



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Tahuna School



Learning For Life



Our School Pepeha

Pepeha is a way of introducing yourself in Maaori. It tells people who you are by sharing your connections with the people and places that are local to our area.

Ko Tainui te waka
My canoe is Tainui

Ko Mangawara te awa
My river is Mangawara

Ko Hapuakohe te maunga
My Mountain is Hapuakohe

Ko Waiti te marae
My Marae is Waiti

Ko Ngati Paoa te iwi
My tribe is Ngati Paoa

Ko Tahuna te kura
My school is Tahuna School

Kia ora koutou,

What an outstanding start to Term 1! It has been wonderful to see our tamariki embracing their learning with enthusiasm while consistently demonstrating our Rural ICARE values. Their positive attitudes, courage and willingness to support one another have been a highlight across the school.

Our dedicated and hardworking staff continue to provide engaging and meaningful learning opportunities, and we are grateful for the ongoing support of our parents and whaanau, whose partnership makes such a difference to our wonderful rural school.

We have enjoyed a number of special events this term, beginning with our Whaanau Afternoon, which was a fantastic opportunity to welcome both returning and new families into our school community. It was lovely to see so many connections being made.

Our school Swimming Sports and Interschool Swimming events showcased not only the skills of our tamariki but also their determination and sportsmanship. On the hotter days, it has been great to see so many tamariki making the most of our new court cover - playing games such as Farmer Farmer, touch rugby, and a variety of other fun activities while staying active and safe.

A key focus this term has also been Online Internet Safety. Our tamariki have been developing important knowledge and skills to navigate the digital world safely, and it was pleasing to see strong attendance at our parent evening, reflecting the shared commitment to supporting our young tamariki in this space.

Thank you again to our entire school community for such a positive and successful start to the year. We look forward to all that Term 2 will bring!

Ngaa mihi
Mr Phillip Otto



Our new Student Councillors for 2026!



Introducing Our Proud Tahuna Team

Principal - Mr Phillip Otto

Deputy Principal - Leasa Crow

SENco - Dionne Holt-Pedersen

Endeavour (Yr 0-1) - Miss Jaime Herkes

Endurance - (Yr 1,2,3) Mrs Dionne Holt-Pedersen

Maungaturoto - (Yr 3-4) Miss Caron Purvis

Adventure - (Yr 4-5) Mrs Sophie Marshall

Discovery - (Yr 5-6) Miss Leasa Crow

Release Teachers - Mrs Gill Constantine, Mrs Alana Simmonds

Learning Assistants - Ms Julie Shewry, Kimberley Slooten

Office Administrator - Ruby Takai

Van Driver - Martin Foster

Cleaner - Racquel Candilosas

School Policies – SchoolDocs

Our school policies are on a website called School Docs. School Docs provides us with policies and concerns processes which have been researched and follow the Ministry of Education guidelines.

The website is:

<https://tahuna.schooldocs.co.nz>

The username is: tahuna and the password is: cares

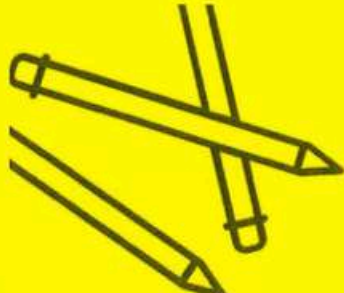
New Enrolments

We love welcoming new tamariki and their whaanau into our school, and with our rolling intake, your child can start school on their fifth birthday—no waiting for the next term!



To help make the transition smooth and positive, we offer relaxed school visits on Fridays from 1:15 to 2:30 pm. We usually recommend 2-4 visits before your child turns five, so they can get to know the space, meet their teacher, and feel right at home.

Our school is set in a beautiful rural location, with small class sizes, a play-based environment, and a strong focus on early learning through structured literacy and PRIME Maths. It's a lovely balance of exploration, fun, and learning.

If you or someone you know is interested in enrolling, we'd love to hear from you. Please get in touch with the school office for more information or to arrange a visit!



Friends of the School



Kia Ora and welcome to Tahuna School.
The 'friends of the school' (FOS) are a group of parents who come together regularly throughout the school year to plan FUNdraising initiatives and organise events to give our children the best education opportunities and experiences. Our focus is to have FUN and build relationships with you, your family, and our wider community.



