Tokomaru School Newsletter

Thursday 12th November 2026



Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou,

What a cool day our Ag & Market Day was! It was wonderful to see so many students getting involved and demonstrating our school values in action. We saw lots of responsibility and respect as students cared for and looked after their animals. There was also an incredible amount of perseverance on display from those students who had put time, effort and creativity into making items to sell at the class stalls. It was fantastic to see their hard work come together and to showcase the talents and skills across our school. We are also looking forward to seeing students' gardens as they come up for judging in Week 7 - it will be exciting to see the results of all the hard work and care our students have put into them.

There is plenty more excitement ahead, with our students really looking forward to the Colour Fun Run this Friday. It has been amazing to see the support coming through from our families and friends, and we can't wait to spend the afternoon together, filled with colour and, of course, plenty of slime! And if you're looking for something fun to do this weekend, head along to the Tokomaru Bonfire & Guy Fawkes Night at the Domain - our Home & School Association will be there with quesadillas, sausages, and a selection of glow and inflatable items, for sale - it's always a fun, family night out!



Ngā manaakitanga,

Mel Ryan

Principal/Tumuaki

Term 4 Dates

First Day: Monday 12th October

Last Day: Monday 7th December

Upcoming Dates

Friday 13th November
- Colour Fun Run from 2pm

Saturday 14th November
- Bonfire Night, 6pm at the Tokomaru Domain

Monday 16th November
- EPIC Music Lessons (brought forward due to event on 17th)
- Kelly Sports Swimming Lessons

Tuesday 17th November
- Senior Cluster Athletics

Wednesday 18th November
- Year 7&8 Technology
- Last Library Day for 2026

Thursday 19th November
- Church Service

Friday 20th November
- School Assembly 2:15pm

Tuesday 24th November
- EPIC Music Lessons

Sports

🏃 School Athletics Day

What a stunning day we had for our School Athletics! A huge well done to everyone who participated, gave their best effort and showed fantastic sportsmanship throughout the day. Congratulations to all those who earned placings in their events! Our overall athletics winners will be announced and awarded certificates at our Week 6 School Assembly on Friday 20th November. We can't wait to celebrate their achievements!

🏅 Cluster Athletics

Permission slips for Cluster Athletics have been sent home today. Please ensure these are returned before next Monday so we can finalise our bus arrangements for Tuesday's event at Massey University. We are looking forward to seeing our athletes represent Tokomaru School!

🌈 FUN RUN - THIS FRIDAY!!!

The countdown is on! Our much anticipated Colour Fun Run is happening THIS FRIDAY at 2:00pm! We can't wait to get covered in colour, have heaps of fun and, of course, see Miss T get SLIMED! 💚

A few important reminders:

- *Wear appropriate footwear for running.*
- *Bring a change of clothes for afterwards.*
- *White t-shirts will be provided on the day.*
- *Parents and whānau are more than welcome to come along!*

Keep those last-minute donations rolling in, team! Our top three fundraising students will also earn house points for their houses. Let's finish strong!

🏉 Cluster Touch - Can We Do It Again?

Next week, we will kick off our whole-school touch practices in preparation for the Cluster Touch Tournament in Week 8 at Monrad Park!

We have a title to defend, and the big question is... CAN TOKOMARU SCHOOL TAKE OUT THE OVERALL WIN AGAIN?! 🏆

Let's get practising, show some awesome teamwork and give it everything we've got!

GO TOKOMARU!

Miss T and Matua Murray - Sports Coordinators

Players of the Day!



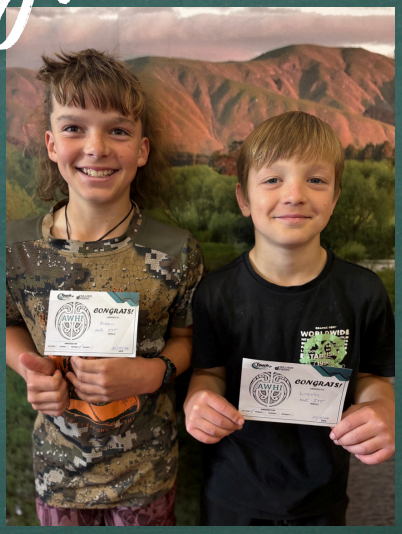
Ruby I - Hockey Player of the Day



Bodhi, Artemis and Nyla - Soccer Players of the Day



Ruby B - Hockey Player of the Day



Andrew and Lincoln - Touch Players of the Day

Principal's Professional Development

Mana in the Manawatū Principals' Bus Tour



I attended the Manawatū Principals' Association (MPA) Mana in the Manawatū bus tour last week, where principals and DPs visited three local schools - Winchester School Te Kura o Te Haonui, Ross Intermediate, and Terrace End School - to hear about their school journeys and the mahi happening in their school communities.

A massive thank you to the host schools, the MPA sponsors and all the principals and DPs who made time to be part of a wonderful afternoon together. It was great to hear and share ideas. I'd also like to thank the MPA committee for their organisation - another great event!

Mel Ryan - Principal/Tumuaki





Little voters, big voices!

Our Year 7/8 students have been exploring the exciting world of democracy through Kids Voting - Te Pōti a Ngā Tamariki. They've been learning about New Zealand's elections, exploring parties and candidates, and discovering how our voting system works.

The big moment arrived when our students got to cast their very own votes in a mock election - just like the real thing! It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to learn about democracy, share their views and discover the importance of having a voice









Board of Trustees

Our school works with SchoolDocs to provide a website for maintaining, updating, and reviewing our school policies. SchoolDocs updates policies in response to changes in legislation and Ministry guidelines, reviews/requests from schools, and regular research from the SchoolDocs team.

Our school board has the opportunity to view changes/additions and comment on them before they are implemented. You can also take part in the review process by submitting feedback on policies and procedures that are up for review. This term, we are reviewing:

- *Curriculum & Student Achievement Policy*
- *Reporting about Student Progress & Achievement*
- *Learning Support*
- *Maori Educational Achievement*
- *Religious Instruction*/Religious Observances**
- *Privacy Policy*

We invite you to visit the site at https://tokomaru.schooldocs.co.nz (please note there is no "www"). When you follow the link, you will be prompted to sign up using Google.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Keep an eye out for our 2027 stationery lists coming to an inbox near you!

Here are our 2027 term dates:

TOKOMARU SCHOOL TERM DATES 2027

Term One	**(96 half days)**	
Start	Thursday 28th January	
Finish	Friday 9th April	
Public Holidays	Waitangi Day - observed Monday 8th February Good Friday - Friday 26th March Easter Monday - Monday 29th March Easter Tuesday - Tuesday 30th March ANZAC Day - observed Monday 26th April	
School Holidays	Monday 12th April - Monday 26th April	
Term Two	**(94 half days)**	
Start	Tuesday 27th April	
Finish	Friday 2nd July	
Public Holidays	King's Birthday - Monday 7th June Matariki - Friday 25th June	
School Holidays	Monday 5th July - Friday 16th July	
Term Three	**(100 half days)**	
Start	Monday 19th July	
Finish	Friday 24th September	
School Holidays	Monday 27th September - Friday 8th October	
Term Four	**(86 half days)**	
Start	Monday 11th October	
Finish	Thursday 9th December	
Public Holidays	Labour Day - Monday 25th October	
Total Days	**= 188 days**	**= 376 half days**



Ag & Market Day

A huge congratulations to all our students who worked so hard preparing their animals, and to their families for all the time and effort that goes into getting them ready. We appreciate you!

