



Te Aro School

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Te Aro School Newsletter – 14 February 2025

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, Xin chào

Hari tau hou
Xin nian kuai le
Happy New Year

It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back to school. The teaching team and I enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with so many of you at Wednesday evening's Meet and Greet.



My thanks to Graham, Sonia, Eugene, Anatole, Graeyson and Henry for working so hard to get the school grounds and buildings ready for the start of the school year.

Thanks too to the teaching team who worked hard during January to set up their classrooms ready for your children arriving back last Monday.

Nau mai haere mai. A warm welcome.

A very warm welcome to our new students and their families who have joined the Te Aro School whanau over the first two weeks of school. We have welcomed Amelia, Elliot, Leo, Anna, Billie-Rose, Eleanor, Isla-Rose, Alan, Wathsilu, Matai, Teaera, Emily, Ellie, Eliora, Josie, and Ginny and welcomed back Eve, Zhen Yuan and Songsong.

Leo, Anna, Billie-Rose and Ellie have joined Serah in Rūma Tawa. Eleanor and Songsong have joined Kristin in Rūma Tarata. Isla-Rose has joined Ella in Rūma Kauri. Alan has joined in Anna in Rūma Nikau.

Elliot, Wathsilu, Ginny and Te Aira have joined Tessa and Mathew in Rūma Manuka. Amelia, Eliora, Josie, Emily, Eve, Zhen Yuan and Matai have joined Ray and Meena in Rūma Pohutukawa.

The teaching team this year is:

Rūma Tawa	Serah Mehrtens	Year 1
Rūma Ngaio	Eva Stoddart	Year 2 & 3
Rūma Tarata	Kristin Holmes	Year 2 & 3
Rūma Kauri	Ella de Blois	Year 2 & 3
Rūma Nikau	Anna Morgan	Year 3 & 4
Rūma Manuka	Mathew Quivooy Tessa Devereux	Year 5 & 6
Rūma Pohutukawa	Meena Vallabh Ray Teahen	Year 7 & 8

Cathie, our ESOL teacher, works Monday – Thursday each week.

Katie, our learning support teacher, works on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Levi and Daphne will be our release teachers this year.

Mathew will be the lead/contact teacher for the Year 5 students.

Tessa will be the lead/contact teacher for the Year 6 students.

Meena will be the lead/contact teacher for the Year 7s.

Ray will be the lead/contact teacher for the Year 8s.

Hemi Price will continue to be our kapa haka tutor on Thursday afternoons.

We have received some of our new Maths resources that we will use in teaching Maths to our Year 4-8 students. We are still waiting to receive our Numicon resources. We have chosen Numicon as our Year 1-3 programme and Prime Maths for Years 4-8. Our junior teachers will be attending their first professional development sessions in early March. We're waiting to hear from Prime when Anna, Mathew, Tessa, Meena and Ray will be having their first professional development sessions.

Holiday highlights

Eating ice cream was my favourite part of the holidays. Hokey Pokey is my favourite flavour of ice cream. – Kit

I went to Waiheke Island to stay with my grandparents. We did lots of things together. - Ellie

In the holidays I got to play with Gaspar and Ranaya. They came over to my house to play. We did puzzles together and played hide and seek. - Ranugi

Going to Auckland for my Grandma's 63rd birthday was one of the best things I did in the holidays. She had a party. Lots of family came to the party. I also really enjoyed watching cricket at the Basin Reserve in the last couple of days of the holidays. - Dezon

I really liked going camping with my family and family friends. Each year we go to Tōtaranui, one end of the Abel Tasman National Park. I like every aspect of this camping experience. I enjoy it so much. - Frida

Going to lake Taupo was a real highlight of my holidays. We did a house swap with a family who went to stay in our house in Fiji. My cousins, my aunty and my grandparents from Hamilton all came to Taupo to be with us. - Eve

I liked going to Rotorua with my family. - Ivor

In 2025 we're looking forward to

In catching up with students over the past two weeks they have shared with me some of the things they are looking forward to this year.

