



Newsletter

28 February 2025

*Whaowhia te kete mātauranga
Fill the basket with knowledge*

Kia Ora ē te whānau

We continue to have magical days of learning, our tamariki are settling into their learning spaces for the year and it has been great to see the self belief in the eyes of our learners.

It is with sadness that I let you know that our Musical Magic Man, Jason, won't be with us this year. He has been offered another opportunity, closer to home. It has been amazing having Jason as part of our team for the last four years and the confidence and pride in the hearts of the students he worked with was truly special. We wish Jason and his growing whānau all the very best.

Just a wee reminder of expectations of bus behaviour - some of our students are finding it a bit tricky to get back into routine, please have a chat about the following expectations:

- I will demonstrate the school virtues of EXCELLENCE, TEAMWORK, CREATIVITY and RESPECT.
- I will remain in my seat for the whole journey.
- I will not eat on the bus
- I will not throw anything inside or out of the bus.
- I will respect other students and their property at all times.
- I will not do anything that may distract the driver.
- I will speak quietly and politely at all times.
- I will respect the property of the bus operator at all times (e.g. refraining from standing on seats or vandalising the vehicle in any way).
- I will follow the instructions of the bus driver, the bus monitors and the teacher responsible for bus duty.

ODS SWIMMING SPORTS - This takes place on **Friday 7th March. Starting at 11am.** If you would like to be in a relay team that races against our students, please let Tarnz or the office know. We would love to see you there, you make the best cheer team.

We have 33 students entered into **Tough Kids** - if you are thinking of taking transport, please fill in the form below - if we get enough parents to transport, we will not need to get a bus. If you can, please fill in the form and send it back as soon as possible.

Upcoming events

4-5 March - Helen, Hana and Halina away on Structured Literacy Professional Development.

7 March - ODS Swimming Sports - 11am start.

14 March - Te Kawau Swimming Sports

21 March - Tough Kids Event @ Mt Biggs School

24-26 March - Rooms 4 & 5 on camp

28 March - TeKawau Triathlon @ Sanson

31-March - 3 April - Education Review Office visiting our kura

4 April - TeKawau Junior Tabloids - hosted by our amazing students

10 April - School Photos

11 April - Last day of Term 1

Regular attendance is deemed as having only two days away from school per term, regardless of the reason.

Attendance - Advice from the Ministry of Education

One of the things we are continuing to focus on in 2025 is student attendance. You will hear representatives from the Ministry of Education talking about this in the media.

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to us.



Celebrating our Superstars

Class Certificates: Jay, Alec, Alana, Mason, Holly, Willis, Ruie, Emmerson and Gracie

Virtues: Jayu, Joshua, Mark, Olivia and Alannah

Bus Certificates: Aroha and Cath

PB4L Voucher: Mitchell



Principal Award: Kiana - *What an amazing start to the year you have had. Your attitude is outstanding and your commitment to your goals and learning is a true credit to the strong wahine you are. The kindness and caring that you display towards you peers and younger students is something special.*



Thank you and have a great weekend

Tarnz and Team Awesome

Tough Kids Transport
21 March
8:30 Leaving, 2:30 Returning

I can provide transport for students to and from the Tough Kids Event.

Name: Signed:..... Phone: