

Tongariro School Newsletter

31st July 2025



Ngā mihi o te wā e te whānau,
A warm welcome back to Term 3 – I hope
the break provided space for rest and
reconnection.



As we settle back into the rhythm of kura
life, it's clear that the term is already full
of rich learning opportunities, community
connection, and purposeful mahi.

Thank you to everyone who helped
ensure a smooth start to the term,
especially those involved in the whakatau
for new staff and ākonga. These shared
moments help to uphold our values of
manaakitanga and whanaungatanga.

This term we'll continue to focus on
strengthening literacy and numeracy
foundations, integrating mātauranga
Māori into our programmes, and
preparing for ERO later this term. Ngā
mihi nui to our kaiako who are engaging
in PLD and refining practice to support
these goals.

We also mihi to those heading into senior
leadership opportunities off-site this term
– thank you for representing our kura and
bringing back new insights to share.

Please take note of the upcoming events
and mark your calendars accordingly:

Upcoming Events (Term 3 Weeks 3–6)

Week 3:

Te Wharekura - Taikura show

Friday 1st August: Teacher Only Day - Math
Curriculum

Week 4:

Tuesday 5 August: KCRFU Referees Course

Wednesday 6 August: Massey Uni Open Day –
Manawatū

Thursday 7 August: School Cross Country

Friday 8 August: Yr 1-3 Trip to the Snow

Week 5:

Monday 11 August: Assembly

Friday 15 August: Kuratau X Country

Week 6:

ERO in school

Monday 18 August: EFFORTS focus continues

Wednesday 20–Friday 22 August: Area Schools
Conference

Wednesday 20 August (TBC): Duffy Assembly
1:30pm

Ngā mihi maioha for your continued support.
Kia kaha tātou ki te tautoko i a tātou tamariki –
kia tipu, kia rea rātou i runga i te aroha me te
mātauranga.

Heartfelt thanks for your continued support.
Let us stand strong in supporting our children –
so they may grow and flourish in love and
learning.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Sharlyn Holt
Tumuaki

1st Of August is a
Teacher Only Day



**School will be closed for
instruction on this day.**

**Please contact the school
office if you have any
questions.**



Area Schools National Tournament – Invercargill 2025

During the first week of the school holidays, George Hemara and Shaunee Reweti represented the Central North Island (CNI) at the Area Schools National Tournament in Invercargill.

Shaunee tackled rugby and Ki o Rahi in freezing southern conditions, helping her team to a hard-fought win. George played volleyball indoors, where the CNI team showed strong progress despite early losses. Both students competed against teams from across the motu and were later selected for the North Island representative teams—a fantastic achievement. Shaunee went on to play rugby for the North Island, contributing to a dominant performance, and was also selected for the NZ Area Schools Girls Rugby team. George's volleyball team pushed the South Island to three sets in a tight final match, showing great teamwork and resilience.

We're incredibly proud of their efforts—this experience highlights what's possible through dedication and teamwork.

Ka mau te wehi!



Leadership Success at Ohakea Air Force Base

The following students were selected to attend a week-long Basic Leadership Course held at Ohakea Air Force Base: Shaedyn Hamilton, Lucy Kereama, Ryshire Downs, Reka Teinaki, and Te Whiti Hopa.

This course focused on developing key leadership skills, with students taking the lead in activities involving peers from other academies. All five students performed exceptionally well and were commended for their growth throughout the week.

A special congratulations to Shaedyn Hamilton and

Lucy Kereama, who were recommended by Defence Force staff to attend the Advanced Leaders Course. They will travel to Whenuapai Air Force Base in Auckland for a further week-long leadership development opportunity in mid-August.

Ka rawe koutou – we are proud of your achievements!





Our first visit at the Energy Career Pathway Roadshow in Taupo with one of our ex students Keanu Waru who has been working at Western Energy in Taupo for almost 2 years now.

He came here as a school leaver and is doing awesome.

