



# TE PAINA SCHOOL

Opening Minds to Tomorrow's World

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Term 4 - Week 1

Tues 15 - Weds 16 Oct  
Life Education Van

Friday 17 October  
Loud Shirt Day

Mon 20 - Fri 24 October  
Niue Language Week

Tue 21 October  
Franklin Year 5-6 Touch

Weds 22 October  
Franklin Year 7-8 Touch

Thursday 23 October  
SCHOOL CLOSED  
NZEI Teacher Strike

Friday 24 October  
School Athletics Day  
from 11:30am

Monday 27 October  
Labour Day Holiday

Wednesday 29 October  
Year 0-2 East Group  
Junior Tabloids Day

Monday 3 November  
East Group Athletics Day

Thursday 6 November  
Community Constable  
Police Visit

Friday 7 November  
Year 7-8 Tama Toa  
Programme

Weds 12 November  
Year 3-4 Tabloids Day  
Mangatawhiri School

Thursday 13 November  
Class and Siblings Photos

Tuesday 25 November  
Year 8 Celebration  
Day

## Bula Vinaka Te Paina whaanau,

Ni sa bula vinaka and welcome to Term 4 everyone. This week is Fijian Language Week and as always we like to celebrate and honour all of the diverse cultures represented in our wonderful country of Aotearoa, New Zealand. The theme for Fijian Language Week this year is 'Na noqu vosa: me na tekivu mai vale' - My Language: Starts at Home'. Please join us as we celebrate this beautiful culture this week.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new students who have joined this term, as well as some who have returned to our Te Paina whaanau. I would like to extend a warm welcome also to our new teacher in Tuatoru - Whaea Sarah Burt who has had a fantastic first week with our Year 4-6 tamariki. I know she will be a great addition to our amazing team at Te Paina School. A huge thank you to Whaea Cecilia Heta for supporting us at our Mihi Whakatau on Wednesday.

I have also received a resignation from Whaea Emily Gibson who will not be returning to our school in 2026. Although it is sad for us, family always comes first! Whaea Emily has chosen to spend more time with her new baby boy and of course we are supporting this decision. Whaea Emily will be missed and we know she has a bright future ahead. Our staffing and classes for 2026 will be confirmed later in the year. If you do know of any whaanau who are new to the community, please encourage them to pre-enrol their children at the school office as soon as possible. The more information we have now, the better we can plan and organise classroom rolls and positions for 2026. Thank you to those whaanau members who have filled in the Google Sheet to let us know your intentions of returning next year or not. We really do appreciate this information ahead of time.

### **Hats On for Summer!**

With the warmer weather returning, it's time for *sunhats every day*.

As part of our SunSmart policy, all students must wear a wide-brimmed or bucket hat when outside during Term 4. Please ensure your child's hat is clearly named and kept at school or brought in daily. Let's keep everyone safe under the sun!



### **School Closed – Thursday 23rd October (NZEI STRIKE DAY)**

Please note that school will be **CLOSED on Thursday 23rd October**. A separate notice has been sent via Skool Loop and email as informed by the NZEI and the Board of Trustees. We understand this may cause some disruption for whaanau, and we appreciate your support as our staff participate in important union action. There will be no supervision available on this day.

### **Why are we doing this?**

Across the motu, we are all driven by the same thing: we're frustrated by the lack of progress in our negotiations and we're deeply worried about the future of education in this country.

You don't attract or retain good people to work with tamariki if you don't provide fair pay and good conditions. You don't support tamariki by prioritising tax breaks for tobacco companies over investment in education!

We know New Zealand's parents and tamariki depend on us every day. When their children go to school, they need us there to support them. But right now, we're finding it increasingly hard to do this important work. And the Government is ignoring our calls for more learning support and to uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi in Education.



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## Life Education Van – Week 2


We're excited to welcome the **Life Education Trust** and the **Harold the Giraffe** van back to our kura in **Week 2!**


The Life Education programme supports our Health curriculum and helps tamariki learn about hauora (wellbeing), friendships, decision-making, and healthy lifestyles in a fun and engaging way.

## End of Year Celebrations

Term 4 is full of exciting events and special occasions! From **prizegivings** to **sports days** and **farewell assemblies**, there will be plenty of opportunities to celebrate the learning and achievements of 2025. Keep an eye on Skool Loop and class notices for dates and details as we get closer to each event.


## Attendance & Wellbeing


 **School Hours:** School starts promptly at 8:30am and finishes at 2:30pm. Our full school day can be found on our school website.

 **Absences:** Please notify the office or fill in the absence form on Skool Loop or on the school website before 9am if your child is unwell.


**Attendance: Every Day Matters:** Being at school every single day is essential for tamariki to succeed in their learning. Consistent attendance helps children build strong learning habits, stay on track with their learning and develop important social skills. Missing even 1-2 days can have a significant impact on learning and cause your child to fall behind in their achievement.

## School Communication

 **Website:** <https://www.tepaina.school.nz/> – Check for term dates, policies, and notices.

 **School App:** Download Skool Loop for updates, notices, and emergency alerts.

 **Email Updates:** Ensure your contact details are up to date. Contact [office@tepaina.school.nz](mailto:office@tepaina.school.nz) to update your information.

 **Social Media:** Follow us on Facebook for updates.

As always, please reach out if you have any questions. Let's make this final term a memorable one full of learning, laughter, and connection!

Ngaa manaakitanga,  
Adam and the Te Paina team.



### School Office Hours

The school office is open Mon, Tues and Weds only from 8am – 1pm.

### EFTPOS

We ask our families to pay by EFTPOS when purchasing or paying for stationery.  
*Please avoid cash if possible.*

### TE PAINA SCHOOL BANK DETAILS

12 3078 0137975 00

Please use your family name and say what the payment is for.

For example:

**Code:** Smith

**Reference:** Stationery