



# Principal's News

Kia ora, Malo e Lelei, Talofa Lava, Ni Hao, Namaste, Bula Vinaka, Fakaalofa Lahi Atu, Kia orana, Mauri, Greetings.

Only one term completed but our children have achieved so much. Our swimming sessions have come to an end, and it has been a pleasure to see the children grow in water confidence and improve their stroke skills in our beautifully maintained pool. We are thankful to the Board for providing solar panels to allow us to use it for the whole term. Thank you to everyone who attended our whānau/teacher evening and completed the snapshot survey. These interviews provided valuable information about your child and their learning. Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any further questions.

## Staffing

We say a sad farewell to Ash Cole who has won a New Entrant position at another school and wish her every success in the future. She will be replaced in Year 3 by Dana Al-Tabba'a who has worked as a reliever in our school previously. We also welcome Sina Ah-You to our teaching team in the New Entrant space in Term 2.

## Safety issues when crossing the road

At the beginning of Term 2, I respectfully ask parents to consider the road safety habits they are teaching their children. We work hard in school to provide children with guidance about road safety and road awareness. Children look to adults as their role models and, presently, the conduct of some parents, particularly at the end of the day, is unacceptable. Please refrain from crossing the road directly opposite New Hook Lane - **please use the crossing. I also ask that parents do not park on the yellow lines to either drop off or pick up children or pull into the office carpark.** We have had a few near misses this term and the situation is becoming dangerous. From Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April, the office carpark gate will be closed for pedestrian access. Instead, we will be opening the turf gate before and after school. Thank you for your support in keeping our tamariki safe.

## Refreshed logo

Thank you to everyone who has taken time to respond to our consultation regarding the refresh of our school logo. The Board has taken all responses into account and, as a result, has made the decision to retain the original re digitised design.

## Managing Screen Time – Advice for Parents

The Board is currently investigating MoE guidelines on the recommendations for the use of digital technologies in school. As part of this work, we aim to support parents by providing advice and guidance on managing your child's online safety and screen time.

Screen time refers to the amount of time someone spends using a device, including playing games on a smartphone or console, streaming video content, browsing the internet, doing homework online, or engaging in any other screen-based activities. Research suggests that while excessive screen time can cause harm, the definition of "too much" varies between children. It's more about how they use their devices rather than the duration (Netsafe).

## Impact of screen time on children - potential risks of overexposure:

- Blue light from screens can affect sleep cycles.
- Excessive passive screen time may weaken communication and social skills.
- Children spending more than two hours a day on screens may score lower on language and thinking tests.
- Screen-based entertainment can increase central nervous system arousal, amplifying anxiety.
- Reduced physical activity due to sedentary screen use can lead to poor lifestyle habits.

The following advice is recommended by Netsafe:

## Understand your child's online activity

Discuss what they use digital technology for to better comprehend their screen time habits. Consider the age and stage of your children to decide on appropriate limits.

## Key considerations for families:

- Types of screens in your home.
- Family screen habits.
- Screen time management for children.
- Family rules about device use.
- Personal phone usage rules.
- Child's reaction to your phone use.
- Use of devices as "babysitters."
- Screen use during meal times.

## Encourage self-management

Teach older children to manage their own screen time. Topics to discuss include their daily screen time, recognising when they've been online too long, feelings after excessive use, and the benefits of offline activities.

## Set boundaries

Establish boundaries similar to those for bedtimes, chores, or driving. This is easier if introduced when a child first gets a device. Older children may need an open discussion about changes. Modelling good screen habits yourself is also crucial.

Further information, and an online safety parent toolkit can be found <https://netsafe.org.nz/online-safety-at-home/managing-online-screen-time>

I wish you a safe and happy holiday break.

**Ngā mihi nui**  
Michelle Dibben  
Principal

## Year 6 Camp

During Week 8 Year 6 students from Kauri embarked on an unforgettable camp adventure. We were away for 3 days at Camp Adair in Hunua. Students were faced with a variety of challenging tasks that tested their bravery and resilience. From high ropes in the Pirates Crossing and abseiling to archery, kayaking, shelter building and tackling a confidence course, tamariki showed incredible courage. They even embraced the thrill of a long mudslide and there was a very exciting tug of war challenge between students and adults. Adults came out as winners! The camp experience was made even more enjoyable with delicious meals like hotdogs, wraps, butter chicken, nachos and lots of yummy home baking. We would like to say a huge thank you to our amazing parent helpers and dedicated staff who joined us; without their support, this fantastic experience wouldn't have been possible.



