



Te Aro School

360 The Terrace, Wellington 6011

office@tearo.school.nz

Te Aro School Newsletter – 4 May 2026

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

Over the past fortnight we have welcomed Sierra, Dylan, Brixley, Ariana, Roi, Teja, Phong, My, and Abhikrit to our school community. We look forward to welcoming these students and their families at our Term 2 mihi whakatau on Thursday 28 May. We have also welcomed Shane Dunleavy to our support staff team. Shane is working in classes across the school.

It has been great to be back into the rhythm of the school term this week after the stormy weather of our first week of term. Thank you for accommodating our teacher only day on Friday 24 April. The teaching team worked with Trudy Frances who facilitated our second of three literacy workshops which have been mandated by the Government.

We ended last term with a rūmaki reo morning and we also had all our donated groceries collected by some of the DCM foodbank staff.



We packed up all our grocery donations into the DCM van. We were so proud of what we achieved as a school community. School families' donations were spectacular. Thank you all so much for donating so generously. It was such a successful event. Thank you so much for all of your support.

- Jay, Juno, Abel, Danuthi, Josie and Ni Lar

Rūmaki Reo

We ended Term 1 with Rūmaki Reo morning. This is the sixth year we have had a Rūmaki Reo session. The focus for these sessions is on:

- Whakanuia te reo Māori. Celebrate te reo Māori.
- Whakamāori te reo Māori. Normalise te reo Māori.
- He wero ki a tātou anō. Challenge 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. To show the children the importance of te 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! Have fun.



We learn Māori when we have our rūmaki reo mornings. We played paper, scissors, rock in Māori. Tess was our teacher. I like activities and games that we get to do. Games and activities make learning fun. – Elqui



I like that we get to play games with our friends on a rūmaki reo morning. I also got to make new friends in my group. I did red light green light with Moana. We get exercise and we get to speak te reo Māori. Learning Māori helps us make Māori people feel happy as are speaking their language. - Florence

I think we have rumaki reo mornings to celebrate te reo Māori and Māori culture. I got to play red light green light and the cones game with Ray. – Athena



I liked playing the games. It was quite cold being outside for our rŭmaki reo morning. Our rŭmaki reo mornings help us to learn and speak te reo Māori. I think we should keep having these mornings. - Ashlee

I did rakau and He Ika (Go fish). I really like rakau. Cathie was our teacher for that rotation. I like these mornings as we learn Māori while having heaps of fun. – Nina



I received one of the certificates at the end of the rŭmaki reo morning. Having mornings helps us learn te reo Māori. – Owen

I like how when we have rŭmaki reo mornings we meet new people in our groups and we learn te reo Māori at the same time. Yumiao, Sylvia and Genet were in my group. I like these mornings as it really does help me to learn more Māori. - Hugo

