



Gate Pā School
Pukehinahina

WHĀNAU – SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Monday 9th March 2026

Newsletter No.2



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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 Akaa! Ayubowan! Mabuhay! Selamat datang! Sawasdee! Mingalaba! Asalaam Walaikum! Hallo! G'day! Howzit! Bonjour! Konnichiwa! Nǐ hǎo! Olá! Hello!

As we move into Week 6, routines are well established and it is pleasing to see students engaged and making good progress in their learning. When students make choices that do not reflect our school values, these moments are addressed promptly by staff so that expectations remain clear and learning for everyone can continue. Students are also making the most of playtimes to explore their interests and strengthen friendships. The new lunch provider has been popular so far—especially the butter chicken!

Welcome

A warm welcome to all the students who have joined our kura(school) this term, and especially to our new entrants who started school for the first time this week. Nau mai, haere mai to Malesa, Theia and Kaniel.

Whanaungatanga

A key pillar of our school's success is the strong connection between whānau (families) and our school. We value parents and caregivers as first teachers and encourage you to be involved in our school and in your child's learning as much as possible. Your commitment was clearly shown at last week's *Splash into Learning* event, where we shared ways to support learning at home while enjoying activities, kai, and time together outdoors.

ERO Visit

This week our school is hosting the Education Review Office (ERO) as part of their regular review process. It is an opportunity to share the learning and progress across our kura. ERO will later publish a report outlining their findings for our community.

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

Report Attendance HERO app or 578 5325 -ext 1

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Learning in Action

Our key strategic goals—developing **competence** in an environment that nurtures **character** and **culture**—are well underway, building on the strong progress and learning gains our students made last year.

A strong foundation curriculum ensures all children make progress in Reading, Writing and Maths while also supporting them to be proud of their own culture and develop an understanding and respect for the cultures of others. Booster groups for children who need extra support in English and Maths are now underway.

This term we are exploring local stories through our concept *Ngā Pūrākau o Tauranga Moana*. Students are also building life skills and staying active through programmes such as Garden to Table, ICONZ(building), cultural groups, PE and sport, and swimming.

There is plenty to look forward to as well, with our Year 6 students heading off to camp and our junior classes preparing for their visit to Hamilton Zoo.

Sport

Sport also deserves a shout-out. Thanks to the hard work of Matua Mikey and the many coaches, managers, parents, whānau and sideline cheerleaders who generously give their time, we currently have a number of teams representing our school:

- 2 Rippa Rugby teams
- 2 Football teams
- 1 Tee-ball team
- 1 Softball team

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for upcoming sports opportunities, or email our Sports Co-ordinator, Mikey, at sports@gatepa.school.nz. 📧

Attendance - Holidays during term time

Student attendance continues to track strongly, and absences are followed up promptly so we can support students to return to school as quickly as possible.

Please note that whānau holidays or trips during term time are discouraged. However, if they are unavoidable, please email your child's teacher so work can be arranged and the absence can be formally recorded.

Enrolments

Our school continues to experience healthy growth with many new enrolments. To help us plan effectively for spaces and staffing, it is very helpful for us to have advance notice of new enrolments. Please pop into the school office or complete the pre-enrolment form on our website. <https://www.gatepa.school.nz/enrolment>

Safety Reminder

In the interests of safety, please drop off and pick up from the church car park. Parking on the grass along the front of the school blocks the sightline of others and creates an unsafe situation.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we uphold our high expectations for behaviour and learning so that our tamariki can thrive in their learning and wellbeing.

Ngā mihi,

Rochelle Jensen

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