

20TH AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Tongariro School

Tēnā tātou e te whānau whānui o te kura,
Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa

As we move through this vibrant term together.

There's a definite sense of momentum and pride in the air, with our ākonga shining in all sorts of spaces – from the classroom to the farm, the stage to the sports field.

Over the past few weeks, we've seen incredible effort, creativity, and resilience from our tamariki. Whether it's in their learning, leadership, or how they show manaakitanga and whanaungatanga, our ākonga continue to impress and inspire. Ka mau te wehi!

Looking ahead, our calendar is full of opportunities for learning and connection. Highlights include:

Clean-Up Week: Thursday 28th August - (Week 7) a chance to show our kaitiakitanga in action

Cross Country in Taupō and Ripper Rugby here at school - ngā mihi to our kaiako and whānau who tautoko these events

Taiopenga Tuwharetoa: a beautiful celebration of te ao Māori and our students' cultural pride. Groups perform Thursday 11th September. More details to come.

Whānau Day (Wednesday 17th September): we warmly invite you to join us – nau mai, haere mai! More details to come

School Ball, Board Elections, and much more...

We also mihi to our staff who are out and about – leading trips, professional learning, and representing our kura in the wider sector.

Please keep an eye on the calendar included in this pānui – there's lots happening and we'd love to see you at some of these events.

Ngā manaakitanga o te wā, and thank you, as always, for your continued support. He kura, he hapori, he whānau – we are strongest when we work together.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Sharlyn Holt
Tumuaki

Tongariro School Snow Squad



What an our awesome morning and then afternoon got even better with warm temperatures and perfect snow conditions.

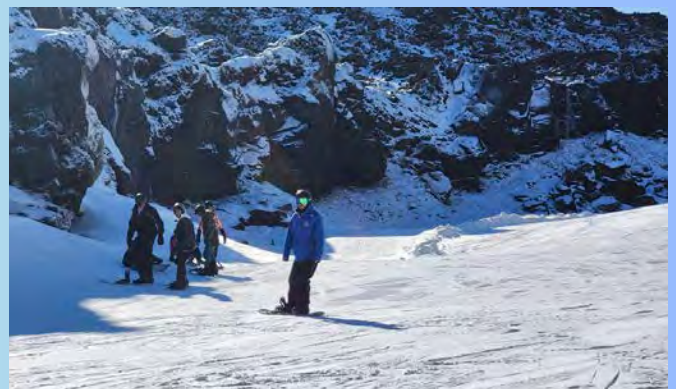
After lunch, the keen students ventured up to Rockgarden and became familiar with steeper slopes and some tight turns, which helped build their confidence.

Overall it was a great day had by all.

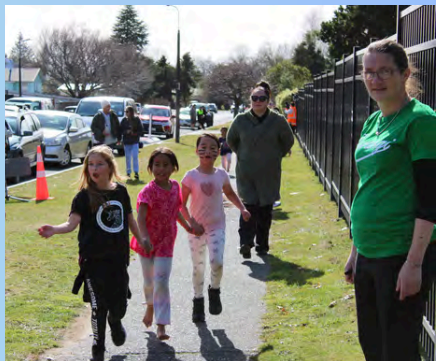
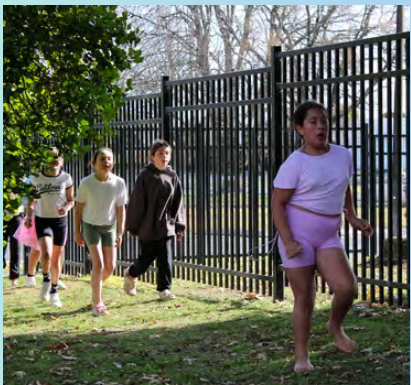
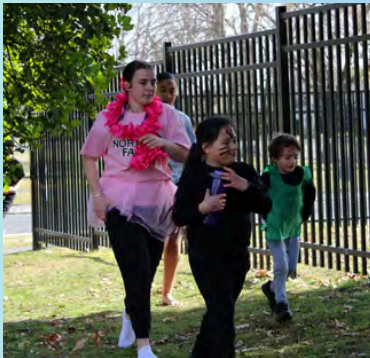
Some awesome tuakana teina relationships were formed as we were all on the lookout for each other.



