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School Prospectus

Welcome

Kia Ora and Welcome to Orini Combined School

Orini Combined School is a rural school approximately 35 km northeast of Hamilton. We are a full primary school catering for students from Year 0 to Year 8. Our Combined school represents the merger of the district schools of Orini, Te Hoe, Netherby and Mangawara into the current Orini Combined School. At the heart of our school are the students. We believe in developing personalised programmes in order to cater to the needs of all students. Our partnership with our parent community and wider community is integral to our students' success as we strive to provide authentic learning opportunities.

He waka eke noa - We are all in this together

Our Mission Statement

Orini Combined School will provide a positive, stimulating and secure learning environment that encourages each child to strive for personal excellence, while developing connectedness, compatibility and confidence along with respect and responsibility in the school community.

The school fosters close working relationships with the community to ensure that all students are provided with an education that is challenging and respects their dignity, rights and individuality.

Classrooms and Teachers

Our classroom spaces are not numbered as is traditional throughout New Zealand Primary Schools, instead, we have named our classrooms using the growth process of a tree. This is to symbolise the growth and development of our learners from the beginning of school right through to Year 8.

Mrs Tina Bellamy
Year 0-1

KAAKANO

Kaakano means seed and symbolises our juniors beginning their learning journey



Mrs Brenna O'Hearn
Year 2-3

PIHI

Pihi means to spring or grow up. This symbolises our juniors continuing on their learning journey and building on the foundations made in Kaakano



Mrs Zeta Beer
Year 3-4

MAAHURI

Maahuri means sapling. This symbolises our students having developed strong roots as they extend their learning journey



Mrs Kathryn Rennie
Year 5-6

TIWAI

Tiwai means trunk. This symbolises the strong learning foundations and the expanding of their knowledge and skills across the breadth of the curriculum



Mr Leon Watkins
Year 7-8

PUAAWAI

Puaawai means to blossom. This symbolises our learners blossoming into independent learners and adolescents by deepening their knowledge and skills, preparing them to leave the security and safety of Orini Combined School for highschool



Meet Our Team



Chrissy Wakeman - Principal

Kia Ora, my name is Chrissy and I am very privileged to lead Orini Combined School. I have a Master of Educational Leadership and am super passionate about teaching and learning - evolving our school to meet the ever changing needs of our 21st century learners. I love coming to Orini Combined School each day and learning something new from our tamariki.

I am a local, born and raised in the mighty Raahui Pookeka (Huntly) and have two children Stella-Grace who attends Sacred Heart Girls' College in Hamilton and Kora-Nieve who is here at Orini Combined School. I have a wonderful partner Nicholas and in my spare time I enjoy going on hikes, exploring our beautiful landscape here in Aotearoa.

Laura Gibbons - Office Administrator

Hi, my name is Laura and I am the friendly face at the front desk of Orini Combined School. In my role I enjoy working behind the scenes to support the amazing team as well as interacting with students and their Whaanau. I am always around to give students support and awahi when they are injured or not feeling well.

I have an amazing partner Pete and together we have two children, Sophie who attends OCS and Connor who will be starting here soon. On the weekends we treasure our family time and are usually on or near the ocean.



Zeta Beer - Deputy Principal/ Teacher Maahuri

Kia Ora! My name is Zeta Beer and, as well as being Deputy Principal, I have the honour of teaching the Year 3 and 4 tamariki in Maahuri as well as mentoring our beginning teachers. I have a Master of Education and am passionate about quality teaching and learning that reflects current best practice, and as a result am always seeking out new ideas and knowledge or opportunities to grow. I am particularly interested in Environmental Education and encouraging children to be mindful of their interactions with nature.

I was born and raised in sunny Whakatane but moved to Hamilton as a young adult to begin my studies and family. I have an incredible adult son, Ethyn, who attends Waikato University as well as a gorgeous young son, Nixon, who is incredibly active. In my spare time I enjoy hiking adventures, fitness, and spending time with my family and friends.

Stacey White – SENCO/Release Teacher

Kia ora tātou, my name is Stacey White, and I am the Special Education Needs Coordinator (SENCo) at Orini Combined School. I also have the privilege of teaching across Pihī, Maahuri and Tiwai once a week. I am honoured to be in a support position and in a role where I can encourage inclusion and belonging. My husband and I, and our daughter, Reese, who attends Orini Combined School, moved to Taupiri three years ago to continue our passion for farming.

I have a Bachelor of Education in primary teaching. I am currently undertaking postgraduate study intending to hold a Master of Specialist Teaching in Complex Educational Needs.