Friday 11 April 2025

These students have been recognised by their class teachers for displaying our school value



<u>Totara</u>	<u>Titoki</u>	<u>Kowhai</u>	<u>Puriri</u>
Nevaeh	Erron	Esther	Abhijot
Keanahni	Jekope	Gurjot	Dolray
Thea	Azaliya-Rose	Aavya	Princess
Shivaansh	Rohan	Avleen	
	Izzy	Quinn	
	Namreet	Affaf	
<u>Ti Kouka</u>	<u>Rimu</u>	<u>Nikau</u>	<u>Kauri</u>
Jayden	Raymond	Christian	Alexis
Salwa	Caius	Tyrone H	Nabeel
Astin	Djanira	Elyssa	Bonnie
Logan	Stevie	Rithvik	Talmage
Carter	Analatu	Tanishka	Chelsea
Evaan	Aranveer	Elyssa	Zoravar

## Big Buddy Awards

Raiden, Isaiah, Abel

## Rimu

Rimu continues to enjoy swimming as the weather is still sunny and warm even though the mornings are becoming cooler. We have begun to learn about the human body for Science. So far we have learned the names of the organs inside our body and what function they perform in the body. We will carry on with these and learn about the human skeleton until the end of term. Rimu is enjoying singing different waiata and learning the actions for these and we are sounding great!

## Kōwhai

This week we have been learning about how authors use alliteration as an interesting writing feature. Here are some fun alliteration sentences using our names. Esther played excitedly with Evreen on the enormous slide. Moye makes marvellous muffins. Cairo can catch a curious cat. Gurjot gobble grapes while gliding. Avleen and Aavya are friends. Max the monkey munched on muffins. Armani ate an apple while abseiling.

## Nikau

Nikau Pod has had a very busy few weeks, we have had Jacqui Knight from MBNZT in talking to us about Monarch butterflies, we have had Sue Lowry in from St John's Ambulance to teach us about first aid. Some children have visited the Botanical Gardens for the Eye of Nature studies. This week Naomi Sutton from Food for Thought a Nutrition Education Programme will be with us, in supporting our students to increase their knowledge and awareness around food/drinks/nutrition and food labelling to help them to make informed food and lifestyle choices.

## Important Dates

## 2025 Term Dates

### Last Day of Term 1

Friday 11 April

### Term Dates



### Manurewa A.N.Z.A.C Day

Friday 25 April

Dawn Service: 0530 hrs/5.30am

Memorial Service: 0900 hrs/ 9.00am

### Term 2

28 April - 27 June

### Term 3

14 July - 19 September

### Term 4

6 October - 16 December

## Titoki

A huge thank you for your amazing support with your child's learning! Sending in a picture of your child's mailbox has given them a real sense of ownership. We've had fun writing about mailbox numbers, counting digits, and comparing them with friends using words like "greater than," "less than," "equal," "more than," "fewer than," and "same as." Soon, we'll sort them into odd and even groups! Your help has made it possible for your child to use these new words in both conversation and writing. We're excited to keep learning together. Thanks, Mums and Dads!

## Ti Kouka

We've been making a splash in swimming this term, and it's been fantastic to see everyone's confidence and skills improve in the water! In the classroom, we've been diving into statistics, learning how to collect and organise data using tally charts, bar graphs, and more. The students have been working hard to consolidate their learning, and it's great to see their understanding grow. Keep up the awesome work, Ti Kouka!

## Pūriri

The children of Pūriri have loved swimming this term and all of our students have picked up some new swimming skills. Water confidence is so important in an island nation such as New Zealand so it's great that all our children have participated and enjoyed swimming this year.

## Tōtara

We have been working hard in Tōtara Pod and enjoying coming to school each day. So far this term we have been learning all about the cultures of everyone in our class and how to be a good friend to others. We have been learning to order numbers forwards and backwards and work out simple addition problems. We are learning to write a sentence by recording some letter sounds and words that we know well now by ourselves. We have also been trying really hard to learn the words on our coloured word cards.