And all tauira are engaged and listening well to their instructors.



Cross Country at Tongariro School



Cross Country at Kuratau School

What a successful day for all our 46 students. Our bigger kids had a buddy for the day and did such a great job. This was tuakana/teina at its best.

We had lots of whanau supporting too.

Highlights were the support our kids had for one another when running.

An excellent example was when Florence came in, and not feeling too confident and whakama. What our kids did was join her to the finish line and encouraged her. You did fantastic Florence, very proud of you.

You did it girlfriend!!!! Resilience.

Another example was when a girl from another school injured herself, Kendall and Indie-Rose stopped running to carry this girl to an adult and carried on. Showing manaakitanga.

Results are:

Justice Simon - 3rd in Year 8 Boys

Azarhyaah Singh - 1st in Year 7 Boys

Autumn Solomon-Allen - 2nd in Year 7 Girls

Shae Simon - 4th in Year 7 Girls

James Tihi - 2nd in Year 6 Boys

Chevylay Bellass - 3rd in Year 6 Boys

Quintin Jensen - 2nd in Year 5 Boys

Tamakopiri Higgins - 4th in Year 5 Boys

Faith Kempthorne - 2nd in Year 5 Girls

Ryda Marshall Nicoll-Klokstad - 3rd in Year 4 Boys

Tegan Wigzell - 1st in Year 4 Girls

Hunter Marshall-Matene - 2nd in Year 3 Boys

Poihere Turanga-Brown - 4th in Year 3 Girls

Carlito Bellass - 1st in Year 2 Boys

Leo Rangataua-Toomata - 2nd in Year 2 Boys

Stone Kaylani 4th in Year 2 Girls

The remaining come in not long after.

There was a "last minute" change of course and we smashed it whanau.

Year 5 to 8 ran the same long course, roughly 2.5km maybe longer.





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Room 3

We have been learning about Ngatoroirangi.

Ngatoroirangi is a tohunga, he is a navigator-he can read the stars, he can follow the moon and the sun, he steers the waka. He is a Maori, he is a hero. He is an explorer.

As Ngatoroirangi travelled south from Maketu, Ngatoroirangi rescued some people of Rotorua and Taupo from Tama-o-hoi.

Tama-o-hoi was a man-eating monster who waylaid, and killed unwary travellers.

Ngatoroirangi climbed Mount Tarawera and fought with Tama-o-hoi. He stamped on the summit which burst open and formed a huge chasm.

Ngatoroirangi pushed Tama-o-hoi into it and closed the opening and imprisoned Tama-o-hoi.

KEA Crossing is Coming Back!



We're pleased to let you know that our Kea Crossing will be back in operation from the start of Term 4

To help keep our tamariki safe during those busy after-school times.

👉 **Operating Times:**
Afternoon: 3:00–3:30pm

The Kea Crossing is located on Te Rangitautahanga, and will be supervised by trained student road patrollers and a staff member.

🚧 A few reminders for whānau and drivers:

Please slow down near the school and follow the instructions of the road patrollers.

Only cross when the signs are out and the patrollers signal you to go. Encourage your tamariki to use the crossing every time—they're modelling safe habits!

Ngā mihi nui for supporting the safety and wellbeing of our tamariki.

If you'd like to volunteer or have any pātai, please contact the office.

Kia haumaruru te haere – Travel safely!

EXCEL School of Performing Arts

Tongariro School were very fortunate to have the EXCEL School of Performing Arts perform at our school for the afternoon.

EXCEL offers unique study opportunities in dance, drama and music



RDA Riding Lessons for our Tamariki

Therapeutic Horse Riding is a proven therapy that develops, improves and/or promotes many aspects such as:

Physical ability

Muscle tone, balance, coordination.

