

13th August 2025 Newsletter 14

Kiaora,

It's hard to believe we're nearly halfway through the term already, and what a busy and exciting few weeks it has been! Our tamariki have embraced every opportunity—from speeches and sports to creative projects—with their usual energy and enthusiasm. It's been wonderful to see our school values of C.A.R.E. shining through in the way our students encourage one another, persevere through challenges, and celebrate each other's successes.

As we look ahead to the rest of the term, there's still so much to look forward to. With Ag Day preparations underway, upcoming parent-teacher interviews, and a calendar full of learning and activities, the weeks ahead promise to be just as full and rewarding. Thank you, as always, to our whaanau for your ongoing support—it makes all the difference in helping our kura thrive.

I am looking forward to Cross Country on Friday held at the Te Kauwhata Domain, and can't wait to see our students giving it their all out on the course. Whether they're running for a placing or simply challenging themselves to finish, I know they'll be showing great determination and team spirit. Fingers crossed for fine weather so we can all enjoy a fantastic day together.

Looking Ahead:

Please remember to check our Facebook page for the latest updates from our school -

<https://www.facebook.com/TKPrimary>.

14th Aug - Ukulele for Rooms 14, 15, 16, 17 Hiinau and Patatee

- Kaahui Ako Speech Competition

15th August - School Cross Country

18th August - Poowhiri for new students and whaanau

18th & 19th August - Parent Teacher Interviews

19th August - TK Guitar Works

20th August - Paid Union Meeting collect 1pm
- BOT Meeting

26th August - TK Guitar Works

27th August - 9.30am - Transition to School
Programme in Room 11 - Visit 1

29th August - Interschool Cross Country
- Student Leaders working with Paula Dewar

2nd September - TK Guitar Works

3rd September - 9.30am - Transition to School
Programme in Room 11 - Visit 2

5th September - Teacher Only Day - Koroneihana

We had our fortnightly Newsletter Prize Draw at Assembly on Friday. Congratulations to Haylee Andersen who won the draw for the second newsletter of Term 3! In Term 3, we are holding competition with our newsletters. The purpose of this competition is to increase the engagement of our families in reading the newsletter. At the end of each newsletter, a question will be posed based on the information provided in the newsletter. Your children will need to write their answers to the question on a piece of paper, including their name and room number. They can drop this off at the office and go into the draw for a prize. Newsletters are published on Wednesdays of the odd weeks in the term. The prize will be drawn the following Friday at assembly during the even weeks.

Speech Competition

On Thursday 31st July, we held our annual Speech Competition for Years 3 - 6 children. It was an incredible effort given by all those who presented to a full audience. I would like to thank Anne Cottell for judging this event and Edith Cullen for her attendance. Our Year 5 & 6 1st and 2nd placers are competing in the Kaahui Ako Speech Competition this Thursday, held at Te Kauwhata Primary starting at 4:30pm. I would like to wish them all the best. Lastly, I would like to acknowledge Mrs Georgia Read for her hard work in organising both of these events.

The results are as follows:

Year 3 Winner: McKenzie Carson-Holloway
Runner Up: Blake Vodanovich

Year 4 Winner: Zoe Smith
Runner Up: Evie Cassidy

Year 5 Winner: Nate Mako
Runner Up: Neal Grover

Year 6 Winner: Sophia Ruaporo
Runner Up: Ruby Simpson

Paid Union Meetings

During August, Paid Union Meetings are being held for principals, teachers and support staff across the country. The majority of our teaching staff and support staff will be attending the meeting on **Wednesday 20 August** at 2:00pm. If you are able to **collect your child(ren) at 1:00pm** on that day, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please note that a small number of staff will remain onsite to supervise any children who need to stay at school.

We thank you for your support and understanding.

