



Gate Pā School
Pukehinahina

WHĀNAU – SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Tuesday 5th May 2026

Newsletter No.4



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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!

Welcome to Term 2.

A special welcome to those students starting school for the first time, and to those who have joined us from other schools—*nau mai, haere mai*. The warm weather, along with getting our *tinana* (bodies) moving through cross country practice, has helped create a positive start to the term. Alongside this, we've seen a record high in attendance—*ngā mihi nui, whānau*, for your ongoing support.



HERO – Our Main Communication Tool

The HERO app is our main tool for school communication. This includes learning updates, reports, school notices, and permissions. If you are not connected, you may miss important information. If you need a hand getting set up, please pop into the office—we're happy to help. This term, we will also be reaching out to whānau who are not yet connected to HERO to see how we can support you.

Term 2 Learning Focus

Alongside our commitment to developing the foundational skills of reading, writing, and mathematics in every student, Term 2 brings a strong focus on the arts—music, visual arts, and technology—through the context of Matariki. Students will explore and create artworks inspired by the stars of Matariki. Throughout this learning journey, they will deepen their understanding of what Matariki is and why we celebrate it. They will also explore the stories the stars tell, and how colour, shape, and pattern can be used to express their ideas. This learning will culminate in a special school event in Term 3—our Matariki Wearable Arts Show and Art Gallery.

History has also been an important part of learning this term, with students exploring ANZAC Day and the Battle of Gate Pā (Pukehinahina) in 1864. A special *mihi* to Ruby Reti and Dillon Cook, who represented our school by speaking at the St George's Church commemoration service.

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

Report Attendance HERO app or 578 5325 -ext 1

www.gatepa.school.nz



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Reporting to Parents

Understanding how your child is progressing in their learning is key to knowing how best to support them. This term, alongside our whānau learning conferences, you will receive a written report outlining the progress your child is making, as well as our observations of their character, special talents and interests, and involvement in extracurricular activities.

- Reports published on HERO: Wednesday 17 June
- Whānau Learning Conferences: Thursday 18 June

Introducing: Home Learning Hacks

We've heard your feedback—many of you are keen to support your child's learning but aren't always sure where to start. Alongside regular check-ins with your child's teacher, we'll be sharing "Home Learning Hacks."

via HERO and facebook. These will give you a clear picture of what your child is learning at school, along with simple, practical ideas you can use to support their learning at home.

Migrant Community Learning Hub – Workshops Starting This Week

To our migrant whānau, we are delighted to be hosting a series of workshops to support you in understanding the New Zealand education system. Our first workshop will be held this Thursday, 7 May, from 6–8pm in the staffroom.

Important Dates

It's a busy term ahead—please take note of the key events and dates overleaf.

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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IMPORTANT DATES

TUE 5 MAY	5:30 PM	BOT hui <i>Held in the staffroom. Open to the public.</i>
THU 14 MAY	3:00pm	Parent Hui <i>Parent information shared for 'Keeping Ourselves Safe' programme.</i>
FRI 29 MAY	School Closed	Staff only day <i>School is closed.</i>
MON 1 JUN	School Closed	Kings Birthday <i>School closed - Public holiday.</i>
THU 4 JUN	9:00 AM	School Cross country <i>Further details to come out closer to the event.</i>

**Dates and times are subject to change. Further information will be released closer to the time of the event.*

**TUE
9
JUN**

5:30PM

BOT hui

Held in the staffroom. Open to the public.

**WED
17
JUN**

4PM

Learning Reports

Learning reports will be published on HERO.

**THU
18
JUN**

8:00am-
6:00pm

Learning Conferences

Further details including booking schedule to be shared closer to the event..

**WED
1
JUL**

FROM
4PM

Matariki Disco

Further details to come closer to the event.

Migrant Community Learning Hub

Learning hub designed to specifically support Migrant whānau.

- *Thursday 7th May*
- *Thursday 21st May*
- *Thursday 4th June*