Muscle strength, flexibility, fitness.

Posture, gait, ability to walk.

Sensory perception and integration.

Independence, self-care and mobility.

Social skills

Communication.

Learning appropriate behaviours and manners.

Interaction with peers, individuals and groups.

Human to animal contact and building relationships.

Consideration for others and taking on responsibility.

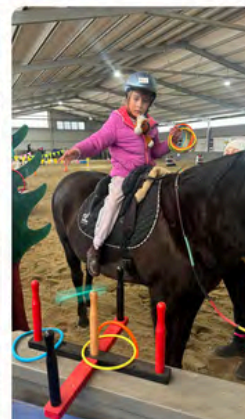
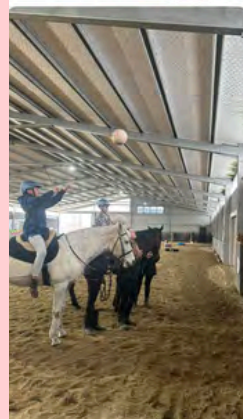
Sport and recreational participation

Develop interests.

Challenge and success in competition with self and others.

Stimulation or relaxation.

Integration into a community activity.





Literacy and Numeracy Assessments Week 8

Literacy is being able to read, write and understand language.

Numeracy is the ability to understand and use mathematics and statistics.

Having literacy and numeracy enables access to further learning, develops important life skills, and allows ākonga to fully engage in work and in their communities.

In Week 8 of this Term some ākonga will be attempting their Literacy and Numeracy assessments. These assessments are eligible for ākonga who are ready from Year 9 and up. Ready means that you have learnt all the skills and can use and apply these to solve problems, understand text and write for a purpose. Teachers will help decide if ākonga are ready.

If ākonga are successful this will give them the following number of credits:

Literacy reading - 5 credits

Literacy writing - 5 credits

Numeracy 10 credits

Gaining both Literacy and Numeracy allows ākonga to gain an NCEA qualification, without these an NCEA qualification cannot be awarded.

Ways you can help:

Talk to the school and their teachers about ways to improve their literacy and numeracy Practising reading, writing, and maths can help them develop the skills they need to achieve the co-requisite.



Help them practise using online assessments



Past exams and practice tests can help them get comfortable with these assessments so that they feel confident and prepared.

Reasons for being away

E



- Didn't feel like coming to school
- Mum said I could stay home
- Had to look after my siblings
- Went to visit whanau/friends
- The weather was yuk
- Too cold
- Stayed home
- We had a birthday
- Something else



J

- Tangi
- Unveiling
- Someone was in hospital
- Bad weather so couldn't get to school
- Wedding, new baby, family celebration
- Parent was sick & I couldn't get to school
- My nan/koro was sick & we visited