The Energy Career Pathways field trip, was sponsored by Toi Ohomai and delivered in partnership with Taupō Pathways through their Pathways Connect programme, offering our Year 11-13 students the opportunity to explore the wide range of careers in the geothermal and energy sector.

Our Students visited Contact Energy, MB Century, Mercury, GNS Science and Western Energy where they engage directly with professionals across the industry. Through site tours, hands-on demonstrations, and interactive conversations, our students gained valuable insights into the diverse pathways available, from skilled trades and apprenticeships to tertiary education and research careers.



In Term Three and Four our 7 to 10 cohort are learning about some exciting topics

Year 7 and 8 Academy's

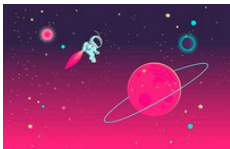
Move with Mana: Exploring Cultures Through Traditional Games

Curriculum Areas - Health and PE and Languages

In this course, you'll build your te reo Māori vocabulary through real-world, hands-on activities. Strengthen your movement skills, learn to think strategically through fun games and challenges, and discover how to care for your overall wellbeing using hauora and global wellbeing models. It's all about building confidence in your body, your mind, and your culture!



My Place in the Universe Curriculum Areas - Science



Explore space, stars, and planets through science and art. Discover how Earth fits into the solar system and create artworks that show your unique place in the universe.

Nga Rehia - He Kakano Exhibition Curriculum Areas - Arts

He Kākano means “the seed” – a place where Māori performing arts can grow. It's about learning and sharing our traditions like waiata, haka, and mōteatea. We support new talent and help keep our culture strong through performance and storytelling. From small beginnings, big things grow. This class will exhibit their mahi at the exhibition.



Migrations and Innovation Curriculum Areas - and Social Studies



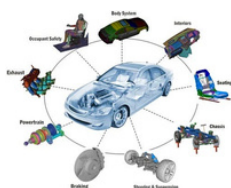
Learn about why people migrate and explore stories of migration from different cultures. Understand how people move to new places and how this affects people and communities.

Kai and Culture Curriculum Areas Technology Explore different food traditions and learn how to design and create sustainable food products using technology. Focus on making choices that help protect the environment while solving real problems.



Year 9 and 10 Academy's

Whakatere Waka o Mua: Engineering Journeys in Turangi Curriculum Areas: Sciences



Design, build, and test your vehicles while exploring how science, history, and engineering shaped transport in Turangi. Learn how forces, energy, and materials combine to power cars.

Move with Mana: Exploring Cultures Through Traditional Games Curriculum Areas: Health and PE

Students learn to lead, respect, and move with purpose as they participate in traditional games from Māori and global cultures. This unit encourages cultural competence, leadership, and holistic wellbeing through physical play.



From creation to waste: Our responsibility as Kaitiaki Curriculum Areas: Social Science



Where do your things really come from—and where do they go? Explore the journey of everyday products, uncover the impacts on people and the planet, and learn how to take action as a kaitiaki. Create powerful messages, design sustainable solutions, and be part of the change!

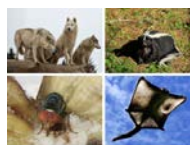
Te Kingitanga

Curriculum Areas: NZ Histories

In this course, you'll learn about **Te Kīngitanga** – a movement that began in 1858 to bring Māori together under one leader. It started as a way to protect Māori land, rights, and mana during a time of conflict. You'll discover the story of the first King, **Pōtatau Te Wherowhero**, and how Te Kīngitanga continues this important mahi. We'll explore the role of **Tūrangawaewae Marae**, the heart of the movement, and how Te Kīngitanga still supports Māori development and upholds tikanga Māori today.



Survivors: Code of the Wild Curriculum Areas: Science



Why does a penguin wear a tuxedo? How can a camel turn off its sweat? And what do birds, bats, and bugs all have in common? In *Survivors: Code of the Wild*, you'll crack the secrets behind how animals are classified and the wild adaptations that help them thrive — from the skies to the deep sea. Build evolutionary trees, simulate survival challenges, and design your own dream creature built for a future world.

