



NGUTUNUI NEWS

LEARNING & GROWING TOGETHER AKO TAHI ME TE TIPU TAHI



Kia ora whānau o Ngutunui!

2025 is a year filled with possibilities, growth, and success! I spent some time to begin this year reflecting on 2024 and the amazing year we had together, and I really can not wait for what 2025 is going to be.

At Ngutunui School, we believe in the power of values that shape not only great learners but great people. To begin the year we reviewed our school values and gave these a little re-vamp to ensure that our learners thrive...



We are **respectful and responsible**, understanding that our actions and words shape our community and we take responsibility for our own behaviours, learning and actions. We are **driven and determined**, knowing that success is not about where we start but how much effort we put in. We are **curious and courageous**, never afraid to ask questions, take risks, and challenge ourselves to grow.

This year, our classroom learning is centered around learner agency. Agency involves empowering students to recognise that they have the power and opportunity to navigate their own learning journey and life experiences. It necessitates a combination of skill, will, and thrill. Students must possess the ability, motivation, and determination, while also experiencing the joy and satisfaction that comes from making their own choices. Teachers will guide learning and experiences. Teachers will ensure that students receive small focus group sessions in reading, writing and math, where individual next learning steps are taken. Our students will understand their next steps and be willing to step out of their comfort zones.

What's coming up:

- March 6: Year 7 & 8 Mentoring with Thrive & Technology @ Pirongia School
- March 7: Learning Showcase (Assembly) Not on Monday due to swim sports
- 10 March Kawhia Moana Inter School Swimming Sports (selected swim team)
- Date TBC Swimsafe programme Otorohanga Memorial Swimming Pool
- 13 March Y7&8 Mentoring with Thrive & Tech
- 14 March Lower Waipa Swimming Championships (selected swim team)
- 27 March Y7&8 Mentoring with Thrive & Tech
- 3 April Y7&8 Mentoring with Thrive & Tech
- Monday 7 April - Learning Showcase (assembly) 9am - coffee at 8:30
- 10 April Y7&8 mentoring with Thrive & Tech
- 11 April Last day of Term 1 2025
- Fri 25th April ANZAC Day parade TA
- 28th April TERM 2 STARTS
- 1 May Y7&8 mentoring with Thrive & Tech
- 6 May Lower Waipa Winter Sports
- 7th May Science Roadshow @Piopio College Y5-8
- 8th May Y7&8 mentoring with Thrive & Tech
- 14 May Wood is Good Programme (visitors)

Keep up to date with the school calendar on Skool Loop and School Website

The Learning Pit

Our kaupapa in all classes at the start of the term has focused on learning about learning: our brains, our mindsets, and how we overcome challenges in our learning. The students have explored the learning pit and discovered ways to climb out of the pit when everything seems too hard. They understand that being in the learning pit can also be beneficial, as it raises the question: if learning isn't a challenge, are we really learning, or just practising a skill we already possess?



Learning Showcase / Assembly

This year, we're excited to introduce a new format for our Learning Showcases, which will take place at 9 AM on Monday mornings. We warmly invite school whānau to join us from 8:30 AM in the staffroom for a chance to mingle over coffee before the showcases begin.

It was wonderful to see so many family members at our first Learning Showcase last week, and I hope to see this participation continue to grow. Typically, Learning Showcases will be held on Mondays during weeks 3, 6, and 10, but please note that our next one is scheduled for Friday, April 7, due to swim sports on Monday the 7th.

Congratulations to Lilly-Anne, Julius, Maia-Rose, Lola, Savannah, Sani, Lauren, Laurie, and Logan for earning our values certificates, recognising your dedication to embodying our school values.



Attendance

The rate of regular student attendance in New Zealand is quite low compared to many other nations. In response, the Ministry of Education has introduced the Stepped Attendance Response (STAR) initiative to assist schools and whānau in improving attendance.

