



Principal's News

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

Friday 28 February 2025

Welcome to our second newsletter of the year. We look forward to seeing you all at our `whānau/teacher interviews on Thursday 6th March. This first meeting gives you the opportunity to find out how your child has settled into the new school year, but most importantly it is a time for you to tell us more about your child so that together we can support them to achieve their very best.

When your child receives the right education and support in basic learning areas, it helps them succeed in life. Right now, the national curriculum is being updated to give your child the best start. English and Mathematics and Statistics are the first learning areas to change. This is what we are doing to ensure your child has every opportunity to succeed.

What your child is learning in English

Your child now spends at least 10 hours a week learning reading and writing at school. They get meaningful opportunities to connect with the world around them as they learn oral language, reading, and writing skills. They will work with others, sharing experiences, ideas, and viewpoints. This will strengthen their knowledge and understanding of different perspectives from Aotearoa New Zealand and the wider world.

Their learning will build their basic skills in these phases:

- Phase 1 Years 0 to 3 – thriving in environments rich in literacy.
- Phase 2 Years 4 to 6 – expanding knowledge and working with others.

Oral language

‘Oral language’ is used to describe your child’s language. This could be a spoken language or New Zealand Sign Language. It also includes different expressions such as:

- Vocalisations, gestures, movements and images

Oral language teaches your child to speak and listen well, and master formal communication skills.

Reading

Reading focuses on teaching your child to read, understand, and think critically about text. They explore texts from New Zealand, the Pacific, and around the world, to gain insights into themselves and others.

Writing

Writing focuses on teaching your child how to write for a variety of purposes, in ways that others can understand and respond to.

Mathematics and Statistics

Your child now spends at least 5 hours a week focused on maths at school. They learn how useful maths is in everyday life. The curriculum aims to have every child enjoy and be curious about maths.

Their learning will build their number knowledge and basic skills in these phases:

- Years 0 to 3 – thriving in environments rich in maths.

Years 0 to 3

Your child will learn in ways that encourage curiosity and success. They will explore environments rich in numbers and shapes. Hands-on activities will engage them in maths and statistics, with tasks that reflect their interests and the world outside the classroom.

- Years 4 to 6 – expanding knowledge and working with others.

Years 4 to 6

Your child will:

- connect ideas about numbers to learn about fractions, decimals, and percentages and how these are used in our lives
- learn more about numbers and use them to solve a range of problems
- develop skills such as accurate measuring using a range of tools
- investigate and explain similarities, differences and patterns in shapes, numbers, and data.

Ngā mihi nui

Michelle Dibben
Principal

Year 6 Camp 2025

We are heading into the final stages of preparing for our Year 6 Camp. Please ensure that payment is sorted and all necessary paperwork is returned to your child's teacher ASAP.

On Wednesday 26th March, children need to arrive at school by 8:30 AM and go straight to the Auditorium.

On Friday 28th March, children will arrive back to school by 2:30 PM. Parents/Caregivers will need to collect children from the School Auditorium.

Staff will keep you informed about Camp via Dojo, our school Facebook page or email.



2025 School Councillors

Italiah	Kavish
Charlotte	Talmage
Elliette	Anmol
Puneet	Abel
McKenzie	Corbyn



House and Sports Leaders

KĀKĀ
Kendall, Sienna, Nabeel, Manjot

TŪĪ
Kaley, Keshav, Patrick, Jessica

WEKA
Alexis, Phillip, Armeen, Sehaj

HUIA
Brax, Ishani, Amelia, Sione

Nikau

What a beginning to the year! The students have settled in nicely to Nikau pod and things are humming along wonderfully. We've been lucky enough to have Suzi from Little Cooks join us teaching us about nutrition and giving us hands-on experience making vegetable stir fry. It's been great to cool off and practice swimming in the pool each day. We look forward to seeing what the rest of the term has in store for us.