Innovation and design

Curriculum Areas: Technology and Design

Learn and apply visual communication, practical techniques, and design thinking to real-world briefs. You'll create unique, high-quality outcomes—like a film prop, a container café, and a digital presentation—while developing your creative ideas into polished final designs.



He Pakiwaitara mōte Hunga Kaha

The Legend of the Guardians of 100 %Attendance

Tēnā koutou ngā toa o te wā!

In the days of Tāwhirimātea's storms and Hine-Raumati's chill, when the days grew short and the winds howled across the land, a special group of rangatahi rose each morning like the sun over the moana.

These were not ordinary tamariki. No, they were the Kaitiaki o te Kura — the Guardians of 100% Attendance. Everyday, without fail, they journeyed to the whare mātauranga, their minds sharp like the beak of the kahu, their hearts steady like the flow of the awa.

While others were tempted by the warmth of the blankets or the call of lazy mornings, the Kaitiaki stood strong. Like Maui who fished up the great land, they showed courage, determination, and cleverness. Like Hine moana who nourishes all life, they were consistent, present, and dependable.

They came through rain, wind, and even sleepy eyes, to walk the path of learning. And in doing so, they honoured not only themselves, but their whanau, their hapū, and their kura.

And so now, the story is told — of the brave ones with 100% attendance. You have carved your names into the korero of your people.

You are role models, champions, legends in your own right.

Students who achieved 100% Attendance for Term 2

**Brierna Andrews - Jazmyn Andrews - Leonzane Andrews - Stallion Andrews
JJ Kingi - Amaia Beauchamp - John Flores - Morgan Foxall - Harry Gair
Lucas Gordon-Green - Brian Hapuku-Downes - Kymani King - Skylah Marshall-Matene
- Tylor Monaghan - Michael Mukumbareza - Seth Pohatu - Te Aroha Pohatu -
Kaia Pohatu-Concina - Zyah Ruke-Harris - Abbie Sibley-Ireland
Major Simon - Justice Simon - Shylar Simon - Ivy Smith-Holley
Abigail Stewart - Callan Stewart - Rogan Stewart - Taikehu Te Whaiti -
Te Hoka Wanikau - Max Whitmore - Malakai Woodmass - RJ Caldwell**

He toa, he toa! Tūturu whakamaui kia tina! TINA! HĀUMI E, HUI E, TĀIKI E!

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui e te whānau — and keep walking your path with pride.

**Nā tō kura, metewhakahī nui,
TongariroSchool**

ATTENDANCE TERM 2 – TONGARIRO SCHOOL

TOP THREE YEAR LEVELS EACH WEEK - TERM 2

Week 1

1st - Year 6
2nd - Year 5
3rd - Year 4

Week 2

1st - Year 2
2nd - Year 3
3rd - Year 6

Week 3

1st - Year 2
2nd - Year 5
3rd - Year 12

Week 4

1st - Year 6
2nd - Year 3
3rd - Year 2

Week 5

1st - Year 6
2nd - Year 5
3rd - Year 2

Week 6

1st - Year 6
2nd - Year 5
3rd - Year 7

Week 7

1st - Year 6
2nd - Year 4
3rd - Year 7

Week 8

1st - Year 7
2nd - Year 6
3rd - Year 5



Week 9

1st - Year 6
2nd - Year 5
3rd - Year 4



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/>





Get on board!

Nominate yourself or someone you know
to be a school board member.

Contact Kerry Gallagher - kerry.gallagher@tongariro.school.nz





BECOMING A YOUTH MENTOR

"NURTURING RELATIONSHIPS THAT TRANSFORM LIVES"

He Kāhui Tāngata are looking for volunteer mentors who can dedicate a couple of hours each week to spend supporting, guiding and empowering a young person in a one on one setting

Some things to consider

- Are you aged 18yrs+?
- Have you always wanted to make a difference in a young person's life?
- Can you spare a couple of hours per week?
- Do you want to feel challenged & inspired?

*Training & ongoing support offered throughout the program



For more information

☎ 027 234 2241

✉ hktcoordinator@gmail.com

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