M

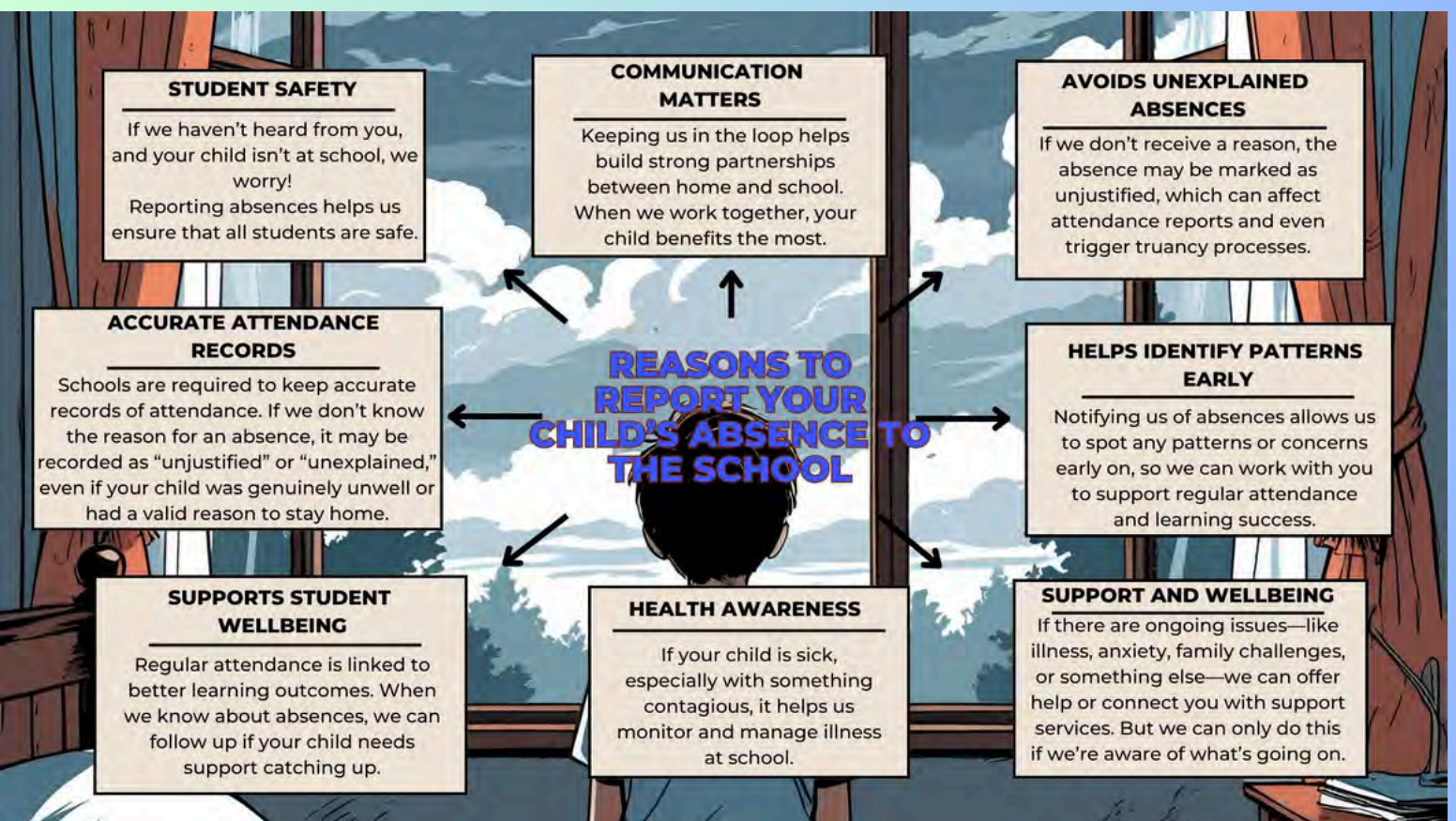


- I was sick – cough/ cold, headache, sore tummy, earache, sore body, sore throat, something else was sore, girl stuff
- Mental health day
- I had toothache
- I had hurt myself at school the day before



D

- I had a doctor's appointment
- I had a dentist appointment
- I had a specialist appointment
- I had to go to Physio
- I had to counselling
- I had a hospital appointment
- I had to go to court



When your child is not feeling well, deciding whether to send them to school or keep them home can be difficult. Here are some simple guidelines to help make that decision a little easier.
If you have more questions, don't hesitate to contact your physician.

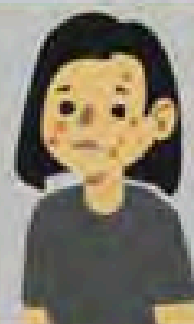
In most cases, your child should not be at school if they have the following symptoms:



I have a cough and other cold symptoms

Sore throat, cough, fever, congestion, runny nose

To return to school: The fever returns to normal for 24 hours without medication to lower it.



I have a rash

Unknown rashes or skin lesions, with oozing, drainage, or fever

To return to school: Your child must be free from rash or fever and have been evaluated by a physician if needed.



I have a fever

Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher within the last 24 hours

To return to school: Your child must be fever free for 24 hours, without the use of a fever reducing medicine (i.e., Tylenol, Motrin, Advil).



