



Rākau Pānui

Kia ora e te whānau,

Nau mai, haere mai. 2025 is here are we are excited to get started! We're sending a huge welcome back to whānau we have worked with in the past, along with those who are new to our senior school hub. Along with Jimmy, Allie and Khaylen as kaiako in Rākau, we have Jayden Taufale working 4 days a week in Room 13 as part of the Masters of Teaching course he is completing this year. Candis Wood will also be working in our team for the first half of the term covering kaiako release time. We can't wait to get back into the swing of things with some fun, exciting activities over the term to keep things busy.

Our door is always open, so please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns - we value your partnership in your child's learning journey.



Dates

FEBRUARY

- 3rd - Mihi Whakatau 9:15am
- 6th - Waitangi Day
- 12th - Meet the teacher 4:30pm - 6:00pm
- 19th - Waikanae Pool Trip

MARCH

- 17th - School Photo Day
- 21st - Teacher Only Day

APRIL

- 5th - School Triathlon Titahi Bay Beach (pp 7th April)
- 9th - School Cross Country
- 11th - Triathlon Assembly 9:15am

What's happening in Term 1?

Maths

We will have a huge push of **times tables** from the outset this year, so alongside our lessons on number structures and operations, each week we will focus on a different family of basic facts. Week 1 brings the 1x table to start off easy! We'll also get ākonga (students) set up on **Maths Whizz** asap so they can start earning those gems!

Literacy

Reading sessions will initially focus on **fluency** through listening to others, reading to others and reading to self. This will blend with our structured literacy spelling and reading programme. Writing lessons will bring together **surface features** like handwriting, spelling, punctuation while rechecking each word and sentence as ākonga (students) write.

Kaupapa Māori

Initially we'll be building morning routines which incorporate te reo Māori welcomes and **introductions**, alongside exploring old and new **whakatauki** and **karakia**. Starting in Week 4, ākonga (students) will also spend a block a week with Matua Gardner in specialised kaupapa Māori classes which are an awesome addition to our programme!

Inquiries

Our first inquiry of the year is **Toitū te Tiriti**; exploring the key articles of Te Tiriti, and making agreements. This will be followed by our Aotearoa histories unit linking unity & belonging - **Our Journey Together**. We will explore how ākonga (students) can impact change individually and as groups, and what it means to be a New Zealander, with ties to Unity Day in Week 7.

Pedal Ready

To really hit the ground running, **Year 5 students** will be taking part in Pedal Ready cycle skills sessions next week. Year 5 students are asked to bring their bikes and helmets on their specific day if they have them (school bikes will be available for those without personal bikes). Class specific days will be sent out by classroom kaiako (teachers).

EOTC

In week 3, Year 4 and 5 students in Rākau and Ngahere will have '**education outside the classroom**' days. These days will include a trip to Waikanae pools, Titahi Bay beach rotations and a hīkoi (walk) up Whitireia. We will be looking for whānau support for each day and you will receive information about this in Week 1.



HERO is our primary platform for communication and admin.

Please ensure that you are logged into the HERO app and that you have notifications enabled so you don't miss out on any important information or learning updates.

The best way to contact us is via HERO.

Jimmy Steele - Rm 13 / Hub Leader
Khaylen Huriwai - Rm 12
Allie Waters - Rm 11
Jayden Taufale - Rm 13 / Masters Student