



Principal's News

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

Friday 6 June 2025

We are having a wonderfully busy and successful Term 2. Our tamariki have been involved in sporting activities such as gymnastics, rugby league and the PMP programme. We have also had trips to the Botanic Gardens and the National Young Leaders' Day Conference. Currently, the teachers are busy writing reports which will be shared with parents and whānau at the end of this term in preparation for parent/teacher interviews in July. Please feel free to contact your child's class teacher if you have any concerns regarding their learning or behaviour prior to this meeting if needed.

Absence and Lateness

The Ministry of Education continues to monitor schools' absence and lateness statistics daily. Our Attendance Policy is now available on the school's website and states very clearly the school's expectations on reporting an absence. It also details the steps that will be taken consistent non-attendance. At the end of Term 1 we had the following attendance rates – 61% had regular attendance (the government's target is 80%) and only 65% of students were on time to class.

	Student Categories	Student with	Equivalent to
	Regular attendance	over 90% attendance	missing fewer than 5 days across a term
	Irregular absence	more than 80% and up to 90% attendance	absent for between 5 and 9 days across a term
	Moderate absence	more than 70% and up to 80% attendance	absent for between 10 and 14.5 days across a term
	Chronic absence	70% attendance or less	absent for 15 days or more across a school term

The School Board has a target for 2025 of 70%. Please work with us to improve these figures as every day counts.

Building Works

The Ministry of Education is currently working with a contractor to assess weather tightness issues in the administration and auditorium blocks. I will update you when we have an idea of the extent of the works, the timeline involved and the effect this may have on access to the school office.

A healthy lunch box contains...



Healthy Eating

Healthy eating is essential for the growth and development of children and young people. Good nutrition affects children's behaviour, learning, concentration and energy, as well as their physical health. When children eat a good diet they find it easier to learn.

At school we encourage healthy choices wherever possible. A balanced lunchbox with healthy snacks for morning tea and a water bottle will help ensure your child is ready for their learning.

The school provides fresh drinking water through maintained water fountains and is provided with fresh fruit and vegetables through the Fruit in Schools Programme. Sweets, lollies and carbonated drinks are not allowed in school or on school trips.

For more information on the types of food your child should be eating please see <https://health.govt.nz/products/eating-for-healthy-children-aged-2-to-12-nga-kai-totika-mo-te-hunga-kohungahunga>

The school's Healthy Eating Policy will be available on the school's website after its review by the Board on June 16.

Playgrounds after school

We ask for your cooperation in keeping children off the junior playgrounds after school. There have been a few broken bones and injuries in recent months and we do not have the staff to supervise after school play in a safe manner. Unfortunately, older children and preschoolers have also been using this equipment which adds to the health and safety concerns. Thank you.

Ngā mihi

Michelle Dibben

Principal



Subway has been added to Wednesday, and Pita Pit has moved to Tuesday. If you're not already signed up, search www.lunchonline.co.nz and follow the instructions on how to order your child/children's lunches online to be delivered to school.

Tuesday - Pita Pit
Wednesday - Subway
Thursday - Charcoal Chicken
Friday - Sushi



Our main gate (cenotaph) will be closed this morning. Office side gate and turf gate will be opened



Tōtara

This week, Totara has been proudly celebrating Samoan Language Week! We've been enjoying the big book *Lavalava* and learning all about 'ie lavalava—the traditional wraparound garments worn in Samoa. To finish the week, we even dressed up in our own 'ie lavalava, which was so much fun! We've also been singing the song *Savalivali* to help us learn some fun Samoan phrases. As part of our art learning, we created our own *siapo*—a traditional Samoan visual art—and explored how *siapo* patterns are often used to decorate 'ie lavalava. It's been a fantastic week full of learning, culture, and celebration. Manuia le vaiaso o le gagana Sāmoa!