The level of your involvement is up to you!

You could,

- Join the FOS
 - Attend some planning meetings
 - Buy & sell tickets
 - Talk to your friends and family about our events
 - Be on the stopwatch during our sports events
 - Attend our school assemblies
 - Contribute to a bake sale
 - ... Or even flip a sausage or two!
- 
- 



If you would like to join our committee, share an idea or lend a helping hand, drop an email to Fos@tahunaschool.school.nz or check out school stream for our next meeting date and pop along.

We welcome everyone.

Everyone has something to offer, big or small.

We are Tahuna Proud.



DISCOVERY CLASS
(YEARS 5-6)

TERM ONE!

TERM 1 HAS BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF A WHIRLWIND- THE KIND WHERE YOU BLINK AND SUDDENLY YOUR TAMARIKI ARE MORE CONFIDENT, CAPABLE, AND JUST THAT LITTLE BIT TALLER! WE KICKED THINGS OFF WITH DAILY SWIMMING, DIVING HEADFIRST INTO REFINING OUR STROKES AND INCREASING OUR STAMINA IN THE POOL. ALL THAT PRACTICE PAID OFF WITH SOME FANTASTIC SUCCESS AT INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING - WE COULDN'T BE PROUDER OF THE DETERMINATION, TEAMWORK, AND COURAGE ON DISPLAY.



OUR BRAINS HAVE BEEN JUST AS ACTIVE AS OUR BODIES. FROM TACKLING THE CHALLENGES OF THE EPRO8 COMPETITION, TO DIVING DEEP INTO OUR INQUIRY ON ROCKY SHORES AND ESTUARIES, STUDENTS HAVE EXPLORED HOW LIVING THINGS SURVIVE AND THRIVE IN EVER-CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS. THERE WERE PLENTY OF "WOW" MOMENTS AS WE UNCOVERED THE CLEVER ADAPTATIONS OF THESE ORGANISMS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR TRIP TO EXPLORE THE ROCKY SHORE ENVIRONMENT IN THE LAST WEEK OF TERM!

IN READING AND WRITING, WE'VE BEEN BUILDING OUR SKILLS PIECE BY PIECE - OR SENTENCE BY SENTENCE! OUR WRITING FOCUS HAS SHARPENED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE WRITING PROCESS, PUNCTUATION, AND HOW TO MIX UP SENTENCE STRUCTURE FOR IMPACT.

MATHS HAS KEPT OUR MINDS TICKING, THANKS TO PR1ME. FROM MASTERING PLACE VALUE TO TACKLING ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION STRATEGIES, AND STRETCHING INTO FACTORS, PRIME NUMBERS, AND COMPOSITE NUMBERS, STUDENTS HAVE SHOWN RESILIENCE AND GROWTH EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.

AND OF COURSE, WE COULDN'T FINISH THE TERM WITHOUT CELEBRATING ... ATTENDANCE! AFTER REACHING OUR CLASS GOAL, WE CELEBRATED IN STYLE WITH A WELL-EARNED PJ DAY. MADE IT A DAY TO REMEMBER, AND A GREAT REMINDER THAT SHOWING UP REALLY DOES MATTER. TO TOP IT ALL OFF, WE'VE SEEN SOME CONFIDENT AND PASSIONATE STUDENT COUNCILLOR SPEECHES, PROVING THAT LEADERSHIP IS ALIVE AND WELL IN OUR CLASS. ALL IN ALL, TERM 1 HAS BEEN FULL OF ENERGY, EFFORT, AND ENTHUSIASM - AND IF THIS IS HOW WE'VE STARTED THE YEAR, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT THE REST OF IT BRINGS!



OCTOPUS

CONSUMER/CARNIVORE

PHYSICAL FEATURES

- Octopus have strong suckers at the bottom of their tentacles
- At the bottom of there body is a clawed mouth/beak it is circle shaped, it is how octopus eats its food.

DIET

- Using their sharp beak they eat heaps of things, they like eating small fish.
- Their favourite crabs, lobsters,
- clams and lastly snails

HABITAT

- Octopuses live in the sea, the low zone, the seabed and coral reefs.
- octopus like to live in rocky areas/rock pools, deep waters and crevices.

ADAPTATIONS

- They can swim pretty fast, they also hide in tiny places, if the predator/threat is to close then they release a black ink get away safely.

