



Our Best Always - Tā Matou Pai Ake

Learning
Ako

Care
Manaakitanga

Leadership
Rangatira

Guardian
Kaitiaki

Stepping Up

Can Do

Everyone Belongs

15 October 2025

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

You may have seen in the news that educators across Aotearoa are preparing to take part in a historic national strike on Thursday 23rd October. For the first time ever, principals, teachers, support staff, and Ministry specialists will stand together to call for better support in schools, fair pay, and the resources our tamariki need to thrive.

This action is about more than just pay. Health, education, and emergency services are the backbone of our communities—and right now, they're all under-funded and under-resourced. Our schools aren't struggling because of the people working in them. They're struggling because the system isn't being properly invested in.

In education, real investment means having teacher aides in every classroom, valuing educators with fair and secure work, upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and protecting quality early childhood education. These changes would make a huge difference—not just for our tamariki, but for the wellbeing of our whole education system, and for those of us leading it.

*At Kaharoa School, our priority is always the safety and wellbeing of our students. The School Board has met and looked over the number of staff that are involved in the strike and weighed up the ability to open the school safely. **On the day of strike action (Thursday October 23rd), our School will be closed for instruction as we do not have sufficient staff. We ask whānau to please make alternative arrangements for your tamariki.***

We know this may cause disruption, and we truly appreciate your understanding and support. This decision hasn't been made lightly - it reflects the seriousness of the challenges we're facing in education, and the urgent need for change.

Ngā mihi nui,

Lynden Cook and Michaela Paterson

Principal and Presiding Member, Kaharoa School Board