



Te Aro School

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## Te Aro School Newsletter – 11 April 2025

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

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

This week we have farewelled Russell who has supported our Garden to Table programme on a Thursday morning over the past seven years. Russell is an enthusiastic gardener and students over the years have really learnt a great deal about insects, healthy soil, composting, and planting and harvesting a variety of vegetables. Hunting out potatoes with Russell has always been a popular gardening task. We wish Russell all the best as he moves towards retirement.



If you know of anyone who might be interested in working in the gardens with our Year 5 & 6 students please get in touch with me - [principal@tearo.school.nz](mailto:principal@tearo.school.nz)

I'd love to talk with them about our Garden to Table programme.

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

A very warm welcome to Chanuth who joined Serah in Rūma Tawa last week.

This term we have welcomed 30 students to our school. This compares to the first term of last year when we welcomed 24 students. We have this term welcomed families from Nepal, Sri Lanka, Hungary, Indonesia, Philippines, Fiji, India, Somalia, China, Papua New Guinea, and the United States.

#### **Thinking ahead to Term 2 - Teacher Only Day**

School will be closed for tuition on **Friday 30 May** as the staff team will be participating in a Ministry of Education Maths professional learning day. This day is the day after our year 7 & 8s return from their noho marae. Please put this date in your diary. Please start planning cover for your children that day.

This week our Year 1- 3 teachers received their new Maths Numicon equipment. Students in Serah's class have already been working with these Maths resources. Eva, Ella, Kristin and Anna will be introducing the equipment to their classes next term.

On Tuesday afternoon Ray, Meena, Mathew, Tessa, Anna and I all attended an introductory workshop on using our new PRIME maths textbooks. We will be using these new textbooks next term.

### Rūmaki Reo

Last week we held our first Rūmaki reo morning of the year. We have run Rūmaki reo mornings over the past four years. In our sessions we focus on:

- Whakanuia te reo Māori. Celebrating te reo Māori.
- Whakamāori te reo Māori. Normalising te reo Māori.
- He wero ki a tātou anō. Challenging ourselves
- Kitea atu ki ngā tamariki te whakahirahiratanga o te reo Māori ki ō tātou oranga, ki te kura, ki te kainga, me te hāpori. Showing our children the importance of the reo in our lives, our school, our homes, and our community.
- Tuakana / Teina. The opportunity to enact our school value of Ako and provide the opportunity for students to work with students from different classes.
- Kia ngahau! Having fun.

Feedback from both students and teachers shows the success of these mornings. It is a challenge for both students and staff. The staff team is challenged to learn the Te Reo Māori required to run a full immersion session, as well as for the children to speak as much te reo as possible in each of their morning sessions.

*It was fun playing the two games we played. I played bingo and a ball game with Ray. You had to listen hard and then follow Ray's instructions. We were in teams of different year levels. I think we have teams like this so we can take care of the younger students and help them with their te reo Māori learning. - Aisha*



*Our Rūmaki reo morning last Wednesday was fun. I enjoyed playing the games we did. I played food bingo with Shara. We paired up with one older student and one younger student. I played with Enzo. We were so close to getting all our bingo covered. We needed one more food to have a full card. It's great to practise our te reo Māori and also to learn new te reo Māori. - Nguyen*



*I played food bingo with Katie. I played bingo with Esin. She has just started at our school. I enjoyed playing bingo because it was fun and also a little easy. I think it is important to practise our te reo Māori. - Lena Almarzouq*

*I like doing the rotations. I was with my friend Nina who is in a different class from me this year. I like talking in different languages. I like learning different languages. I have been learning Māori this year and Spanish and Chinese. If I went to another country I could speak English, Māori, Chinese and Spanish. - Noor*



*I got a certificate at the end of Rūmaki reo. I received it for great speaking in Māori. It's good to practise our Māori. I like how we do rotations on our Rūmaki reo mornings. I liked having Rico in my group. He's a Year 8. It's good to learn with the older children. - Mervan*



## Cross Country

We have ended the term by beginning our cross country training. The school's cross country event is planned for the morning of Friday 9 May.