Koroneihana

This is a reminder that **school will be closed for instruction on Friday 5 September**, so our staff can attend the Koroneihana. The Koroneihana is a key gathering of Maori, where iwi come together to discuss important issues, uphold whakapapa, and celebrate the coronation of **Kuiini Ngaa Wai Hono i te Poo**, the newly anointed Maori Queen. Our staff will be part of this meaningful event as part of their professional learning and development.

Mini Winter Sports

Our Senior students recently competed at a Mini Winter Sports at Kimihia School on the 1st August. This was due to the cancellation of Winter Sports at the end of last term. The children had the opportunity to play either netball, rippa rugby, soccer and netball against a couple of other schools within our sports cluster. This was a fun sports day and the Te Kauwhata Primary children represented our school with pride and displayed excellent sportsmanship. A big thank you to the whaanau who came along to support our tamariki on the day and an extra big thank you to the parents who helped with refereeing the games too!



100 Days of School

To celebrate reaching the milestone of 100 days of school, Miss Moth and Miss van Zyl dressed up for the occasion—much to the delight of the children in Rooms 13A and 13B!

The students were full of excitement as they marked this special day with fun and creativity.



NMONM Trip to Kelly Tarltons

Nga Maramara o nga Muka as part of our Integrated Studies-Protecting the Ocean-Kaitiakitanga had the opportunity to visit Kelly Tarltons. It was an amazing, fun and exciting experience for all.

Here are some feedback from our tamariki who went on the trip:

"I thought it was awesome because we got to see different sea animals, like, lemon sharks, huge lobsters and I really enjoyed the challenges around the aquarium." by Jerakiah.

"It was absolutely amazing because they had huge sharks and their eyes were really cool with extra sharp teeth. There were huge fish and stingrays that when they went above you in the aquarium it looked like a huge blanket." by Nate.

"Yesterday we got the opportunity to go to Kelly Tarltons and we saw so many amazing marine life. I especially liked when the stingrays swam above you in the aquarium." by Sophia



PB4L

As a leadership team, we have been working with our Positive Behaviour 4 Learning (PB4L) School Wide Practitioner, on the importance of our school values. Our school values are C.A.R.E: Communicate, Aspire, Respect, and Engage. The best way for our tamariki to understand our values is to have them modelled by all the adults in their life, including their whaanau and wider community. We understand that sometimes life becomes challenging and frustrating situations arise. When this happens, please remember that we have a process to follow, which is to contact your child's classroom teacher in the first instance. From there, the classroom teacher will refer onward as appropriate for the specific concern/complaint (for example to the responsible staff member, their team leader, leadership etc). Thank you for your cooperation with this!

Term 3 Assemblies

Please remember that if the weather is fine, we will be in the assembly area, but if it is too bad, we will run four separate assemblies.

If this happens

- The Year 1 - 2 Team's Assembly will be held in Room 4
- The Year 2 - 3 Team's Assembly will be held in Room 13
- The Year 4 - 6 Team's Assembly will be in Room 14
- Nga Marama o Nga Muka will be held in Hiinau

If your child is receiving a certificate and the weather is poor, please attend the classes listed above.

Spotlight on Learning - Room 1

In Term 2, we were learning about Matariki and used this special time to inspire our creativity. After reading the picture book *The Little Kiwi's Matariki*, we began a step-by-step art project to bring the story to life through our own artwork. Through this process, students explored texture, colour, and composition while building fine motor skills and learning to follow instructions. We painted night skies, glued torn paper to make our kiwis, printed grass with bubble wrap, and finished with glittery gold stars to represent the Matariki star cluster.

The students loved getting stuck into each part of the process and showed such focus and creativity. Their finished artwork is full of colour, texture, and sparkle—just like Matariki!

Tino pai, Room 1 – your work is truly something to celebrate!



Parent - Teacher Interviews

On Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th August, we will be having Parent-Teacher Interviews, and we hope as many of you as possible will be able to come along to discuss your child(ren)'s progress with their teacher. The following information went home on Monday:

Bookings are now open at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz - the event code being 8sfbg. If you do not have Internet access at home please call Morag or Louise in the school office and they will be more than happy to make a booking for you.