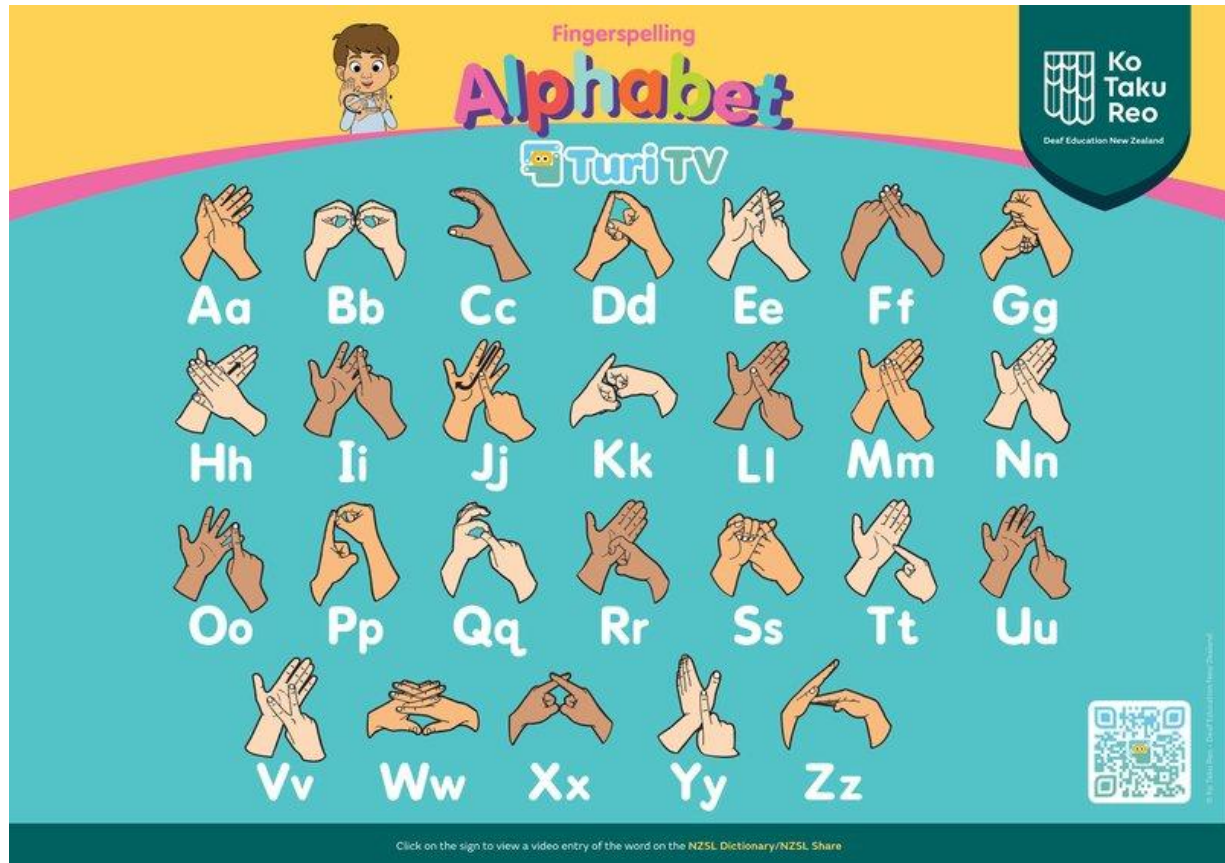


I like how we play fun games and do fun activities at the same time as learning te reo Māori. I like how everyone in the whole school gets put into random groups. I was in a group with Harper, Pia, Oriol and Anushka. - Kora

New Zealand Sign Language Week

This week May 4th - May 10th is New Zealand Sign Language Week. Te Aro School has a rich history with the deaf community having had classrooms for several decades for hearing impaired and signing children.

Look out around the school for challenges including learning the alphabet, learning numbers and how to sign your name.



Mathsathon

It has continued to be exciting to draw names out of our prize draw box. On the last day of Term 1 our prize winners were Abel, Kala, Hugo, Chibuikem, Amelia Watson, and Drey. Our prize winners at the start of this term have included Jacob Mouncey, Ivor, Etienne, Amelia from Manuka, Juno from Tawa, Elsie and Ranugi. Last week's winners included Leon, Archer, Dean, Minghe, and Shenal. Congratulations to all of these students for working on their basic facts learning at home.

It has been great to see all the hard work students have put into learning their maths facts. Students were tested last week and your child should have brought home their sponsorship form again. Now it's time to collect any money from sponsors please and then to bring it into school this coming week. If preferred, sponsorship money can also be paid by eftpos at the school office or into the school bank account as follows: **Te Aro School Board**

12-3141-0258308

If paying online, please put your child's name and 'mathsathon' as the reference.

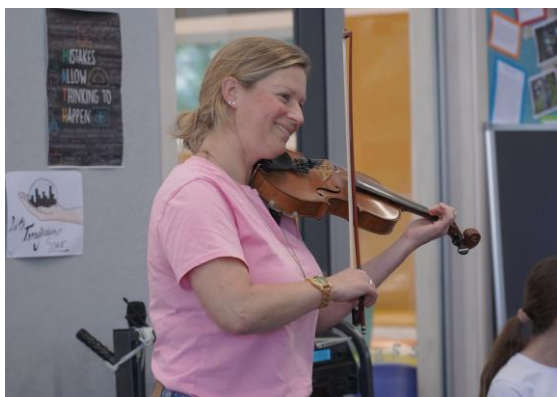
Thanks once again for supporting your child to master their Maths' learning and for supporting this fundraiser.

