



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

Principal Comment

As we reach the end of Term 2, I would like to thank our tamariki, staff, and families for their continued commitment and support. This term has been filled with wonderful learning opportunities, achievements, and community connections that have showcased the strengths of our school. Our community newsletter goes into detail on the many great things our tamariki have been involved with in Term 2.

Our tamariki have demonstrated lots of enthusiasm, resilience and a willingness to embrace new challenges, both in and beyond the classroom. We are proud of their efforts and the positive way they represent our Rural ICARE values each day.

I would also like to acknowledge the dedication of our staff, whose passion and hard work create engaging learning experiences for all our tamariki. Thank you to our families and wider community for your ongoing partnership and support - it plays a vital role in the success of our learners.

As we look forward to the term break, I encourage everyone to take time to rest, reflect, recharge and enjoy time with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for an exciting and productive Term 3.

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable holiday break.

Ngaa mihi

Phillip and staff





What a bustling and productive 11 weeks it has been in Discovery Class! It is hard to believe how much we have packed into one term.

We began the term by remembering the sacrifices of those who served during ANZAC Day. Safety has also been a focus this term with a St John First Aid refresher. Students practised important first aid skills and particularly enjoyed learning the "seatbelt" and "pillow" techniques for safely placing someone into the recovery position.

Pink Shirt Day reminded us of the importance of kindness, inclusion and standing up against bullying. While it was great to wear pink together, the message that everyone deserves to feel safe, respected and valued is one we aim to carry with us every day of the year.

One of our favourite visitors, Harold the Giraffe, returned with the Life Education Trust team. Through fun and engaging activities, students explored resilience, identity and personalities, learning more about what makes each of us unique and how we can bounce back from challenges.

Our annual Cross Country challenged everyone to build endurance, perseverance and determination. It was fantastic to see students encouraging one another and giving their personal best, no matter where they finished.

Our Student Councillors also attended National Young Leaders Day, where they heard from a range of inspiring speakers who shared their journeys of overcoming challenges and becoming positive leaders and role models. They returned motivated and full of ideas to help make our school an even better place.

Thanks to our fantastic attendance in Term 1, Discovery Class won the attendance competition and celebrated with a well-earned trip to Ninja Valley.

Inside the classroom, we have been immersed in reading and writing narrative texts. Students are currently putting a creative twist on familiar fairy tales and legends, and we can't wait to illustrate and publish our finished books to share with our younger classes. We are also creating artwork inspired by our favourite kaitiaki (guardian), combining creativity with the stories and traditions we have been exploring.

In Mathematics, we have been stretching our thinking as we deepen our understanding of number knowledge, particularly fractions. Our brains have certainly been working hard, and we think they're just about ready for a well-deserved holiday!

Discovery Class (Years 5-6)

