



Te Kura o Hau Karetu

He waka eke noa: *We're all in this waka together*
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Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Mālō e lelei, Kia orana, Namaste, Kumusta,



New Zealand Sign Language Week: It's sign language week this week. Teachers are all showing their tamariki how to sign their names in New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL). I have popped a copy of the NZSL alphabet at the end of this newsletter for you to use if you would like to have a try. Ask your child how to sign their names in NZSL.

Nau mai, haere mai to Saimoni (Sai) who has started in Te Pūao this week. We are so happy to have you at our kura Saimoni. Welcome to Aotearoa!

Teacher Only Day – A reminder that we have a teacher only day this **Friday the 8th May**. Please do not send your child to school on this day. Teachers are going to be doing some more learning around the new curriculum. Did you know that the New Zealand Curriculum is for English medium, and the Te Marautanga o Aotearoa is the Māori medium curriculum which Te Mataahae use. So, we have two different curriculums running at our kura.



Te Reo Maori phrase of the week:

In the mornings, you can say to your child:

“Kei wareware tō pēke kura!” then repeat “Don't forget your school bag!”
(kay wahdee wahdee toh peh keh kura).

We might say to Whaea Anne-Marie:

Kei wareware to kaputī. Don't forget your cup of tea! 😊

Tough Gal Guy Challenge – we had some of our tough guys and gals head out to Wainuiomata on Monday for the most muddy fun you'll ever have. They had some quite tough physical challenges to complete, but they didn't get as muddy as I've seen some years. There's been slightly less rain than usual, so these kids got off lightly! Ka rawe tamariki mā!





Flags: We held our flag raising ceremony last Friday – the school has had a flagpole since it was built in 1969, but I have certainly never seen any flags been flown since I've been here (a while now!). We were excited to be able to raise our 3 most beloved flags. Our tamariki should have a fairly good understanding of all three of them as their teachers have done some work around them.

There is the:



New Zealand's first internationally accepted national flag which is the Confederated Tribes of NZ adopted in 1834. It was chosen by an assembly of Māori chiefs at Waitangi in 1834. Its Māori name is *Te Wakaminenga o nga Hapu o Nu Tireni*. It shows the red cross of St George and the four southern cross stars. In traditional Māori culture, the tricolor of colours hold symbolic significance: vitality and life force (red), peace, light and spiritual connection (white), and the ocean as well as spiritual connection between the people and environment (blue).



There's the New Zealand flag which was adopted in 1902 but had been used since 1869 on the colony's ships, and has the blue representation of the Pacific Ocean, the red stars of the Southern Cross, and the Union Jack in the corner, signifying the relationship with England.



And the National Māori flag which is the flag we know as Tinorangitiratanga, representing self-determination, sovereignty and unity.

Watch for different flags as we go through our Pacific Nations Language weeks this year.

Pink Shirt Day: Speak up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying.

We are holding a pink shirt day on **Friday the 15th May**. Pink Shirt Day is to signify our stand against bullying here at Te Kura o Hau Karetu. It is also to celebrate diversity and that we need to be safe, supportive, welcoming and inclusive.

I'm sure we're not free from bullying, and we encourage any child to tell us if they think they are being bullied.

Bullying is different from if another person was mean to you the one time. Bullying is deliberate, repeated, and harmful behaviour involving a misuse of power to cause physical, verbal, or social distress to another person, either in person or online. It is not a one-off incident, but a pattern designed to intimidate, degrade, or control, which can occur at school, work, or in communities.

If you think your child is being bullied, please tell us – we can help.



Mother's Day/Easter Raffle: A big thank you to everyone who purchased tickets for our raffle. We raised \$430 towards our netball court resurfacing. Watch out for further fundraising efforts this term for our Senior Camp when we will hold a bake sale. I know I've got one of my favourite recipes at the ready, and my spare change in my purse.

