



Te Aro School

360 The Terrace, Wellington 6011

[office@tearo.school.nz](mailto:office@tearo.school.nz)

## Te Aro School Newsletter – 27 September 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, Hallo, Merhaba, Akkam, Asalaam-walaikum , Selamat datang, Walang anuman, Mabuhay**

A warm welcome to Meisam who joined our support staff team last week. Meisam is our new Farsi speaking bilingual teacher aide.

Today we farewell Jonny who has been teaching in Rūma Tarata this year. Jonny and his partner Becky are returning to live in Great Britain. I am thankful to Jonny for his hard work and commitment to the students in Rūma Tarata.

#### **Celebrating Learning Mandarin**

This week is Chinese language week. New Zealand has this week been celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> year of Chinese cultural and language learning. This year our students have been enjoying their Chinese language lessons with our Mandarin language assistant Jing. Learning with our MLAs over the years has increased our students' opportunities to learn more than just Chinese language and culture. It has helped our students understand and appreciate different people's perspectives and points of view. This has helped our students to be more understanding and tolerant of others. It has also supported our students to make cultural connections by looking for the similarities between their own culture, between Māori culture and Chinese culture.

*Learning Chinese has sometimes been a little challenging. I have to work hard to remember all the new words we are learning. The games Jing plays with us help us in learning to speak Mandarin. – Remy*

*I like when Jing plays the counting video and when we play the games to help us learn new words. – Waleed*

*I like learning Chinese as it means I won't speak only English my whole life. Learning Chinese may mean I could be a translator. - Piper*



*Having Chinese lessons at school made me feel really good. I was excited because people in my class were experiencing what I learnt as a child. When you're older and you get a scholarship to study overseas knowing another language could be really very helpful. I have enjoyed helping people in my class to complete Jing's quizzes. – Skye*

*Learning mandarin can be pretty hard at times especially getting to say the words correctly. I wonder if learning Spanish next year at high school might be easier. If I learnt Spanish I would be able to speak to my friend Jhonny who is Colombian. – Norton*

*Learning Chinese can be a little hard especially pronouncing the words correctly. Playing games helps me to memorise the new words. Learning another language is a good thing to do. If I keep up my Chinese language learning I could then speak a little Chinese to a new student coming to our school from China. - Livvy*

*Learning Chinese has been a bit tricky at times. I want to be able to speak Chinese for when I go to a Chinese restaurant to eat a meal. – Gracelyn*

*I am super interested in learning Mandarin because my older brother speaks to me in Mandarin a lot. I'd like to understand more of what he says to me. Being fluent in Mandarin would be really helpful when new Chinese students come to our school. When I first started learning Mandarin it felt like I was a toddler learning to speak English for the first time. – Jay*

*It has been hard at times learning Chinese. Correct pronunciation is the hardest part of our Chinese lessons. If we have more new Chinese students joining our school, it would be helpful if more of us were able to speak Chinese. I am looking forward to continuing language learning when I go to secondary school. - Archie*

*Chinese language lessons here at school makes me feel special because everyone is learning about my culture and language. Some of the students in my class are really keen language learners. They are the students who are learning more Mandarin than others in the class who are less keen at learning a new language. - Junyi*

### **Art Exhibition**

Last Thursday's art exhibition was such a wonderful opportunity for us to gather together as a school community to celebrate our students' creativity. My thanks to all the teachers and support staff who worked so hard to build all the students' bodies of work.



My thanks to Pru, Graeme, Jess and Tim for taking on the role of coordinating Friends of Te Aro supporters to sizzle sausages, sell pizza slices and other treats.



HUGE thanks to Freshchoice in Cuba Street who so generously donated the bread, sausages, and ice blocks for us to sell. Ngā mihi tino nui freshchoice.



Parent and caregiver feedback included:

- *Fantastic artwork. Imagination everywhere!*
- *I loved the floating stars.*
- *Amazing colours and originality everywhere.*
- *Rawe tino pai ka kite e nga mahi o koutou.*
- *Ka pai! Great work everyone. What a lot of effort and care has gone into creating this fabulous exhibit.*
- *Incredible – thoroughly enjoyed it all.*
- *Congratulations on getting all this beautiful art mahi together! Wow, one term and it has gone so fast!*
- *Lots of really hard work has gone into this amazing art.*
- *Fantastic effort team. Loved the theme as well.*
- *I loved all the different techniques you've used – amazing, beautiful artworks.*
- *I absolutely looved the jellyfish and the beautiful tree art.*
- *Amazing work and beautifully presented by teachers and students. Ka pai!*
- *Amazing! Thanks for all your work,*
- *Beautiful. So smart to use so many different medium.*
- *What amazing artists!*
- *Spectacular and always a treat to the eyes to see what little hands have done.*
- *Amazing! Beautiful creativity. Jase says "much better than the Louvre"*
- *I love all the colours especially the use of green. The jellyfish shape reminds me of the ghosts from pacman!*



- *I love the jellyfish. Each jellyfish reminded me of each student!*
- *Ka pai rawa! Beautiful creativity.*

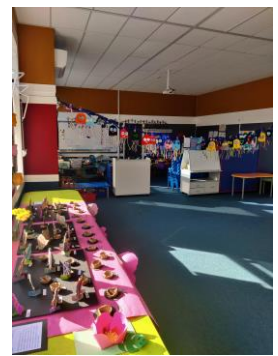
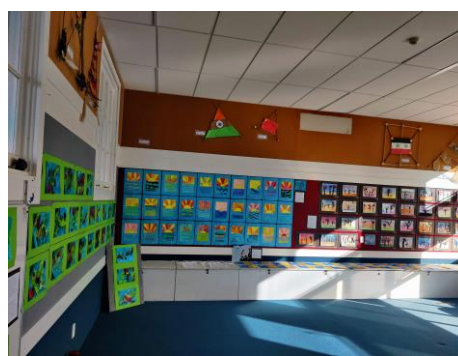


### Te Aro School Art

<p><b>Tawa - Yr 0/1</b></p> <p>Our art is an ode to some of the Aotearoa that represent the natural elements of the sea. We have used a wide range of materials, and encouraged children to create unique works of art that let the unique creativity of each student shine through. We have drawn heavily on the work of Peter Cosgrove and the Borrowed Earth ceramics company and used clay, watercolour, ink, crayon, paper craft, cardboard construction and drawing to bring our inspiration to life. We hope you enjoy it as much as we enjoyed creating it.</p>	<p><b>Tarata - Yr 2</b></p> <p>Our art has been inspired by Peter Cosgrove, especially his book How Maui Defied the Goddess of Death three our topic. We were also inspired by the natural elements connected to each area (Papatūmuku and Ranginui's sons). We used a range of materials and we got our hands dirty! We mounted, did collage and paper drawings, but you will find many more amazing art besides this. We wish the art exhibition could last forever... and we hope you love our art too.</p>
<p><b>Kauri - Yr 2/3</b></p> <p>Roma Kauri's painting of different animals and our trip to Zealandia influenced our art. It was also heavily inspired by Maratini, Tani Mahuta, Ranginui, Papatūmuku and our different cultures. We worked with a variety of mediums like clay, water colour, yarn, cardboard and cardboard sculpture with paper mache.</p>	<p><b>Nihaua - Yr 3/4</b></p> <p>Nihaua has been inspired by Ranginui, Papatūmuku, Tangaroa, Tani Mahuta and Tekeheke. The children have explored a range of mediums ranging from clay, paper, cardboard to water colour and ink. We also used the artwork from Kaitiaki and Roly Lennart as inspiration.</p>
<p><b>Manuka - Yr 5/6</b></p> <p>In Rōma Mānuka we have drawn inspiration from our city. To Whangarei - a town and the industrial we identify with and relate to within. We have been inspired by local and international artists, using a wide range of techniques, including cross-stitch, wood cutting, model making, photography, illustration and etching. We have made links with our art to</p>	<p><b>Pōhutukawa - Yr 7/8</b></p> <p>Our art projects are a vibrant mix of creativity and learning, all inspired by the world around us and tied to what we've explored in class. Our art was inspired by the amazing works of Paulsen Peterson. We've blended art with geometry, creating eye-catching 3D shapes that fit into our maths unit. Using symmetry and space to life. Our exploration of myths and legends has come to life in intricate drawings, capturing stories from long ago in a fresh and imaginative way. Our 3D milk bottle skeletons, spray painted and decorated, combine a unique look of form and structure with creative expression, turning everyday objects into artistic masterpieces.</p>



