



Tokomaru School Newsletter

Thursday 5th February 2026



Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back everyone, and happy 2026! It's wonderful to see our school coming back to life as we begin a new year together. We're really looking forward to our Welcome Back BBQ, which will be a great chance for students, parents, and caregivers to reconnect, catch up, and enjoy some time together. Everyone is very welcome, and we're especially excited that Mrs Kool will be here to treat our students and parents to free ice creams - perfect for this warmer weather!

A reminder that Monday 9th of February will be a Teacher Only Day. Our teaching team will be engaged in Maths professional learning to support the implementation of the new curriculum. This time is an important investment in strengthening teaching and learning across the school, and we appreciate your understanding and support. And tomorrow is Waitangi Day, an important public holiday - I hope you all enjoy the long weekend.

I'm also delighted to share some lovely personal news from our staff. Congratulations to Mrs Sarten on her pregnancy - we're very excited for her and her husband Matt. All of our students had a great time on 'Pink or Blue?' Day - a little boy is on the way!

We're looking forward to a positive and successful year ahead and can't wait to see you at the BBQ!

Mel Ryan
Principal.



Term One Dates

Monday 26th January - Thursday 2nd April
Waitangi Day - Friday 6th February
Teacher Only Day - Monday 9th February
Good Friday - Friday 3rd April
Easter Monday - Monday 6th April
Easter Tuesday - Tuesday 7th April



Upcoming Dates

- Friday 6th February
- Waitangi Day - School Closed
- Monday 9th February
- Teacher Only Day - School Closed
- Wednesday 11th February
- Year 7&8 Technology
 - Welcome Back BBQ 5:30pm - 7pm
- Monday 16th February
- Board of Trustees Meeting
- Wednesday 18th February
- Year 7&8 Technology
- Wednesday 25th February
- Year 7&8 Technology
 - Parent Teacher Pupil Conferences 3:15pm - 5:30pm
- Thursday 26th February
- Parent Teacher Pupil Conferences 3:15pm - 5:30pm

Welcome Back!

Sports

Welcome back to another year full of sport! Our classrooms have already started making a splash in the school swimming pool during swimming lessons as they prepare for our Swimming Showcase in Week 8 on Thursday, 20 March. It's been fantastic to see students building confidence, skills, and enjoyment in the water.

We are currently organising summer sports teams for hockey and netball. We urgently need a parent coordinator for our Year 1-2 hockey team. Without a volunteer, unfortunately this team cannot be entered into the competition. If you are able to help, please let Miss T know as soon as possible.

Important upcoming sports dates:

- School Triathlon - Week 6, Thursday 6 March
- Junior Cluster Athletics - Week 7, Thursday 27 March
- Weet-Bix TRYathlon - Week 8, Tuesday 17 March
- Swimming Showcase - Week 8, Thursday 20 March

Let's make it a sport-tastic year full of participation, teamwork, and fun! 🏊‍♀️ 🏏️ 🏈 🏊‍♂️ 🏏️

Miss T & Matua Murray

Home & School

Home & School will be hosting our Welcome Back BBQ next Wednesday 11th February from 5:30pm-7pm.

Come along with your whanau for a sausage sizzle and a swim to bring in the new school year.

We will be having a special visit from Mrs Kool this year! Tokomaru School students can pick one free ice cream for themselves and their parents from the \$5 Mrs Kool menu! Other family members and children not attending Tokomaru School are able to order and purchase their own ice-creams too!

