



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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Malo e lelei, Bonjour, Ni Hao, Namaste, Olá, Fakalofa Lahi Atu, Anyoung haseyo, Ayubowan, Asalaam Walaikum, Sat Sri Akaal, Konnichi Wa, Ni Hao, Namaste, Olá, Mabuhay, hello

Grab a cuppa for this panui (newsletter) as we attempt to celebrate 2023 and set the scene for 2024.

An increase in learner progress across the curriculum has been a highlight of 2023. This is attributed to high and consistent expectations for learning and behaviour, alongside increased support for children with additional needs. Strong partnerships with whānau and community groups, as well as a continual focus on fostering a culture of care and empowering children to stand proudly in their culture, language and identity, have also contributed significantly to academic progress.

Some Highlights:

- Termly monitoring of student progress, enabling us to identify those who are not progressing and provide additional support.
- Extra booster groups for children with additional needs, resulting in improved learning for all.
- A growing roll, including an increase in the number of children taught in kaupapa Māori settings - Rumaki and Bilingual.
- A whole school production, Taurikura, resulted in knowledge of a local legend and an opportunity for all students to communicate through dance and drama.
- Improvements to our English as a Second Language Programme (ESOL) resulting in improved instruction for these students.
- Regular school events to support home-school partnerships and to provide whānau with strategies to support learning at home.
- The introduction of an Art Specialist, supporting students to develop their artistic skills.
- Staff engage in professional learning around teacher actions that support student progress, resulting in a common understanding of high yield strategies that maximise learning.

School Starts: 8.55am -- School Ends: 2.55pm

Report Attendance  0275785325 www.gatepa.school.nz  075785325 ext 1



Gate Pā School
Pukehinahina

WHĀNAU - SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Tuesday 5th December - Term 4

FINAL NEWSLETTER 2023

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Highlights continued:

- An increase in cultural groups and celebrations, including the addition of Filipino language evenings, a Samoan language group and hosting the local Kapa Haka Festival - Ra Whakangahau, resulting in children feeling increasingly connected and proud of their culture.
- Further connections with our local community including iwi, Early Childhood Centres and Colleges.
- Further enhancement of our school grounds including an exterior repaint, new carpet and wall coverings.
- Participation in After School Sports remains high, along with an increase in opportunities for students to participate in physical activity during the school day.

Thanks for being in the waka with us as we continue to work together to do our very best for each and every child at our kura.
Te mahitahi kia taea e ngā ākonga katoa te kite i o rātou pūmanawa Working together to enable all learners to realise their full potential.

Forward Focus - What's new in 2024?

In 2024 we will continue to have three syndicates:

- Taumata - Ōhane - Y0-3 - English Medium
- Karewa - Y4-6 - English Medium
- Kopurererua - Māori Medium - Rumaki and Bilingual

Please see attached for full school organisation.

Karewa - Year 4-6 - English Medium

Next year, the Karewa team will be made up of four classes, each being a composite of Year 4, 5 and 6 children. These classes have been carefully crafted, considering learning needs, student combinations and social and emotional considerations. We are confident that this change is in the best interests of all our children and will maximise their learning and well-being. Teachers will continue to teach according to students' academic and social needs, irrespective of their year level. These composite classes will naturally facilitate the extension of younger children and additional support for older children who require it. A key focus will be growing leaders in Year 6 but also throughout this syndicate, so capability is developed. This change will also further align ourselves to the nationwide New Zealand Curriculum (NZC) Refresh which clusters learning in two groups: Y0-3 and Y4-6. If you would like to know more about these changes, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Bilingual Pathway

In response to demand, we have added an additional Year 5/6 Bilingual class. A clear, fluid pathway now exists for whānau choosing a bilingual pathway for their tamariki.

More Specialist Teaching

In 2024, we will continue to provide specialist Art classes for all children as part of their termly programme. Additionally, based on the learning theme for each term, we will also provide specialised teaching in the following areas: Music, Digital Technology, and Science.

More Health and PE

We know our children thrive in outdoor settings and enjoy engaging in physical activities. We are also grateful to have a gully space on our school grounds. Next year, you can expect to see our gully further utilised as part of our daily programme. This resource will be used deliberately to support our tamariki to stay active and to learn about maintaining a healthy lifestyle and contributing to a healthier planet.

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Staff Changes

We are blessed at Gate Pā School to have a united team of staff deeply committed to our tamariki. See attached for staff changes and 2024 organisation.

Farewells:

Sadly, we farewell the following staff members and secretly hope they will bounce back to us some day:

- Whaea Montessa Bosman - Part Time Teacher
- Whaea Olivia Amundsen - Part Time Teacher
- Kerry McChlery - Learning Assistant

New Staff:

In 2024 we warmly welcome the following staff :

- Matua Flynn Henderson - Teacher
- Whaea Janice Simeon - Teacher
- Whaea Kuini Mareroa - Teacher/Team Leader
- Matua Michael Leigh - Sports Co-ordinator

Keep an eye on Facebook for more detailed introductions of these staff.

