thank you so much for your understanding and continued cooperation. By working together, we ensure that every student, whether they are in the ASC programme or enjoying a quick play with whānau, has a positive and safe end to their school day!

[UNCLASSIFIED]

DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR CHILD?

Term 3 2026

Te Manawa Tahī is a learning support hub where you can talk to educational professionals about your child's learning needs. This is a free service.

If you have a concern about your child's language development, learning progress, social and emotional well-being or behaviour, Te Manawa Tahī have specialists available so you can discuss your concerns directly with them.

All hubs are open from 9:00am until 12:00pm unless otherwise stated.

Te Manawa Tahī COMMUNITY TIMETABLE Whangarei, Bream Bay and Kaipara

Date	Hub Locations	Term 3 2026, Weeks 1 to 5
Mon 27 th Jul	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 29 th Jul	Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā	
Thur 30 th Jul	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	
Thur 6 th Aug	Onerahi Community House, 130 Onerahi Road, Onerahi	
Wed 12 th Aug	Early Years Hub, 28 Hokianga Road, Dargaville	
Mon 17 th Aug	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 19 th Aug	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	

Drop into a hub or to see a Speech Language Therapist make an appointment by phoning **0800 524 842** or emailing **TT.Support@education.govt.nz**





MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHĪHU O TE MĀTAURANGA



[UNCLASSIFIED]

Nest: Puberty Parent Info Evening – Year 5-7 only

Positive Puberty Plus© .

As part of the **NZ Health & Physical Education Curriculum** we have engaged Nest Consulting to provide their Positive Puberty Plus© programme.

All topics will be covered age appropriately in a way that relates to puberty: the changing body, sense of self, decision making, understanding media influences and body confidence.

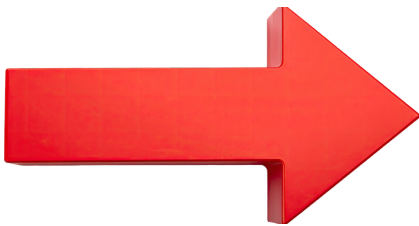
To assist Parents being actively involved in communication with their child regarding the changes associated with puberty and preadolescence Nest offer a Parent/Whānau Information/Education Evening prior to the programme. It lasts about 60 mins and includes:

- a run-through of the student programme
- anatomy and physiology 101 memory joggers and an outline of normal growth and development expected at puberty
- an update on all available menstrual products (incl. recyclable, washable, organic and supermarket items).
- Included throughout are tween parenting tips & question time!

The feedback from this evening is always extremely positive: a fun, inspiring and educational night. Reminder: This is only for year 5-7 Whanau and you will be sent all the relevant links and information on **Hero** next week.

Parenting Course

Your children are the greatest investment you have but they don't come with a handbook! . If you want to know more about making a positive difference for your child - you may be interested in this



EMOTIONALLY INTELLIGENT PARENTING
A six-session parenting program for parents of aged (3 - 14).

Tuning in to Kids & Teens

You are invited to join a parenting program that could make a positive difference to your child's development.
Tuning Into Teens/Kids is a 6-group program for parents.
It can help you to support your child/adolescent to acquire the skills of emotional intelligence.

Presented by Julia McAllister, Ana Hu, Clare Spicer

9.15am-11.15am 	Every Tuesday for 6 weeks 	Starts 4th August 
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REGISTER AT : tt.support@education.govt.nz
Please identify the name of the workshop when you RSVP

