



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term One - 8 March 2023



The sun is shining and summer is here... just in time for autumn...

School is humming, students are engaged, and learning is underway! Our school has a big focus this year on reviewing our core teaching and learning to ensure our programmes are providing the best learning for students using the resources we have available.

I was interested in a lesson received from our recent professional development with the key message that - **learning knowledge and facts is still important in our digital age.** We were informed that the brain has a very limited short term memory, but a vast long term memory. In order for students to compare and contrast, evaluate, and weigh up pros and cons (we call these higher order thinking skills) students need the information stored in long term memory.

Imagine that students were asked to compare and contrast between the habitats in the rocky shore and the mud flats. If they do a quick Google search and fast read lots of information about the rocky shore, and fast read lots about mud flats... they will find that they can't compare and contrast these as the information quickly evaporates from short term memory and they are left trying to remember - what lives in the mud flats again?

A solid approach to learning then is to build knowledge and understanding, with multiple experiences, discussions, reading in order to learn deeply about a topic to enable deep thinking skills such as compare and contrast - which are vitally important skills to learn and be able to apply.

Spotlight on Student Volunteers:

A number of families joined forces for the Tarawera Ultra Marathon aid station fundraiser, led by Sarah Paterson on behalf of the PTA with the support of a number of our students:

Alex volunteered for about 20 hours, finishing at about 2am. He lugged dozens of huge water containers when we ran out of water.

Emma was also amazing. She was there for about 16 hours. She independently manned the hot drinks/hot soup/hot noodles station on her own for many hours.

Lucan and Peyton, & Eve and Quinn volunteered for about 8 hours.

The students were interacting with athletes, filling up water bottles and helping athletes with anything else they needed.

Eve has also run three successful fundraisers this year, a bake sale and two BBQ's. She is motivated to reach her Head, Heart, and Hands acknowledgements. Well done also to the team of students that supported with each of these - baking and cooking sausages, and cleaning up afterwards.

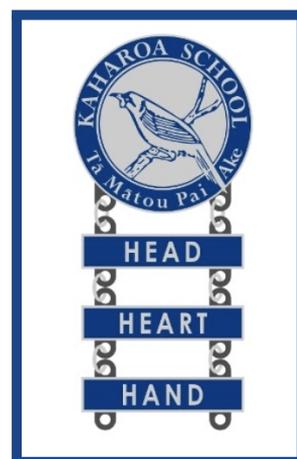
Team Tōtara students have their responsibilities up and running - from manning the office at lunchtime, leading karakia at the start of lunch on the loud speaker, writing a thoughtful message each week at the front of the school, and even emptying the food scraps bin in the staff room and feeding the chickens - we really appreciate all of these helpers.

A big thank you on behalf of Kaharoa School to all of our student volunteers.

Head, Heart, Hands - Year 8

The 'Year 8 Head, Heart, Hands Badges' are a formal recognition that recognises the development of character and embodiment of values, as demonstrated in their actions to their school, community and self. Students will strive to earn each badge - head, heart and hand. It is an accumulative, points based system. When a student reaches the benchmark to achieve recognition in one of the areas, they receive a badge. Actions of the head- knowing the good; actions of the heart- desiring the good; and actions of the hand- doing the good. We look forward to celebrating this with our seniors throughout the year.

Nga Mihi, Lynden Cook, Principal



Notices:

Congratulations to our 2023 Prefects

Rosalie Deal
Shavonne Siemonek
Kody Jackson
Sam Noel
Zara Gifford
Reeve Transom

Our prefects were awarded their badges at our last whole school assembly and recently attended the GRIP Leadership Conference to train and develop school leaders. Thank you to Bridget Gifford who spent the day with them and took the below photo.



Swimming Sports Results

Well done to all our swimmers, who participated in both the school and rural inter-school swimming competitions. It was fantastic to see so many kids giving it a go. Please find results attached to the email copy of this newsletter.

Ka pai kai - on hold

Unfortunately, we have heard from Ka Pai Kai that their school lunch service is suspended until further notice. We will let you know if we receive any further updates.

Tuckshop open this week!

