



# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 - 31 October 2024



## A Foot in Both Camps

We have one foot in 2024 and one foot in 2025...

**2024** - we are aiming high to finish the year well. The staff and year 8's met to share goals and aspirations for finishing strong. We are looking forward to completing the Year 8 legacy project, opening the pool in a few weeks, and getting the new PTA fundraised Trampoline set up in a few weeks time.



## 2025 - 8 Classrooms

We are looking forward to having 8 classrooms back up and running in 2025. This is a MOE funding decision. While we advocate for this every year, the MOE decision is based on a calculator and how many students we have in the school in July + new enrolments.

If you have a 4 year old at home - please let us know asap so that we can plan for our numbers. We do not have an enrolment zone, so all students that enrol are accepted, however the earlier we know the better we can plan. We currently have 20 enrolments for 2025 with space for further students given our shift back to 8 classes.

This also means that we will have four senior school classes and anticipate all Year 5 to Year 8 students in Team Tōtara, our senior school, next year.

## 2025 - Students not returning

Please email the school office if your Year 1 to 7 child may not be returning for 2025. We understand a few families will be moving out of the area or their child may be changing schools and it is helpful for our planning of classes to know this asap.

Email [office@kaharoa.school.nz](mailto:office@kaharoa.school.nz) or [principal@kaharoa.school.nz](mailto:principal@kaharoa.school.nz)

## 2025 - Welcoming new staff

In light of this, we welcome three new staff members for 2025. Julie Andersen has taught at Kaharoa previously and we welcome her back into the senior school. She will support Ryan with team admin and sport event organisation with Shinade on maternity leave for 2025. Our second welcome is to Isiah. He is moving to Rotorua and we look forward to him working in our senior space and supporting with Kapahaka. Our third welcome is to Sophia Holland who has already started in Rimu this term. We look forward to her sharing her skills with choir along with teaching in the upper end of our primary team. Stephanie Keepa, our previous Rimu teacher was farewelled last week as she starts a new role as student centre manager / librarian at Rotorua Boys High School.

Our 2025 new staff introductions are shared on the next page. We have one or two further staffing aspects to work through and will share these with you in coming weeks.

## 2025 - Curriculum Refresh

Kaharoa School is well into planning for the new curriculum for 2025. A structured approach to literacy has been developed over the previous 4 years and we continue to refine this. Effective teaching practices across subjects continue to be refined and enhanced. The required 5 hours mathematics, and 10 hours literacy is planned by all classes and we balance between meeting these MOE requirements on average, and making time for a rich curriculum including camps, trips, sport events alongside, art, science, and other important learning. This year we have reviewed our Histories curriculum, careers, Health, Te Ao Maori, and Literacy. We have invested in PLD for mathematics and will now work on formalising our school wide mathematics programme in response to the resources and curriculum documents released by the MOE this week.



## 2025 - Teacher only day explanation - Wednesday 13th of November

With the significant work teachers are undertaking to get ready for refreshed curriculums in both English and Mathematics for 2025 - the government has allocated a teacher only day where students do not attend, but teachers work through PLD and preparations for 2025.

Kaharoa School is part of a community of schools (Te Manu o Ngongotahā) that mainly pass our students on into Western Heights High School. WHHS had their PLD booked in for Wednesday 13th of November quite some time ago and this date was fixed. Therefore, a decision was made by many local primary schools to align with the WHHS date so that whānau who have older siblings will have them home on the same day for support with supervision.

In the past we have always opted for a Monday or Friday connected to the weekend, however on this occasion, Kaharoa School has our Teacher Only Day on Wednesday the 13th of November to follow suit with our local High School.

### New Teaching Staff for 2025

#### Julie Andersen



Tēnā koutou! Ko Julie taku ingoa. No Tauranga ahau. Kei Rotorua ahau e noho ana

I have been teaching on and off for too many years to mention. On the off teaching times I spent time in Europe as tour guide for Topdeck Travel. My previous school of 5 years was Rotorua Intermediate, where I taught year eight. This year I was lucky enough to be a recipient of a TeachNZ study award, completing a Postgraduate Diploma in Inclusive Education. Studying also meant I was able to stay at home for the year with my now 13 month old son, Archer.

We live in Ngongotaha and enjoy getting out and about exploring all the walks around the city. I am looking forward to joining the team at Kaharoa School in 2025.

#### Isiah Hamlin



Tēnā koutou, ko Isiah tōku ingoa, nō Whanganui ōku tīpuna, kei te noho au ki Rotorua.

Kia ora everybody, my name is Isiah Hamlin, and I am excited to introduce myself as a new member of the Kaharoa School community next year. I am currently a Year 7 and 8 teacher in Auckland. Originally from Whanganui, my partner and I moved to Auckland to further pursue our careers, and we are now making the move to Rotorua for the same reason.

I am passionate about education and believe in fostering a sense of pride and bravery in all the tamariki I have the privilege to teach. I look forward to meeting many of you, getting involved in this amazing community, and supporting our tamariki to achieve their best.

#### Sophia Holland



Kia ora! Ko Sophia Holland tōku ingoa.

I am very excited to introduce myself as a new member of the Kaharoa kura community. For the majority of Term 4 I will be in Rimu class, and I will be continuing to teach at Kaharoa kura into 2025. I'm looking forward to meeting and getting to know you, your tamariki, and the surrounding community!

I grew up in Tauranga and found my love for teaching through the positive experiences I had in my own classes as a kid. I am passionate about creating a safe and supportive environment for tamariki that is centered around learning, respect, and kindness.