- *Such cool opportunities for the tamariki to try a wide range of techniques and materials. Thanks for supporting our kids to explore their creativity.*
- *This is the coolest event ever. Thank you for sharing your art with us.*
- *WOW! WOW! WOW! All the artwork was so brilliantly created. Thank you for producing such beauty for us to enjoy and marvel at. The art was truly inspiring!*





- *Brings back memories of the art exhibitions I did when I was here!*
- *Absolutely fabulous!*
- *Just beautiful. The best I've seen!*
- *Amazing. Mind blowing!*
- *What a beautiful display from the children and a lot of work from the teachers. Our grandchild is so talented!*

### **Highlights of Term 3**

*I have really enjoyed this term doing Maths on the chromebooks. I like the hard maths on Penalty Kick online. I've also liked this term's reading rotations including reading school journals. This week we have performed plays. I like the acting we get to do when we put on our plays. – Han*

*I have most enjoyed our Maths rotations this term. I have liked doing the maths challenges on the chromebooks because I have liked improving my times tables. I have also enjoyed our Mandarin lessons with Jing. I've liked learning about some of the Chinese traditions including how they celebrate Valentines Day in China. I like learning to talk in another language. – Luci*

*I am proud of my writing this term. I wrote three pages in one of my pieces of writing. Both TK and Anna praised me for my good work. I have liked playing this term with TK, Geneva and Norton. – Jqwan*



*I have really liked the athletics training we have been doing this term. I have most enjoyed sprinting and the long jump. I am good at both of those events. – Thea*



### **News from the Garden**

*Over the last week or two of gardening we did a bit of weeding in the lower gardens. We came across some worms as we weeded. The worms fertilise the soil. We have planted earth gems (a small variety of potato). – Thao and Navya*



*We weeded the garden beds down in the lower gardens. We nibbled on miners' lettuce. It doesn't really taste like anything – not really like lettuce at all! Eating Miners' lettuce is one of my most favourite things to do when I am in the garden. – Junyi*

*I dug up some of our compost to dig it into the vegetable garden beds. We also planted some seeds including coriander. We have some potatoes ready to plant. – Leo*

## Music Concert

We started last week off with a wonderful concert up in the university's green room. Thirty-eight students from Yarra Hills Secondary College performed for us. Every four years Richard, the school's instrumental music director, brings the school band over to New Zealand on a ten-day tour. We were lucky enough to have the band perform for us.



*I liked conducting the band on Monday morning. As I conducted the band I pretended to be the teacher. The band played but I didn't look at them playing as I was conducting. - Taya*



*It was really fun conducting the band. It felt pretty cool to be up in front of the whole school. I liked how the band were playing in front of me. It was my first time ever conducting a group of musicians. - Nina*



*I thought the band were awesome. I liked how there were so many talented people in the band. I liked how the band's teacher asked some of our students up to conduct. I liked equally all the pieces of music they played. I thought the soloist who sang Pokarekare Ana was impressive especially since they hadn't grown up here in New Zealand and hadn't learnt Māori at school. - Jay*

*I liked how their performance was loud. I also liked the rhythm of all their pieces. I liked too how we got to participate in the performance by being conductors. - Thao*

*I was invited to conduct the Yarra Hills band. I felt both nervous and excited being given the baton. I wondered if the students were actually following me as I conducted them. I thought they played beautifully. I recognised the Pirates of the Caribbean, How to Train Your Dragon and the second Star Wars pieces of music. - Thea*

## Mega Gala

The Year 7 Mega gala organising group need your support. They are planning a mega gala for early in Term 4. They would be grateful for donations of toys, books and games that they can sell at their planned gala. Money raised at the November gala will go towards buying toys and games for the annual Pack the Bus event that we will be participating in at the end of the year. Over the holidays it would be great if you were able to sort through with your child/ren toys, books and games that they would be happy to donate to our gala. You can leave your donations outside Sue's office.