*Cross country is fun. If I run too much and too fast I get a sore belly. I think that this is called getting the stitch. It can be a little boring doing cross country training. You just have to keep running! I have decided I do like running if I run with a buddy so I am trying to run at the same pace as Te Aira. - Manasvi*

*I'm looking forward to cross country next term. I might get placed 2nd or 3rd. I'm going to tell myself that I can't stop running. I'm also looking forward to the sleepover that we are going to have at school. – Haroon*

## Highlights of Term 1

As we end our first term together teachers shared some of their highlights with each other at this week's Tuesday staff meeting. They included:

- Great EOTC walk in our local area - Ricky Prebble was so knowledgeable and so responsive to the childrens' needs and interests.

- The Ramadan Poster group was a really positive experience for those involved. They successfully raised awareness in our wider school community about Ramadan.



- As always, the Science Kit has continued to provide rich experiences and motivations for oral and written language - highly engaging for all students.
- Awesome to have so many futsal teams. Great parent support and buy in from the students.

- The kapa haka group continues to go from strength to strength. Hēmi has stated how capable they are and is looking into competitions that they can enter.



- Love the new classroom release time (CRT) format with half a day per week.
- Having consistent CRT time each week has been really amazing. It's a lot less disruptive for the kids, than it was last year, as it's consistent.
- Super settled class (and senior school) allows us to connect with individual students and really focus on core learning x2



- Our Matairangi walk and Oriental Bay swim was awesome. Highly supported by our parents too.
- Leadership time - feedback from kids is positive and the expectations placed on kids shows us different skill sets.
- Feel like a lot of teaching has happened.
- Meena's Seesaw effort has been great. Way more parents engaging than previously.
- Great having Shara, our student teacher) in the class. She has been fantastic at building relationships with the class and means that we can meet even more student need in the class with smaller groups.
- Rumaki reo was great. It was nice having almost all staff being familiar with the process. It felt like a really successful morning.
- I have really enjoyed doing Tuakana/teina with Kristin's class. It is a great opportunity for building connections and for different kids to shine.
- The kids are really enjoying doing Spanish with Levi and it's been great to have him in the kitchen for Garden to Table.

- Having Claire around during Garden to Table is awesome. She is so super fantastic with the kids.
- Claire is an amazing beekeeper - each week I learn new things from our student beekeepers.



- Garden to Table. I really enjoyed teaching cooking and some commonsense kitchen skills to the students. I was amazed to see the vast spectrum of knowledge among them. There is a lot more to teach them in relation to food and how they will carry this learning with them throughout their lives. This is a true gem of learning at Te Aro school.

- Students across the whole school are really enjoying learning Spanish. They are eagerly applying their knowledge by regularly using the greetings they learned during the term.



- Lots of amazing, talented, creative students in my class this year. I am amazed by their capabilities and knowledge! I feel able to give them quite challenging work and they pretty much all always enjoy rising to the challenge and have a really positive attitude around their learning which is so nice.

Highlights shared by our students have included the following feedback:

*Highlights for me have been science kit experiments which have been really fun. Tech has also been so much fun too. I've been in robotics. I've also liked designing our cross country posters as part of our year 7 leadership work. We're organising this year's cross country event at the start of next term. I'm excited for starting cooking lessons next week at technicraft. - Izzy*

*Maths including Prodigy has been a real highlight for me this term. I've also made new friends since coming to Te Aro. I'm looking forward to doing more flag studies next term and of course our noho in May. - Matai*

*Technicraft at first didn't feel that different to Garden to Table. It actually is, however, as it is a little more advanced than Garden to Table. Oh and I have enjoyed kapa haka this term. - Lara*

*Cricket this term has been great. It has been a lot of fun playing with lots of people here at school. The tournament Meena took us to at McAllister Park was great. It was great to play with friends and new people. I'm going to look at playing cricket next year when I am in year 9. - Dezon*



*I have really enjoyed Maths this term. Maths has included learning about perimeter, area and BEDMAS. I'm looking forward to continuing my Maths learning and continuing to improve in Maths. - Frida*

*I have most enjoyed reading this term. I like the class books (the chapter books) Anna reads to our class. I like the books Anna has in our class library. I like the books Cathie buys for the library. - Therese*

*I have really enjoyed being able to sing. I really liked kapa haka. Singing waiata makes me feel proud. Sometimes I miss my old school where I spoke Māori nearly all the time. I enjoyed helping others understand the te reo Māori being spoken at our Rūmaki reo morning last Wednesday. - Te Aira*

*I have enjoyed Garden to Table on a Thursday. It's fun and you learn things such as researching and making Google slideshows. I've also enjoyed practising my timestables this term. I want to get better at them. - Pasha*