In my spare time, you will find me taking photos of the night sky, reading books and spending time with my whānau.



Amanda Jones – Learning Assistant

My name is Amanda and I am very passionate about children receiving the best education they possibly can, and I hope through my role as a Learning Assistant I can contribute towards that in some way.

My husband attended Orini Combined School, as did my three children and I feel their time spent at the School has helped set them up to become well educated, amazing young adults. I feel very privileged to be a part of this School and all it has to offer.

Chantelle Ashby – Learning Assistant

Kia Ora, my name is Chantelle Ashby, I am part of the Learning Support Team. I work across all the classrooms helping the needs of our amazing Tamariki. I have a huge passion in helping children to discover their individual uniqueness, helping them find their confidence and potential and what makes them feel like they belong.

I am currently looking into gaining my certificate and also studying mindfulness as I am a huge believer of the positive results you can have of changing your mindset and becoming self aware.

I am married to my best friend! You will find us outdoors exploring our country or by/on the ocean fishing or out in the bush. I have 2 beautiful children who attend the Orini Combined School family, Zoe and Jack. I also have 2 beautiful Step Daughters Kora and Stella.

I am extremely lucky to work with such an amazing bunch of Teachers and Students.



Anna Jobson – Release Teacher

My name is Anna Jobson and I am the Release teacher. I was born in and raised on a farm in rural Gisborne. We have lived in the Orini community for the past six years and our two boys Ben and Sam attend this wonderful little school which provides our boys with all the fun rural activities my partner and I enjoyed growing up in similar settings.

I have a Bachelor of Education and a Diploma in Teaching and have enjoyed teaching full time for many years in a variety of teaching roles but now enjoy spending more time with family and getting out in the garden yet still enjoy working part time in a job that I love.

Tina Bellamy – Teacher Kaakano

My name is Tina Bellamy and I am the Year 0-2 Teacher in our Kaakano class. I have lived within the Orini community for more than 15 years, our family having ties to the school for much of this time. Our foster daughter (now a young adult) attended Orini Combined School and now our two younger children, Harper-Rose and Lucas also attend our wonderful school. I am extremely grateful to live and work in a place that I love and feel proud to be entrusted with the children of our little community.

My qualifications are forever evolving as I continually seek to improve my knowledge and experience in life and within the workplace. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts and Graduate Diploma in Primary School Teaching. I have a creative mind and enjoy spending time with friends and family and like nothing more than curling up with a good book.



Brenna O'Hearn – Teacher Pihi

My name is Brenna O'Hearn and I currently teach Year 2 and 3. I have been involved in the Orini community for a number of years, with my husband's family having grown up and attending school here in Orini. I am extremely grateful to be part of such a tight knit little community.

My husband Kevin and I contract milk in Taupiri, and we have 2 daughters. Our oldest Ava attends Waikato Diocesan and our youngest Lily is currently here at OCS. They are both very passionate about football, so most weekends you will find me supporting them on the sideline, or running my oldest around to her other various sporting commitments.

I have a Bachelor of Education and am in my second year of teaching. In my spare time if I'm not busy with my girls I love nothing more than escaping into the pages of a good book.

Kathryn Rennie – Teacher Tiwai

Hi my name is Kathryn Rennie and I am teaching year five and six. I attended this School when I was a kid and have been back in the Orini Community since 2001.

I have three children Max, Grace and Lucy who have all pretty much flown the nest now with the eldest two studying down in Christchurch and Lucy in her final year at Hamilton Girls' High School.

I have taught overseas where I based myself in London teaching and travelling for three years in the late 90's; and thoroughly enjoyed this experience. I have a diploma in teaching and am always striving to improve my practice. The best part of teaching for me is forming neat relationships with kids and watching them grow in their learning and as young people.

I love heading to the beach regularly, socializing and running for fitness.



Leon Watkins – Teacher Puaawai

Kia Ora, my name is Leon and I am the year 7 and 8 teacher here at Orini Combined School. I have been a teacher for 10 years and have taught a range of year groups in a number of school settings. I enjoy working alongside children to reach their potential by helping them set personal goals and identifying the path they need to achieve these. Developing a growth mindset and positive working habits is a big focus in Puaawai and becoming ready to take on the challenges High School provides. My passion is Visual Arts and Technology

I have two children with my wife Suzanne, Ryder and Matilda (Tilly), and we have two English Staffordshire Terriers (Storm and Luna).

We are currently renovating our home and when we aren't doing this our time is spent taking the dogs for walks, spending time with extended family, at the beach or being around our pool.