I have an eye infection

Thick mucus or pus draining from the eye or pink eye (conjunctivitis)

To return to school: Your child must be free from drainage and/or have been evaluated by a physician if needed.



I have a sore throat

Sudden high fever, redness in throat with white patches, pain when swallowing, or hoarse (husky) voice

To return to school: 24 hours after last dose of antibiotics and normal temperature 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit



I have head-lice

Excessive, distracting itching of scalp; a tickling sensation of something moving in the hair; irritability; and head sores as a result of scratching

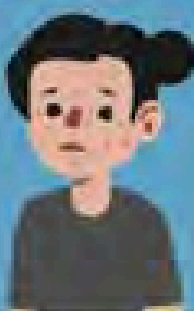
To return to school: Your child may return if treated with the appropriate lice treatment at home or referred to their health care provider for further treatment recommendations if needed.



I have a stomachache

Several episodes (2 or more) of vomiting and diarrhea within the last 24 hours period

To return to school: Your child must be free from vomiting and diarrhea free for 24 hours without medication to control it.



I have chicken pox

Itchy rash or blisters; fever; headache; and feeling tired

To return to school: Your child may return when there are no new blisters or spots appear and all the spots have dried over and are dry.



I have COVID

Fever, chills, new cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea

To return to school: No nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or fever for at least 24 hours without the use of a fever reducing medicine, and other symptoms are improving.

Your child must remain out for at least 5 days after symptoms start if they do not get a negative COVID-19 test or alternative diagnosis.

- + It's OK to have a runny nose and/or small cough.
- + We encourage you to seek medical attention when your child is sick and to follow your health care provider's recommendation about returning to school and other activities.



Need to know how to report an absence? Look for this icon on your school's website or CMS homepage.

PULSE

At Tongariro School, we're always looking for ways to keep our tamariki safe and support them in their emotional wellbeing with their overall hauora/wellbeing.

Pulse will be implemented in **Week 7 Of this Term, Term 3.**

What is Pulse?

Pulse is a regular **wellbeing check-in tool** that gives our tamariki a simple, private, and consistent way to share how they're feeling. It supports the development of mindfulness and emotional awareness habits and expands on the work we already do supporting mindfulness as part of our values.

Pulse helps focus on the social & emotional learning curriculum, created to teach children to recognise and self-regulate their emotional control.

Pulse helps support:

- Students to feel safe to seek help & share how they are feeling
- Increased vocabulary an understanding of feelings & of emotions
- Provide students with a voice and offer feedback to the school
- Self-regulation, reflection and calming and strategies
- Understanding of gratitude and empathy

Why?

We know that Aotearoa has one of the highest youth suicide rates in the OECD.

While that is a heavy truth, we believe that starting early by building strong emotional foundations and teaching children to open up and communicate, we can make a lasting difference. If we can help our students recognise, share and manage their feelings now, we're helping them with tools for life. Pulse uses questions supported by an evidence-based framework to understand wellbeing in schools. It shows anonymised data in a simple and timely way to selected staff that will allow us to provide better support to each student and/or year level.

How does it work?

Pulse will help Tongariro School teachers understand how the students in their class are feeling. Each week, **Pulse** invites students to check in by answering short questions about their wellbeing and school experience. **Pulse** will help teachers notice patterns and respond more effectively to the wellbeing of students. **Pulse** provides a weekly check in which can help spot trends across a class, year level or whole school. Over time, we can see if student/s repeatedly check in as orange or red. Teachers can then have a quiet chat or provide support or early intervention/s to prevent escalation. If a lot of students suddenly check in as orange or red, the teacher or our leadership may respond with a class/school kōrero or social skills/emotional wellbeing lesson.

What information does Pulse collect?

During **Pulse** deployment, the school will set up and enrol students into **Pulse** using their name, Tongariro School email, class and year.

Pulse collects the responses to the questions asked during a check-in.