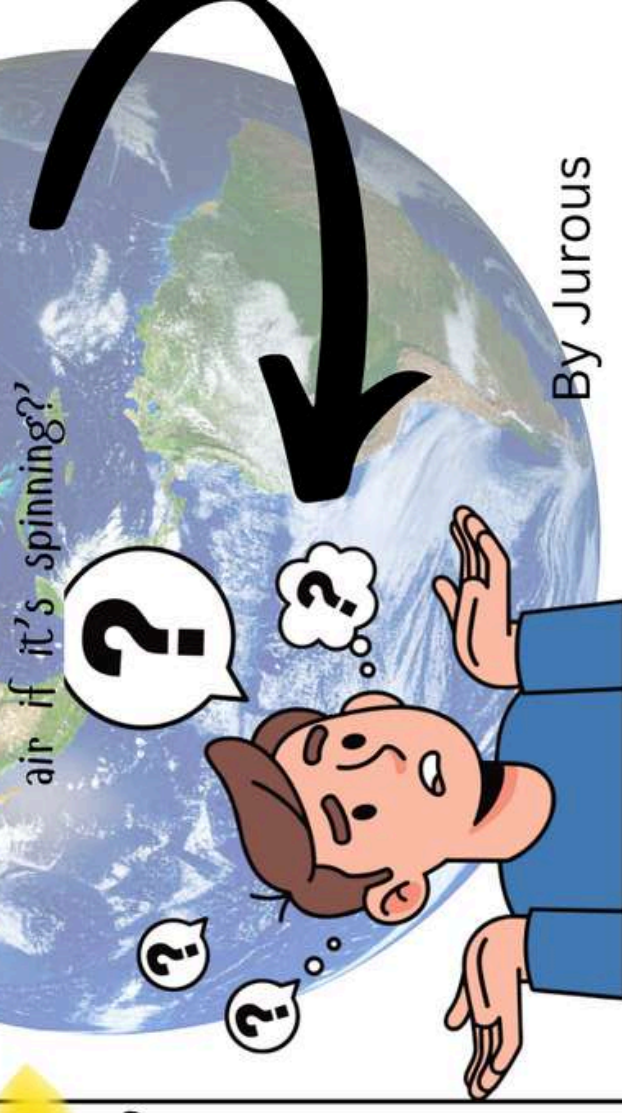


Winter Solstice

Yesterday was the winter solstice, but what is a winter solstice? The winter solstice is in the Southern Hemisphere, and on the other side of us is the Northern Hemisphere, where the summer solstice is happening. When we're far away from the sun, the days get shorter and the night gets longer. Did you know the Earth was tilted?! That's how the seasons are made, we spin around the sun in an elliptical orbit, so if where you live is close to the sun, it must be summer; but if you're far away from the sun, it must be winter. It takes 365 day for the sun to do a whole lap around the sun - which is one year.

summer!

Did you know the Earth was spinning? Earth spins 1000mph per hour and one spin of Earth is 24 hours. Earth is spinning east. If you thought the Earth was going to stop spinning, well your wrong, its been spinning for 4.5 billion years, so scientists expect the Earth won't stop. Each century, Earth gets 1.7 million seconds longer. Now, we want to know 'Why can't we feel the air if it's spinning?'



By Jurous



Dear Diary,

The weather is horrible, the wind is bitterly cold, biting my skin. The noise of war never really stops. The trenches are constantly dripping with water and no matter how hard you try to be warm it is always cold. We don't talk much but when we do the conversation is short and quiet. The mud caked on my clothes is the least of my problems, but I really can't stand the big rats trying to eat us alive! Hunger, is a whole other problem, I am sick of eating the same dry food each day. I often dream of roast dinners and banquets of food. We have to keep quiet and hide in the fog. Enemies are always near, lurking in the shadows. The rain that had been going on for hours finally stopped but the ground has turned to mushy, ooey, gooey mud. Ick! Oh great times up, this time we are heading to the battlefield. This might be the end... Wonder how things are going at home...



Hollie Moore

Adventure Class's Term 2 mahi - Year 4/5



We have had an exciting term in Adventure class! Along with a whole lot of new learning, we have done so many extra activities.

There's been cross country, where we all put in the hard mahi and did exceptionally well at our school event along with the interschool event.

We were lucky enough to have St John in Schools come and teach us about first aid. From bandaging up wounds and learning about DRAB. We practiced putting our peers into the recovery position so they are safe whilst we wait for the emergency services.

Harold the Giraffe made an appearance, and what an exciting time that was! He taught us all about the "Feelings Pit" and being resilient. We learnt that if we are at the bottom of the pit, we need to find a way to calm down and get out of that pit so we don't hang around at the bottom for too long. Once you're out of the pit it is growth and reflection time, time to think about what we've done. This is where we ask ourselves, what have we learnt? Do we need to apologise?

Mathwhizz has been a delight within Adventure class. Whizzy has taught us so many new things and helped us to grow our understanding alongside working away diligently through our Pr1me learning.

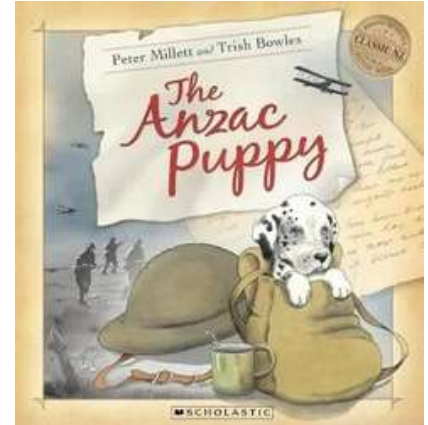


Ka pai Adventure team!



