



Te Kura o Hau Karetu

He waka eke noa: *We're all in this waka together*
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18 November 2025

Week 7, Term 4, 2025

Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Mālō e lelei, Kia orana, Namaste, Kumusta,

Nau Mai, Haere mai/welcome to Trixie and Aubrey who are starting in Te Waipuna next week, and Esther who started in Te Whanganui this week. We are delighted you are with us and hope you enjoy your experience with us!

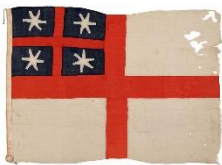
We have something special to celebrate today — our kura has reached **160 students!** This is the highest roll we've had since well before I began teaching here in the mid 2000s, and it's a milestone worth acknowledging. Thank you to our whānau and wider community for your trust, support, and belief in us to care for and educate your tamariki. We're proud of the journey we're on together.



Kinetic sand – important notice – We have been contacted by the Ministry of Education to remove some types of kinetic sand, with Rainbow Sand, Anko Magic Sand (K-Mart), and Active SandTub being among the brands being recalled. We have removed all kinetic sand from classrooms and have had it safely disposed of. At this stage, there is no need for us to take any further action, however, we are in continuous contact with the Ministry of Education for further

advice. The main concern relates to long-term exposure, but safely disposing of the product will help keep any risk low.

If you have any kinetic sand at home, stop using it immediately. Please contact the Upper Hutt City Council for safe disposal of the product on 045272169.



Treaty of Waitangi – changes by the government explained:

Recently, our Board sent a letter to Erica Stanford advising her of our stance regarding the Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Previously, schools were required to give effect to Te Tiriti, meaning their policies and curriculum needed to reflect local tikanga Māori and they had to take “reasonable steps” to provide te reo Māori instruction.

Now, the primary legal obligation for te reo Māori instruction is dependent on parental requests. This is the response we sent to Erica Stanford:

“Our commitment in honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi

On behalf of the Te Kura o Hau Karetu Board, we are writing to reaffirm our school's ongoing commitment to the principles of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi and to clarify our position in light of the announcement earlier in the month.

*Although the Government has signalled that the statutory requirement for boards of trustees to “give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi” will be removed, our school has resolved that we will **not** relinquish our own obligations in this regard. We wish to make it clear that this decision is not a political statement. Rather, it is a decision grounded in our sense of educational and civic responsibility — the right thing to do for our learners, our community, and Aotearoa New Zealand.*

Specifically, we commit to:

- Continuing to report to the Ministry of Education on our school's efforts to honour Te Tiriti — including how we promote Māori worldviews, tikanga, te reo Māori, and educational equity for our Māori ākonga (students).*

- *Maintaining and strengthening our internal practices to ensure that our policies and curricula reflect the partnership, protection and participation aspects of Te Tiriti.*
- *Ensuring that this commitment is woven into our strategic planning, staff professional learning, and community engagement — not because it is required by statute, but because it is the right and responsible thing to do.*
- *Engaging with whānau, iwi and Māori communities as partners in the educational journey of all our learners, acknowledging the unique place of Māori as tangata whenua.*

We believe that honouring Te Tiriti is integral to our school's mission of providing an inclusive, equitable educational environment where every ākonga can realise their highest possible standard of achievement. The decision to maintain these obligations reflects our belief in the enduring value of partnership, respect and mutual responsibility.

While we understand that the legislative framework may change, our position remains unaltered: we will hold ourselves accountable for upholding our obligations to the Crown, our community, and our learners under Te Tiriti, and will continue to communicate transparently with the Ministry about our progress."

Any whānau/families who would like to comment to us, we welcome your thoughts.

Kapa Haka Pics: Thank you so much to Whaea Carol, Whaea Paige, Whaea Maima and the team for getting our tamariki ready for the Cultural Festival this year. Our tamariki really stepped up – in fact all the schools stepped up this year. It's becoming much more professional, with our tamariki really appreciating their talents and skills in a Te Ao Māori way.

