



Te Aro School

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## Te Aro School Newsletter – 10 May 2024

### *News from the Principal's Desk*

**Tena tatou katoa e te whanau. Dobar dahn, Nabad, Hola, Ciao, Ni hao, Namaste, Talofa, Bonjour, Konnichiwa, Kia orana, Bula, Buon giorno, Guten Tag, Cześć, Salamu Aleykum, Hola, Ciao, Haye, Hallo, Merhaba, Akkam, Asalaam-walaikum , Selamat datang, Walang anuman**

Over the holidays I am grateful to the junior teachers and Cathie for moving into their new teaching places for the start of the new term. The window work continues with the final hallway windows being replaced as I write this newsletter. We are so enjoying how much warmer the rooms are that have the new double-glazed windows in them. We are also having to work around the increased bright autumnal light in the rooms which have new windows. Blinds are definitely going to be needed in these spaces.

It has been a busy start to the new school term with cross country training, school photos at the start of this week and celebrating New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) week.

*We worked together to plan NZSL week. We set each class a challenge. We asked our Year 1 students to learn how to count to ten. We asked Jonny and Sheila's class to sign the greetings and farewells. We challenged Ella's class to learn to sign the colours of the rainbow. We asked Anna and her Year 3 & 4 class to sign the alphabet. We gave Rūma Manuka the challenge of signing the song Pepeha. We challenged our class to learn the NZ anthem and sign it. We're going to visit classes next week to see how their sign language learning went. – Esther, Alice, Lam, Thuy, Angel, and Argine.*



A warm welcome to Ryan, Regina, Sione, Nevaeh, Jahqwan, Safearah, Amelia, Daniel and Kathrina who have all recently joined our school community. Sione, Ryan, Kathrina and Nevaeh have joined Esther, Ray and Meena in Rūma Pohutukawa. Regina and Safearah have joined Jonny and Sheila in Rūma Tarata. Amelia has joined Eva and Serah in Rūma Tawa. Daniel has joined Ella in Rūma Kauri and Jahqwan has joined Anna in Rūma Nikau.

### Aro Fair

Many thanks to all the families who supported our baking stall and the sausage sizzle down at the Aro Fair on the first Sunday of the holidays. Many thanks too to our kapa haka group who opened the fair with a fantastic performance. We raised \$1,948.



*I worked all day at the fair. I enjoyed meeting lots of nice people while I helped sell our sweet treats. The chocolate cupcakes with banana icing and a piece of Toblerone were one of the most popular things we sold as well as the brownie slices which had a jet plane on each slice. I liked being able to help sell things to raise money for the school. - Finn*

*I really enjoyed the kapa haka performance at the fair. We had to stand in bare feet on the grass. I kept worrying that I might be standing on dog poo. Our feet and arms got a little cold. My moko got quite itchy. I think people thought we performed well as they clapped loudly. – Lara*



*We practised quite a lot before we performed at the fair. It was great being able to perform in front of our parents and families. I like kapa haka – the actions, the waiata and being able to perform in front of others.*  
– Tadra



*I really liked performing at the fair. I've been in kapa haka for over four years. I like learning new actions and new songs. I like when we perform in places other than at school. I was a little nervous performing at the fair. Hemi told us that we needed to smile more when we perform.* - Harper



*I helped sell the baking on the school stall. The fudge sold quickly. I think that was because it was so reasonably priced. I had to make sure people knew what baking was gluten free.* – Junyi

*We had a stall together with Kala, Chelsea and Rose too. We sold sherbet, baking, cards and some second-hand items. The baking, especially the carrot cake, and the lollipops with sherbet sold really well. We each sold our own items. We each had separate things we were saving for. It was a lot of fun. I think if we had a stall next year, we would have more baking and more cards for sale.* - Esther, Alexandra and Ruby

*We had a stall with Selva, Izzy, Annie and Frida. We sold lip gloss, scrunchies, baking and bracelets. The lip gloss and the baking sold really well. We made \$461. We divided the money between us after paying back some of our parents. Next year we will definitely sell lip gloss and baking. It was fun doing our shifts on the stall in pairs.* – Daisy and Lena

*Fair photos courtesy of Julia Brooke-White.*

### **Teacher Only Day**

A reminder that we have a teacher only day on Friday 31 May. School will be closed for our students that day while the teaching team undertakes some professional learning and development on the new history curriculum. This teacher only day has been set by the Ministry of Education. The following Monday 3 June we will also be closed as it is the King's birthday.

## Basketball

*Basketball this season is really hard and challenging. Everyone in the TSB arena is loud as they play their games. The two teams we have played against have had a lot more practices than us. I love the endurance and the fun of basketball. I am hoping we get to win a game with lots of points. – Blue*



*Our last game of basketball was a tiring game. We were playing against a really competitive team on Monday afternoon. We really tried our best. Our opponents had good technique and that was what we need to work on. I think one thing we need to practise in particular is blocking. - Sophia*

*We've played one game this season against Newtown School. We won. I really liked being able to get the ball off the other team. – Waleed*

*I enjoy basketball because I like running and shooting goals. I think we need to get better as a team at guarding the player in the other team with the same coloured wrist band. -Kaha*

*I liked dribbling the ball up the court. When you dribble the ball it acts like the bait for the other team. You need to be able to pass the ball quickly to other members of your team. - Farras*

## Cross Country

In the lead up to today's cross country students shared with me about how they were feeling about their training sessions.



*Cross country is a cool event. In our training sessions I have been aiming to run four laps, then six laps. Now I am running eight or nine laps of the astroturf field. – Remy*

*At first, I thought cross country training was going to be hard. After three practise runs, I have found it not so hard. I am proud of myself for running 2.5 laps without stopping. I am aiming to run four laps with maybe some short walks in between running. – Thea*



*I like running. I like competing against myself in our daily cross-country practices. I ran six laps in my first training session. I have now run two days of running eight laps. I think the actual cross country is going to be challenging as I will be running with some pretty good runners. I am hoping that I might have the chance to be a place getter. I am going to have to think positively as I run. – Blue*



HUGE congratulations to our Year 7 students for organising today's cross-country event. We couldn't have asked for better weather. Some of our senior place getters shared these thoughts with me after their race.



*It was challenging going up the hill section twice. I think I prefer running short distances. Catching up with Anh was my motivation for today. – Khanh*

*It was fun pushing myself to the limit. I am excited to be going to central zone where I am going to try my best. – Darcy*

*You have to be mentally strong as a runner of a long distance. You have to keep pushing yourself. I'm looking forward to central zone. – Jay*

## News from the Garden

*Last week we worked with our new beekeeper Claire. We practised lighting the smoker. We filled the smoker with a little bit of newspaper which we lit and then we covered it with some sacking and then pine needles. Smoking the hive allows us to open the hive safely as the smoke makes the bees tired. – Archie*



*Gardening was fun last week. We worked on some of the simple things including weeding and raking up the autumn leaves. Our beans are growing up over the cane bean house. – Sophia*

*This week we learnt about how our bees manage to get back to their hives. Bees can tell which is their hive by locating it by the smell of the hive. The bees smell the different hives to get the right hive. – Ming and Lena*

## Tuatara Hui



*Last week we were the Tuatara whanau's hui presenters. We had a script to help us remember what we had to say. It was exciting and a little bit hard speaking some of the parts we had to say in Māori. We all felt a little nervous in case one of us made a mistake. We practised and practised before our hui. We think Anna was proud of us as we did a good job. – Zach, Nguyen and Farras*

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou,

Sue

