



Tokomaru School Newsletter

Thursday 14th May 2026



Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou,

We will be holding a Pink Ribbon Morning Tea on the 22nd of May (also happens to be my birthday!), and I would love for our school community to come along, enjoy some morning tea together, and support a very worthwhile cause at the same time. It will be a wonderful opportunity to connect as a community while raising awareness and funds for breast cancer support and research.

Taking place on the same day is our school cross country, so it will certainly be a busy day! More information and details about the cross country will be coming home with students later this week.

You may have heard your children talking about some of the assessments they have completed over the last couple of weeks as we begin using the new SMART tool for Reading, Writing, and Maths for Years 3-8. These assessments give our teachers, students, and families a clearer picture of each child's progress, strengths, and next learning steps, while also encouraging students to reflect on their own learning.

Our community consultation will also be coming to all our families soon, as part of our Board's annual plan.

We appreciate your support with feedback and responses so we can continue to engage with our school community in a meaningful way.

Mel Ryan, Principal.



Term Two Dates

First day of Term 2 - Monday 20th April
King's Birthday - Monday 1st June
Matariki - Friday 10th July
Last Day of Term 2 - Friday 3rd July



Upcoming Dates

Friday 15th May

- Variety Morning Tea

Tuesday 19th May

- Epic Music Lessons

Wednesday 20th May

- Year 7&8

Technology

Friday 22nd May

- Variety Morning Tea
- Pink Ribbon Morning Tea
- School Cross Country 1:45pm

Monday 25th May

- Food for Thought Programme

Tuesday 26th May

- Epic Music Lessons

Wednesday 27th May

- Year 7&8

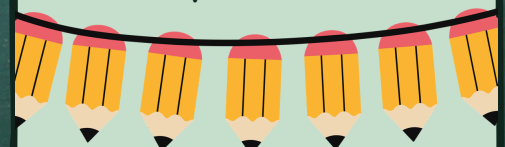
Technology

Thursday 28th May

- Vision & Hearing Technician

Friday 29th May

- Variety Morning Tea
- School Assembly 2:20pm



Sports

This week our classrooms have been participating in Rippa Rugby sessions run by Josh. We have been so lucky with the weather staying nice for these sessions! Our tamariki always love it when Josh comes to school, as he brings lots of fun Rippa games that help build skills and confidence. This year, a Rippa Rugby tournament for Years 3-8 will be held in Foxton, and we are hoping to take teams along to compete. Stay tuned for more information and permission slips coming out soon.

Our classrooms have also been doing lots of hard mahi practising for our school Cross Country coming up next Friday. We are currently on the hunt for parent helpers to assist with marshalling on the day, so please get in touch with Miss T if you are able to help out. The event will kick off at 1:45pm with a Jump Jam warm-up, and races will begin at 2:00pm. Ice blocks will also be available for purchase on the day for \$2 each.

Just a little reminder – if your child has a school sports uniform that is not being used for basketball or hockey, please return it to school as soon as possible.

Stay warm and healthy, whānau 🤍

Miss T & Matua Murray



CLUSTER CHESS

Our team of students headed to the Cluster Chess Tournament on Friday, showing great focus and strategy throughout the competition. We are so proud of the way they represented our school. Huge congrats to Everleigh-Rose, Harper S, Bella, Ephram, Lincoln, Arthur, Ali, Emily, Artemis, Praneet, Milo, and Liam B! Thank you to the organisers, staff, and whānau for supporting our chess players and making the day a success. And we appreciate Mrs Sarten running Chess Club so our team could learn. Well done team!



Life Education

We had an awesome week during our Life Education lessons with Harold the Giraffe and Jonny today. The students were completely hooked - lots of dancing, great questions, and important conversations about emotions, resilience, and more! As always, a high five to Life Education for bringing learning to life in such a memorable way!



Rangamarie MARAE

Our Kapa Haka group and Year 7/8 students had such an awesome experience at Rangimarie Marae last week. From the moment we arrived, our tamariki showed great respect as they learned more about tikanga Māori, shared their pepeha, played games, and explored our local history.

A real highlight was seeing tuakana-teina in action all day, with our older students stepping up to support and teach our younger ones. It was also really cool to see their confidence grow - taking part in the pōwhiri and singing waiata.

We were very grateful to have so many whānau members join us alongside our teachers - big thanks to Deborah, Sharon, Awhi, James, Sophie, Whaea Torah, Matua Murray, and Mrs Sarten. Huge thanks to Nuwyne, Wiremu, and whānau for their warmth and generosity throughout the day. Such a special experience that our students will remember for a long time; they're really wanting to go back and have a BBQ already!



Home & School

We drew our Mother's Day raffle last week, just in time for Mother's Day, raising \$850! Thanks again to all of you who supported our goals by purchasing raffle tickets/sheets and a big thanks to Whaea Torah for arranging the prize packs, to Murray and Deborah Phillips, and Damo Groves for splitting the wood for the trailer load of wood, and to Roxanne for all the administration of the raffle - much appreciated!

Well done to our winners:

1st - Teri Lilo-Dawson, 2nd - Parky and 3rd - Philipa Peck.

The Home and School are busily working to continue raising funds toward our all-weather turf, with this project being started in July.

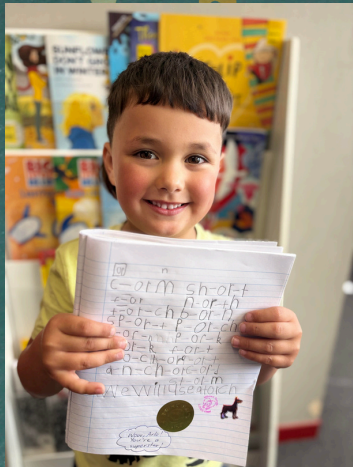
This term we have a farm auction BBQ, Cluster Cross Country BBQ, and Matariki Celebration so keep an eye out for details of these events.

