

# OREWA BEACH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Kia ora koutou,

A huge congratulations to all students who put themselves forward for leadership positions this year. The process of applying involved writing a letter to me, campaigning among fellow students, and delivering a speech to the school—an experience that takes confidence and dedication. It was inspiring to see so many students step up and show their leadership potential. After votes from staff and students in Years 3 to 6, I am pleased to announce the Student Leaders for 2025:

- **Student Leaders:** Nathanael & Lola
- **Cultural Leader:** Zenji
- **Secretary:** Laura
- **Sports Coordinator:** Indie
- **Events Coordinators:** Cove & Jayda

Well done to all candidates who participated—you should all be very proud of your efforts. Leadership is about more than just a title, and I encourage you all to continue demonstrating leadership qualities throughout the year.

Last week, the Weka team had their much-anticipated surf days at Orewa Beach, making the most of the incredible resource right on our doorstep. It was fantastic to see students fully engaged, many of them trying surfing for the first time. The excitement and determination on their faces showed just how much they enjoyed the experience. A huge thank you to the Weka teachers for their organisation and to the parents and whānau who volunteered their time to help make this trip possible. Your support means so much to our school and gives our students opportunities they will never forget.

Launchpad (Bible in Schools) begins tomorrow for those families who have signed up. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays at either 8:30–9:00 am or 1:00–1:40 pm. If you have any questions about this programme, please get in touch with the office.

This Thursday, we are excited for our annual Triathlon/Duathlon event, a highlight of the school year. Our students have been training hard, and it will be fantastic to see them put their skills to the test. The event will take place at Orewa Beach, and we warmly invite parents and whānau to come along and cheer on the participants. Seeing the students challenge themselves and support their peers is always a proud moment for our school community.

Looking ahead, we have Parent/Teacher Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, 12 March. To allow for these important conversations, school will finish early at 12:00 pm. Please ensure you have arrangements in place for your child to be collected at this time. The interviews will run from 12:40 pm to 7:30 pm, and bookings can be made through the Hero App. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss how your child has settled into their class, get an early insight into their progress, and set goals for the remainder of the term. We encourage all parents and caregivers to take advantage of this time to connect with their child's teacher.

## WHAT'S ON ?

### March 2025

- Thur 6th School Duathlon and Triathlon
- Wed 12th Goal Setting Conferences School closes at 12pm.

### April 2025

- Fri 4th School Fluro Fun Run
- Fri 11th Last day of Term One
- Mon 28th First day of Term Two

### May 2025

- Fri 30th Teacher Only Day - School will be closed on this day

### June 2025

- Mon 2nd Kings Birthday - no School today
- Fri 20th Matariki - no School today
- Fri 27th Last day of Term 2

### July 2025

- Mon 14th First day of Term 3

### August 2025

- Fri 15th Teacher Only Day - no school today

#### **Absences**

Please ensure you inform the school of your child's absence due to illness or holidays. If you are unable to let us know through the Hero app, please call the Office on 09 426 4849.

Please be aware we finish school at 2.45 pm. Children need to be picked up promptly. If you cannot be here at 2.45 pm please arrange care at Kelly Club.

As you may be aware, we are currently implementing the new Mathematics and English curricula, which have been rolled out at a rapid pace by the Ministry of Education. While we are committed to ensuring a smooth transition, there is still much uncertainty regarding how assessment will be structured under these new frameworks. Many schools across the country are facing similar challenges, with principals and teachers expressing concerns about the pace of change and the lack of clarity around measuring student progress. Despite these challenges, our teachers are working incredibly hard to adapt to these changes and provide the best learning experiences for our students. We appreciate your patience and support as we navigate this transition.

Although summer is officially behind us, the weather remains warm and sunny. We remind students that wearing a hat during morning tea, lunchtime, and outdoor activities is still essential. The sun's intensity is still strong, and we encourage students to bring sunscreen to reapply throughout the day. The Orewa Beach School bucket hat is available for purchase through Kindo, along with the OBS T-Shirt. Let's continue to prioritise sun safety as we enjoy the beautiful weather.

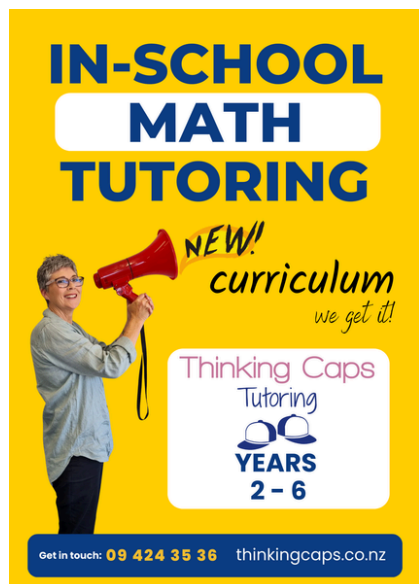
As a Travelwise school, we actively encourage students to use sustainable transport options like scooters and bikes when coming to school. However, safety must always come first. If your child is cycling or scooting, please ensure they wear a helmet and understand the importance of being cautious on footpaths. Riders must give way to pedestrians, stay alert for driveways, and be mindful of traffic. Please take some time to remind your child of these important safety rules to help keep everyone in our community safe.