MAUNGATUROTO'S ANZAC LEARNING

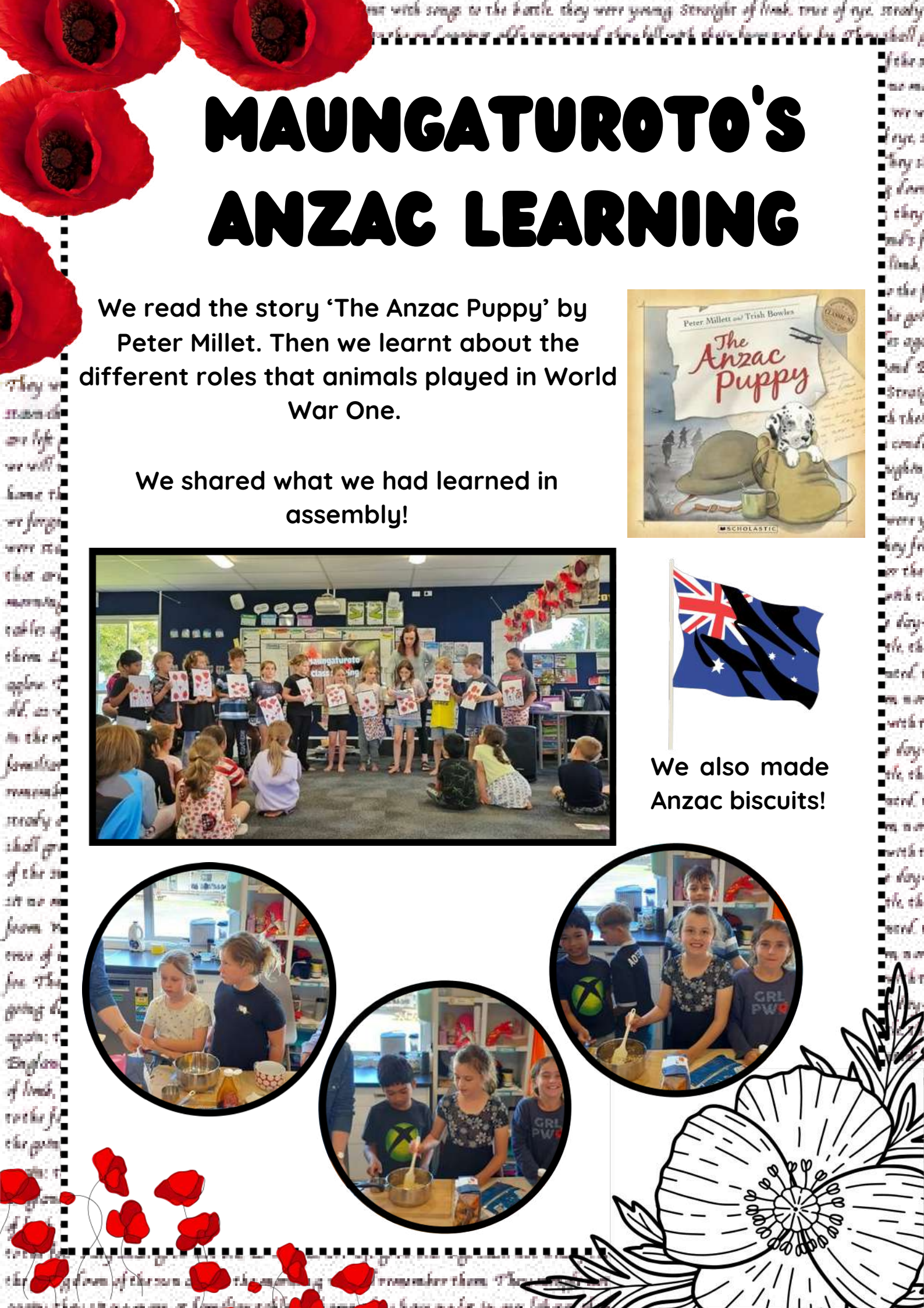
We read the story 'The Anzac Puppy' by Peter Millett. Then we learnt about the different roles that animals played in World War One.



We shared what we had learned in assembly!



We also made Anzac biscuits!