Welcome Back

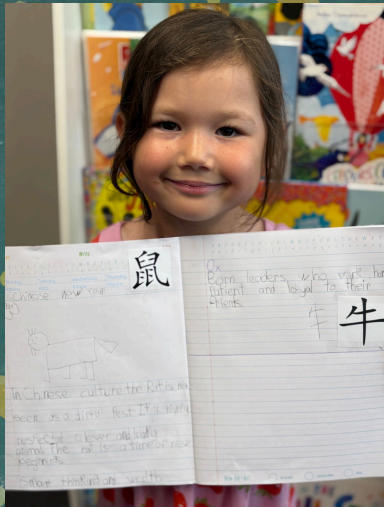
BBQ

Wed 11th Feb - 5:30pm



Student Stars

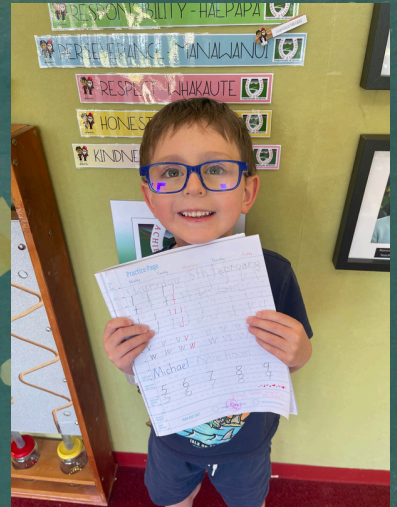
Te Tutuki i te kairanga



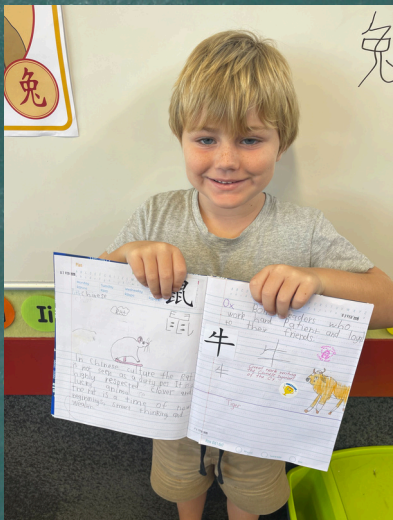
Hattie's special writing about Chinese New Year!



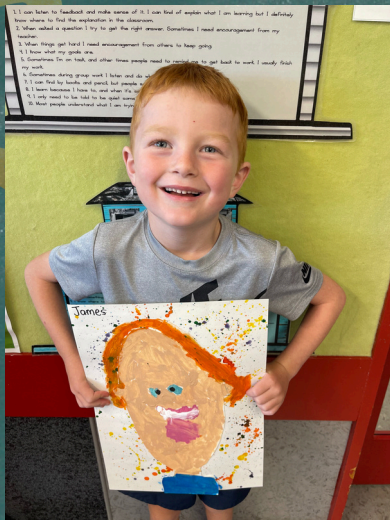
Ruby B & Hattie showed their learning in Maths using Chinese New Year animals as their data!



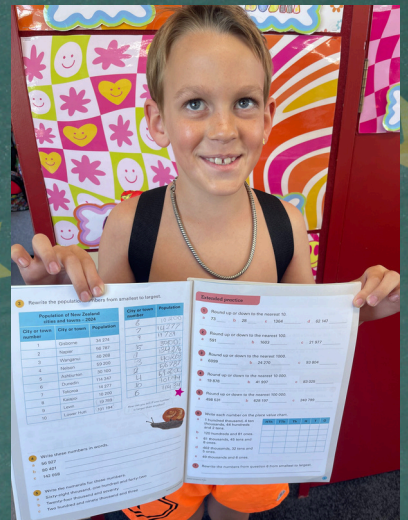
Michael's amazing handwriting!



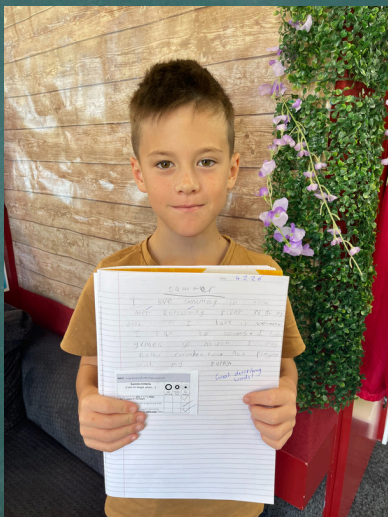
Jax's awesome Chinese New Year writing!



James' stunning self-portrait!



Bodhi's marvellous maths!



Kaydian's super summer writing!



Sydney's terrific self-portrait!



Welcome to our new students and their families - Osiris and Michael!

From the Office

Contact Information:

Last week we sent each student home with a form to update the contact information we hold on file for your whanau, such as addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts and medical information. Please ensure these are updated and returned. If you have misplaced your form, feel free to call Roxanne at the office to ensure we have all the correct information on your file.