This year we are again offering the opportunity to have your parent-teacher interview over Google Meet. If you are interested in doing this, please book using the school interviews website and click the Google Meet option.

We put great value in the progress your child has made this year and our staff are looking forward to sharing this with you at parent-teacher interviews. If you have any queries regarding your child's learning at TKP this year please feel free to discuss it at this meeting.

Newsletter Quiz Question

What date is the Teacher Only Day for Koroneihana?

- A. Friday 15th August
- B. Friday 5th September
- C. Wednesday 20th August
- D. Monday 25th August

 Write your answer (A, B, C, or D), your full name, and your room number on a piece of paper and drop it off at the office to enter the prize draw. The winner will be announced at next week's assembly.

Ag Day is Coming! Wednesday 15th October

I am so pleased to share that there is a great amount of interest in Ag Day this year. We would love to have more entries. Thank you to those who came along to the Ag Day Demonstration/ Briefing and a huge thank you to Rachael Foy and Loretta Tapp for giving up their time to share their knowledge and experience with our tamariki.

As mentioned in our previous communication, this year, we're aiming to make Ag Day bigger and better than ever, with whole-school involvement and a renewed focus on celebrating this much-loved tradition. As part of this, we will have 'At Home' and 'At School' activities. These will be judged categories where placings will be given. There will be junior (Yr 0-2), intermediate (Yr 3-4) and senior (Yr 5-6) categories for each project.

At Home Activities for 2025 (Optional) Please sign up to the activities your child is participating in using this Google Form. <https://shorturl.at/ksiPR>

- Grow a Vegetable and keep a Detailed Journal. A journal template will be provided. Depending on practicality, the plant and journal can be brought to school for Ag Day, or a home visit can be arranged.
- Make an A3 Pet Poster with photos and information about your pet. Your pet could be anything from a dog, cat, or bird to a snail, spider, or mouse. Include: name, age, breed, how long you've had it, how you care for it, what it eats, habitat, and any tricks or skills it may have learned. Get creative!
- Make a Miniature Farm using as many natural resources as possible. The farm could be made in a roasting dish or similar container, using materials such as dirt, sawdust, sticks, moss, wood, etc. This can be assembled at home and brought to school, or reassembled at school.

School Board Elections 2025

Voting papers have now been posted out to all eligible voters. Included is a cover letter, the voting paper itself, an addressed envelope and a leaflet with the candidates statements.

Please return your voting paper, once marked with your choice of four candidates in the envelope provided on or before the **10th of September 2025**. Our voting box is in Reception at Te Kauwhata Primary school.

If posted, your vote must be received by the returning officer no later than 5 days after the date of the election. Try to post it as early as possible as New Zealand Post has reduced postal delivery days in most areas. Voting papers may not be emailed or faxed as attachments.

Voting closes on 10 September 2025 at 4pm.

Signed : *Louise Salzwedel* -Returning Officer



Calendar Art

The students in Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13 A and 13B have created artwork that can be made into affordable Calendars, Cards, Diaries, Mouse Mats and Sketch Pads. Each product is made from your own child's art. These make unique Christmas gifts for family and friends and are perfect for posting overseas. Their artwork is now on display in their classrooms for you to have a look at.

PRICING FOR 2025

Calendar \$15

Greeting cards \$14 per pack of 8

Diaries \$18

Mouse Mats \$15

Sketch Pads \$15

Place your orders via the order form that came home from Monday 11th August and hand it into the office.

The last day to order is Monday 25th of August.

DHB Guidelines

At Te Kauwhata Primary, we follow the guidelines set by the DHB for sickness. Please see these below for future reference, especially as we have Winter illnesses to reduce the spread as much as possible.

Fever

A fever is a temperature that is higher than 38°C.

A child should not be at school until:

- their temperature has returned to normal (less than 38°C) without needing to use medicine to reduce it, like paracetamol or ibuprofen
- they are feeling well and happy within themselves again.
-

Vomiting or diarrhoea

Gastro (also known as a tummy bug, rotavirus or norovirus) is an illness caused by an infection in the gut. Symptoms are nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea and fever.

