

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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We're back!



OCT 2025
TERM 4
ISSUE NO 1



AROHENA SCHOOL

*Kaua e mate
wheke,
mate ururoa*

P

*Don't die like an octopus, die
like a hammerhead.*
Don't give up, persevere until
the end.
We always keep going, even
when it's hard

*Manaaki mai,
manaaki atu.*

R

Respect yourself and others.
•We use kind words
•We use our manners
•We look after ourselves,
others and our place

*Mā te kimi ka kite,
Mā te kite ka
mōhio, Mā te mohio
ka marama.*

I

*Seek and discover. Discover
and know. Know and become
enlightened.*
We can adapt and change, and
do things in a different way

*Pai tū, pai hinga,
nāwai rā ka oti.*

D

*By standing and falling,
eventually it will be completed.*
We are enthusiastic learners
and strive to do our best

*Nā koutou i tangi
nā tātou katoa.*

E

*When you cry, your tears are
shed by all of us.*
We understand and share the
feelings of others

In learning we value Perseverance, Respect,
Innovation, Drive and Empathy.
We call this having Arohena **PRIDE**

Perseverance

- Deacan for showing improvement on the touch field
- Aaron for staying focused and finishing his writing task
- Mac for not giving up during touch when he took a ball to the face
- Simon for always trying in Math no matter how hard it seems to be he never stops trying

Respect

- Kylo for leading karakia confidently
- Laura for always using her manners, saying good morning and asking how she can help
- Louie for settling well into classroom routines
- Levi always using his manners when asking for help, rubbers, pencil sharpeners or even just speaking to others in the class

Innovation

- Faye, Jorja, and Miriana for rearranging furniture in our classroom to suit their learning
- Wyatt for having fun with math equations at home
- Room 2 ākonga for adapting to having a new teacher and settling quickly into a new routine

Drive

- All the ākonga in our school touch teams
- Ākonga doing awesome mahi in the garden planting new seedlings

Empathy

- Archie and Mia supporting Kylo when he was feeling sad
- Yuvraj supporting Room 1 in the garden when they were finding it difficult telling them to not give up



TUMUAKI MESSAGE



Kia ora e te whānau,

It's wonderful to be back! With our team now complete, we're excited to relaunch our Community School Newsletter. Term 3, we've had to put our newsletter on hold while we were one staff member down – but now that we're fully staffed, there's so much to celebrate and share with you all. I would like to begin with the whakatauki

Whakatauākī: Kotahi te kohao o te ngira e kuhuna ai te miro ma, te miro pango, te miro whero.

literal: Through the eye of the needle pass the white thread, the black thread, and the red thread.

This whakatauākī has implications for both the making of connections and collaboration that may ensue as we work towards supporting a common vision.

Where learning is made memorable for everyone

Kaiako have planned and continue to plan to make learning memorable and we ask whānau to support the learning by sending your children to school, reading regularly with them at home and supporting them to complete any other homework.

Term 4 we warmly welcome Jolene Saunders to our kura. Room 2 is absolutely loving having her as their new kaiako. Jolene has settled into our team with ease and brings great energy, enthusiasm, expertise and care to our ākonga.

This term, we've also joined the Putāruru Touch Tournament once again – and this time, we have three teams representing our kura! How awesome is that!

Later in this newsletter, you'll see our attendance statistics. A friendly reminder that school attendance is a legal requirement. If your child/ren are away from school, please contact us to let us know the reason, so we can update our attendance system accurately.

I also want to give a huge shout-out to our teaching team, who carried a significant workload while we were one teacher down. There's always extra mahi to be done in times like that, and our team stepped up beautifully to keep learning strong and our ākonga supported.

Finally, I'd like to express our thanks to the Board for their unwavering support during this busy period. The staff have truly felt the difference your guidance and encouragement make.

We're looking forward to sharing more of the wonderful learning, achievements, and events happening across our kura this term.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Justine
Tumuaki



Whānau

Reo Māori phrases to share

E te rātā whakamaru *Protector*

Rātā whakamaru likens a protector in the whānau to how the rātā, a large tree with crimson flowers and hard red timber, offers protection to all the plants and creatures in the forest below



In our school community, much like the majestic rātā tree providing protection and strength to the forest, we have a network of individuals who serve as guardians and nurturers. This includes kaiako, staff, students, parents, and community members. Each plays a vital role in creating a safe and supportive environment.

Parents and community members, like the strong branches of the rātā, extend their support and resources, offering guidance and opportunities for growth. Their involvement enriches the learning experience, ensuring our tamariki have a strong foundation to thrive. Together, we form a resilient and interconnected whānau, where everyone contributes to the wellbeing and success of our school community.