by Thursday 30th July 2026

Held at The Ministry of Education,
24 Kaka St, Whangārei

 **Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga**
Ministry of Education

PTA Update Kia ora All,

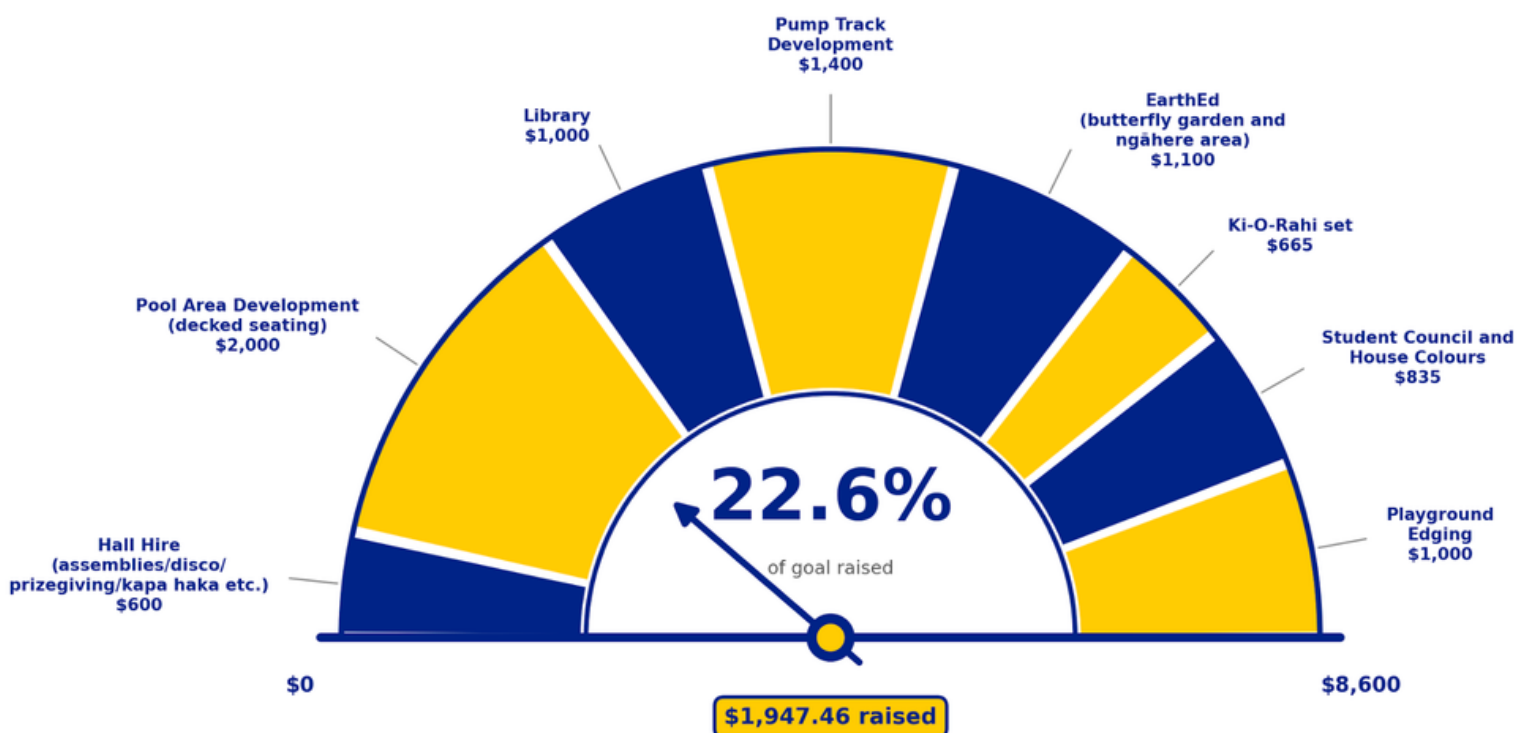
A huge thank you to everyone who helped our food stall at the Kapa Haka festival. Whether it was donating ingredients or baking, helping on the stall, or purchasing food, it is much appreciated. We raised an amazing **\$1022** which brings our yearly fundraising total to **\$1947.46**.

While our fundraising tracker shows we are closing in on having enough funds for the pool improvement project, this is indicative only and if we secure funding for specific projects, our general fundraising can be re-allocated.

We are still persuing grant applications and business sponsorship for specific projects. If you know a business who might be interested, please get in touch: pta@otaika.school.nz. Sponsorship is tax deductible and will be acknowledged with signage.

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?

- 23 July- Matariki Evening
- 28-29 July- Parent Teacher Interviews
- 4- 7 - August - Year 5 & 6 Camp to Auckland
- 11 August - Zone X-Country
- 18 August - NEST Parent Puberty Zoom meeting
- 27 August - Yrs 5-7 Puberty programme
- 2 Sept - Barge Park X-Country
- 1-18 Sept - Maori Language week.
- 21-25 Sept - Multicultural week

If you need any help feel free to contact us.



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