The first two questions in each check-in ('How are you feeling today?' and 'Which of these [emotions] best describes how you are feeling?') are identifiable, meaning a student's name is attached to their response and can be seen by relevant school staff only.

If a student requests support from a staff member, selected by the child, they will be notified by email and see a message in their **Pulse** Dashboard's Help Inbox that a student would like to chat. There is no opportunity for a student to freely type text.

All other responses are shown to staff as year-level/class/school feedback and are not identified to individual students.

Who can see responses to Pulse Check-in?

Only staff allocated to oversee a student's class, or team can see their responses to the **Pulse** check-in.

Want to opt out?

If you want to remove your child from the process, please email lisa.leatherby@tongariro.school.nz by 30 August 2025

Where does Pulse store and process personal information?

Qoria takes data confidentiality seriously and designed **Pulse** with the privacy of participants and students in mind. It protects all data with security safeguards commensurate with its sensitivity. All data is password protected, redundantly stored, and encrypted where appropriate. Qoria regularly backs up all personal information in **Pulse** to secure local data centres across major regions. Qoria employees are unable to see identifiable individual student responses.

Links:

Video about Pulse

(<https://7977292.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/7977292/Pulse%20Onboarding%20Assets/intro%20to%20P&G%20video.mp4>)

Evidence-based frameworks: (<https://pulsehelp.linewize.com/hc/en-gb/articles/7820095911836>)

Privacy Policy: (<https://qoria.com/privacy/privacy-policy>).

If you have any questions, please email
lisa.leatherby@tongariro.school.nz



**NEW WORLD
TURANGI**



New Zealand
POLICE
Nga Pirihimana o Aotearoa



Auckland's Big Day Out

Rainbows End Kelly Tarlton's LeapNZ Hamilton

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th September 2025

60 places available for 10 – 14 years olds

FIRST TIMERS until Friday 5th September 2025

Then the list will be open to everyone 10 - 14 year olds

Applications close Thursday 11th September at 12pm

Cost - \$60 all inclusive

Pickup forms from your school or Turangi Police Station



Positive Parenting Tips with Bay



Hono mai ki a mātou mō tētahi
ata pūmau hei kīrehe ki ngā
whakaaro nui e pā ana ki te
tiaki me te tautoko i ngā pāpā
me ngā māmā.

Join us for a morning filled
with valuable insights on
nurturing and supportive
parenting!

FREE!



Monday 25th August 2025

10.30am - 12.30pm

REAP Playgroup Rangikahekeiwaho Place

Morning tea provided



**For Parents of
children under 5**



To register Phone 07 378 8109 Email:
ako@reapcentralplateau.nz scan barcode

Maths-Whizz Parent Letter

Kia ora Whānau

We are excited to be partnering with your school to engage your students and accelerate their progress in Maths.

When your child first logs into Maths-Whizz they will sit an assessment, getting questions across all topics.

Maths-Whizz then creates a personalised programme for each student, to teach them lessons to fill in those gaps.



Student Weekly Targets

We are passionate about 'effective usage' on a device, not 'excessive usage'. Most students can gain their weekly targets in less than 60 mins a week. We cap usage of new learning at 120 mins a week as we do not want excessive usage.



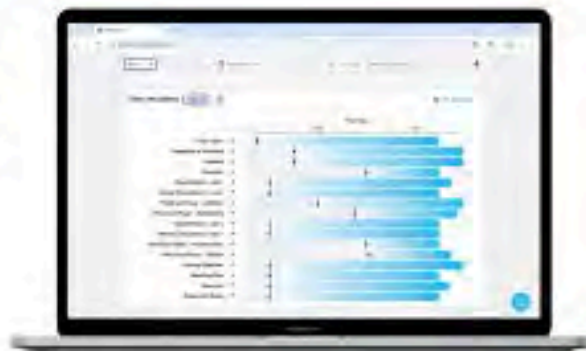
- Blue Gem - 3 learning progressions
- Red Gem - 3 topic challenge activities = Blue + Red Gem = Hall of Fame
- Accelerated Progress Target- 5 Blue and 5 Red

There are two main areas to Maths-Whizz:

Tutor - New Learning - Blue Gem

Please do not help the students with the mathematics in their programme! By all means ask them questions to ensure they understand instructions, however leave the answering of the problems up to the students as Maths-Whizz will react to students getting answers right, and wrong.