A big thank you to our judges and stewards - Alana (calf judge), Clive (lamb judge), Anne, Alphie, and Riley - for their time and expertise, to Aaron S for getting the animal area ready, Damo for preparing the field, and Roxanne for all her behind-the-scenes liaison with the Ag Club and making sure the admin was sorted. We couldn't do it without you all.

It was awesome seeing so many students involved in baking, flower-arranging, and creations! And well done to our all our classes for their Market Day stalls, proudly selling their creations and putting their business skills to the test - with some great real-life learning about profit and loss!

A huge cheer for Aaron I and the team at Shannon Bulk Haulage for bringing along the truck for our students to explore (and even have a go at the horn!)

And last but certainly not least, thanks to our amazing Home & School Association for keeping everyone fed with the BBQ. Special thanks to Karen, Kylie, Melissa and Donna for your support.

So many people coming together to make a great day celebrating our rural community for our children.







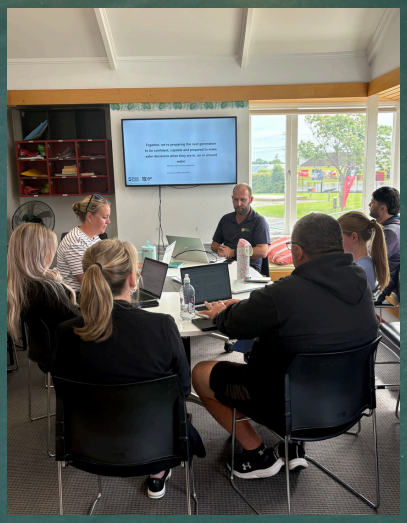






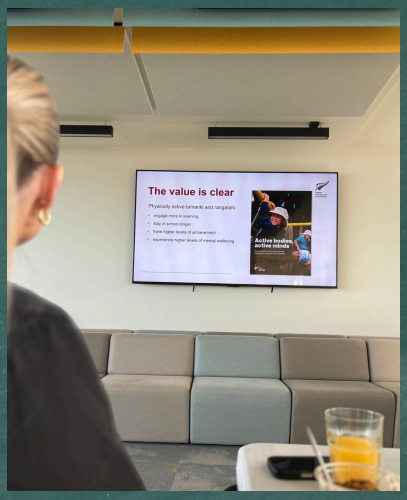

Professional Development Spotlight

Our teachers have been engaging in valuable professional learning focused on the importance of physical activity and promoting active lifestyles for our tamariki. We have been working alongside Kelly Sports, who have been sharing their knowledge and expertise through practical swimming lessons with our students, providing teachers with ideas and strategies to make swimming safe, fun, and accessible for all. In addition, Shayla and Mel attended a professional learning meeting with Sport Manawatū, exploring the importance of physical activity for children's overall wellbeing, learning and development.



They looked at ways to intentionally incorporate more movement and physical activity throughout our curriculum, as well as encouraging active play and movement during children's free time. This learning will help us continue to create opportunities for our tamariki to be active, build confidence, develop new skills and enjoy the many benefits of an active lifestyle.





Home & School



Come along to the Tokomaru Bonfire & Guy Fawkes Night at the Domain this Saturday 14th November.

Home & School will have a stall selling sausages, quesadillas, drinks and various glow and inflatable items.

Bring a gold coin and your helmet for the magic carpet rides - no helmet, no ride!