I'm looking forward to Garden to Table. I hope I get to do cooking early on. I hope we get to cook both sweet things and savoury things. - Zoe

I'm looking forward to everything about this year, especially having my Dad as my teacher. I think garden to table is going to be super good. I think I am going to really enjoy cooking. I think we might make soup. - Remy

I hope to play outside with Sosha and ako takaro time. He's not in my class this year. I think doing science experiments could be lots of fun. I did the mentos and cocacola experiment at home. Maybe we could do that at school. - Gaspar

I'm looking forward to playing with my friends. Some of my friends are in other classes this year. I'm looking forward to writing about dogs. - Sarlote

I'm looking forward to going on our beach trip. I'm enjoying that school here is a little more relaxed than back home in Washington. - Elliot

Part of me is looking forward to beekeeping although I might be a little bit hot in the bee suits when the weather is warm. I am looking forward to learning more ways to draw and do block lettering. - Liam

I'm looking forward to extracting the honey from the beehives and filling all the jars. I'm also looking forward to learning science. I'm excited too about our trip, doing gardening and cooking on a Thursday. - Te Aira

I am looking forward to doing division in Maths. At home I have been doing times and addition maths problems. I am looking forward to playing football with my friends. - Jacob

This year I am looking forward to the honey harvest and the school sleepover. I am not sure how much sleep we'll get when we stay at school. It is fun when we learn about bees. - Navya

I want to learn cursive writing. Cursive writing is cool as well as fancy. I think it might be hard to do. - Fyyfe

I hope I get to learn in Maths how to solve quite big additions. I hope to do subtraction problems and times tables. Luckily Anna likes Maths. - Enzo

I'm looking forward to doing harder maths. I like being in the same class with Charlie again. - Henry

I hope I get to dance at school this year. - Sosha

Meet and Greet Evening

Thanks to all the families who donated food for the Meet & Greet evening. The money we raised is going towards the Year 7&8 noho in Term 2. We'll be staying out at Orongomai Marae in Upper Hutt. We were very busy on each of the tables selling food. So busy that I couldn't even listen to Sue speaking! - Selva



At the Meet & Greet I helped set up for the evening and then helped with the cleaning up. I sold salads with Selva, Frida and Amelia. The chicken salad and the fruit salad were very popular and sold out. – Kathrina

I was selling sweet treats with Ruby. There were a few times when we had a lot of people wanting to buy things. It felt a little overwhelming at times. We sold pretty much everything before the end of the evening. It was really fun. I loved it! - Kala



Garden to Table

Mathew and Tessa's students were very excited to harvest the first honey from our hives for the year. Preparation began for this very sticky work on Wednesday when Claire, our beekeeper, brought up the full frames from the hives and stored them overnight in the senior students' kitchen. Many thanks to Julia, Chris, Ali and Caroline who worked alongside Claire and the students to extract the honey and then fill the jars with this season's honey.



I got to cut the wax caps off the frames using a sharp bread knife. When we had taken off the caps off four frames we then put the four frames into the extractor. We then spun the extractor and the honey spun out. - Mohamad

I got to spin the extractor once the frames were placed in it. You can control how you spin the extractor. Working with bees at school is a first for me. – Elliot



Extracting the honey was fun. I got to cut the wax caps off the frames. I also got to spin the extractor. I got sticky with honey on my clothes and hands. It is great that we have enough space here at school to have vegetable gardens and bee hives. - Luca



Technicraft

I was in robotics for my first technicraft option. My first session was fun. We built a small lego robot. We had to have one moving part. I'm looking forward to building some robots. - Izzy

In the woodwork workshop our first session was very health and safety focussed. We learnt about all the tools and how we'll use them. I think our first building task will be quite simple. - Sophie

I was in woodwork for my first technicraft session. I learnt about the tools and how to use them. I'm happy that next week we get to use the tools to start building something. - Daisy

Property Update

Over the holidays the lower section of the school drive was asphalted. What a difference the new asphalt makes to coming up the drive.

Summer Reading

Thank you to all the students and whanau who have returned their summer reading books. Cathie is keen to get back into circulation any summer reading books that have yet to be returned. Please drop your child's books off in the container in the foyer by the office.

I am looking forward to the year ahead. 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



Mmmm is for Monster

Ruma Tawa have been exploring the letter M and creating some **mm**arvellous drawings to showcase their creativity and learning. . . .



Important Dates

<p>February Wed 19 Feb – Manuka - Matairangi walk Tues 25 Feb – Tarata/Ngaio/Kauri/Nikau - Botanic Gardens trip</p>	<p>March Tues 11 March – Tuatara - hikoi locally (with Ricky from Pukeahu Ed Centre)</p>	<p>April Wed 2 April – Rumaki Reo Fri 11 April – Last day of term 1</p>
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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 – Tues 16 December
Labour Day – Monday 27 October