WRITTEN BY

RON AND PEYTON



PREDATORS

- Octopuses also has heaps of predators like dolphins and dogfish?
- Did you know not only do sperm whales eats squids but octopus too?
- Also moray eels, shark and large fish
- Lastly seals and sea otters

FUN FACTS

1. Did you know that octopuses can camouflage?
2. Also octopuses can fit tiny holes and crevices
3. When threaten they release a black ink, like a get away.
4. Fun fact octopuses have blue blood that means there cold blooded.
5. Octopus can move with his legs too!
- 6 Best fact! the largest octopus can reach up 9 meters long!

The Old School Machine's



"What is that?"

"A CD Player."

I had no clue what I was looking at! Honestly, it looked like something from 1701! Ok well, it turns out it's a CD layer, yeah right, I can't believe my poor, poor teacher had to listen to music with that...that...thing. It's dusty, it's musty, and it's definitely crusty. It's way too heavy to carry around everywhere, unlike a UE boom, and it's so much bigger too! Even after she explained it all I was thinking the same thing, how do I put my playlist on that... radio and make it, well, play it!

My teacher also brung in some other things from 1701. Like a walkman. When she said this, the first thing I thought of was, obviously... a man walking, but NO! That other thing plays tapes! Whaaaaaat?! I literally don't understand what world I live in anymore! Music comes from a PHONE now, not a 3D chunky thing you put tapes in.

Then my teacher brung in something ELSE from the 1652's (slight exaggeration) or whatever year it is. A fliphone. So maybe thats not as old as the other whatsits, but still.

Im glad I was born in 2015!

By Indie

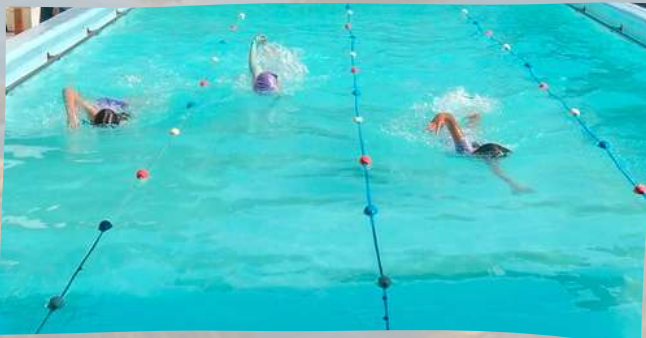


Adventure Class (Year 4-5)

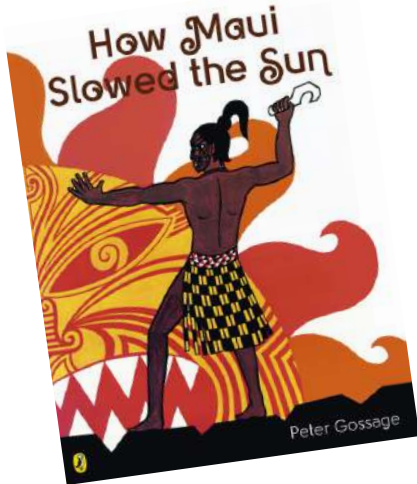
The students in the Adventure Classroom have been busy explorers lately. From mastering strokes during swimming to uncovering the secrets of the Rocky Shore and Estuaries through reading and inquiry, we took a dive deep into our environment.

We paused swimming and learning about rock pools for a week to get busy building and breaking things during our STEM challenges for EPRO8.

This term has been all about curiosity, collaboration, and with a splash here and there!



MAUNGATUROTO (YEAR 3 - 4)



THIS TERM MAUNGATUROTO READ THE MYTH 'HOW MAUI SLOWED THE SUN'. WE TALKED ABOUT THE STORY AND THEN LOOKED AT OTHER STORIES AND ART BY PETER GOSSAGE. THEN WE CREATED OUR OWN MAUI AND THE SUN ART!



Endurance - Year 1, 2 and 3

The children have been having a blast exploring 2D shapes with Mrs. Connie and getting creative by making their own! This hands-on learning continued as they made fairy bread, followed by some fantastic writing about the different stages used to create their delicious treats.



Endurance Splashes Into Success!