These are our (and in my opinion the best of all the schools!) gorgeous tamariki:



"Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini" "He waka eke noa."
 We would like to mihi to all those whānau who supported our kapa haka roopu that performed last Tuesday. To those that helped at the dress rehearsal, those on the day at 7.30am, those that sat with us and those that helped transport tamariki back to kura and our kakahu and taonga.

Xmas Raffle – The Christmas Raffle is looking splendid, with many goodies and gifts contained in it. Roseanne has already sent home raffle tickets to each family - one book of 5 tickets. **Tickets cost \$2 each.** If you require any more tickets, please let Roseanne or Rachel know at the office. We would still like some further quality goodies for this raffle to make them even better. Tickets will be drawn at the final assembly on Wednesday 17th December at 1pm. All proceeds go towards the new netball court. Thank you.



Photo Life – Have you ordered your photos yet? Please go to your emails and order from there. Some of the ones I've seen so far are beautiful! Be in for Xmas gifts for your whānau – I know as a Nana, that's all I want from my grandies!
Thank you.

Measles – advice from the Ministry of Education –

“Recent measles cases linked to overseas travel have been reported in Te Tai Tokerau and Queenstown. Cases were active in the community while infectious and there is a risk of measles circulating there, and more widely in Aotearoa.

- Measles is very contagious and can make people of any age very sick.
- Watch for measles symptoms – fever, cough, runny nose, sore eyes and a blotchy rash.
- If anyone in your whānau has measles symptoms keep them home and contact a doctor or **Healthline urgently on 0800 611 116.**
- Vaccination is the best protection from measles. Check all whānau are immunised.
- Anyone closely exposed to measles who has not received two MMR vaccinations cannot attend

Heads up:

- **Volunteers for Breakfast Club:** While it is nearing the end of the year, we are still looking for volunteers to help out with Breakfast Club please. Breakfast is served from 8-9am daily. If you are able to support us with the above, please contact Roseanne at the office. Thank you.
- **PSG Meeting** – Any parents who wish to become supporters of our fundraising efforts, please advise Roseanne. She will pass your details on to Jewel and we will set you to work on a wee project – thank you for your support.
- **Attendance:** Our attendance year to date is still at 85.9%. but is at 88% for term 4 – nice going! **If your child isn't attending school** for whatever reason, please tell us each day they are not in attendance and let us know why they are not attending school. The reason we ask this is for Health and Safety protocols. Ph 04 5269552, Text - 0275269552 or through the Skool Loop App.

Ngā mihi nui
Karen Wellington
Tumuaki/Principal

Events Term T1 & 2 2025 Week

Week 7 17-21 Nov	Wednesday 19 th – Wellington Free Ambulance – keeping yourselves safe
Week 10 8-12 Dec	A special Outdoor Education Trip planned this week for the whole school. A most special Christmas Assembly Thursday 11th December at 2pm – kids will not want to miss this one!
Week 11 15-17 Dec	Reports go out on Monday 15th December. Year 6 Leaver's Assembly Monday 15th December at 1pm. Year 6 Dinner – 5pm Monday 15th December – no parents allowed! Final Assembly at 1pm on Wednesday 17th December. We finish school at 2pm on Wednesday 17th December at 2pm.

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Te Kura o Hau Karetu

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Policies due for Review for Term 4:

Go to: schooldocs.co.nz, type in our school name and sign in. We encourage you to check these policies out and have your say if you think there should be amendments. Thank you.

Userid: maoribank, Password: waka

Term 4 policies	Review opens 6 October
• Bullying and Harassment	Board review
• Behaviour Management	Board review
• Searches, Surrender, and Retention of Property	
• Minimising Physical Restraint	Board review
• Stand-down, Suspension, and Exclusion	
• Staff Wellbeing and Safety	