Congratulations to the following ākonga/learners, who won the Principal's Awards last week. A Principal's Award is awarded to the learners in each class who stand out as showing the WAKA values which are:

Whakaute/Respect

Akohia/Learning

Kotahitanga/Togetherness

Atawhai/Kindness

Well done to: Janeiro, Kaharawa, Makai-Riel, Jacob, Jon-Kyrie, Lofi, Ngāraitekahurangi, Xeamerrah, Kiara, Lyrix, Molly, Kyzar, Rylee, Harper, Maverick, Zayla, and Pippi-Rose.

We have introduced a new award which is the **Golden Throne Award**, to the class with the tidiest toilets. We are trying to encourage children to:

- Place hand towels in the bins
- Turn the taps off
- Keep items out of the sink e.g. sand, hand towels, tissues
- Flush the toilets, and only with what should go in there
- And most importantly, keeping number 1s and 2s inside the toilet, not outside of it.

This week's winners are **Te Hikuwai** – ka rawe!



This week's **Tidiest Porch Award** goes to: Ngā Mataamua!

Property News – have you seen our new gates down the back of the school? As well, we have higher fencing still being completed by the train tracks. This is not quite finished, and there is temporary fencing up by the hall to keep children safe while the job is completed. The fencers have run out of mesh to finish the job, and we're just waiting for the new mesh to arrive.

Important Notices & Reminders:

- **Friday 8th May** – we are closed for instruction due to a teacher only day.
- **Peanut-Free School:** We are now a **peanut-free** school. We ask that no peanut products are brought to school, including peanut butter and foods containing **peanuts**. Note that when a packet says, "may contain traces of nuts", this is OK. Our school lunches do not contain peanuts.
- **Student Attendance expectations:** Regular attendance at school is important to your child's success. Making sure students attend and engage in learning is a shared responsibility. As a parent, you are responsible for making sure your child attends school every day.
If your child is going to be absent for any reason, it is essential that you let us know as soon as possible. It is important that you:
 - phone on 045269552, or
 - text on 0275269552, or
 - email to: office@tehaukaretu.school.nz, or
 - message on the Skool Loop app,
 to confirm your child's absence and provide us with the reason.
- **Fundraising:** If anyone is keen on being part of our PSG fundraising group, please let Roseanne or Rachel know at the office, and we'll put you in touch with Whaea Jewel who is our PSG leader. Thank you.
- **Wet Weather** – please provide a change of clothes in your child's bag just in case they get wet while playing. If a child is wearing gumboots, we are happy to encourage them to play on the wet grass.
- **Drop offs in the morning** – A reminder to please drop your child at the school gate, where they can walk independently into the school. For our new entrant students, or those with additional needs, you are welcome to use the carpark for drop-off.

We also ask that you take care when parking, as access can become restricted when vehicles block key areas. Our carpark space is limited, so we appreciate your support in keeping this area safe and accessible for everyone.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Ngā mihi nui,
Karen Wellington
Tumuaki/Principal

Important Dates and Events:

Week 3 4-8 May	Friday 8 th May – Teacher Only Day – do not come to school on this day Monday 4 th May – Tough Gal/Guy Challenge Tuesday 5 th May – Senior Football at TMP
Week 4 11-15 May	Pink Shirt Day 15 th May
Week 5 18-22 May	Wednesday 20 th May – Basketball Saints in School 1pm Thursday 21 st May - Spell it Out @ MIS for Year 6 students Friday 22 nd May – School Cross Country
Week 6 25-29 May	
Week 7 1-5 June	Interschool Cross Country – Sunday 7 th June
Week 8 8-12 June	King's Birthday – Monday 7 th June 9 th June – MIS sport's day for year 6's
Week 9 15-19 June	
Week 10 22-26 June	
Week 11 29 Jun-3 July	Last day for term 2, Friday 3 rd July First day back for term 3 – Monday 20 th July

NEW ZEALAND SIGN LANGUAGE ALPHABET

Have fun with your whānau, friends and colleagues.
Learn your name and teach others theirs!

NZSL grammar structure is different to English. Just sign 'my name' and then fingerspell your name.



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anywhere

Learn more at nzsignlanguage.nz

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