



Tokomaru School Newsletter

Thursday 6th August 2026



Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou,

I would like to congratulate our four Book Battle teams, who represented our school last week. Their commitment over many months of reading and preparing was evident, and we are extremely proud of their efforts - it is such a fantastic event that celebrates the joy of reading.

A huge highlight this week was our whole school taking part in the Kind Hearts Schools Event at Awapuni Racecourse. I just loved hearing from the students about what they got out of the event; it was great to see our students so engaged, and I know these messages will continue to have influence on the positive culture we value at Tokomaru School.

Running alongside our Learning Conversations next week, will be the Scholastic Book Fair in the library. This is a great opportunity to stock the bookshelves, purchase gifts, and support our school. Tuesday will also bring plenty of fun with our Book Character Dress-Up Day, with book prizes up for grabs!

Finally, thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete our School Community Survey. Your thoughts and ideas are incredibly important as our Board begins developing the school's next Strategic Plan. If you haven't yet completed the survey, I encourage you to do so - your feedback will help shape the future direction of our school and ensure we continue to provide the very best for our students and community.

Mel Ryan, Principal.



Term Dates

First Day: Monday 20th July
Last Day: Friday 25th September



Upcoming Dates

Monday 10th August

- Maths Week
- Book Fair Week
- Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday 11th August

- Book Fair Dress Up Day
- EPIC Music Lessons
- Learning Conversations 3pm-6pm

Wednesday 12th August

- Year 7&8 Technology
- Learning Conversations 3pm-6pm

Friday 14th August

- Manawatu Mathex Competition
- School Assembly 2:20pm

Tuesday 18th August

- EPIC Music Lessons

Wednesday 19th August

- Year 7&8 Tech
- Movie Night Camp Fundraiser

Thursday 20th August

- Cuba St Pie order forms due



Sports

Last week marked the end of our winter sports season. Tino pai rawa atu to our hockey teams, and a huge thank you to everyone who supported, coached, and managed them. We simply couldn't have teams without these wonderful volunteers!

Badminton is now underway for our senior students. Ka pai to everyone taking part on Tuesday afternoons after school.

Last week, we also held our Commonwealth Sports House Event in honour of the Commonwealth Games. Despite the challenging weather, we managed to complete all the events with a few adjustments. There were certainly plenty of smiles all around.

A big congratulations to Tawa House, who took first place with an impressive 130 points! Karaka and Rata finished equal second with 120 points each, followed by Kōwhai with 70 points.

These points will be added to our overall house point totals as we work towards finding out which house will be awarded our 2026 champion at the end of the year!

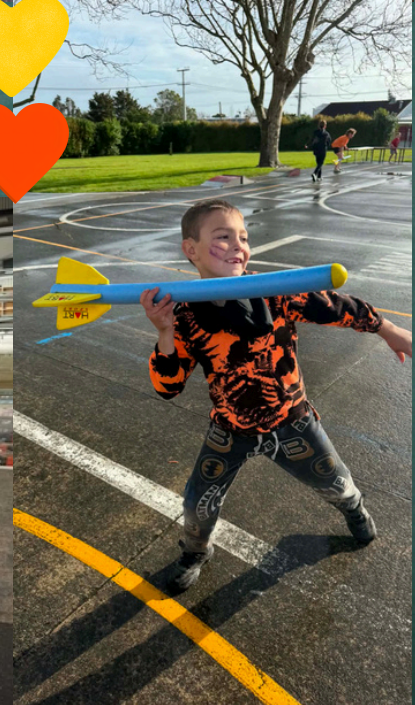
It has also been awesome to see some of our classes getting outside and continuing their PE programmes despite the chilly weather. Room 4 has been developing racquet skills through pickleball, focusing on controlling their bats and making accurate, well weighted passes to their partners. Room 5 has been playing netball and learning how to work effectively as a team, create space, and make controlled passes. Ka mau te wehi!

Miss T & Matua Murray



Commonwealth House Games 2026

Representing our Houses with lots of pride and energy, our students braved the chilly weather to compete in several fun sports activities to get points for their Houses. It was great to see so many of our kiddos wearing their House colour and getting into the spirit of the event with face paint too!