NZ Music Month Assembly

Last Friday we held our annual NZ Music Month assembly. This annual tradition has taken place for the past 20 years. In recent years we missed one celebration during COVID.



Friday's entertainers included current students in the senior school band, former students now at Wellington High School who came to play, and parents Linden (Mum of Rose and Owen), Louie (Dad of Addy), and Paul (Dad of Jacob). We were reminded by our assembly presenters that Linden has played each year as far back as May 2017 when Owen was just a baby.



Cross Country

Cross country training is underway across the school. It has been good to see how students have come prepared for training up on the turf each day - trainers, comfortable clothing, and having a drink bottle filled with water.

We're training together for cross country. We train before school and at each break time. We have a routine. We run a lap of the court and then we do ten push ups. Then we have a drink and finally we do stretches. We have just added in shrugging shoulders. We're doing all of this to get ready for the school cross country. We have been coming to school in clothes that are comfortable to exercise in. - Fyyfe and Amelia Watson



Cross country is tiring. I like it even though it is tiring. I like running alongside Lena. We are too busy running so we can't talk. We collect sticks off some of the teachers. We collect a stick for each lap run. I collected four sticks when we ran on Wednesday. - Jasmine

Running four laps around the turf can be challenging. I tell myself to run at a medium pace so that I save some of my energy so I can keep running. Gregory is going to be one of the fastest Year 4s. - Zen

Every year the top three students have been the same students - Cheuk Yin, Archie and me. I'm aiming for second place. I've been doing a little jogging to get myself ready. My advice to the younger runners is not to take too small steps. - Haroon

I didn't used to like cross country. I am not sure what changed for me. Now that I have trained for cross country I don't dislike it. I plan not to run fast at the start. I'll set off and have a steady pace. People who have a fast pace at the start often tire out. I hope to place first this year after being placed second last year. Daisy is the one I have to watch out for! – Esther

I love cross country. I am pretty sure I am one of the only students who does! I love to run. I need to stay at a consistent pace for the length of the race. At the end of the race I pick up speed. I am aiming for first place again hopefully. Don't sprint at the very start is my piece of advice. - Lane

I'm excited about cross country. I like how the year 7s are going to be in charge of the cross country event. I want a job of handing out the sticks each time a student runs a lap. - Zoe

Science

In our class we have had the science kit about forces. Last term we had the bones kit where we learnt about skeletons. We got to play with the skeletons. In our forces kit we have used force metres which has allowed us to measure how many newtons a container has of power. - Anezka

I have just moved to Ruma Kauri. We have been thinking about forces. We got to go down to the playground. I had to push and pull on two things. I pulled on the hook of the garden shed. I pushed on the pump handle. I pushed on the monkey bars when I pushed my hips forward. – Quinn



Inside the Bones kit was a plastic skeleton of an 8 year old boy called Zack. You can see the bones inside of Zack. We start off as a baby having 300 bones. Adults have 206 bones because the bones fuse together. - Altheah

When we are running for cross country we push ourselves. When a rock falls down it is pulled down by gravity. - David

A force is when something falls down. It falls because of gravity. Gravity is a force. – Leo



I liked sorting the seeds in the Biodiversity science kit. We sorted seeds we can or cannot bring into New Zealand. I like how we work in groups when we do science. You get to work with people who you don't usually work with. – Phoebe



We have been studying beetles that are set in resin blocks. The beetles were greenish or blacky brown. We used magnifying glasses to look closely at the beetles. The beetles are ones that we don't want in New Zealand. In extreme cases these unwanted insects could positively collapse the echo system. - Iris

We're looking forward to

I'm looking forward to science this term. I'm excited about doing science experiments in class. I am looking forward to art too. I like doing realistic art. I like to draw the clouds. – Khansa

I'm looking forward to learning and doing multiplication. I have been practising at home. I have also been learning to add up money. I have also been practising my drawing and my animation. - Aziel

I'm looking forward to speeches this term. Speeches are a good way to share about things that are important to me. I also like writing. I think I might talk about Women's rights or Queer rights. - Athena