Our students in Endurance had a fantastic time at the school swimming sports in Week 4! Leading up to the big day, we spent weeks building water confidence and sharpening our freestyle and backstroke techniques—not to mention perfecting our "butterfly wiggle."

It was wonderful to see the children so proud of themselves for completing full lengths of the pool. They truly modeled perseverance and courage as they performed in front of their peers and families.

I am incredibly proud of every student for their hard work and sportsmanship. Well done, Endurance!

The children are enjoying working on their Ako Tahī books, and it's wonderful to see their creative answers and drawings come to life! It is a true pleasure to see the school-home partnership working so well to support their learning. Keep up the great work!



Our recent health sessions have been busy and productive! The children have been learning how to stay healthy by focusing on sun safety, nutritious eating, and the importance of sleep. We've also practiced great hygiene, including proper handwashing and "catching" sneezes and coughs to keep our classroom germ-free.

It's been a wonderful start for our **Book Club**, with several children already diving in! It is still early days, but it's delightful to hear the children state that they love coming. We look forward to seeing more young readers join the fun!





ENDEAVOUR



New Entrant - Year 0 & 1



OUR Learning

It's been a busy and positive start to the year in Endeavour! We've been getting into the swing of our classroom routines and worked together to create our class treaty, setting the tone for a kind and supportive space. There's been some awesome progress in reading, writing, and maths, with students showing growing confidence and pride in their learning.

It has been awesome to see friendships growing across the class. Our team spirit is shining through as students work together, support one another, and celebrate their learning. We've loved welcoming new faces along the way everyone has done such a great job of making others feel included and part of our class whānau.

We also love seeing our Ako Tahi books connecting learning between school and home, this has been a big highlight of the term.

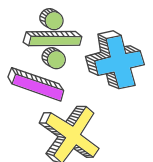


SWIMMING SPORTS

This term, our focus in swimming has been all about building water confidence and learning how to stay safe in the water. It has been fantastic to see every student getting involved, challenging themselves, and growing in confidence.

Swimming Sports was a highlight of the term! Every student jumped in and gave it a go, showing courage, enthusiasm, and a willingness to try their best. Students took part in a range of events that suited them, and it was wonderful to see everyone enjoying success in their own way.

ABC



MESSAGE FROM

MILO!



Hello everyone!

From my sunny vantage point, I'm still enjoying my role as the school's unofficial supervisor, watching all of you from a comfortable distance with a very contented heart. Lately, my joints have been a bit more vocal than they used to be, complaining of those pesky aches and pains that come with a life well-lived, but I want you to know I feel every bit of the love you send my way. The school and community has truly rallied around me, and that collective warmth acts like a cozy blanket for my spirits. I might be moving a little slower, but I've never felt more supported or cherished.

Don't let my quiet observation fool you, though I'm still the same old Milo when it comes to the important things. I am always, and I mean always, up for a round of smooches and cuddles. There's no ache that a good ear or belly scratch can't soothe. When I'm not busy being pampered, I've actually been quite studious! I've found that lounging in a golden patch of sunlight is the absolute best way to absorb a lesson or two. I've been listening closely as you all tackle those tricky addition and subtraction problems. It turns out that numbers are much easier to manage when you have a warm coat and a peaceful spot to think. So, if you see me blinking slowly at you from across the court, just know I'm cheering you on in your friendly games and probably calculating exactly how many treats are left in the jar.

Purrs and whiskers,

Milo



Contact 0273336186 or email
principal@tahunaschool.school.nz



"I'VE SO VALUED THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A PART OF THE TAHUNA SCHOOL COMMUNITY; TO FIND A SCHOOL THAT EMPOWERS MY CHILD AND THAT FITS THEM. THEY HAVE FOUND STRENGTH WITH YOU SOCIALLY AND ACADEMICALLY!"

"MAKES KIDS FEEL AT HOME AND PART OF A FAMILY WHILE AT SCHOOL."

"CREATES A GREAT LEARNING ATMOSPHERE, PROMOTES HARMONY AMONGST EVERYONE. MY CHILDREN LOVE SCHOOL"

Tahuna School

Learning For Life



WE ARE TAHUNA PROUD!



Small class sizes
Where kids can be kids!

Biennial Camp & Productions!

Committed, hardworking & caring teachers

A place where childrens growth and wellbeing come first!

