

WHĀNAU - SCHOOL COMMUNICATION Thursday 24th July, 2025

Newsletter No.7, 2025

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Empowering Tamariki to Become Rangatira Who Value the Past to Create the Future

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Rochelle Jensen

Kia ora e te whānau! Talofa lava! Mālō e lelei! Ni sa bula! Kia orana! Fakaalofa lahi atu! Kam na mauri! Namaste! Vanakkam! Sat Sri Akaal! Ayubowan! Mabuhay! Selamat datang! Sawasdee! Mingalaba! Asalaam Walaikum! Hallo! G'day! Howzit! Bonjour! Konnichiwa! Nǐ hǎo! Olá! Hello!

A very special welcome to our new tamariki who joined us this term: Sehaj, Aadvik, Aleigna, Arlo, Avaa, Ayden, Eva, Junior, Maaz, Mohd Saif, Te Awanui and Zavier. Nau mai, haere mai! We are delighted to have you as part of our school whānau.

Positive Start to the Term

We've had a really positive start to the term, with children arriving on time, in correct uniform, well rested and ready for a full day of fun and learning. Attendance has also started strong, with only 1–2 children away per class most days. Some classes have even achieved multiple days of 100% attendance, ka rawe! This consistency really supports learning progress, and helps build strong classroom connections.

🛍 Market Day and Upcoming Science Learning 🔬

Our students are gearing up to sell their products at **Market Day**, see overleaf for more details. This exciting event will mark the end of our technology learning focus for the term. Looking ahead, our next unit of learning will be **science-based**, with a focus on **Push and Pull**. Understanding these forces is a foundational concept in physics, helping children explore how objects move and interact with one another.

Literacy and Maths

Our Structured Literacy and Maths programmes recommenced from Day 1 this term. We're already seeing pleasing progress across the school and are quick to identify any students who need additional support. It's also shaping up to be a record year for Reading Log milestones! Students who reach 200 nights of reading will be invited to a celebratory swim at Baywave in Term 4. Ngā mihi nui for your ongoing support with learning at home, it really makes a difference!

School Starts: 8.55am -- School Ends: 2.55pm Report Attendance ⋈ HERO app or 0275785325 www.gatepa.school.nz



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듣 Principal Sabbatical

I am pleased to share that I have been awarded a Ministry of Education Principal's Sabbatical for Term 4. This means I will be away from the day-to-day operations of the school during that time. I'll be using this opportunity to undertake a focused study into how we can most effectively teach writing, as well as reflect on how I can continue to grow as a leader in ways that benefit the ongoing development of our school and the sector. I'm incredibly grateful for this opportunity, and confident the kura will continue to thrive under the care of our fantastic team.

🛠 Property Update

In an ongoing effort to ensure our learning environments are the best they can be, we recently attempted to create some additional openings in our learning spaces. In doing so, we uncovered historical issues that now need to be addressed.

I'm currently working closely with the Ministry of Education to ensure this additional work is completed thoroughly, so we can continue to provide a safe and high-quality environment for all our tamariki.

🞟 🌇 Staff Updates

- Whaea Shelley (Art Specialist) is back this term working with our senior students and planning a new mural project. Yippee!!
- We're excited to welcome Ying Ying, our new Mandarin Language Assistant. She will be working with a group of senior students on Fridays, with a focus on Mandarin language and Chinese culture.
- Welcome Ruebin Reti (Kai- a -rahi i te reo). Ruebin is supporting our Māori-medium learning environments and mentoring some of our boys.
- You may have noticed a few little bumps starting to appear! We're delighted to announce that three of our staff members are expecting babies and will be taking maternity leave near the end of the year. Huge congratulations to Whaea Tay, Whaea Laura, and Whaea Ellen, we're thrilled for each of you and look forward to celebrating this exciting journey together.

📌 Reminders

- Board of Trustees Triennial Elections are underway. Nominations close Wednesday 6 August at 12 noon. Nomination forms should be in your email inbox or sent in the mail.
- Strategic Plan Consultation A short survey has been sent out via HERO. You can also access it directly
 using this link: <u>https://forms.gle/8EfyauMdvLJMgCgEA</u>
- Individual Student Term 2 Attendance Reports These have now been sent home.

Ngā mihi mahana, Stay warm and we hope to see you at Market Day!

Rochelle Jensen Principal / Tumuaki



FRIDAY 8TH AUGUST 12.30 - 2.30PM

(wet weather postponement date Monday 11th August) GATE PÅ SCHOOL FIELD

DETAILS:

Student-made items for sale: Priced between \$1-\$5
 No cash at stalls - tokens only (available in \$1 and \$2 amounts)
 Buy tokens via Kindo on the school website or convert cash to tokens at kura.
 Coffee carts and food trucks will also be available and will accept both EFTPOS and cash.

