



Te Aro School

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## Te Aro School Newsletter – 28 February 2025

### *News from the Principal's Desk*

**Tena tatou katoa e te whanau. Dobar dahn, Nabad, Hola, Ciao, Ni hao, Namaste, Talofa, Bonjour, Konnichiwa, Kia orana, Bula, Buon giorno, Guten Tag, Cześć, Salamu Aleykum, Hallo, Merhaba, Akkam, Asalaam-walaikum, Selamat datang, Walang anuman, Mabuhay, Xin chào**

#### **Nau mai haere mai**

Last Thursday we welcomed our new staff members, our new students and their whanau at our mihi whakatau which we held up at the university's green room. It is always wonderful to hear families' home languages being spoken and last week's mihi whakatau was no exception. Shara, Mathew's student teacher, spoke in Hungarian (a first for us) as part of her responding to our welcome.

A very warm welcome to our new students and their families who have joined the Te Aro School whanau over the past two weeks.

Anezka, Salman and Padma have joined Serah in Rūma Tawa.

Sultan has joined Ella in Rūma Ngaio.

Drey has joined Mathew and Tessa in Rūma Manuka.

Maxamed has joined Ray and Meena in Rūma Pohutukawa.

#### **Health and safety**

We began the week with the school participating in a fire drill. After the evacuation of the buildings we all assembled on the top playground where we accounted for everyone. As part of our drill Georgie is in direct contact with the fire brigade as our actual fire alarm system is activated.

Please can you ensure you drive slowly on the school drive. Extra care is needed down on the lower section of the drive where we previously had a crossing painted that allowed our students to safely head down the stairs to the pedestrian crossing on The Terrace. We are still waiting to have the crossing and the speed humps repainted. Thank you for your patience while we wait for this work to take place.

Between 8.30am - 9.00am and then 2.50pm and 3.10pm we ask you NOT to drive up the main drive into the staff car park. Children walk across the top of the drive as they arrive or leave the school. They are not expecting vehicles to drive through them. If your children are late to school in Years 4 -8 you can drop them off in the top car park. They can enter the school through the gate as they are able to open the gate themselves.

## Education outside the classroom

Mathew, Tessa and the students in Rūma Manuka headed off on Monday for a walk across town and up along the ridge line of Matairangi (Mt Victoria) before descending down from the lookout to Oriental Bay where they had a swim.

Kristin, Ella, Eva and Anna took their classes on Tuesday to the Botanical Gardens where they learnt about where and how early Māori grew vegetables including kumara.

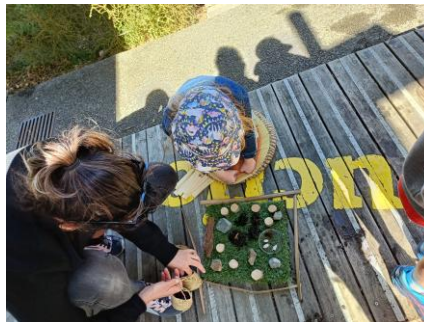


*When we arrived at the botanical gardens there were four people waiting for us in the discovery garden. My group was taken to sit on a tiny hill. I saw a plant labelled blood grass. We got to make a Māori garden from back in the day. – Phoebe*

*I like trips like the one we went on Tuesday morning. I like trips that teach me about nature and that I can be at one with nature. I learnt that kumara likes to be stored in very dry places where it isn't damp. I learnt that taro likes to grow in a damp place - a place that is a little swampy. - Nina*



*I really enjoyed making the herb butter and tasting it spread on rewena bread. We added kawakawa leaves into the butter. We ripped the leaves apart. The leaves were firm and strong. - Franca*



*I liked making a mini hut with Franca. We used wooden blocks and grass matting to make it. We made kawakawa leaf tea and butter. I liked the herbed butter we made. - Glennesha*



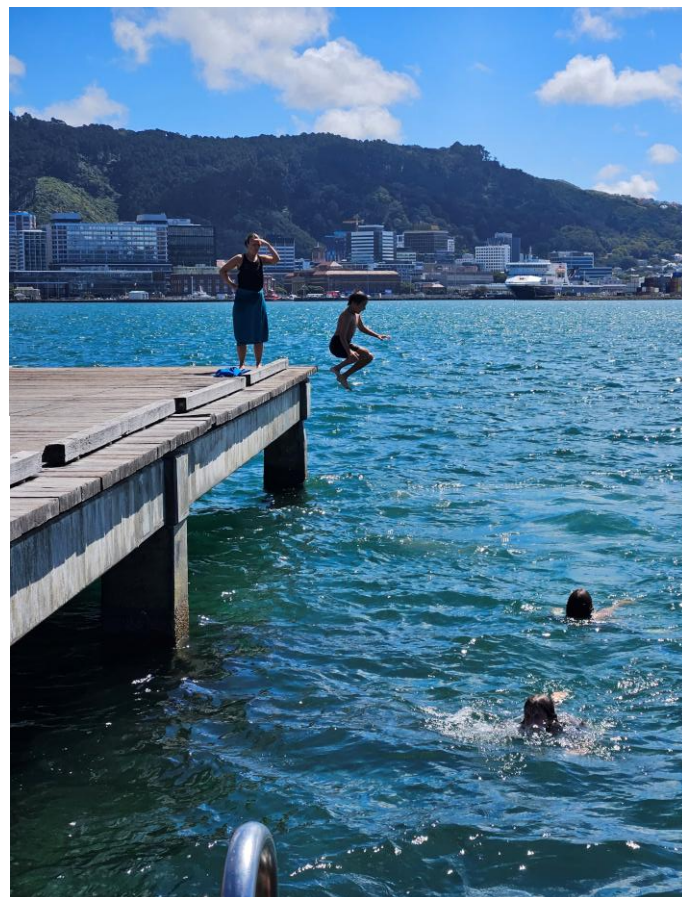
*My favourite part of the day was jumping off the wharf by Oriental Bay. There were lots of parents in the water and that made me feel confident. The challenge for me on this trip was the race up to the top of Matairangi to the lookout. My legs were so sore at the end of the climb. The swim down in Oriental Bay was a great way to cool off. There were so many tiny fish in the water. - Georgie*