In addition to our turf, we are also supporting our school's student leaders by sending them to National Young Leaders' Day in Week 7, where they will have the opportunity to listen and be inspired by speakers to develop their goals and aspirations for the future. As always, we welcome new members to our Home and School Association - head along to our next meeting on Wednesday 3rd June to see what it's all about!

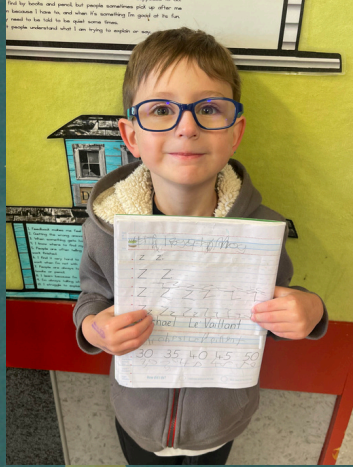


Student Stars

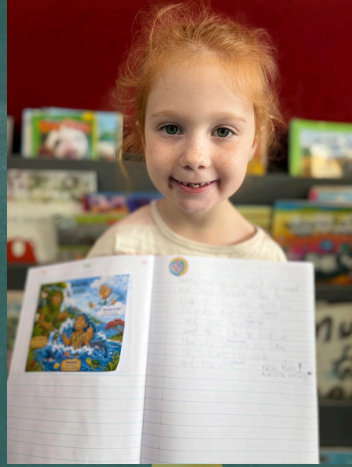
Te Tutuki i te kairanga



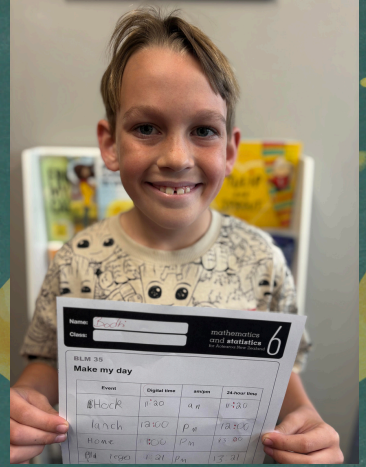
Arlo's b-or-n for segmenting & blending!



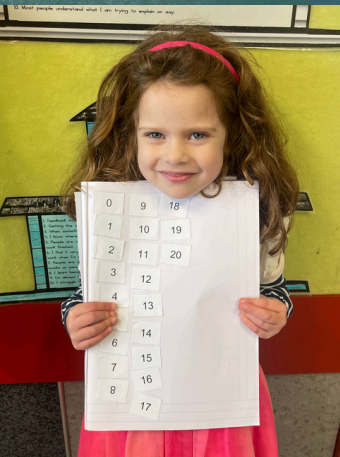
Michael's marvellous maths!



Ruby I's impressive story writing!



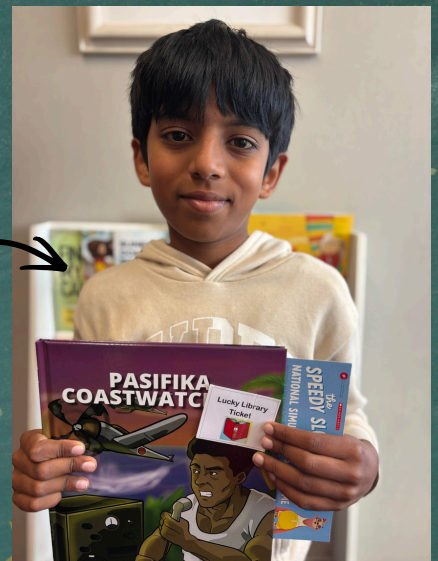
Bodhi's Maths is "ticking along", showing his learning about time!



Eleanor's clever counting!



Jessica showing us a booklet of photos and letters to our welcoming hosts at Rangimarie Marae!



Praneet found a Lucky Library Ticket, and got to choose a book and bookmark!



Izaac's ginormous grass head! Great responsibility looking after him Izaac!

Welcome to Stella and her whanau as she joins room one this week!



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SATURDAY **30 MAY** 9AM - 4.30PM

SUNDAY **31 MAY** 9AM - 4.30PM

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CHILD \$5 | ADULT \$7
FAMILY PASS \$20
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FOLLOW US **WELL-LUG**

Red Kiwi Orienteering club

Have-a-go SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING DAY

Come along and gain some orienteering skills and have fun.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

We are running an orienteering course with club members there to help, guide and give feedback where needed. This is open to students as well as teachers and parents.

WHERE AND WHEN

It will be held at **IPU** on Sunday **17 May**, 11am - 1pm starts. Course closure 2pm.

Cost for members: \$5 students / \$10 adults / \$20 family
Non-members: \$7 students / \$14 adults / \$25 family

REGISTER AT:

redkiwi.org.nz so we know how many maps to print.
(Further event details also on the website) Entries also available on the day.

ANY QUERIES CONTACT:

Rebecca at redkiwischools@gmail.com

Fun Facts...
A group of frogs is called an army.

Kōrero mai Kōrero atu

SPEAK UP

STAND TOGETHER

STOP BULLYING

Māuri tū Māuri ora

PINK SHIRT DAY 26

FRIDAY 15 MAY

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE Mental Health Foundation
mauri tū, mauri ora

JOIN THE MOVEMENT: PINKSHIRTDAY.ORG.NZ
#PINKSHIRTDAYNZ



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Tokomaru RSA and Country Club

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Chante Lennon
Teacher Aide



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