Our tuckshop is now open. Please note our new prices to reflect the increase in our supplier's costs. Hot food must be pre-ordered with money to the office by 3 pm Thursday or the order placed on Kindo. All other items can be ordered through the student office window on Friday morning before 9am. Orders can be made both on [Kindo](#) or on the paper order forms, located in the office (and a copy attached to the email copy of this newsletter).

Thank you to Cam & Julie Monteith from Western Heights Pharmacy

A big thank you to Cam and Julie who very kindly donated sunscreen for every class. This is the third year they have supported us in this way and we are so very grateful to be able to have this readily available for use by our students in their classrooms.

What's on?

10 March

9am Whole School Assembly

Kaharoa Swimming Sports together with Rural Inter-school Certificates will be awarded. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.

16-17 March

Y4/5 Camp - Lakes Ranch

Two days and one night camp at Lakes Ranch for Year 4 & 5 students in Room Miro and Rata. Year 3 students will visit during the day.

20 March

5:30pm Kaharoa School Board Meeting

Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend the Board Meeting to be held in the Boardroom.

29-31 March

Y6-8 Camp - Tui Ridge

5 April

CBOP Swimming Sports

Qualifiers from the Rural Inter-school Swimming Sports Day are able to compete in the CBOP competition to be held at the Rotorua Aquatic Centre.

Recent Whole School Emails

- Kaharoa Snapshot (sent 1 Mar)



Healthy Active Learning Whānau Survey

Our school is involved in a government wellbeing initiative called Healthy Active Learning. Part of the Child Youth and Wellbeing Strategy, it is now in its third year and in over 900 schools across the motu.

To help understand its impact, the Massey University evaluation team is keen to hear about how your children participate in physical activity and healthy eating and drinking at our school and community.

They have put together a survey which takes 5-10 minutes and, on completion, puts you in the draw to win a \$100 supermarket voucher. Complete the survey at: https://massey.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e5SnfFUZmmyvFJb or scan the QR code to begin.

Kaharoa School Winter Sports Registration is coming!

Keep an eye on your inbox in the next week or so as we send out registration forms for winter sports - hockey, netball and basketball. This might be a great time to give some thought to whether you would like to coach or manage a team through the season, we can't offer these sporting opportunities without parent help!

Local Sporting/Cultural Opportunities and Events:

Ngongotaha Football Club - Junior Muster

4-7 year olds on Tuesdays 4-5pm

7th Grade (Born 2015) on Wednesdays

9th Grade (Born 2014) on Tuesdays 4-5pm

10th Grade (Born 2013) on Wednesdays 4-5pm

11/12th Grade Thursday March 16th

All held at the Ngongotaha AFC Clubrooms on Stembridge Road.

Plenty of space in all grades for new and returning players. Registrations will go live shortly, keep an eye on our website; <https://www.sporty.co.nz/ngongotahaafc/> and [Facebook](#). Contact Shaun at sckapua@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Lakes Football Club Hosting: Junior Open Day and Girls' Football Afternoon

Lakes FC is hosting two upcoming pre-season events: a **Junior Open Day** on Saturday, 11 March at Otonga School - enjoy fun games and activities and find out what winter football is all about. New players, boys and girls are all welcome. They are also running a **'Have a Go' Girls' Football afternoon** on Thursday, 16 March at Puarenga Park where girls can come and have a go at soccer in an all-girls environment. More details can be found on our website using the link above.

Junior Rugby

If students are keen on playing rugby this coming season (starting 29 April), registrations are now open ([register here](#)). For more information email nscajab@gmail.com and see [their flyer on our website](#).

Waterpolo

School competitions are currently on hold with the indoor pool refurbishment but trainings will still run in the outdoor pool. The club is happy to welcome swimmers for all age groups, particularly growing the age-12-and-under grade. If you are an able swimmer and would like to come along and try a session look for updates on their [Facebook page](#).

New Piano Teacher in Hamurana

Ex-student and local, Kelsie van Dorp, is offering beginner piano lessons starting from \$20 per lesson. If you are interested, please contact her by phone or text on 02108573505 or 073322803.

School Galas - Save the Date!

The following schools have advised they have Gala's coming up. Keep an eye out for more information as we receive it!

- St Mary's Catholic School - 10 March
- Mamaku School - 16 March
- Ngongotaha School - 17 March
- Westbrook School - 30 March



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