I love art, music and all things creative - incorporating these into my daily practices in the classroom is something that I do often.

## Notices:

### Sports Photos - 5 November - don't forget your sports uniform!

A big thank you to Kylie Day Photography who will be taking our Kaharoa 2024 sports team photos this year. **Please can your child bring their full sports uniform including shoes, to school on photo day, so they can get changed for their photo.** If your child has returned their sports uniform top/netball dress, they will be lent one for their photo.

### Gumboot Day this Friday!

Having depression is like walking through mud every day... so, this Friday, we are asking our students to show their support for those struggling with depression, by putting on their gumboots, bringing a gold coin donation, and 'taking a walk in their shoes'. This is a fun way for kiwis to join in the mental health conversation, while raising money to provide FREE and timely counselling for any young person in need.

### Don't miss our Halloween Event - Halloween at The Enchanted Storybook Nook (Kids Event)!

Join us at The Enchanted Storybook Nook, 350 Oturoa Road, Hamaura for a spooky (and fun) kids Halloween event. Entry is \$5 per child, adults free, cash on entry. Bring extra cash for spending on food, treats and face painting! The PTA will be running a BBQ with sausages and juice boxes for \$2 each. A portion of the entry proceeds will go to our Year 8 students' legacy mural project.

### Group Day Results

A huge congratulations to our Kaharoa Group Day Students who won 1st in highest points for seniors, and 1st Overall at Group Day on Friday! Thank you to our parent helpers who supported our team on the day, we are very grateful! We have shared a few photos from the day below (and on Facebook) ☐



## What's on?

**1 November**

Gumboot Day

-and-

Halloween at the Enchanted Storybook Nook (kids event), 4pm till late

**4 November**

Kaharoa School Board Meeting, 5:30pm

**5 November**

Sports Photos

**13 November**

Teacher Only Day

**15 November**

Stepping Up Assembly

-and-

House Sports Day

**18 November**

Manual for Y7/8 Students

*This is a session to make up for cancelled session on 31 October.*

**22 November**

Athletics Day

### Recent School Emails

- **Reminder of changes to Manual for Y7/8 students** (sent 30 Oct)
- **Kaharoa Snapshot** (sent 24 Oct)
- **Firewood SALES google form + final call for volunteers** (sent 21 Oct)

## Community Notices:

See the "[Community News](#)" page on our website for opportunities being offered in our community. Most recent additions include; [Girls-only Football Programme](#), Locals Day on 10 November, New Agrodome Farmers Market, Rotorua A&P Show, Zonta Club's Festival in the Garden, [Yoga Classes](#) and [Junior Tennis for Term 4](#).



KAHAROA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The KCA is supported by a small committee that oversees the running of the Kaharoa Community Hall and provides opportunities for residents to meet on topics of interest and for social activities. If you would like to get involved in the Kaharoa Community Association or would like to be included in their email database to receive updates about what is happening in the area, please email Chris & Jamie Paterson at [chrisjam@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chrisjam@xtra.co.nz)

## Please Support Our Sponsors

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If you're interested in becoming a sponsor and advertising your business here, please contact [sarahn@kaharoa.school.nz](mailto:sarahn@kaharoa.school.nz)



*It's Spooky Season*

**HALLOWEEN at The Enchanted STORYBOOK NOOK**

FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER  
4PM - LATE  
\$5 ENTRY

FACEPAINTING - SAUSAGE SIZZLE - BEST DRESSED PRIZES AND MORE.

toodamingley CREATIVE

**Halloween at the Enchanted Storybook Nook - Kids Event**

350 Oturoa Road, Hamurana  
Friday 1st November  
4pm till Late

\$5 per child, adults free. Cash on entry.

Bring extra cash for spending - face painting, and other treats available

A portion of entry proceeds will go to Kaharoa School towards funds for the Year 8 legacy project mural.

The PTA are supporting this event with a BBQ. Sausages and juice boxes \$2 each.

**PTA \$100 per family donation request**

Kaharoa School has opted into the MOE donation scheme again in 2025 which will be a significant saving to our families. The School will only ask for donations for overnight camps and optional activities.

In the past, school donations were used to top up the costs for running the pool for students to do swimming with their classes. To make up some of the shortfall, the PTA are aiming to raise additional money towards to costs of running the pool each year and are asking families to consider a \$100 per family annual donation to the PTA.

Donations can be made to the PTA bank account 12-3155-0189139-00

**Summer is coming BOOK YOUR SCHOOL POOL KEY NOW**

Hours of access - During school week - 3pm - 8pm  
During weekends and the holiday period - 10am - 8pm

Volunteers Needed to Keep the Pool Open - The pool requires monitoring over the weekends and holiday break. The pool committee seeks volunteers who can check chlorine levels 3 hourly (10am, 1:15pm, 4:30pm), record noise levels once a day, close the pool at 8pm, and also check that the pool rules are being followed. The pool will only be able to open with this community support. Note: Volunteers will receive a discount on their pool key. Contact Tina on [poolcommittee@kaharoa.school.nz](mailto:poolcommittee@kaharoa.school.nz) if you are able to volunteer.

Note: There is a once off \$30 tag fee the first year you get a key. Those things are expensive!



**Firewood Sales - 2nd of November**

Thank you for supporting our awesome little school! Our wood is a 'hot mix' of gum & pine. The wood will be ideal for 2025 winter. The cost is \$120 per cube and this must be pre-purchased and paid into our PTA bank account prior. Pick up and delivery is between 9:30 and 12:30 on 2nd of November.

To purchase: visit <https://tinyurl.com/KSfirewood>