I'm looking forward to speeches. I enjoy standing up and sharing my opinion on things. I like both talking and listening. I think I'll give a speech about having a silent letter day when we get to use silent letters who usually get left out. - Rose

I like how we get to express our own opinions about things. I think I might write a speech about women's rights. I feel quite strongly about this topic. I need to include more factual points in my speech. - Kala

I'm not really sure about cross country. I'm a little nervous about running. I'm also looking forward a little bit to speeches. I think I will write a speech about the planet. - Ming

We are looking forward to our learning in Maths. Maths is easier than writing. We are looking forward to cross country. We are looking forward to doing lots of art for the art exhibition in Term 3. - Gregory and Minghe

Garden to Table news



Our keen Thursday gardeners were very pleased to receive a box of Zealandia autumn vegetable seedlings at the start of term. We are very grateful to Fleur, Karen and the Zealandia team for supporting our Garden to Table programme.



Up and Coming event ...Pink Shirt Day

On Thursday May 14th Te Aro School will have Pink Shirt Day (one day early to avoid a clash with the school cross country). We encourage all adults and students at Te Aro School to wear a pink shirt and celebrate our diversity and SAY NO TO BULLYING. Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

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



We will be having our annual school photo day this **Wednesday 6 May**.

Every child will be photographed individually and with their class.

Last week your child brought home the below flyer. **If you would like your child to also have an extra photo taken with just their siblings, please return this flyer.**

Te Aro School on Wednesday 6th May, 2026

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)

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Premier Pack \$47.00 | Classic Pack \$42.00 | Single Pack \$37.00 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Portraits Only \$23.00

Class Only \$19.00

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.

Approximately 2 weeks after photo day, personalised order envelopes will come home with your child. At this time, parents can then either order and pay for photos online or by returning cash in the payment envelope to school.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Pink shirt day celebrates anti-bullying and diversity. On Thursday the 14th of May please try to wear a pink shirt to school and be your best self.

Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

Support our Te Aro School Movie fundraiser –

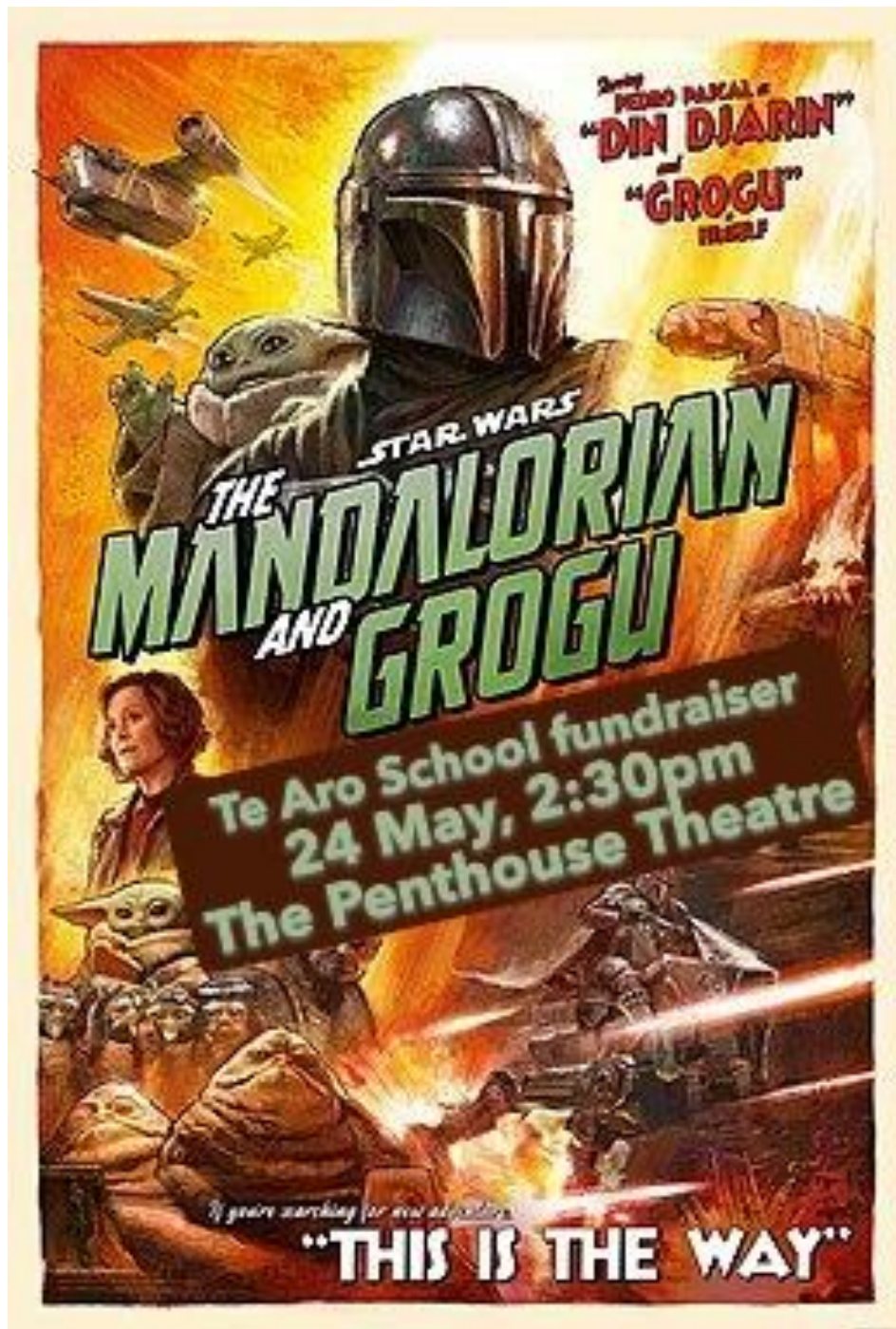
Bring your whānau, friends, neighbours, a team from work, a group of Star Wars fans or just yourselves to the new Star Wars movie - **Mandalorian**.