Astroturf cover - for year round use

Van from Morrinsville available

Rural ICARE Values:

- Challenge
- Integrity
- Ambition
- Respect
- Encourage



Tahuna Playcentre



"Whānau tupu ngātahi – families growing together"
A place of fun and learning



Friendly Atmosphere
Messy and Outdoor Play
Awesome play equipment
Outings and Trips

Parent Education
Friendships with other parents
Fun and Educational for 0-6 Years
Fridays 9am – 12pm

Located at Tahuna School
Contact:
tahuna@playcentre.org.nz
Find us on Facebook
3 Free visits, \$20/child or \$30/family/term



*Happy 9th Birthday to our wonderful school cat, Milo!
Today our special friend turns 9 years old (that's 52 in human years!) and we couldn't let the day pass without celebrating the joy he brings to us all.*

Milo, you brighten our days, calm our hearts, and remind us how special the little moments can be. Thank you for all the cuddles, companionship, and smiles you share with our school every single day.

Here's to many more naps in sunny spots, gentle purrs, and happy memories together.

Happy Birthday, Milo - you are truly loved by us all!



Sponsorships

If you would like to advertise your business in our termly community newsletters and school newsletters, please get in touch with our school.

Please support our Sponsors

BAYLEYS

Your 'go to' person for all your real estate requirements.

Mike Fraser-Jones
027 475 9680

SUCCESS REALTY LTD, BAYLEYS, LICENSED UNDER THE REA ACT 2008.

bayleys.co.nz

TAHUNA



Tahuna GAS

PH: 07-887-5656



Open 7 days a week

ASL

Andy Smith Livestock Ltd
Morrinsville - Matamata

Trucking since 1945

Livestock Carriage | Metal | Sand | Fertiliser

Email aslgeneral@xtra.co.nz Phone 07 889 5179

MCMILLAN
ELECTRICAL SOLUTIONS

PH. 0274 367 637

SOLUTIONS MADE EASY

AGRICULTURAL | COMMERCIAL | INDUSTRIAL | DOMESTIC

steve@mes.co.nz
mcmillanelectricalsolutions.co.nz

ALLENS UNITED

WAIKATO 1986 LTD

Ph 078461294

Specialists in Liquid Waste Treatment & Disposal
12000L Certified Domestic & Rural Water Carriers
Hydro Excavation, Jetting Unit & CCTV Camera
Septic Tank Cleaning



allensunited@xtra.co.nz www.allensunited.co.nz

Morrinsville Decor

Paint + Drapes + Wallpaper + Flooring



153 Thames Street, Morrinsville | Ph 07 889 5298

TE HOE HOME KILLS 2014 LTD



FOR ALL YOUR FREEZER REQUIREMENTS

BEEF - PORK - MUTTON
- BACON - HAM

Ph The Team at Te Hoe

Shop at Te Hoe Mobile

07 824 4497 0274 936 661

LEHMANN
Building Limited

Dean
0211 824 835
lehmannbuilding@hotmail.com
www.lehmannbuilding.co.nz



Gas Fitting

New Build Plumbing & Gas

Kitchen & Bathroom Renovation

Plumbing Maintenance



Contracting Services

Stock Feed

Earthworks and Excavation

Farming Cropping supplies

07 824 3519

TAHUNA ELECTRICAL

Servicing Home and Farm

021 756175
07 889 6091
richardprint@live.com

REPAIRS FAULTS RENOVATIONS NEW INSTALLATIONS
SHEDS

Phone / Text / Email or leave a message on the landline

Please support our Sponsors



COMMERCIAL, RURAL & RESIDENTIAL EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE SPECIALISTS

- ✓ Soft Wash
- ✓ Gutter Cleaning
- ✓ Roof Clean & Treatment
- ✓ Fence and Deck Cleaning
- ✓ Concrete Cleaning
- ✓ Pest & Spider Spraying
- ✓ Mobile Truck Cleaning
- ✓ Build Cleans
- ✓ Milking Sheds & Troughs
- ✓ Contracting

BRISCOE
WATER PUMP SERVICES
Main Rd, Tahuna
Tel. 07 887 5709
Colin. 0274 765 123
colin@briscoewaterpumps.co.nz

FLOW TECH
PLUMBING & GAS LTD
SAM HANSEN | 02040236717
FLOWTECHWAIKATO@GMAIL.COM

