Tokomaru School Newsletter

Thursday 15th October 2026



Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back to our last term of the 2026 year!

What an experience our production of Shrek was for our school! We are so proud of our tamariki and the confidence and commitment they showed throughout the whole process. It was wonderful to see so many students step outside their comfort zones, supporting one another to bring Shrek to the stage.

A production like this takes a huge amount of teamwork, and I would like to reiterate my thanks to everyone who helped make it happen. From creating props and organising costumes to doing hair and makeup, helping with transport, supervising students and supporting rehearsals, there were so many people working behind the scenes to ensure everything ran smoothly. Thank you to our staff and whānau who gave so much of their time and energy to support our students throughout, and to our amazing audience who were so supportive - great "revered silence", "clapping", and "laughing"!

Most importantly, we hope our tamariki feel proud of what they have achieved, and that they have got some memories created through this experience. Shrek reminds us to embrace our differences, be proud of who we are and look beyond what is on the outside - we hope our tamariki carry that message with them always.

Ka mau te wehi, Tokomaru School! What a special experience for our kura, and a wonderful reminder of what we can achieve when we work together. Thank you all for being part of it!



Mel Ryan,
Principal.

Term Dates

First Day: Monday 12th October
Last Day: Monday 7th December

Upcoming Dates

Friday 16th October
- Denim & Diamonds Auction Night, 6pm at the RSA

Tuesday 20th October
- EPIC Music Lessons

Wednesday 21st October
- Year 7&8 Technology

Monday 26th October
- Labour Day Public Holiday - School Closed

Tuesday 27th October
- EPIC Music Lessons

Wednesday 28th October
- Year 7&8 Technology
- Home & School Meeting 3:15pm

Monday 2nd November
- Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30pm

Tuesday 3rd November
- EPIC Music Lessons
- Kelly Sports Swimming Lessons



Sports

Welcome back to Term 4! We have lots of fun sporting opportunities ahead, including swimming lessons with Kelly Sports in Weeks 4 and 5. We're also excited to open our school pool and enjoy swimming with our classes!

Classes will be practising touch and athletics skills in preparation for our upcoming events:

- School Athletics: Date to be confirmed.
- Senior Cluster Athletics: Tuesday, Week 6.
- Cluster Touch: Thursday, Week 8.

Summer touch and soccer kicked off this week—well done to everyone who played their first games! Summer hockey starts next week. Thank you to our coaches and team managers for supporting our players.

🌈 Fun Run Fundraising Leaderboard

🥇 Room 5: $1,130

🥈 Room 4: $1,051

🥉 Room 2: $845

Miss T & Matua Murray

Sports Coordinators

TURF OPENING

We're so excited to see our new turfed court ready for action! Our student leaders, Liam and Ruby, and Home and School staff representative Whaea Torah, cut the ribbon at our Values Assembly on Monday morning.

A HUGE thank you to our amazing Home and School team for generously giving up their time to help with our fundraising efforts. We'd also like to thank our wonderful school community for getting behind us over the last couple of years by purchasing raffle tickets, supporting our sausage sizzles, buying pies, and supporting all our other fundraisers - your support has helped make this happen, and we couldn't have done it without you!

Our students are absolutely stoked to get out there, get active, and make the most of this awesome new space!







Home & School

If you haven't booked tickets already, it's not too late! Contact the office on 06 329 8780 or officemanager@tokomaru.school.nz to lock in your tickets to our annual auction night.

Our "Denim & Diamonds" themed auction night will be held at the RSA tomorrow night - come along for a good time not a quiz time! Bring some friends for an awesome night of music, and bid on some awesome auction items throughout the night!

Spot prizes for most "Denim & Diamonds" themed outfits! All funds raised go towards our turfed court.











Cluster Kapa Haka & Ki-o-rahi

What a wonderful way to celebrate Te Wiki o te Reo Māori - coming together through Kapa Haka, Ki-o-Rahi, and whanaungatanga. Our tamariki had a fantastic day joining Tūritea, Linton Camp, Aokautere and Ōpiki Schools for the Cluster Kapa Haka and Ki-o-Rahi Tournament. Our Kapa Haka rōpū were proud to share their performance, and it was awesome to see the confidence and pride across all of the school groups. Ka mau te wehi!