Sunday 24 May, 2:30pm at The Penthouse movie theatre in Brooklyn.

Tickets available at the school office or pay online to - **Te Aro School Board - 12-3141-0258308-00**
(Reference: Movie / name / number of tickets)

Tickets \$20 - includes movie ticket and a lolly bag

May the Force be with you.





My Holidays

Did you know in the holidays I went fishing? I caught a Trevally and a few Butterfish and lots of Spotties. I caught some glass shrimp. I forgot to tell you I caught Mackerels too. My Granny caught a giant Spotty. I went netting. I saw a lot of fish.

In the school holidays I went camping in Kaitoke. I had so much fun. For fun I did skipping stones by the river. Also I rode my bike. I saw an eel. I played on a rope swing. I went to Riversdale. I woke up early. I made a fire and toasted marshmallows.

By Alessio Cicerone Whittle, year 3



Signing the Treaty of Waitangi

On the 29th of April 1840, Wellington signed the Treaty of Waitangi. 542 people put their signature on the treaty. 9 sheets were made and it took 8 months for all 542 people to sign it. 7 sheets were made out of paper and 2 sheets were made from animal skin. Rats nibbled on the ones that were made from animal skin. The rats nibbled on them because rats have a very strong sense of smell. The Māori didn't write their names because they didn't go to school, so they couldn't learn the alphabet. The sheets almost got burned.

The Māori signed their names with their tattoo if they had one but if they didn't have a tattoo they just wrote a cross (x) or a circle (O). They travelled all around NZ (New Zealand) just to get people to sign it.

By Fatih Yehia, year 3

Important Dates

| <u>May</u> | <u>June and July</u> |
|--|---|
| Wed 6 May School Photo Day | Mon 1 June King's Birthday– school closed for tuition |
| Thurs 14 May Pink Shirt Day | Wed 24 June Parent interviews |
| Fri 15 May School Cross Country | Thurs 25 June Parent interviews |
| Tues 19 May Year 7 vaccinations | Wed 1 July Matariki Celebretion |
| Tues 26 May Central Zone Cross Country | Fri 3 July Last day of term 1 |

Term Dates 2026

Term 2 2026

Monday 20 April – Friday 3 July

Teacher Only Day – Friday 24 April

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