Please process payment online to Tokomaru School **12-3143-0428358-01** and use your child's name and 'Cuba' as a reference.
All monies raised will be going towards the all-weather turf for our bottom court. Thank you for your support 😊

Kind Hearts

Over the last two days, our whole school attended the Kind Hearts Schools Event at Awapuni Racecourse.

Our students enjoyed two inspiring days filled with stories, creativity, and practical ideas about kindness, resilience, and making a positive difference. They heard from and interacted with the amazing Shaz & Stumpy, Imagination Station, Sport Manawatu, Tao Wang, Alan Dingley, and William Pike, leaving with plenty to reflect on and take back into our school community.

A big thank you to Transit for providing our bus transport. We were also excited to win \$250 towards our travel costs after showcasing how we promote kindness at our school. Ka rawe!



Student Stars

Te Tutuki i te kairanga



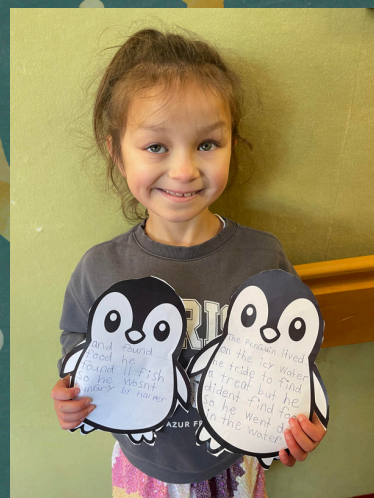
Eve working on her Kind Hearts booklet!



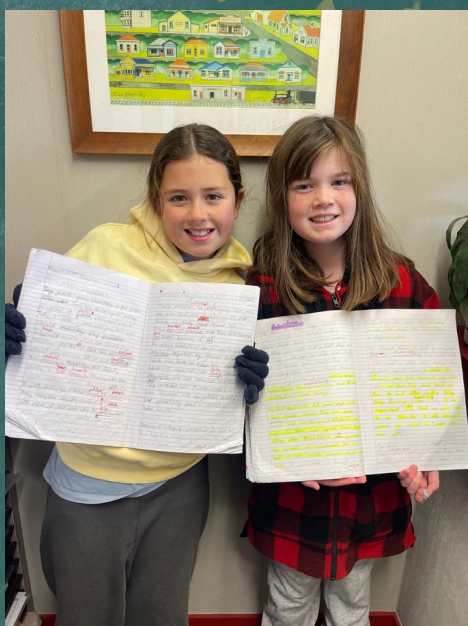
Fox working on his Kind Hearts activities!



Bonnie was our Week 1 Term 3 Principal's Award winner!



Harper's penguin story!



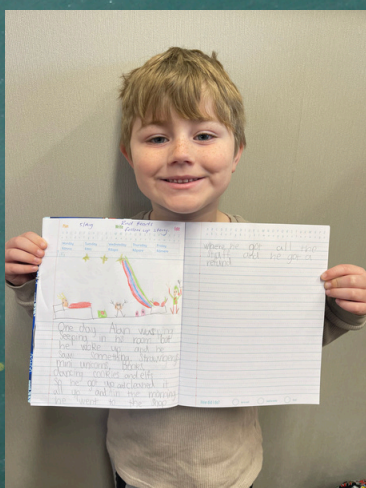
Adaline and Eden's super speech writing!



A lot of great conversation during today's Firewise lesson!



Michael, Arlo, and James, looking at tools vs toys as part of the Firewise programme



Jax's amazing story writing!



Room 5 enjoying a novel study of 'Hatchet' by Gary Paulsen



Weird, but true!



A well-trained bloodhound can sometimes follow a human scent that is 7 to 14 days old

Thanks to our new school supporter Cam Morgan for donating a whole new hockey goalie kit!



Maths Week is Almost Here!

Get ready for a week of maths fun! During Maths Week, we'll be sharing a new daily maths challenge on Facebook and Hero for everyone to have a go at.

Team up with your whānau, solve the challenge, and send your answers to Mrs Ryan. Every correct entry goes in the draw to win some awesome prizes!

Thanks to our supporters!



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TOKOMARU HALL SPRING QUIZ

Tickets \$15 per person
Sat 19th Sept 2026 6pm
Kitchen Roof Fundraiser

Any questions or to book a table, contact us via facebook
@TokomaruHall or email tokomaruhall@gmail.com

Tokomaru ECC

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Tokomaru RSA and Country Club

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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