



Te Aro School

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Te Aro School Newsletter – 22 August 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

Nau mai haere mai

A warm welcome to Quinn and Yarah who have recently joined our school community. Both Quinn and Yarah have older siblings here at school and their arrival at school has been an event that has been looked forward to by Kora, Sarah and Khleel. Quinn and Yarah have joined Serah in Rūma Tawa.

Also joining the Rūma Tawa whanau this week has been Somayeh. Somayeh is going to be working as a teacher aide in our new entrant classroom each morning.

Our Thanks

Many thanks to you all for supporting our teachers and support staff members being able to attend their paid union meeting on Tuesday afternoon. We are grateful to each of you for making arrangements to collect your child after lunch.

Staff News

There is to be a change in our leadership team that will take place in 2026. Anna has asked to relinquish her deputy principal leadership role to take effect at the start of 2026. She has decided she would like to step away from holding the position of Deputy Principal (DP) in the junior school. Anna will continue to teach at Te Aro School and in 2026 she will work fulltime as one of our classroom release teachers. In this teaching role Anna will teach across the school.

Anna has served us in a leadership role for an amazing twelve years. I am grateful for all the work she has done in supporting the work of the leadership team over these years.

I will shortly be advertising the vacancy we will have in the junior school and on the leadership team.

Board Elections

Please come into the foyer by the office to read the bios of the five people who are standing in this year's Board elections. I am grateful to each of them for putting themselves forward to join our Board. Voting closes at 4pm on Wednesday 10 September.

Speeches in the Senior School

Our Year 5 - 8 students have been very focussed this term on writing and practising their speeches. We held our school speech competition on Wednesday morning. The senior school and our Year 4s were an appreciative audience.



Our Year 4 students in the audience on Wednesday shared these thoughts with me:

I loved the speeches. I'm really looking forward to speeches next year as a Year 5. I liked some of the speech topics, especially the ones about staying inside at lunchtimes (Neva's speech) and the speech about eating insects (Esther's speech). – Fenny

I too loved the speeches. I liked how the speeches were funny and were so detailed. I thought the seniors' speeches were so interesting. I think that next year when I am a Year 5 I might talk about why dogs are such good pets. – Therese

I liked the speech about eating bugs. I'd like to try eating bugs as they are so nutritious. I did not like the two speeches about cats being the best pets. I also did not like the speech about boys in families needing to do more chores. I think I will find it hard to do a speech next year in front of so many people as I am quite shy. – Etienne

I wish to acknowledge all our Year 5 - 8 students for their hard work in undertaking the reading and research that was needed to write a speech. It was great to see the students using the conventions of writing a persuasive speech, and then the students practising the delivery of their speeches which included taking onboard feedback from their teachers and their peers. Over the course of this term Ray, Afsana, Cathie, Tessa, Mathew and I could see and hear how students were becoming more confident about presenting their ideas in front of their peers.



I am grateful to Cathie, Eva and Katie who were our judges this year. They had the tough job of choosing our year level finalists from the sixteen school finalists they heard speak on Wednesday morning.



Our finalists in each year level will be representing our school at our cluster speech competition on Monday 25 August at Mt Cook School. We wish Zhen (Year 8), Alexandra (Year 7), Manasvi (Year 6) and Thea (Year 5) all the very best as they head to the cluster speech contest next week. I am certain they will make us proud!



I liked Livvy's speech. I had to try hard to listen to her speech while feeling nervous about having to speak just after her. When I was actually speaking I wasn't so nervous. My speech actually flowed. I think that knowing my speech so well really helped me. I am a finalist and now I will be going to Mt Cook School. It's a family thing as my older sister Frida went to the finals when she was in Year 5. – Thea



It was a little scary speaking in front of so many people. There were over a hundred people in the audience in Mathew and Tessa's classroom. I was proud of myself especially when I had finished my speech. – Livvy

Before giving my speech I did feel nervous. As I started to deliver it I felt less nervous. When I finished speaking I felt relieved! When I started speaking I calmed my nerves by starting my speech quickly. My advice to this year's Year 4s is that when giving your speech it is a lot less scary. – Luca VB



I was placed first in Year 6. I was nervous waiting to speak. It was hard to get my heart to stop going up and down. It was a relief to actually give my speech. I thought others had prepared such great speeches. I was so surprised to be placed first in Year 6. My Mum and Dad are going to be so amazed. – Manasvi

Pre Production - we're getting ready!

Thank you to all of you who have offered your help and your creative skills to the teaching team to prepare their items for the production on Thursday 4 September. We are so grateful to each of you. There is definitely some excitement building across the school as final preparations are being made, as rehearsals are underway, as waiata are being learned, as lines are being practised, and as dance moves are being adjusted.



There has been a serious amount of sewing taking place across the school including the students in Tessa's wearable arts group and teachers making costumes.



Shout out to Ryan who is very skilled at using a sewing machine.



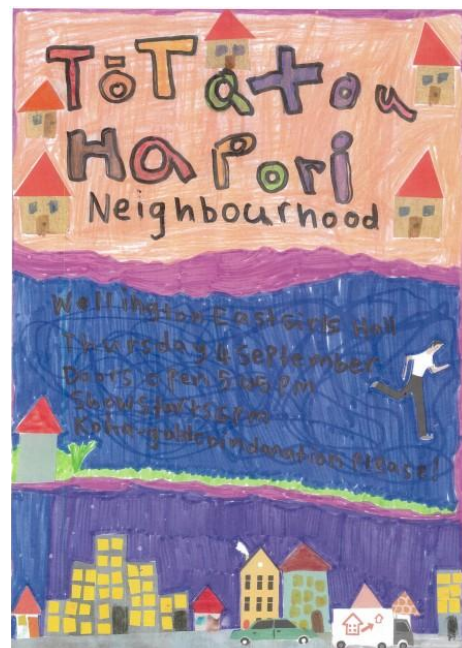
Te Aro School Production Tō Tātou Hapori - In Our Neighbourhood

Venue - Wellington East Girls' College School Hall
131 Austin Street - Mount Victoria

Doors open at 5.45pm
Show starts at 6pm
Food (pizza and chocolate) will be available from 5pm

Parking is available on site.