Endurance

We have had a busy, productive, and exciting Term 2 in our Year 1, 2, and 3 class. The children have shown great growth, and we are so proud of everything they have accomplished. Here is a look back at our highlights.



Classroom Highlights

- **ANZAC Day:** We started the term by learning about and commemorating our brave servicemen and women.
- **School Photos:** It was wonderful to capture some awesome memories of our classmates looking sharp and smiling bright!
- **Pink Shirt Day:** We painted the school pink to highlight a vital message: stand up against bullying, and always choose kindness and care for others, regardless of our differences.
- **Life Education with Harold:** A huge crowd-favourite. Harold and the Life Ed team visited to teach us all about resilience and how to understand and regulate our emotions.
- **Cross Country Success:** Everyone put in an incredible effort practising hard for our whole-school cross country event. A special congratulations to our four Year 3 students who went on to represent our school so beautifully at the interschools event!
- **Mrs Connie** has been teaching the class all about 2D and 3D shapes, as well as measurement. The children enjoyed making their creations using blocks as a measurement tool.

- **Farewells and Welcomes:** Next week will be a bittersweet one as we say goodbye to our five Year 3 students who are moving into the Maungaturoto class. We wish them the absolute best on their next adventure. Looking ahead to Term 3, we are excited to welcome seven new students transitioning to us from Endeavour.



ENDEAVOUR NEWSLETTER

**Tahuna
School**
Learning For Life

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

This term, the students in Endeavour have made fantastic progress across their learning. In literacy, we have continued developing our reading and writing skills through the Better Start Literacy Approach (BSLA) and daily Heggerty phonological awareness lessons. Students have been building confidence with sounds, letters, reading, spelling, and writing high-frequency words.

In writing, we have been learning the Casey Caterpillar story, which helps us form letters correctly and place them neatly on the line.

In Mathematics, students have been working in their PR1ME books and through our structured maths programme to build strong number knowledge.

They have explored making and breaking numbers, early algebra concepts, and have recently begun learning about geometry.

We have also enjoyed some exciting learning opportunities outside the classroom. During our sessions with Harold in the Life Education truck, students explored the concepts of resilience and identity.

We were also fortunate to have St John visit, where students learned about calling 111, the importance of knowing their full name, address, and a parent's phone number, and how to recognise when an emergency requires the help of Fire, Police, or Ambulance services. Support for Pink Shirt Day was amazing and

I am incredibly proud of the growth, confidence, and enthusiasm students have shown throughout the term.



CROSSCOUNTRY

Cross Country was a highlight of the term! Every student participated enthusiastically in our daily training sessions, where they built their fitness by running the field, trialling a beep test, practising their control skills, and learning when to walk, jog, and sprint. We also enjoyed a range of fun fitness games and spent time familiarising ourselves with the course before the big day. I was incredibly proud of the determination, resilience, and positive attitudes shown by all students. Most importantly, everyone gave it their best effort and had a great time!





As always, any donations of food for
Milo would be greatly appreciated!
He's not fussy!
Ngaa mihi,
Tahuna Staff

MILO'S MEWS

Well... apparently I'm no longer the MOST exciting thing to arrive at school this term. 😐

First there was a giant truck backing down MY driveway. Honestly, the nerve. I was supervising from a safe distance (under a bush) when out stepped the strangest looking creature I've ever seen. It had legs longer than the Friday lunch queue, a neck that went on forever, weird spotty patterns, and a face like it couldn't decide whether it was a horse, camel, or dinosaur. The children called it a "giraffe." Personally, I think it looked highly impractical.

The tamariki were VERY excited. Photos, pointing, cheering... honestly, you'd think they'd never seen a furry legend before. Still, deep down we all know who the real school favourite is. (Hint: it naps in sunny spots and demands breakfast twice.)

Meanwhile, preparations for Cross Country are underway. I've been watching training carefully and can confirm some of you run much faster than I do when the vacuum cleaner comes out. Keep up the great effort, tamariki. Remember persistence, determination, and positive vibes as you train!

In other important news, I recently played an excellent game of cat and mouse in one of the teacher's classrooms. I thought it was thrilling enrichment activity. The teacher seemed less impressed for some reason. Apparently "Milo, NOT AGAIN!" means the game is over. Right, I'm off to inspect lunchboxes and find a warm patch of sun before the weather gets colder.