We encourage you to sign up for Parent Reports and access any activities to practice with your students from there. See next page.



Exercises - 70% pass rate - up to 15 credits

Students do their new learning in a fun, cartoon environment. At the beginning of most exercises students will receive some teaching, then some questions. If a student gets a question wrong, Maths-Whizz gives help, so it is important that students do not log out, but keep going.

If they get several questions wrong, Maths-Whizz will automatically take them back to where they last understood a concept and rebuild on that.

If students get the first 5 or 6 questions right, they may have the opportunity to 'jump forward' to the test to save them time. They should only jump through if they are confident.

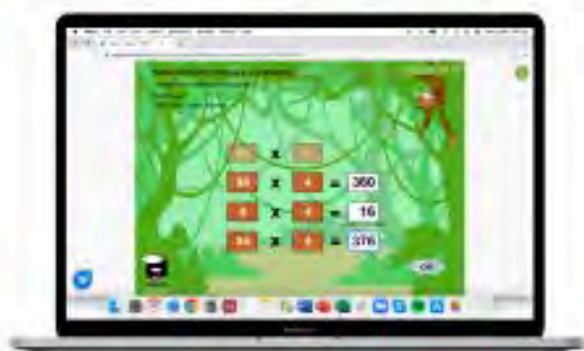
Tests - 60% pass rate - up to 30 credits

The cartoons and the help facility are stripped away and students are then given a test to see if they have understood the concept they have passed in the lesson.

If they pass the test, they make a blue learning progression and get a piece of their blue gem.

If they don't pass the test, they will receive the exercise again in the future for them to try again.

If they pass their test, they earn a learning progression and Maths-Whizz fills some blue on their progress report and adjusts their programme. Please do not help the child to pass the test, but encourage them to do their best in the test.



Topic Challenge - Consolidation - Red Gem

When the child passes a lesson in their Tutor, it shows up in the Topic Challenge Area where they can consolidate their learning.

They can earn their red gems in two ways:

- Replay - they can try to beat their personal best
- Challenge - they can challenge another student who is working on the same level as them.



Access the iLearn Parent Guide

Here you will find valuable information:

- Sign up for Free Weekly Emails
- Sign up to Parent Reports
- Watch the Parent Hui

<https://ilearn.co.nz/school-parent-guide/>



Maths-Whizz
by whizz education

iLearn
EDUCATION

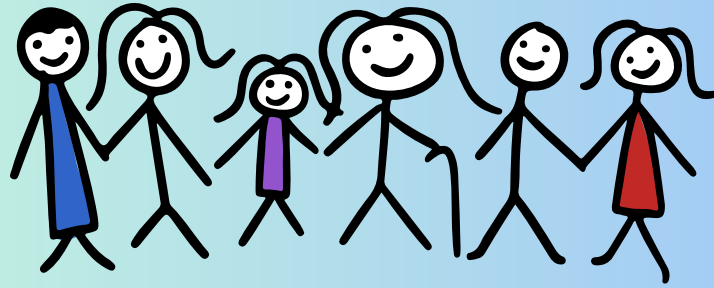


Vote now!

Voting is now open for school board elections.
Contact your school for more information.

Returning Officer - Kerry Gallagher -
22 Wapapa Road Turangi - 07 386 8684





Not every kid shows up to school with the same support waiting for them at home.

Some come back to empty houses.

Some don't have someone asking about their day.

Some don't have the supplies or the routines.

Some are just trying to make it through.

This is why I remind my kids to be kind.

To sit with the lonely kid.

To smile at the one who looks nervous.

To share when they can.

Because sometimes school is the only safe and steady place a child gets in their day.

And that one act of kindness could be what makes them feel seen.