A huge ngā mihi to Linton Camp for hosting and organising the Kapa Haka event, creating such a positive and welcoming space for our tamariki to perform and celebrate together. Thank you also to Tūritea for organising the Ki-o-Rahi tournament and making such a great day of competition possible. We really appreciate the mahi that goes on behind the scenes to bring our Cluster events together. A big thank you to Whaea Torah, Whaea Gabi and Matua Murray, along with our student leaders, for their encouragement and the mahi that went into preparing our Kapa Haka rōpū.

We had three teams participate in Ki-o-Rahi, with plenty of great moments throughout the day. Tokomaru 1 finished 3rd in the Year 5/6 competition, with 3 wins from 4 games - a fantastic effort! Our teams showed great teamwork and perseverance throughout the day, with an individual standout in Arthur who was recognised by Pa Jason as player of the day!

Thank you goes to our Matua Murray for taking on refereeing duties, and the two other referees, and to Miss T for all her support of our teams. And to our parents and whānau - thank you for coming along, all the cheering, and sharing the day with us. Your support means so much to our students.

Ngā mihi nui to everyone who helped make the day such a success!





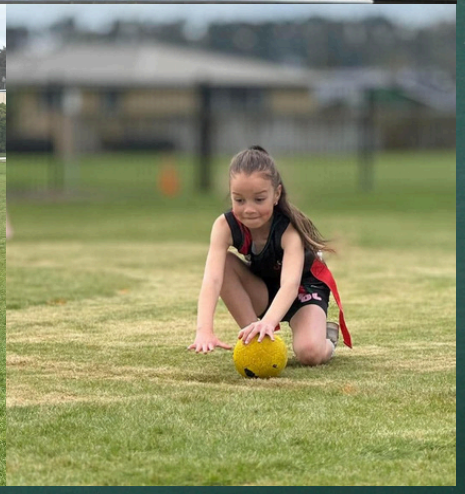












Student Stars

Te Tutuki i te kairanga



Welcome

Welcome to Jayden, welcome back to Preston, and welcome to Eve who has joined us as a teacher aide and after-school care carer!



Andrew, Adaline, and Bodhi drumming to the beat of 'Ghostbusters'!



Nataria, James, and Nyla's terrific times tables!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

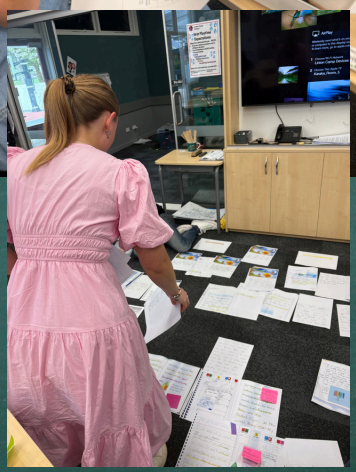
We joined our cluster schools (Turitea, Linton Camp, Opiki, and Aokautere) for Writing moderation yesterday, which was a great opportunity for our teachers and principals to come together and share ideas. It was so valuable to look at student writing together, discuss what we are seeing in our classrooms and build a more consistent understanding of the expectations within the New Zealand Curriculum.

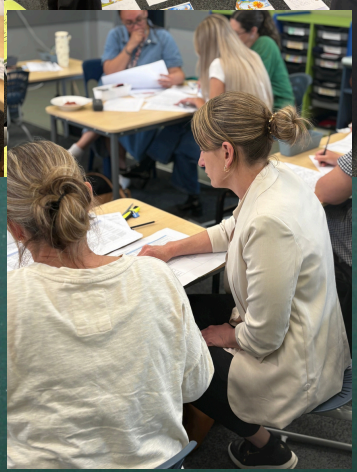
We looked at student writing examples, learning from each other, sharing our knowledge and thinking about how we can best support our tamariki to grow as writers. It's great to be able to work alongside our cluster partners, learn together and strengthen our teaching practice for the benefit of all our students.

A big thank you to the teachers who led each year group for their preparation and support in making these sessions so valuable for everyone (including our own Whaea Torah), and to Linton Camp School for hosting us.









PRODUCTION 2026











St John in Schools

Learning to Save the Day!

What a fantastic two days with St John in Schools! Our whole school got involved, learning important first aid skills, how to respond in an emergency, and how to care for others. So proud of our kiddos!

A huge thank you to the St John team for making it such a fun and valuable experience.



Weird but True... You can't hum while you're holding your nose!

Kids Market
At the Halloween Street Party!





OCTOBER
31
OCT
3pm - 6.30pm
Arthur Street, Otaki

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

Tokomaru RSA and Country Club

Thanks to our supporters!

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(Matua Murray)
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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