Stay pawsitive,

Milo 🐾

TERM 2 EVENTS

SCHOOL TRACTOR PLANTING



Epro 8 Challenge



All of our tamariki did St John First Aid training 🙌❤️

A huge thank you to St John for teaching our tamariki in such a fun and engaging way. We are so proud of everyone for their participation and willingness to learn how to help others in an accident or emergency. Ka pai tamariki - these are skills that can make a real difference in our community! 🌟



Life Education

Our tamariki had so much fun while learning about identity, resilience, and believing in themselves. There was lots of laughter, engagement, and thoughtful conversations. A huge thank you to Leiset for creating such a positive and interactive experience that our tamariki absolutely loved!

Tahuna Proud Learning for Life

Pink Shirt Day



CROSS COUNTRY

National Young Leaders Day!



Winter Sports Fun



Netball



Football

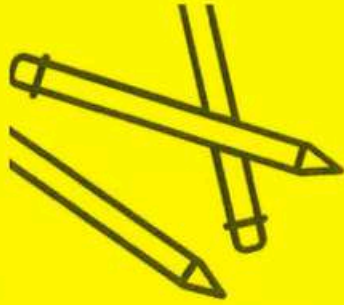


New Enrolments

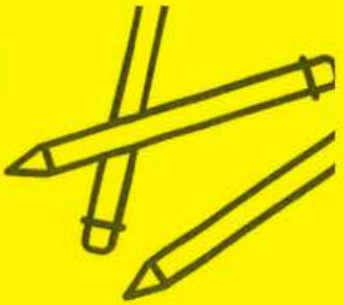
We love welcoming new tamariki and their whaanau into our school, and with our rolling intake, your child can start school on their fifth birthday—no waiting for the next term!

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.



TAHUNA SCHOOL FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL (FOS) LIVESTOCK FUNDRAISER

Can you support our school by donating an animal?
We can accept many livestock classes.
You choose whether it's a bobby calf, weaner calf,
finished cattle, cull cow, lamb or ewe.

All animals must be cared for, tagged, and health status
declared as per all animal and food safety regulations.

Do you have farming friends or family outside Tahuna?
We can arrange donated animals for processing across
the country.

For any questions, to get bobby calf tags, or to let us
know your intentions to donate, please contact
Tony Fransen on 0273098867 or email
fos@tahunaschool.school.nz



To book in an animal for
processing for the Tahuna School
account please contact
Finn McColl on 027 287 9041 or
finn.mccoll@silverfernfarms.co.nz

Tahuna School is fundraising for various
projects to improve the school
environment for our children, including
playground refurbishments, a new
swimming pool cover, and resources
for our school.
Thank you for supporting our school!

BOBBY CALVES

Donate 1 or 100 calves or any number you choose!!! Calves must be
cared for and prepared appropriately for collection through the Silver
Fern Farms collection. Calves must be tagged with specific Tahuna
School tags. Please get in touch with Tony Fransen as soon as possible
to express interest and receive your tags. If you don't supply to Silver
Fern Farms perhaps you could rear or donate calves for others to rear.

WEANER CALVES

Rear and donate a weaner calf. Calves should be well grown, disbudded/
polled, NAIT tagged and registered. Any calf can be reared, however,
beef, beef-cross or Friesian calves will be easier to sell at weaning. Early
Jersey bull calves are another good option. Please notify Tony of your
intentions to rear and an appropriate collection time can be arranged.

FINISHED & CULL ANIMALS

These animals will be collected and processed through Silver Fern
Farms. Animals can be sent at any time of the year. Animals will
require a NAIT tag and standard animal status declaration form. If
you don't normally supply animals to Silver Fern Farms, no
problem, we can still collect and process it. Finn McColl is our
local Silver Fern Farms Livestock Representative.

DON'T HAVE ANIMALS?

Perhaps you could help out rearing a donated calf or lamb
through to weaning or donate a bag of milk powder to help
someone else rear an animal.

Get in touch with how you might be able to help.