Hero App:

We have been using the Hero app as our main form of communication with our school community since the beginning of 2025. If you haven't already, please download the Hero app to ensure you are kept up to date on all Tokomaru School information and events.

School Lunches:

We are pleased that Shannon School will be providing our lunches again in 2026. The menu is posted to Hero and Facebook at the beginning of each week as part of our 'What's Happening' post.

Board of Trustees

Regular school attendance is vital for the success and wellbeing of our tamariki. Attending school every day supports our tamariki to build strong foundations for their learning and social development. Regular attendance also promotes achievement success as tamariki can consistently build on their learning.

Our government has set a national target of 80% of students attending school at least 90% of the time. This means that tamariki should be absent for no more than one day a fortnight to ensure that they can have continued success at school.

At Tokomaru School our school vision of 'Where Children Achieve Excellence' underpins our approach to attendance - every ākonga reaching their potential. Our Stepped Attendance Response outlines our process for monitoring, supporting and improving attendance - so every ākonga can achieve excellence. You can access our Attendance Management Plan on our website: <https://www.tokomaru.school.nz/documents/policies-and-procedures/>



Our Room 4 Jump Jam leaders in action this week!

ILLUMINATE

Children's Choir

- 🎵 Ages 7-18
- 📍 Palmerston North
- 🕒 Sundays | 4:30-5:30pm
- 📅 Starts Week 2, Term 1

- 💖 No audition needed
- 💰 \$50 per term

REGISTER NOW!

forms.gle/tHt8cQVpuv8r7bx6

SMASH CRICKET

MANAWATU CRICKET YEAR 1-4

REGISTER HERE!

COST: \$25

DAYS, HUBS & TIMES:
scan the QR code to find out further information

juniorcc@mca.org.nz

TERM 1 2026 **SMASH CRICKET**

DUAL PITCH

YEAR 3 - 6 GIRLS & BOYS
THURSDAY AFTERNOONS
4.00 - 5.15PM
FITZHERBERT PARK

A FAST, FUN FORMAT THAT MAXIMISES TIME ON TASK, ENSURING EVERYONE'S ENJOYMENT

SMASH

19TH FEB - 26TH MARCH

REGISTER NOW

Weird, but true...



Jupiter is the fastest spinning planet in the solar system.

Tokomaru RSA and Country Club

Tokomaru ECC

www.tokomaruecc.co.nz | (06) 329 8730 | info@tokomaruecc.co.nz

Tokomaru Cubs and Scouts

Join the adventure!

Cubs - aged 8 to 11, Wednesdays 6:00 to 7:30pm
First night - 4th February 2026

Scouts - aged 11 to 14, Mondays 6:30 to 8:00pm
First night - 2nd February 2026

Location: Tokomaru Scout Hall

Activities: Focus on fun while developing Leadership and Teamwork skills through indoor and outdoor activities including: Camping, Cooking, Kayaking, Tramping, Community Service and Earning Badges

Contact - Tokomaru@group.scouts.nz

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SANDRA VAN TOOR
LIFESTYLE SALESPERSON OF THE YEAR

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Tokomaru School Staff



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Murray Te Huki
(Matua Murray)
Room 5 Teacher
mtehuki@tokomaru.school.nz



Katrina Lawton
Librarian
Teacher Aide



Hayley Westrupp
Teacher Aide



Damian Groves
Caretaker

Home & School

Chairperson: Narissa Cosgrove
Secretary: Karen Lister
Treasurer: Roxanne Eastham
School Reps: Mel Ryan & Torah Toney
Grants Officer: Adele Coles
Parent Reps: Chante Lennon, Kylie
Winiata, Kelly McDermott.

Bank Account Info

Tokomaru School
(Board Account)
12-3143-0428358-00

Tokomaru School
(Home & School Account)
12-3143-0428358-01

Board of Trustees

Presiding Member: Dave Lawton
Principal: Mel Ryan
Secretary: Rachel Wilson
Minute Secretary: Roxanne Eastham
Staff Representative & Treasurer:
Roxanne Eastham
Parent Representative: Haley Dell