



Gate Pā School
Pukehinahina

WHĀNAU – SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Thursday 20th August, 2026

Newsletter No.6



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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 lele! 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!

There has been a lot of sickness across our school community over the past few weeks, and the recent cold snap certainly hasn't helped. We know this has had an impact on attendance for many whānau, and we send our awahi (support) to everyone who has been unwell. Hopefully, as a community, we are now moving past the worst of it and heading towards some healthier weeks ahead.

Learning Foci

Our school value focus this term is 🌟 **Rangatiratanga** 🌟 — something that has always been part of who we are, but this term we are placing an even stronger emphasis on noticing, acknowledging and celebrating it. We want to recognise those everyday moments when students step up as leaders, act as positive role models, take responsibility and show confidence in themselves and their learning. These are qualities we value highly, and we encourage whānau to notice and celebrate them at home too.

Alongside our focus on **Rangatiratanga**, you will also notice a shift in our learning programme from The Arts to Science, with our new context, 🧪 **'Who Dunnit'? - The Material World** 🧪. Across the school, students will be exploring the properties of different materials and thinking about why particular materials are chosen for different purposes. There will be plenty of hands-on investigation, experimenting and problem-solving, with a strong focus on curiosity, asking questions, testing ideas and explaining what they discover.

The Arts will continue alongside this through our 🎵 **Beat Station** 🎵 programme, which has been a real success. Students are developing important skills through rhythm, movement and keeping a steady beat, and it has been great to see the enthusiasm and confidence they are bringing to these sessions.

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

Report Attendance ✉️ HERO app or 578 5325 -ext 1

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Fundraising

The support for our Monty the Monster fundraiser has been awesome! Together, we have raised \$21,300, bringing us very close to our \$25,000 goal. These funds will make a significant contribution towards our all-weather dome, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who has got behind the fundraiser.

Our Fun Run on 4 September will be the culmination of the fundraiser and a chance for everyone to celebrate together. A full pānui (newsletter) with all the details will be sent home shortly, but as a heads-up, every child will need a white T-shirt for the day.

Staff Only Day – Monday 24 August

Along with many other schools across the Bay, we will be using a Ministry of Education allocated Teacher Only Day on Monday 24 August. The school will be closed to students on this day.

Our staff will be focusing on adaptive practice — strengthening how we support children who need additional assistance, as well as those who require further challenge and extension, across our reading, writing and mathematics programmes.

Parking Tickets

We have been informed that the Council is actively issuing parking tickets using a drive-by vehicle fitted with cameras. In particular, vehicles parked on the grass verge are being targeted. This is also a safety issue around our school, so please use the church carpark or designated parking areas when dropping off or collecting children. Thank you for helping us keep the area safe for everyone.

Nurse Prescriber Clinic

The free Nurse Prescriber Clinic continues to run every Tuesday from 8.00–9.30am in our sickbay (Wellness Centre). No appointment is needed, and the service is available to all whānau members. A huge mihi to Huria Trust for continuing to provide this valuable service for our school community.

Year 5 & 6 Reminders

TIS Open Evening: The Tauranga Intermediate School Open Evening is on Thursday 27 August, from 6.00–8.00pm at TIS. Year 6 whānau should have received an information pamphlet last week.

Winter Sports – Tuesday 25 August. All Year 5 and 6 students will be out for the day on Tuesday 25 August, taking part in Winter Sports across a range of codes, including netball, rippa rugby, hockey and football. A reminder pānui with the final details, including the need for students to be at kura early on the day, will be sent home shortly.

A final thank you for your continued support. Our door is always open — we value your voice, your feedback and the open communication that helps us work together for our tamariki.

Mauri ora,

Rochelle Jensen – Principal / Tumuaiki

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Save the date KEY EVENTS

AUG 24

MONDAY ALL-DAY

STAFF-ONLY DAY

School is closed as Kaiako engage in Professional Development.

AUG 25

TUESDAY / ALL DAY

WINTER TOURNAMENT

Year 5-6 Winter tournament. Hockey, touch, netball, football.



AUG 26

WEDNESDAY / 5:30PM

FILIPINO/PASIFIKA WHĀNAU DINNER

Celebrate a night of culture, kai & whanaungatanga as we welcome our Filipino and Pasifika whānau to a shared dinner together.

SEP 4

FRIDAY / 2PM

COLOUR FUN RUN

School Fundraiser! Monty the Monstar

SEP 9

WEDNESDAY / 5:00PM

MĀORI WHĀNAU KAI

An opportunity for all whānau Māori to come together for kai, kōrero, whanaungatanga as we prepare to celebrate Te Wiki o te reo Māori.

SEP 18

FRIDAY / ALL DAY

RĀ WHAKANGAHAU

Our junior and senior performing Kapa haka roopu will be performing at our West Cluster Rā Whakangahau at QE2.

SEP 25

FRIDAY / 11:30PM

END OF TERM ASSEMBLY/ LAST DAY OF TERM

Special End of term awards are handed out at this assembly. Kaiako will communicate with whānau if your child will be receiving an award.



MIGRANT COMMUNITY LEARNING HUB

Thursday 27th of August

- learning support & ESOL
- Thursday 10th of September
 - Who to talk to, staffing structure

LANGUAGE WEEKS

- TONGA LANGUAGE WEEK Week 5
- TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI Week 9