Gastro can spread easily to others, so a child should not be at school if they are vomiting or have diarrhoea.

A child can return to school after 48 hours (2 days) have passed since the last time they vomited or had diarrhoea.

Sore throat

A child should not be at school if they need pain relief for their throat to feel comfortable. Pain relief includes paracetamol or ibuprofen.

School sores and other skin infections

School sores (impetigo) is a common skin infection caused by bacteria. Symptoms are red sores or blisters, which burst to leave crusty, golden-brown patches. The sores can be itchy and mostly affect the face and hands, but they can appear elsewhere.

Other skin infections can also show similar symptoms.

If a child has sores that are red, swollen, oozing, weeping or blistered, or that feel hot to touch, they should not be at school until:

- their sores are covered and healing
- it has been 24 hours since they started antibiotics
- as directed in the guidance for infectious diseases.

Head lice and scabies

Head lice (nits) are common in children because of how close they are together at school. Nits are small insects that lay their eggs on strands of hair. Scratching can be a sign that a child has them.

Children with nits should stay at home from school until treatment has started.

For further information, please visit: <https://info.health.nz/keeping-healthy/healthy-homes-environments/knowing-if-a-child-is-well-enough-to-be-at-school-guidance-for-schools>

2025 Term Dates:

Here are the remaining term dates for 2025:

Term 3 - 14 July to 19 September (Maths PLD - 14th July, and TOD for Koroneihana on 5th September).

Term 4 - 6 October to 12 December.

In 2025, we have planned for three remaining Teacher Only Days. If there are going to be any additional Teacher Only Days added to the calendar, we will give you all ample notice of when this may happen.

In Term 3 we have:

- One TKP Teacher Only Day for Koroneihana - 5th of September

In 2025, schools are legally required to be open for 193 days. Every year, the Board of Trustees works within the Ministry of Education's guidelines and decides when the school is open for instruction. Teacher-only days are not included in the 193 days, as on teacher-only days the school is closed for instruction.

Strategic Plan

Also, if you would like to read our strategic plan for 2025, please follow this link https://www.tkp.school.nz/110/file_sets/13-strategic-plans

Our strategic plan details what we are aiming to achieve as a kura in 2025.

Keeping up to date:

Please remember to check our Facebook page for the latest updates from our school - <https://www.facebook.com/TKPrimary>.

Schooldocs - ongoing review

If you would like to review our Policies and Procedures for Term 3 please follow the link

<https://tkp.schooldocs.co.nz/Logon.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

Username: tkp

Password: wecare

In Term 3, 2025, we will be reviewing the following topics: Child Protection / Abuse Recognition and Reporting / Food and Nutrition / Safety Checking / Police Vetting / Missing Student Procedure
See the full [Review and Board Assurances Schedule](#).

I look forward to a fantastic term ahead!

Loren Huisman
Acting Principal



What motivates you or stops you being active? Tell us and be in to WIN 1 of 5 \$100 grocery gift cards!

Sport Waikato is running a survey aimed at finding out about how active we are – or aren't! They need to hear from everyone aged 18+ or those who have left school, whether you spend your days running marathons or chilling on the couch.

The information you provide will help build a picture of our region and help Sport Waikato and their partners (like us) to ensure play, active recreation and sport is more accessible, exciting and inclusive!

Take the 5 minute short survey and be in to WIN <https://shorturl.at/wzDYQ>.

The survey and prize draw is open to residents of the Waikato region – from Thames-Coromandel to Taupo and everywhere in between

The survey is completely anonymous – any contact details will only be used for the purposes of the prize draw

Prizes will be drawn every month, from February-December throughout 2025. Winners can choose vouchers from their local grocery store/supermarket.

Community Notices

Sunday 19 Oct 2025
Memorial Park, Cambridge

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