THANK YOU



Tahuna School
Learning for Life

LIVESTOCK DAY 2026
Monday October 19th

Birth Dates for Animals

Calves: Early 20th June - 20th July
Late 21st July - 1st September
Lambs & Kids: Early 1st July - 31st July
Late 1st August - 1st September

Additional Information: There is to be NO sharing of animals by
students, including preschoolers. All calves **must** have a NAIT
tag. Lambs/Goats - rams/bucks are allowed, no choker/chain
collars to be used.

Other Important Livestock Show Meetings & Dates:

Next Group Day Meeting - Date TBC - Morrinsville Intermediate

Morrinsville Children's Group Day Event (Interschool Livestock Day for our area)-
Friday 23rd October: Entry fee \$5

Waikato Show - Friday 30th October

More information to come in Term 3



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"

WE ARE TAHUNA PROUD!

Tahuna School

Learning For Life

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

Northern/Central North

Who we are

Te Kura

**Kia ora, Kia orana, Talofa lava, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Bula Vinaka, Bonjour, Hallo
Ko Lynne, ratau ko Fiona ko Michele, ko Anna ō mataou ingoa.**

We are a team of qualified & registered early childhood kaiako who as a team partner with tamariki and whānau across Aotearoa. Our early childhood education programme, Te Ara Kōhungahunga, supports itinerant whānau, tamariki living rurally or remotely, and those unable to access face-to-face early learning services.

Together with whānau, we co-create individual learning programmes and offer guidance, ideas, learning experiences, and resources to support each tamaiti/child's journey.



Michele Fiona Anna Lynne

50

Te Ara Kōhungahunga

Our programme is free and based on the National Early Childhood Curriculum, *Te Whāriki* and our localised curriculum, *Te Ara Pounamu* and we are funded by the Ministry of Education.

Who is eligible for our programme?

- Special circumstances which prevent attendance at an early childhood service tamariki who live more than 6 km from a licensed ECE centre
- Itinerant whānau travelling for more than six months.
- Tamariki with learning support needs who are unable to access a ECE service
- Tamariki with high health needs, or a tamaiti/child who has a sibling or caregiver with high health needs preventing their attendance at a licensed or chartered early childhood service.

*If you do not meet these criteria, you can apply to your local Ministry of Education office for a referral at their discretion.

For further information about Te Ara Kōhungahunga



Our Te Kura website shares more information about Te Ara Kōhungahunga - including a short video explaining the programme, information and a link to the enrolment options.

<https://www.tekura.school.nz/learn-with-us/te-arakhungahunga-early-childhood>

We would appreciate your assistance to help us to share information about our early childhood programme with whānau in your area. Please find a few brochures enclosed.

- Ngā mihi nui, Michele, Fiona, Lynne & Anna

Contact Us: 0800 659 988 - ask for Lynne, Fiona, Anna or Michele in the team. Or email us directly on - lynne.steele@tekura.school.nz, fiona.shanahan@tekura.school.nz, anna.Blandford@tekura.school.nz, michele.moore@tekura.school.nz

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our Village

Tahuna

Playcentre



Our village becomes *your* village at Playcentre: fun and friendship for you and your children in endless experiences that last a lifetime.

Good for your child
and good for you

We offer 3 free
visits before you join



With over
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there is one near you.

Find your local centre at
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Tahuna Playcentre
43 Tahuna-Owhiri Road
tahuna@playcentre.org.nz
027 880 3946
Open: Friday 9am-12pm

"Whānau tupu ngāhahi – families growing together"



Waikato/King Country Boys & Girls Agricultural Club



SHOW
TIME

Friday 30th
October 2026
10am Start
Claudelands Show
Grounds

Time to think
about getting
your pet, lots of
beautiful babies
getting born!



TAHUNA AND DISTRICTS LIONS CLUB

SUPPORTING YOUR
COMMUNITY FOR OVER 50 YRS

**We would like your valued
support to continue serving
your community**

**Would you consider donating
a weaned calf or a cull cow to
support Tahuna Lions Club?**

Contact Kevin 021776214

David 0211479273

**SOME OF THE
GROUPS WE
HAVE
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AND SCHOOLS
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AND FUNDS FOR
THE EZEKIEL FOOD
BANK,
Supporting
those in need
in our
community.

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

Sponsorships

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

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