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>
Minaz	Evreen	Gurleen	Navtej
Anvi	Kahurangi	Ariki	Benjamin
Hellen	Litia	Nixon	Riyan
<u>Puriri</u>	<u>Titoki</u>	<u>Rimu</u>	<u>Kauri</u>
Agam	Haziq	Evan	Nabeel
	Aria	Hola	Friyana
	Mason	Premans	Anmol



Kōwhai

Starting gymnastics has been a highlight for this week. The students have been learning different gymnastics formations such as tuck, L-shape and straddle. Landing in a jump stop position is also important for balance and safety. We can't wait to keep flipping, balancing, swinging on Tuesdays this term! In the classroom, Kōwhai have been learning about the important jobs different parts of a plant have and how they help it to grow. We have had some great photos shared with us of the pea seeds each child planted a few weeks ago, many have sprouted and are growing tall - there are some budding gardeners in our class! Counting backwards is one of our maths goals for the rest of this term. Choose a number and count back when you are in the car, or doing jobs around home!

Rimu

In Rimu pod we are finishing up our learning on New Zealand people who have helped shape our country such as Sir Apirana Ngata, Dame Whina Cooper and Kate Sheppard. Next we are moving into the Science curriculum and learning how sound works. We have one more swimming session to go, at Mountford Park and it has been fabulous to see our children swim with more confidence and skill. Hungerball has come into our school this week, and we look forward to playing and developing our hand eye coordination to defend our goals.

Ti Kōuka

Our gymnastics sessions have come to an end, but our Pod has had an absolute blast! The tamariki thoroughly enjoyed the unique experience, and it was a joy for the teachers to see the children shine outside of the classroom.

Throughout the sessions, the children participated in a range of exciting rotations, including balancing on bars, various forms of jumping, forward rolls, trampoline routines, swinging on bars, and much more.

A huge thank you to our wonderful parent helpers who attended and provided such positive support. Your encouragement played a big role in helping our tamariki confidently complete each rotation.

Kauri

Kauri ngahere have been hard at work with some serious learning this term.

Kokao have been investigating the different protests that have made a difference in our lives in New Zealand. Some protests have led to positive changes for people.

In kotare we have been learning how to read and write music and to play the guitar, drums and keyboard. We love having Pod singing once a week as well.

Kiwi kohunga have been learning about financial literacy and how to manage their virtual money. They have to pay expenses such as desk rental, but if they are good at saving can buy virtual goods. Of course if they don't save then they will not have any money to spend on themselves.

We have also been having some fun. Our leaders are hosting Hungerball and this is a great way to practise ball skills and run around. We are looking forward to the Hungerball competition later on in the term.

Important Dates

Matariki Breakfast

Thursday 19 June

Matariki

Friday, 20 June - No School

End of Term 2

Friday, 27 June

Term 3

Teacher only day

Monday, 14 July – No School

Return to School

Tuesday, 15 July

Photo Day

Tuesday 5 August



Titoki

A few weeks ago, we had an exciting trip to the Botanic Gardens! The children explored different plants, planted their own seeds and learned what plants need to grow. Everyone loved getting their hands dirty and discovering new things in nature. The bus ride was a big hit too! Back at school, we've been checking our pots every day and now our seeds are growing! It's been so exciting to watch the first little shoots appear. Along the way, we've learned new words like "seedling," "roots," and "sprout," helping us grow our vocabulary too. We can't wait to keep caring for our plants and see what happens next! Parents, soon it will be your turn! Once our plants are big enough, we will send them home for you and your child to plant somewhere safe. That way, you can be part of your child's learning and if you look after the plant, you might even get some yummy peas!

Pūriri

Pūriri had a wonderful time visiting the Botanic Gardens and learning all about the life cycle of plants. We were given peas to grow and we've been watching them grow alongside our other plants that are getting bigger and bigger inside the greenhouse. We are learning that plants take a LONG time to grow - not like Jack's beanstalk which grew ginormous overnight!

Nikau

We are lucky enough to have Miss Jazz and Miss Hopkinson joining us on their Teacher practicums. Miss Hopkinson has been doing some very exciting science/design technology work with the children on designing something to protect their egg if they drop it and for the children's homework they are designing their own musical instrument at home out of items they have lying around. We are looking forward to hearing the Nikau orchestra in week 9.