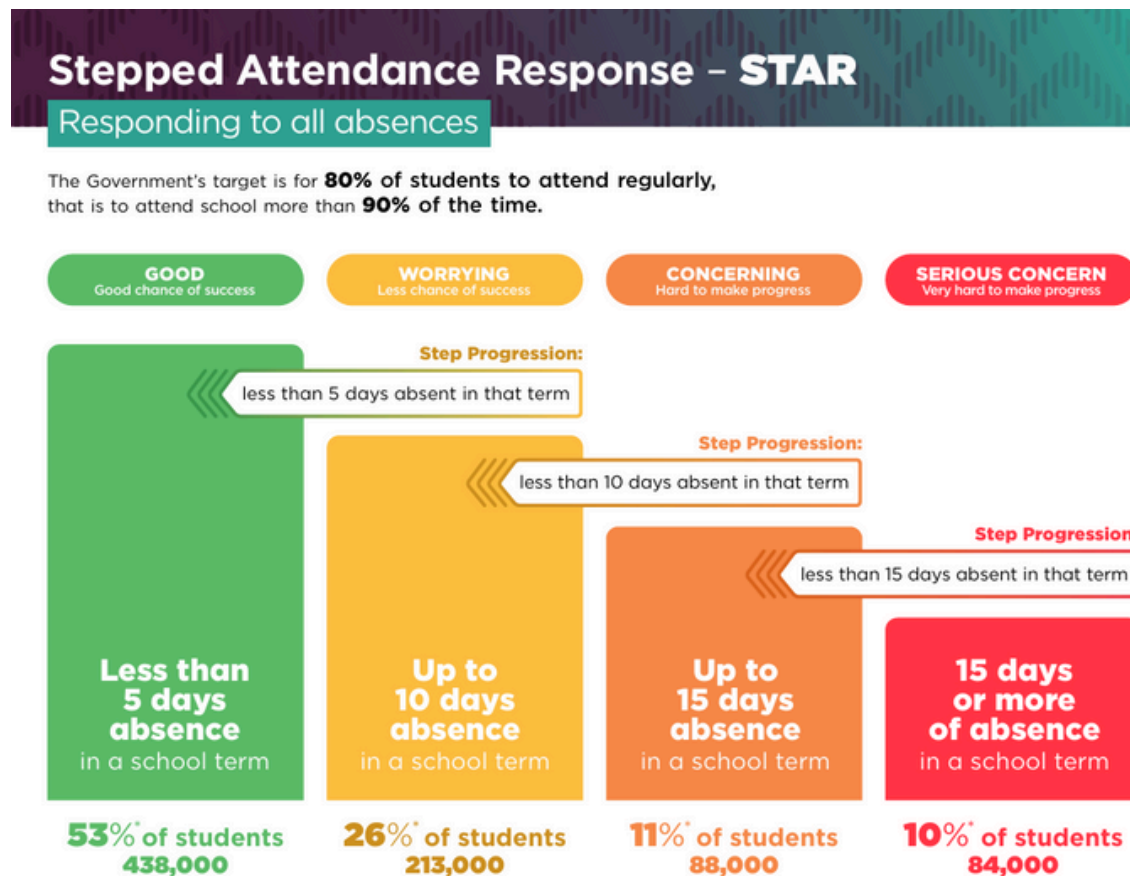
The STAR program:

- Establishes a framework ensuring that no student accumulates absences without an appropriate intervention to facilitate their return to regular attendance.
- Aims to help achieve the Government's goal of having 80% of students present for 90% of the term by 2030.
- Outlines the necessary actions to take when students are absent from school.

This initiative emphasizes the importance of school attendance, stating that:

- Parents are expected to collaborate with the school, the Ministry, and other relevant agencies to help their children return to regular attendance and engage with available support.
- Schools and the Ministry of Education will take necessary actions when student absences become a concern.

The STAR initiative clarifies the steps to be taken when students do not attend school, fostering a shared understanding among all stakeholders.



Attendance reminders to help our school processes run smoothly:

1. Absentees to be entered onto Skool Loop or emailed before 9am each morning with an explanation for absense
2. The office will send a text message if we have not recieved notofication of childs absense - please respond asap so that record of absense can be made (no explanation the child will be marked truant)
3. Late students- parents must go to the office to sign their child in if arriving after 9am
4. Picking up students early - parents must go to office to sign child out if leaving school early
5. If someone different is picking up your child early please let office or teacher know so we know they have your permission.

Ngutunui Strategic Plan



Goal 1 : Student Engagement & Attendance

To have high aspirations for every tamaiti; using learner agency and the interests of our learners, their environment, whānau & hapori to inspire learning and creativity.

Learning & Growing Together

Ako Tahī me te Tipu Tahī

Goal 2 : Teaching & Learning

For every tamaiti to show growth in their abilities. Building strong foundational knowledge, through structured learning approaches that allow our learners to reach for their full potential

Poipoia te kākano

kia puawai.

Nurture the seed
and it will blossom.

Goal 3 : Wellbeing / Hauora

To promote the well-being of learners, staff and our environment. Our learners will be confident, resilient and inspired.

Our Core Values



Respectful & Responsible

Driven & Determined

Curious & Courageous

2025



Creating a NORTH-EAST LEARNING INSTITUTION