



Te Aro School

360 The Terrace, Wellington 6011

office@tearo.school.nz

Te Aro School Newsletter – 1 December 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

It has been a busy two weeks across the school. Teachers have finished writing their end-of-year reports. Before I read each of them Anna and Ray read their team's reports. It's wonderful reading the children's own self assessments and reading about the progress students have made over the course of the year. Reports will be coming home to you on Monday 8 December.

Cathie met with all the classroom teachers individually last week to reflect on the progress of our English language learners.



Haoyu Qin
Mandarin Language Assistant

This week we farewell Haoyu, our Mandarin language assistant. It is amazing to think she has been with us for ten months and that she is returning home to China at the end of this week. We wish her all the very best. The Chinese lunchtime club are really going to miss all the cultural activities Haoyu shared with them.



Nau mai haere mai

Last Thursday we welcomed Hannah Newell, our new Deputy Principal to the school. She will be joining our team next year in February. Hannah spent time meeting with Anna and Ray as part of her induction to our school. It was great for her to see the school in action.

Over the past two weeks Serah has been hosting some of our 2026 five year olds and their families. Some of them experienced our mega gala last week. We had to remind them that school is not like this every day!

Te Aro's Got Talent

Last week Alfie, Dezon, Angelos and Yashar ran two audition sessions for Te Aro's Got Talent, our talent quest planned for Monday 8 December. They invited me to help them audition the senior students on Wednesday afternoon and on Friday afternoon they asked Eva to join us when the juniors auditioned for a spot in the talent quest. It would be true to say that there is some amazing talent across the school. The junior students who auditioned were pretty outstanding.

I did a card trick for my audition item. I had been practising my trick before I even knew there was going to be a talent quest. There's a part when I have to separate the cards into two piles. It can be hard to do that especially if I am using a pack of big sized cards. – Fenny



I auditioned for Te Aro's Got Talent with Zoja and Charlotte. We danced to Miley Cyrus' Party in the USA. We choreographed our dance together. We have practised every morning in the shelter shed. We've been having a problem remembering one move. – Nina



Mega Gala

We made a great deal of money at our gala. We were proud of ourselves for our organising skills. We felt appreciated by our friends, by the teachers and by the junior children for organising such a fun day. We were proud of the fact we had customers waiting in lines. Guess the object and selling candy floss were first at this year's gala. We were really organised and all the stalls were really busy. At times it was a little stressful when the queues were long. The best part was seeing the smiles on the students' faces when they bought a toy they really wanted and really liked! Thank you to everyone who helped us with planning and running the gala. - Eliona, Matai, Izzy, Danielle and Emily

Pack the Bus

Your donations of non-perishable food items, toys, and games for the school's contributions to Pack the Bus kept rolling in right up until last Thursday when we actually loaded the bus. The Movenpick Hotel's staff team also added their donations of food and toys to the bus.



We were really grateful for how generous people were this year. We had over 100 bags of groceries and toys (we think 110 bags!). Using the house points really motivated some students to make a donation. It was disappointing that the bus arrived later than we had expected so we weren't there to actually load all our bags on board the bus. Students in Rūma Nikau and Rūma Manuka had to take over for us as we had to leave for our technicraft sessions down at Mt Cook School. We want to say thank you so much for your support. - Veer, Felix, Campbell, Zhen and Zack.



We added to the donations we received with a big shop at The Warehouse. Many thanks to my capable and thoughtful shopping companions Lena and Eve. They shopped wisely ensuring we were buying gifts that would meet the needs and likes of children across a number of age brackets.



Technology and Sun Safety

Anna's class shared their amazing sunhats at a Tuatara hui last Friday. They wore their hats to the hui and shared a Google slide show of how they had each met their hat brief when designing and making their hat. The gathered classes were suitably impressed with their design skills.



Volleyball

I went to watch our two senior volleyball teams play last Friday evening. It was a mighty game with our two teams facing a play off. It has been great to see the students' commitment this term to a new game. They have worked hard to strengthen their skills on the court practicing every day and sometimes twice a day.



Buddy reading

It has been great to catch up with Serah's class who have enjoyed opportunities to read with their older buddies from Rūma Kauri.

I have read with a big girl and a big boy. They were both very good readers. I like being able to learn with older students. - Anya

I liked reading with Marley. He read to me a book about the zoo. - Jack

I have read with Frankie and David. They both tried hard reading their books to me. I like seeing the Tawa children. I like how I read to them and then they read to me. - Mervan



I read with David. He was a good reader. I read two books to him. Buddy reading helps our younger students to become good readers. Since I moved out of Rūma Tawa and into Rūma Kauri I like buddy reading time as I can then see the children from Rūma Tawa. – Gasper



My buddy was Jeb. He could read lots of different books. I like learning about someone else and how they learn. Getting to know a younger buddy means they will know an older student so if they feel lost or lonely they will be able to go to their older buddy if they need help. – Noor

I got to read with Ellie. I read to him and he read to me. Actually he did most of the reading! My buddy said to me "Wow you're really big!". It's good for our younger students to know older students. - Clive

Bee news

I have only worked with the bees once since I joined this school. My fear of bees includes seeing them and holding them. I am kind of excited about bee work next year. - Jojo

When I first started bee keeping last year I was horrified about working with them. Recently a bee found its way into my suit. I stayed still and Claire dealt with the bee. - Ella



Using the smoker helps to make our bees chill. They stop buzzing around and instead they are calm. I like finding the Queen when we open up the hive. - Mohamad

I like using the smoker. I like seeing how the bees react to the smoke as they nearly immediately calm down. Wearing the bee suits can be really hot, especially now that the weather is getting warmer. I am amazed at the number of bees that are actually in the hive. - Tova



I've never been stung by a bee. I'm always worrying a little bit about what if today is the day when I get stung. The smoker really calms the bees so that helps me feel OK. - Livvy

Last week I got to hold a frame up after we had used the smoker. The frame was full of honey. Bees kept landing on my gloved hands. They crawled up my hand. Inside the hive I saw the drones. They're the bees that don't sting you. - Genet

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



School Notices



YEAR 8s

**Te Tai Ohinga is
OPEN TO YOU
and your whānau**

**Saturday 6th December
10am - 6pm | 203 Willis St**

**Come check out Wellington's
youth hub for 13-24 year olds!**

**Breakfast | Group activities | Games |
Arts and crafts | Hang out | Explore**

📍 [tetaiohinga](#) ✉ tto@ycentral.nz

Important Dates

December

Tues 2 Dec – First Language Time celebration

Fri 5 Dec – Beach Ed Worser Bay Y5/6

Mon 8 Dec – Te Aro's got Talent

Tues 9 Dec/Wed 10 Dec – Summer Reading

Wed 10 Dec – BOT Meeting

Thurs 11 Dec – Y8 Leavers' Banquet

Fri 12 Dec – Y8 Leavers' Assembly

Mon 15 Dec – Beach Ed Worser Bay Y7/8

Tues 16 Dec – Big Day In

Wed 17 Dec – 1pm – Last day of term

Term Dates 2025

Term 4 2025

Monday 6 October – Wed 17 December
(school finishes at 1pm)

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 1pm)

Labour Day – Monday 26 October