This year, our Orewa Beach School Fun Run on Friday, 4 April 2025, is raising funds to support the development of our DREAMS (Design, Robotics, Engineering, Art, Mathematics, Science) programme. Our goal is to raise \$60,000 to transform our old woodwork room into a state-of-the-art DREAMS Hub, where students can engage in hands-on learning experiences with robotics, coding, engineering, 3D printing, digital design, and more. This exciting initiative will provide students with the tools and technology to foster creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills for the future. To make this event a success, we are seeking sponsorship and spot prizes. If you or your business would like to contribute, or if you know of any businesses that may be interested in supporting us, we would love to hear from you! Businesses donating \$250 or more will be acknowledged as Gold Sponsors on our fundraising website. We also welcome spot prizes to help keep students motivated, and in return, we will promote supporting businesses through our school's social media and communications. Please get in touch with the school office if you can assist in any way—your support will make a real difference in bringing this project to life!

Ngā mihi nui,  
Wendy Naidu

#### STUDENT EARLY PICK UPS

Please, if your child has an appointment during the school day please arrange to pick up before or after morning tea and lunchtime. Morning tea is 11.00am to 11.20am. Lunch time is 12.50pm until 1.45pm. We are unable to find your child at morning tea and lunchtimes. We have full school assembly every second Friday - the next one is Friday 14th March this starts at 2.00pm and finishes at 2.45pm. Please arrange to pick up your child before 2.00pm if they have an appointment.



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2 - 6**

Get in touch: **09 424 35 36** thinkingcaps.co.nz

Please, if your child arrives late -  
or you arrive to take your child  
during school time please always  
call to the office first. Thank you.

Michele Yock

- 09 424 3536
- 021 173 6422
- michele@thinkingcaps.co.nz
- 6a David Sidwell Place,  
Whangaparaoa, Auckland



[www.thinkingcaps.co.nz](http://www.thinkingcaps.co.nz)

## PTA News

Thanks to the generous donations of our school community last year, and the handiwork of one of our school dads Stu, we are happy to have the junior playground back up and running at 100%!

With these stepping stones back in action the kids will be able to keep their feet off the lava far more easily!



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00 - 8:15 am	Card Games & Structured Free Time	Playdough & Structured Free Time	Autumn Placemat & Structured Free Time	Charades & Structured Free Time	Homemade Muffins & Structured Free Time
8:15 - 8:30 am	Game: Bean Bag Toss	Game: Balloon Stomp	Game: Boss of the Balls	Game: Rainbow Rush	Game: Football
2:45 - 3:00 pm	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Intro & Afternoon Tea Corn Thins & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Cheerios & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Homemade Muffins & Fruit
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Game: Staff Choice	Game: Master	Game: Space Invaders	Game: Scatter Ball	Game: Lonely Ghost
SENIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm	<b>GAME</b> Pie Eater Tag 	<b>DISCOVERY</b> Oobleck 	<b>SPORT</b> Cricket Tee-Ball 	<b>COOKING</b> Caramel Apples 	<b>CRAFT</b> Nature Postcard 
	<b>CRAFT</b> Leaf Spray Art 	<b>GAME</b> Rainbow Rush 	<b>DISCOVERY</b> Oobleck 	<b>COOKING</b> Caramel Apples 	<b>SPORT</b> Cricket Tee-Ball 
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4:30 - 4:35 pm	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up
4:35 - 4:50 pm	Snack Time Vege Chips	Snack Time Popcorn	Snack Time Biscuits	Snack Time Baking	Snack Time Crackers
4:50 - 5:15 pm	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time
5:15 - 6:00 pm	Game: Hornet Tag & Projects	Game: King of the Ring & Projects	Game: Mexican Kickball & Projects	Game: Pirates Basketball & Projects	Game: Mortal Enemies & Projects

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00 - 8:15 am	Air Dry Clay Ladybugs & Structured Free Time	Colourful Turtle Plates & Structured Free Time	Paper Creations & Structured Free Time	Board Games & Structured Free Time	Homemade Cookies & Structured Free Time
8:15 - 8:30 am	Game: Handball	Game: Fly Seagull Fly	Game: Line Tag	Game: Camouflage Hide & Seek	Game: Traffic
2:45 - 3:00 pm	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Intro & Afternoon Tea Corn Chips, Salsa & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sausage Rolls & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Intro & Afternoon Tea Homemade Cookies & Fruit
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Game: Tap Ball	Game: Snowball Tag	Game: Stuck in the Mud	Game: Quick Fire Cricket	Game: Capture the Flag
SENIORS 3:45 - 4:30 pm	<b>CRAFT</b> Balloon Animal 	<b>GAME</b> Squeak Piggy Squeak 	<b>DISCOVERY</b> Scavenger Hunt 	<b>SPORT</b> Bull Tail Rush 	<b>COOKING</b> Chocolate Nests 
	<b>SPORT</b> Wildlife Movement Dice 	<b>DISCOVERY</b> Scavenger Hunt 	<b>CRAFT</b> Clay Animals 	<b>GAME</b> Squeak Piggy Squeak 	<b>COOKING</b> Chocolate Nests 
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4:50 - 5:15 pm	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time
5:15 - 6:00 pm	Game: Mother May I? & Projects	Game: Where's Wally? & Projects	Game: Sharks, Islands & Fish & Projects	Game: Sheeps & Wolves & Projects	Game: Slide Tag & Projects