New Enrolments

The more we know the more we can plan. Please encourage whānau who are thinking about sending their children to Gate Pā School to pop into the office and/or fill out an 'expression of interest' form on our website.

Key Dates 2024

2024 term dates are enclosed. Term 1 starts on Thursday 1st February. On this day at 9:15 am, Gate Pā School will be hosting a pōwhiri (formal Māori ceremony) to welcome new tamariki, parents and staff. All extended whānau are welcome.

Stay Updated

A reminder that our school website and our facebook page - 'Gate Pā Pukehinahina' are great tools for keeping in contact.

School Grounds

Our school whānau are welcome to enjoy our school grounds over the holidays. Please keep a watchful eye on activities and report anything untoward to Nutech security: [07-578 8233](tel:07-578 8233). Security cameras along with regular checks from Nutech will support us to keep our school safe.

Stationery and School Fees

No school fees in 2024 and we will continue to supply all children with free school stationery.

Final 2023 Reminders

- End of Year Prizegiving - Wed 13th Dec - 10:30am - Tauranga Girls' College
- School Finishes - Fri 15th Dec - 12:00pm

Finally whānau, I thank you for your support and feel incredibly privileged to be part of such a rich and nurturing learning community.

On behalf of the staff at Gate Pā School, I wish you all a safe and restful break to refresh, recharge and reflect on what is most important – he tāngata, he tāngata, he tāngata- the people, the people, the people.

Noho ora mai,

Rochelle Jensen - Tumuaiki/Principal

GATE PĀ SCHOOL ORGANISATION 2024

Principal	Whaea Rochelle Jensen	
Associate Principal	Matua Terry Furmage	
Leader of Learning Support	Ms Jodi Hill and Whaea Ari	
Kopurererua Syndicate: Team Leader Māori Medium	Janice Simeon / Ari Reedy	
Whare Reo Teina - Whare Reo	Whaea Nadia Wihapi-Perkins Matua Roha Reedy, Matua Tama Robens and Matua Amo Kuka	Y0-2 Rumaki
Whare Reo Tuakana - Ruma Akuhata	Whaea Janice Simeon Matua Roha Reedy, Matua Amo Kuka, Matua Tama Robens.	Y3-6 Rumaki
Room 1	Whaea Kuini Mareroa	Y1/2 Bilingual
Room 10	Whaea Raman Kaur	Y3/4 Bilingual
Room 11	Whaea Jess Horne	Y5/6 Bilingual
Taumata-Ōhane Syndicate: Team Leader Mainstream	Amanda Donald	
Room 2	Matua Everdt Venecourt	Y2/3
Room 3	Mrs Amanda Donald	Y2/3
Room 4	Mrs Erica Smith /Mrs Sarah Strahan	Y2/3
Room 5	Whaea Lisa Healy	Y1/2
Room 6	Whaea Ellen Baker	Y0/1
Room 7	Whaea Sandra Sells	New Entrant -GATEWAY
Room 8	Roll Growth	YO
Karewa Team Leader -Mainstream	Ann-Marie Morris	
Room 9	SPECIALIST ROOM - Whaea Sherry Strieff	
Room 12	Mrs Yolly Bennett	Y4/5/6
Room 13	Whaea Ann-Marie Morris /Whaea Katherine Bremner	Y4/5/6
Room 14	Matua Flynn Henderson	Y4/5/6
Room 15	Whaea Kat Gilbert-Tunney	Y4/ 5/6
Release and Specialist Teachers		
Whaea Sherry Streiff	Arts and Science	
Whaea Katherine Bremner	Digital Tech and Music	
plus our wonderful team of support staff.		



**Gate Pā School
Pukehinahina**

2024 TERM DATES

School Office Opens: Tuesday 30th January

Term 1 - (10 weeks)

Thursday 1st February - Friday 12th April

Waitangi Day - Tuesday 6th February (School Closed)

Meet the Teacher - Thursday 15th February

Good Friday - 29th March - (School Closed)

Easter Monday - 1st April (School Closed)

Easter Tuesday - 2nd April (School Closed)

Term 2 - (10 weeks)

Monday 29th April - Friday 5th July

Learner Led Conferences - Thursday 9th May

Kings Birthday - Monday 3rd June (School Closed)

Staff Only Day - Tuesday 4th June (School Closed)

Matariki - Friday 28th June (School Closed)

Term 3 - (10 weeks)

Monday 22nd July - Friday 27th September

Learner Led Conferences - Tuesday 24th September

Term 4 - (10 weeks)

Monday 14th October - Tuesday 17th December

Labour Day - Monday 28th October (School Closed)

Staff Only Day - Tuesday 29th October (School Closed)