

Kia ora e te whānau

Wow! Here we are heading into week 5 already!

Principal Professional Development

I'm excited to let you know that I'll be heading to Finland for a professional development trip from Wednesday, August 21st, to Friday, September 7th, 2024. This amazing opportunity comes from the Principal's Wellbeing and Professional Development Fund, which was included in our collective contract last year.

During the trip, I'll be joining a group of principals from the Wellington area on a study tour to Finland. We'll be visiting five Finnish schools, meeting with local principals, and attending university lectures on topics like the Finnish education system, school leadership, and the future of education. I'll also get to connect with other international principals on the tour. Finland's education system is often called the best in the world, so this truly is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

I'm really looking forward to bringing back new ideas and insights that will benefit our school. I'm confident that what I learn will help us continue to grow and improve as a school community. While I'm away, Sharon Boese will be stepping in as Acting Principal. We're all confident in Sharon's ability to keep things running smoothly and ensure that our programmes and activities continue without a hitch.

Thank you for your support and understanding. If you have any questions or need anything while I'm away, please feel free to reach out to Sharon.

Congratulations to our incredible Kapa Haka group for their outstanding performance at the Upper Hutt Multicultural Festival yesterday. They truly made Tawhai School proud! A huge thank you to Dave Whiteman, Janette Page, and Rosa for their dedication, as well as to our wonderful tamariki (and their whānau for their incredible support).

Better Start to Literacy Approach

A big thank you for the parents that attended our morning tea on Wednesday. It is so great to have you on board learning about this approach alongside us.

Visit the website for more information

<https://www.betterstartapproach.com/>

School Photos

These were scheduled for this term, however due to limited spaces and our school production these have been postponed until **Term 4, Week 4**.

Picking up and dropping tamariki off at school?

How you park and drive can protect them, or put them in danger. Drivers and children need good visibility around schools to be able to see each other. Parking restrictions are in place for this reason - to protect our tamariki.

As a driver, you can help to reduce the risks:

- Park legally and safely at all times
- Do not exceed P5 or P10 time limits
- Park further away and walk with your child to or from the school gate
- If you need to turn around, find a safe place well away from the school gate
- Always slow down as you approach a busy school or pedestrian crossing
- Choose alternatives to driving - allow your child to walk to school, start a walking school bus, or find another family to carpool with

Dental van

The Bee Healthy Dental Mobile will be parked at school in term 4 from 15th of October to the 13th of November. Once seen, your child will be given a completion certificate which will inform you of what happens next.

Please search your child's school bag for one of the following:

- Your child requires no further appointments this year
- Your child needs an appointment at your local Dental hub for further care.

Goodtime Music

Get ready to ignite your child's musical passion! Goodtime Music Academy teaches at Tawhai School and is offering award-winning in-school music lessons. Say goodbye to post-school commutes! Dive into the world of music in a vibrant group setting with the following instrument lesson: Drums, Guitar, Keyboard, Ukulele, or our 'Intro to Music' course. But the excitement doesn't stop there! Your child will have the chance to shine in our thrilling concerts.

Act fast, as spots are limited. Enrol now at www.goodtimemusicacademy.co.nz/learn-at-school or call us at 04 568 2237. Your child's moment in the limelight awaits!

What's coming up

Week 5 - 23 August - Maidstone Intermediate Roadshow am

Week 5 - 19-23 August - Tongan Language week

Week 6 - 28 August - PTSG Meeting 7:00 pm

Week 7 - 5 September - All Kinds of Minds 6:00 pm

6 September - Support Motor Neuron Disease Bake Sale

Week 9 - 16-20 September - Te wiki o te Reo Māori

Week 10: **PRODUCTION WEEK** - Year 4 - 6 ākonga (more details to follow)

Friday 27 September: End of Term 3, PTSG Gate Combo

Nga mihi nui

Karen Poole