Student Stars

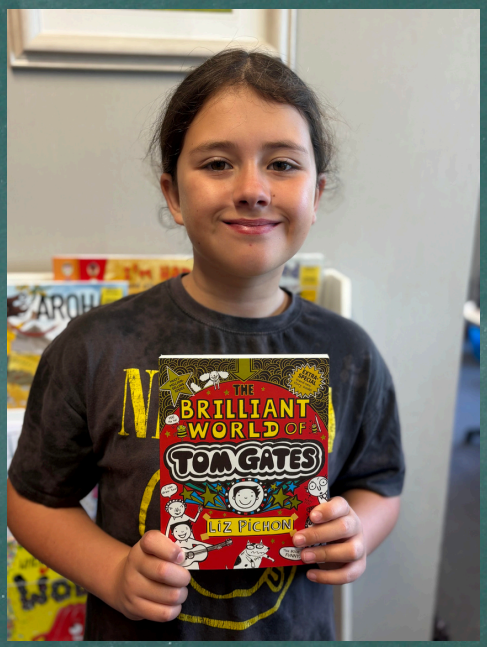
Te Tutuki i te kairanga



Room 4 engaging in a hands-on Statistics & Probability lesson



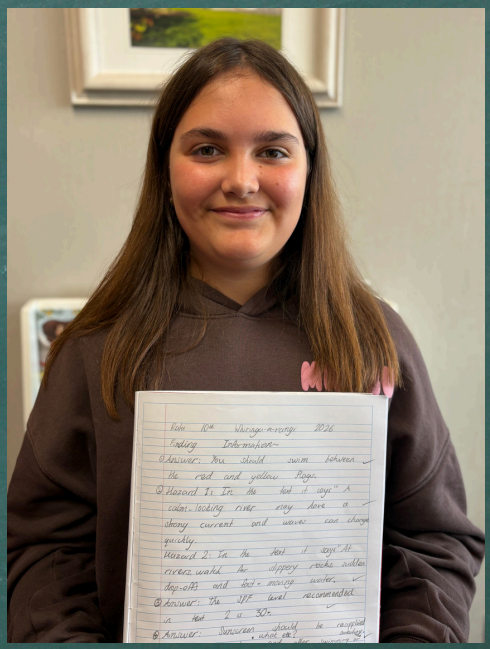
We're Winners with Westpac & iSPORT!



Adaline found a lucky library ticket!



Harper found a lucky library ticket!



Hazel's fab reading response work!

EPIC HOLIDAY PROGRAM

EPIC! Christmas CHAOS

SNOW GLOBES

ELF TRAINING CAMP

17th - 23rd Dec

OSCAR Approved
Ages 5-13
Extended Hours!
Feilding Pick up/Drop off available!

MUSIC EVERY DAY!

CLOUD 9 TRAMPOLINE PARK

BATH FIZZ

CHRISTMAS TREE CONES

EPIC! SUMMER UNLEASHED

11th - 22nd Jan

BOOK NOW!

Weird but True...

A shrimp's heart is located in its head!



I Tri'd the Tri Series

KIDS TRIATHLON

For Kids 4-12 Years

Manawatu & TRC Toyota

Register at www.triclub.co.nz

COMMUNITY NEWS

ORA KONNECT BRINGS YOU

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4412 MARKET

WHATS ON OFFER?

KAI / FOOD
Taniwha burgers • Pacific kai plates
Chop suey and more!

SWEET TREATS
Cheesecakes • slices • candied grapes
Magnum fried bread & more!

ARTS & CRAFTS
Handmade jewelry and crafts, fidget toys, māori art, hair braiding and more!

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO GET YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS EARLY!

ALL WELCOME!



FOOD - COMMUNITY - CONNECT

NOVEMBER 6TH • 4.00PM-6.00PM

HWC Junior Youth TOUCH MODULE

Highbury Whānau Centre — inside the Hall
Running in conjunction with the JYT (Junior Youth Touch) Competition

Parking will be limited in the car park, however, it will be worth your time walking a short distance to come and join us.
Eftpos, bank transfer, and cash may be accepted with vendors.

SUPPORTED BY HIGHBURY WHĀNAU CENTRE & ORA KONNECT

Ora Konnect

Tokomaru ECC

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

Tokomaru RSA and Country Club

Thanks to our supporters!

4 FOUR SQUARE Shannon

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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/Tumuaki: Mel Ryan
Secretary: Rachel Wilson
Minute Secretary: Roxanne Eastham
Staff Representative & Treasurer: Roxanne Eastham
Parent Representative: Haley Dell