*I have loved doing free writing on Wednesdays. I have been working on a long story that I add to each week. Next week I will begin writing chapter 7! - Zoja*



*The trip up Matairangi and down to the beach was one of the best things I did this term. It was really fun. I especially liked walking down hill to the beach because it was so much easier than walking up to the top of Matairangi!* - Nguyen



*I have really enjoyed this term playing with Owen and Alan. I have most enjoyed doing addition in Maths.* - Ramin

*Garden to Table is so much fun. It really is one of my most favourite things at school. I like how we learn so many new things as part of Garden to Table and that we have each week so many new experiences. I'm looking forward to meeting our new Garden to Table gardener.* - Georgie

*I have most enjoyed playing football up on the turf with Pasha and Nguyen (Thomas). I have really enjoyed working on a chromebook and I LOVE MATHS! I like the big questions Anna asks us in Maths.* - Enzo

*The best thing this term has been Garden to Table especially the honey harvest. I enjoyed filling all the jars with honey. Garden to Table is fun as we get to do so many new things and it changes often so we are not doing the same things for the whole year.* - Luka

*The best thing about this term has been the honey harvest. I had never before been part of a honey harvest. I really like honey! I had never worked with Claire before. I am really enjoying the food that the cooks and Levi make too. Garden to Table is one of my most favourite parts of the week and being a Year 5.* - Remy

*The best part of this term has been learning to order numbers from the smallest to largest number. I can now order numbers correctly.* - Ming

*Maths has been great this term because we have been doing division. Division is challenging and fun!* - Jacob

*Making shadow puppets has been so much fun. It has involved art, storytelling and working together. I have also liked doing Maths, especially solving equations.* - Luci

*Maths is harder this year and that is good. My Maths has got so much better this year. I feel really good about that. I am so proud of my Maths work.* - Oriol

## **We're looking forward to Term 2**

*I am looking forward to noho in May. I think it will be a lot of fun. I am expecting we will do iceskating when we are away. I'm also looking forward to the fun run as part of our school cross country. - Sophie*

*I'm looking forward to playing more football up on the turf. I hope that I will get faster at my basic facts. I'm also going to focus on my writing and my spelling next term. - Wathsilu*

*I look forward to harder Maths next term especially problem solving. I'm also looking forward to meeting the new gardener who will work with us in Garden to Table on a Thursday. - Junyi*



*I am mostly looking forward to the lunchtime Chinese group with Hao Yu. It's so much fun. I've been enjoying doing calligraphy with her. - Eloise*

*I'm quite excited about having a sleepover at school next term when the Year 7 & 8s are at noho. I think it will be both weird and exciting to sleep over at school with 50 or more people. I've had sleepovers with five people but never 50 people! - Rose*

*I am really looking forward to noho, of course, and welcoming new students to our school. I'm also looking forward to cross country and new projects as part of our leadership programme. Maybe we will start work on planning the mega gala. - Lena*

*I'm looking forward to noho and for the fun run as part of the cross country day on Friday 9 May. I'm also looking forward to noho. I think it will be really fun. I think Meena and Ray have planned some really exciting activities including ice skating. - Sophia*

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or queries that you have about the school or feedback which you would like to share with me.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou,

Sue





Rūma Ngaio has been working very hard on their "Somewhere In A Garden Today" poems. They used their local trips as inspiration to come up with ideas. They drafted, then edited, and then published their poems in their best handwriting with beautiful borders. They went up Demos Hill for a poetry reading so they could all celebrate their beautiful mahi. Each child did an amazing job reading their poem to their classmates and they all felt very proud.

Here are some of their poems:

#### **Somewhere in a Garden Today**

*By Hugo*

In summer the sun shines on grape vines.  
In winter the wind blows on tomatoes.  
In autumn the flowers grow for hours.  
In spring the bees fly on trees.

#### **Somewhere in a Garden Today**

*By Fyyfe*

Two yummy potatoes are growing in my garden.  
Woundwart growing in the wonderful, healthy garden.  
Lemon tree is sour and fresh in the garden.  
Tomato growing in the beautiful garden.

#### **Somewhere in a Garden Today**

*By Meme*

Yummy strawberries growing.  
Sun shining on the potatoes.  
Dark sky moving above the apple tree.  
Beautiful flowers shining under the sun.