No tickets needed. We would appreciate a Koha (donation) upon entry



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 have been making production posters and writing about the upcoming production. Here is some of their work.

Production

By Athena

I am very excited because on Thursday 4 September there will be a production. It is my very first one! I am very grateful. Oh! Speaking of grateful we are doing a song all about it. It's a song that goes like this: "Everybody gets a heard and everybody gets a soul. Everybody gets a mind to let them know!" and so on.

We are going to Wellington East Girls' hall. Me, Florence and Wolf are the picnic people. Me and Florence wear matching hairbands and Wolf wears the picnic bag around his neck. He looks funny. The trees are the prettiest in the production! The leaves! The flowers! The style! The movements! So much detail!

The water is very graceful too. They wear very sparkly clothes. Eva tells them to not break the crowns. I love production!

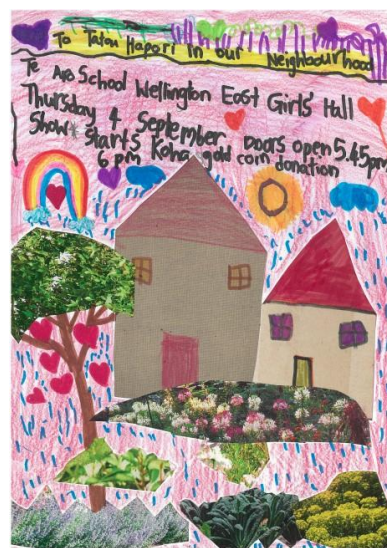


By Chibuikem

Production

By Tomasa

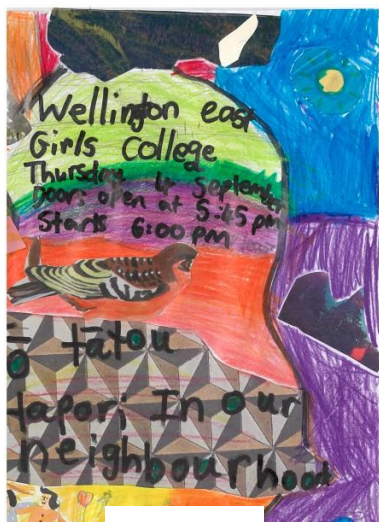
I will be in the school production. It is at Wellington East Girls' College at 6pm. It will be fun. I will be a bird in the production. I will have wings and I will have a bird mask. We will fly around the stage. The other birds will fly with me.



By Sanuli



By Vivian



By Astra

Production

By Hugo

On Thursday 4 September I will be in the school production. The whole entire school will perform in the production. The production will be at Wellington Girls' College. The production is so fun. I am water in the production. I like being water in the production. I like my costume because it has sparkly water drops on it and a tiara on it.



School Notices

WELLINGTON, NZ
FILM SCREENING

seen

THE FILM

A fundraiser for



Te Aro
SCHOOL

PARENTTV PRESENTS

A special fundraising event

TRANSFORMATIVE
DOCUMENTARY ABOUT
THE POWER OF HEALING
AND ITS IMPACT ON THE
WAY WE RAISE
CHILDREN.

Come join us!



Vogelmorn Upstairs
93 Mornington Road



7th September at 4.00



NZD20

Change of name for Race Relations Day

We have decided to give this special day, which we celebrate each year, a more meaningful name so that our students and whānau have a better understanding of the day's purpose. We think this new name reflects our goals for this important celebration more clearly. Race Relation Day will become

"Cultural Connections Celebration"

Watch out for more information about this year's celebration which will be held in week 3 next term, on Tuesday October 21st.

We are proposing a change in your area

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Proposed Changes to Speed Limits close to School

We have received a leaflet from Wellington City Council outlining upcoming proposed changes to speed limits on streets close to school at school drop off and pick up times.

The proposed changes relate to Abel Smith Street, The Terrace and Buller Street.

It is proposed that the speed limit on these streets will reduce from 50km to 30km per hour from 8.10am-9.10am and 2.40pm-3.40pm school days only.

The proposal will go to the Koata Hatepe/Regulatory Processes Committee meeting on 28 August 2025. If approved, the proposal will be installed by 1 July 2026.

Important Dates

August

Mon 25 Aug – Speech Competition at Mount Cook

Wed 27 Aug – Artsplash

September

Thurs 4 Sept – Whole School Production

Wed 10 Sept – Election Day for Te Aro School Board of Trustees.

Poll closes at 4pm.

Results declared on Tues 16 Sept

Fri 19 Sept – Last day of term

Term Dates 2025

Term 3 2025

Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September

Term 4 2025

Monday 6 October – Wed 17 December
(school finishes at 12pm)

Labour Day – Monday 27 October

Term Dates 2026

Term 1 2026

Wednesday 4 February – Thursday 2 April

Waitangi Day – Friday 6 February

Good Friday – Friday 3 April

Term 2 2026

Monday 20 April – Friday 3 July

Anzac Day – Observed Monday 27 April

King's Birthday – Monday 1 June

Term 3 2026

Monday 20 July – Friday 25 September

Term 4 2026

Monday 12 October – Wed 16 December
(school finishes at 12pm)

Labour Day – Monday 26 October