These students have been

recognised by their class teachers for displaying our school value



<u>Totara</u>	<u>Kowhai</u>	<u>Ti Kouka</u>	<u>Nikau</u>
Gursmeet	Kavleen	Harry	Nashia
Sophie	Suryansh	Tasi	Kashir
	Ethan	Vivaan	Jay
<u>Puriri</u>	<u>Titoki</u>	<u>Rimu</u>	<u>Kauri</u>
Amelia-Grace	Otila	Olivia	Jessica
	Snehroj	Bradley	Leauro
	Prabhjot	Jasleen	Corbyn

Puriri

The children in Pūriri have had a great start to the year and are quickly learning the routines of our classroom. All children are enjoying our swimming lessons - we are so lucky to be able to have a dip in the pool on hot afternoons!

Kauri

We have had a great start to the year in Kauri Ngahere. We've been getting to know our new class, teachers, and classmates for 2025. We are swimming 3 times a week and have been enjoying this refreshing start to the day, and we love being active during our Wednesday afternoon sports sessions. Many of our students have stepped up to take on leadership roles both in our class and across the school, and they are beginning to show excellent commitment and enthusiasm. We're eagerly anticipating our upcoming Year 6 camp at Camp Adair and are excited for the year ahead, knowing it's going to be a fantastic one!

Rimu

Welcome back to school and Rimu Pod! We are pleased with how all the children are settling in and for them learning to be in the Senior School. We have started well in getting to know the children and moving into our learning routines for each curriculum area. Most of the children love swimming - thank you to everyone for remembering your togs and participating on your days. In Rimu we have a short time every day after lunch for Te Reo Maori. We learn some new kupu (words) accompanied by New Zealand Sign Language, and we are learning waiata as well. We look forward to seeing parents on Parent Interview night, next week.

Kōwhai

What a wonderful start we have had in Kōwhai! It has been great to reconnect with old friends, meet new ones and to proudly show our families around our pod space. The teachers have loved noticing the students have-a-go attitude towards their learning. This term, as our school value is respect, we have been talking about being kind to others and developing independence to take care of our own belongings. In maths, we are counting in different ways and understanding the purpose of place value. Swimming is a highlight of our day. With the warm afternoons, we just can't wait to get in! We are learning the importance of keeping ourselves safe around water and are already showing great improvements with our kicking and floating skills.

Ti Kōuka

What a fantastic start to the year we've had! It's been awesome to see the kids not only reconnecting with old friends but also welcoming new ones into their circles. We're loving our daily swims in the school pool, and Fun Fridays at the pool have quickly become a highlight for everyone. In class, we're focusing on consolidating our maths number knowledge and expanding our language skills. Ask your tamariki what new words they've learned over the last few weeks! A massive thank you for your support and interest in the homework and home reading and spelling so far. We're looking forward to our learning conversations next week to work together in supporting your children's journey. Thanks again for being such a supportive community!

Ngā mihi, Mrs McGrath, Miss Cole and Mrs Simpson

Important Dates

Parent Teacher Interviews

Thursday 6 March

Year 6 Camp

Wednesday 26 March - Friday 28 March

House Colour Day

Thursday 10 April

Last Day of Term 1

Friday 11 April

2025 Term Dates

Term 1

3 February - 11th April

Term 2

28 April - 27 June

Term 3

14 July - 19

September

Term 4

6 October - 16

December



Tōtara

Our new entrants have had an amazing start to the school year! We've been settling in well, learning all about our daily routines, and showing our teachers just how clever we are. It's been wonderful to see new friendships forming, and we're especially enjoying our swimming lessons while the warm Summer weather lasts. We've also made a fantastic start with our reading, writing, and counting, and we're excited to see how much we'll achieve this term! Here's to a great year ahead!

Titoki

We are excited to see the children settling into their routines and thriving in our pod. This term, we are focusing on respect, and the children are learning to show it in all areas of their lives—toward others, the environment, and themselves. A strong sense of belonging is growing as each child feels valued. It's wonderful to witness their social and emotional development. Swimming lessons have been a highlight, with progress in skills and confidence. Thank you for your continued support as we create a safe, respectful, and engaging environment for our young learners.