#### **Somewhere in a Garden Today**

*By Vivian*

The sun is marvellous and the carrots are growing  
beautifully in the garden.  
The gorgeous flower is blooming.  
The clouds are clear and the tree is rustling in the breeze.  
I am planting rose seeds in the ground.





Ruma Tarata have been learning about the meaning of each other's names and practicing how to say them correctly with respect. Check out some of the work they've done!


**Zoe**

*My name is Zoe and my middle name is Kismet. My last name is Zimmerman. Zimmerman means gatekeeper and Kismet means carpenter. While they were in Sweden my Mum and Dad chose Zoe - that means life.*



**Gregory**


*My name is Gregory and it stands for guardian. My full name is Gregory Alessandro. My baptism name is Salvator. Some people call me Gegory because they don't know how to say my name properly. They should learn how to say my name properly.*



**Songsong**

**My name means strong like a pine tree.**

**I like the way my name sounds cool.**




**Lula**

*My name is Lula Tarati-Rose Hyland-Dixon. I was named by my big brother Cassius. My middle name was named after my great grandmother Dorothy Hyland. Tarati means Dorothy in Maori. I was named after her because she passed away in November. I have two last names because both my parents didn't want to change their last name. My initials are: TPRHD. People used to call me Lula or Lula balloola. My name means pearl.*




**Kora**

*My name is Kora. But my full name is Kora Valentine Hardy. My initials are K.V.H. I am named after my Grandmas Ora and Nora. My name means spark, like spark of light. It also means Persephone. In Māori it means the glimmer of green stone.*




**MINGHE**

*My name is Minghe. My name means famous. I like my name because my name is famous. My middle name is Fu. I like my name because it is so cool. My mum gave me this name to me.*




**MINN ZAN**

**Minn Zan is my name. It means peaceful king. I like my name because I am a king.**



**ELEANOR**

*My name stands for "God is my light". It means I am light. It means the light is shining on me and I love my name!*







## Te Aro School on Tuesday 6th May, 2025

We will photograph portraits of all students as well as class photos.

**You do not order/pay for your child's portraits or class photos until AFTER PHOTODAY.**

You will receive an order form featuring a photo of your child after photoday. (Packs available below)

<p><b>Premier Pack \$45.00</b></p>	<p><b>Classic Pack \$40.00</b></p> <p><b>Packs include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Premier: 20x25, 2x 12.7x17, 2x 10x15, 2x 10x7.5, 3x Wallets Calendar and Class</li> <li>•Classic: 2x 12.7x17, 2x 10x15, 2x 10x7.5, 3x Wallets and Class</li> <li>•Single: 1x 12.7x17 and Class</li> <li>•Portraits: 2x 12.7x17, 2x 10x15, 2x 10x7.5, 3x Wallets but no Class</li> <li>•Class: Class only</li> </ul> <p><small>Portraits include complimentary portrait file voucher. You will be able to redeem your file after you receive your photopack.</small></p>	<p><b>Single Pack \$35.00</b></p> <p><b>Portraits Only \$22.00</b></p> <p><b>Class Only \$18.00</b></p>
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Family/Sibling Photos: Order form is on reverse of advice note which your child will bring home. Order form **MUST** be returned to school office before photoday for photo to be taken.

# TE ARO SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Hosted by the Year 7 leaders!

## 2025

**Friday May 9<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**Fun Run - 11am**

Year 7 - 9am  
Year 0,1,2,3 - 10am  
Year 4,5,6,8 - 11am

Postponement date is Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May

Location: Boyd Wilson Turf

## Important Dates

<b><u>April</u></b> <b>Fri 11 April</b> – Last day of term 1 <b>Mon 28 April</b> – First day of term 2	<b><u>May</u></b> <b>Tues 6 May</b> – School Photo Day <b>Friday 9 May</b> – School Cross Country <b>Friday 9 May</b> – 1pm Yr 7 Immunisations <b>Mon 12 May</b> – Vision & Hearing Testing <b>Wed 14 May</b> – Board of Trustees Meeting <b>Fri 16 May</b> – Pink Shirt Day <b>Tues 20 May</b> – Central Zones Cross Country <b>Tues 27 May – Thurs 29 May</b> – NOHO <b>Fri 30 May</b> – Teacher Only Day ( <i>school closed for tuition</i> )
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## 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