*I liked being able to cool off with a swim before heading back to school. Some parts of our walk were really steep, especially up through the trees. I liked learning about where the Lord of the Rings was filmed amongst the pine trees. – Tova*

*I quite liked dropping off the wharf. At first I was a little worried about jumping off the wharf. The water was not as cold as I thought it would be. I got to hold a starfish that someone else had found. I found the final part of our walk back to school challenging as I was tired and it was very hot. - Genevieve*

*Jumping into the sea was both cold and refreshing. It took away the soreness in my feet and legs. The heat was quite challenging. We had to keep drinking our water. I'm glad I had an insulated bottle that kept my water cold. I really liked hearing the cicadas in amongst the pine trees. Tessa shared with us that cicadas live underground for 15 - 16 years. They then surface for only one summer of chirping. - Thea*





## Futsal

This term we have four teams playing futsal on a Monday after school. I was lucky enough to watch three of the teams last Monday playing their games. I was impressed that in their second week of the season, I could see how our newest players were mastering the rules of the game and were demonstrating real team spirit. A shout out to our team Nikau FC who found themselves with no team to play against but instead they played against each other in a 'friendly' game. It was a great opportunity for them to learn the rules of the game. I also want to acknowledge Ming and Haroon, who both offered to play for an opposing team who were short of players.

Many thanks to Zane, Odessa, Ella, Andy, Mike, Mathew, Nabil, Ruth, Paul, Victoria and Mathew for taking on managing and coaching roles so that our teams have been able to be part of this term's competition.



*I like playing sports. I like to play games where I can run lots. Futsal is a game where I can run a lot. I like to score too. On Monday I was goalie and I made some good saves. I also did lots of passing. - Pasha*

*I like to play futsal because I can kick the ball and the game is a fast one. - Minghe*

*We have won both of our first games that we have played. We play well together. Mathew has been coaching us. I like to play mid-field. I like to run a lot. I like to defend and I like to shoot the ball. - Nguyen*

*On Monday afternoon the team we were opposing was short of two players. I offered to play for them. I had to play a full game as they didn't have enough players to sub anyone. At the end of the game my legs were so tired. It felt fun playing against my own team as I knew some of their weak spots! - Ming*

*I like my team because I can trust them not to lose the ball. I know my team quite well. I like playing forward or as a striker. A good game is one when there is a challenge as that makes it fun. - Campbell*

*I like the futsal team I am in as they know what to do on the court. They are experienced and have played together before. It was a fun game on Monday afternoon. I enjoy playing defence. - Eve*





## Science

It has been great to see how busy our classrooms have been over the past fortnight not only here at school but on education outside the classroom activities. I joined our seniors as they undertook a number of experiments from their House of Science kit.



*I like that we get the House of Science kits because we get to try fun experiments and we learn about the world around us. Our latest experiments were designed to help us understand how taste, smell and sight work together. - Lena*



*This week's science experiments were yummy as we got to eat jellybeans. I wasn't accurate in identifying what jellybean I was eating when I held my nose. Holding your nose made it hard to identify the flavour of the bean. – Eve*

## Garden to Table

*In Garden to Table we have been finishing our labels for our jarred honey. Most people have designed two or three labels. Our labels are really special as they are designed by the students only in this class. A good label shows the effort that has gone into it and it stands out because it is bright and colourful. - Luka*

*My group this week cooked with Levi. We peeled the potatoes before we cooked them. When we were cutting the onions for our Spanish tortilla my eyes cried. – Ginny*



*The bees are clever because they make a glue that helps keep the hive together so if there was a storm it won't come apart. On Thursday we looked at some frames in the bottom brood box. We saw lots of tiny bees. - Nguyen and Ella*



Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou,  
Sue

## Important Dates

### March

**Tues 4 March –**

Central Zones Cricket

**Tues 11 March –**

Tuatara - hikoi locally (with Ricky from Pukeahu Ed Centre)

### April

**Wed 2 April –** Rumaki Reo

**Fri 11 April –** Last day of term 1

## Term Dates 2025

### **Term 1 2025**

Monday 3 February – Friday 11 April

***Waitangi Day** – Wednesday 6 February*

### **Term 2 2025**

Monday 28 April – Friday 27 June

***Teacher Only Day** – Friday 30 May*

***King's Birthday** – Monday 2 June*

***Matariki** – Friday 20 June*

### **Term 3 2025**

Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September

### **Term 4 2025**

Monday 6 October – Wed 17 December

***Labour Day** – Monday 27 October*