Many thanks for your support, Ryan, Dezon, Residence, Neva, Kathrina, Keyzelle and Rico (members of the Mega Gala organising team)

## Looking ahead

*I'm looking forward to Term 4 to being very sunny and warm. I look forward to wearing my newish cap. I am also looking forward to harder Maths such as solving  $91 - 62$ . I hope we get to focus on using similes and metaphors in our writing. – Nina*

*I'm looking forward to learning a lots of Maths. I'm hoping we get to lots of times tables and some division work. – Kian*

*I hope we get to do multiplication maths on the chromebooks. Doing maths this way is so much fun as it challenges me to improve my maths. – Owen*

*I hope next term that I get to continue doing everything we are currently doing. I hope we get to do more House of Science experiments. – Ochre*

*I'm looking forward to more sunshine, longer days, better weather, our planned leadership activities and of course athletics day. – Tariq*

*In Term 4 I am looking forward to the disco, Big Day In, and warmer weather. – Cash*

*I'm looking forward to playing football and futsal. I hope I can defeat cash in football. I'm also looking forward to the mega gala and the discos. – Residence*

*I'm looking forward to athletics next term. I hope I qualify for high jump. I hope I get to jump my goal height of 1.2 metres. – JJ*

*I'm looking forward to shot put. I hope I get to throw far enough to represent the school. – Rico*

*I'm looking forward to athletics especially doing the long jump and sprints. I am looking forward also to the mega gala. – Dezon*

*Next term I am looking forward to playing in the futsal team after school. I really like playing in a team. I hope we will be winners! – Nguyen*

With this being the last week of term, I wish you all a restful break over the holidays. A reminder that we begin the new term wearing caps/sun hats at all break and lunchtimes. Please help your child to locate their sun hat for Monday 14 October.

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

## Having a clean up?

If you find any old or unwanted toys and books that are in good condition, please donate to Pohutukawa for the best Mega Gala ever



Thank you for donating for the Mega Gala



Over the last few weeks, some of the students in Tawa have been working on poetry with Eva. They spent time planning, writing and collaboratively editing poems about their favourite colour, with a focus on using lots of detail and strong imagery.

green  
glittering trees  
swaying in the breeze.  
Bright grass waving  
in the sea.  
comfortable shirt  
keeping me warm.  
Slippery seaweed  
undulating in the  
sea.  
- Fyffe

Pink!  
Beautiful dress  
hanging in my closet,  
comfy house standing  
in the garden.  
Lovely flower growing  
in the grass.  
Yummy strawberries  
sitting in the bowl.  
- constance maffin.

Violet.  
Stunning roses shining in  
the breeze.  
Bubbling soap making  
my hands clean.  
Beautiful lilies waving  
in the wind.  
My toasty bedroom  
making me snuggly.  
- Zoe.

Blue!  
Sunny sky moving  
in the clouds.  
Shining blueberries  
shimmering in the  
sun.  
Super pencil  
drawing a beautiful  
sky.  
Sparkling rock pools  
swaying to the sea.  
- Meme

Purple  
Beautiful roses  
smelling like  
flowers.  
Cuddly squish-  
mallow saying  
hello to me.  
Lovely grapes  
being picked  
by me.  
Light trousers  
that are very  
dainty. - Aheba





## Important Upcoming Dates

### October

**Mon 14 Oct** – First day of term 4

**Tues 15 Oct** – Bee Healthy Dental van arrives

**Fri 18 Oct** – School Athletics Day

**Thurs 24 Oct** – National Shakeout

**Fri 25 Oct** – Teacher Only Day

**Mon 28 Oct** – Labour Day

**Tues 29 Oct** – Central Zone Athletics

## Term Dates 2024

### **Term 3 2024**

Monday 22 July – Friday 27 September

### **Term 4 2024**

Monday 14 October – Tuesday 17 December

*Teacher Only Day* – Friday 25 October

*Labour Day* – Monday 28 October

## Term Dates 2025

### **Term 1 2025**

Monday 3 February – Friday 11 April

*Waitangi Day* – Wednesday 6 February

### **Term 2 2025**

Monday 28 April – Friday 27 June

*King's Birthday* – Monday 2 June

*Matariki* – Friday 20 June

### **Term 3 2025**

Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September

### **Term 4 2025**

Monday 6 October – either Tues 16 Dec, Wed

17 Dec or Thurs 18 Dec (*end of term date TBC*)

*Labour Day* – Monday 27 October