Our Vision & Values

Combined Learning for Personal Excellence

Our vision highlights our aspiration for our tamariki at Orini Combined School to constantly strive towards personal excellence. This will look different for every student which is why when engaging with the curriculum it is important that the learning is personalised for each individual to empower them to achieve success. We believe that it is critical that our staff, students and community work in a partnership to ensure equity and excellence for all as we grow and develop into life long learners who have the skills to positively contribute to and participate in society.

R.A.P.T

RESPECT



Whakaute

We value respect because it allows us to develop and maintain positive relationships with each other

POSITIVITY



Whakawhanaungatanga

We value positivity because it helps us become confident to meet challenges

ACHIEVEMENT



Paetae

We value achievement as a School Community and as individuals to strive for personal excellence

TRUST



Whakapono

We trust that we will follow our RAPT values to be a RAPT community

School Information

Absences

If your child is absent from school or will arrive late please notify us by using the "report an absence" link on our school website, through the Skool Loop app or by leaving a message on the office phone (07) 824 4847

Arriving and Leaving School

The school takes responsibility for students from 8:20am

Kiss and Drop: This is the gate located in the carpark beside the bus bay. There will be a teacher/Senior Leader at the gate every morning and afternoon to ensure students arrive and leave school safely. We ask parents & caregivers to use kiss and drop in a safe and diligent manner to stop any dangerous congestion on the road.

Assemblies

Learning celebrations are held every Monday at 9am. Assemblies are conducted, organised and managed by our senior students. Whaanau are always welcome to attend. Parents/caregivers will be notified prior to assembly if their child is receiving an award, we ask that you do not let them know in advance.

Communication

Our school has many ways of communicating with our parents & caregivers.

- **Facebook – Orini Combined School**
 - We share upcoming events and day to day notices to keep you informed.
- **Skool Loop App**
 - Fundraisers and upcoming events are shared on this app. You can also use the app to report absences.
- **Texts**
 - We send out reminders, urgent communication and absentee notifications.
- **Newsletter**
 - These are emailed out fortnightly with what has been happening at school as well as upcoming events and important notices.

Swimming

Our swimming season is in Term 4 and Term 1. All children will swim daily so remember to pack togs and a towel everyday.

School Hours

Students should be at school by 8:40am to prepare for the day.

8.45am	First Warning Bell
8.50am	School Starts
10.40am	Start of Morning Break
11.10am	End of Morning Break
1.00pm	Start of Afternoon Break
1.30pm	End of Afternoon Break
2.30pm	School Finishes & Students assemble for Bus

School Uniform

Our compulsory school uniform can be ordered from the school office at any time.

It consists of a polo shirt, shorts and/or skorts and a hoodie.

Students are required to wear sensible flat black shoes to school. During the summer months, jandals or sandals are allowed. Fashion boots, gumboots and roller shoes are not permitted at school.

As part of our sun smart policy children must wear a school hat during terms 1 and 4. It is compulsory for students to wear these hats when outside.

Please name all clothing, towels, lunch boxes and school bags. Students are expected to be responsible for their own belongings as part of self-management.

It is a great idea to always ensure there is a spare change of clothes in your child's school bag - this does not need to be the school uniform.

House Groups

At Orini Combined School we have four house groups. Orini Combined School is the combination of four schools amalgamating many years ago these schools were: Orini, Netherby, Mangawara and Te Hoe (this is where we get the 'Combined' in our name!) - to honour that history and recognise the importance of coming together our School houses are named after these schools. Each child will be assigned their house group upon enrolment. Children will be rewarded with points for their house through displaying the RAPT values daily. Points will also be rewarded at school sporting events such as triathlon, cross country and swimming sports as well as our termly house events. Children will be encouraged to wear house colours at our school sporting and house events. Houses are as follows:

- Netherby - Green
- Orini - Red
- Mangawara - White
- Te Hoe - Black

Documentation

To complete the enrolment process, the following documents are legally required:

- School Enrolment Form (please complete this online via our school website)
- Child's Birth Certificate (original to be sighted)
- Immunisation Certificate - either a copy from your doctor or plunket book (provided that all immunisations have been entered into it). If not immunised, a certificate stating that no immunisations have been given.
- If you are not an NZ Citizen we must sight original immigration documents i.e: child's passport with student visa, parent's passports documenting work permits/visa, or residency documentation if applicable.



**We are so excited to welcome you to Orini Combined School
Please feel free to contact us at any time with enquiries.**