Important Dates

Group Day

-Wednesday 15th October

Putāruru Touch Tournament

-every Friday's

Board Hui

-Monday 20th October

School Closure

-Thursday 23rd Oct

Arohena Halloween Disco Party

-Thursday 30th October

Waikato A & P Boys and Girls Agricultural Club

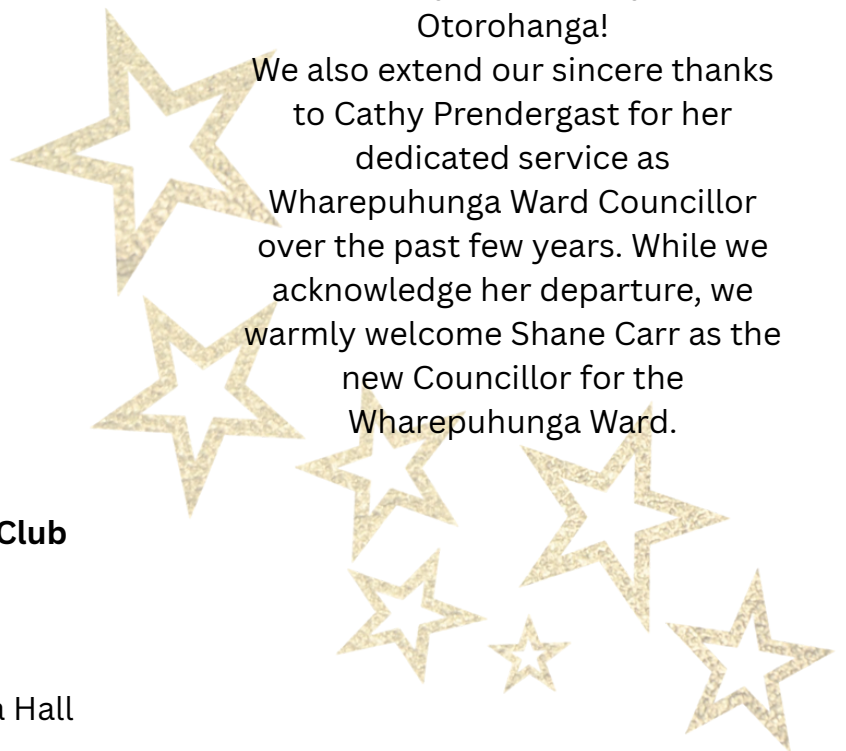
-Friday 31st October

Annual Christmas Dinner

-Wednesday 3rd December at the Arohena Hall

Congratulations to Rodney Dow,
the newly elected Mayor of
Otorohanga!

We also extend our sincere thanks
to Cathy Prendergast for her
dedicated service as
Wharepuhunga Ward Councillor
over the past few years. While we
acknowledge her departure, we
warmly welcome Shane Carr as the
new Councillor for the
Wharepuhunga Ward.



ROOM ONE

READING

By the end of the term we will understand and retell basic details from a story, such as the setting, characters, problem, solution and conclusion

WRITING

By the end of the term we will be able to write simple and complex sentences using high-frequency words and basic punctuation, such as capital letters and full stops. We will begin to use descriptive language to add detail to their writing.

MATH

By the end of the term we will understand and use units of measurement, specifically grams and kilograms, to measure and compare the weight of objects.

ROOM TWO

Reading

I expect by the end of the term we will be able to independently make inferences about what we are reading, which is guessing what the author is really trying to say.

Writing

I expect by the end of the term we will be independently using paragraphs in our writing. We will also be independently using planning to help us create a more detailed story.

Math




I expect by the end of the term we will be able to use multiplication to solve division problems. We will independently use area and perimeter to solve different math problems.

Harold the Girraffe



We loved the interactive learning with Harold the Girraffe

Touch Teams

Arohena Pīwakawaka 	Arohena Kererū 	Arohena Tūi 
Coach: Cam Bierre Manager: Marg Bierre Aaron Archie Issac Kylo Louie Theo Faye Mia	Coach & Manager: Lizzy Assistant: Joy Savannah Tina Jorja Miriana Deacan Heath	Coach: Whāea Jo Manager: Katy Fergus Simon Mac Levi Yuvraj Quinn Skylar

Ka mau te wehi, whānau! 🧡

So awesome seeing our whānau out there supporting our kura through team sports like Touch!

The energy, smiles and tautoko you bring mean so much to our ākonga and it **means more ākonga can play**. Last year we had 2 teams, this year we have 3 teams.

Huge appreciation to our coaches and managers. To support our coaches and managers the school will hold training session at school as a part of P.E. Whāea Jo will train the year 3 & 4 teams and Justine and whāea Moana will train the years 1 & 2 team

Ngā mihi nui mō tō koutou kaha me te aroha! 🙌🏻🏈

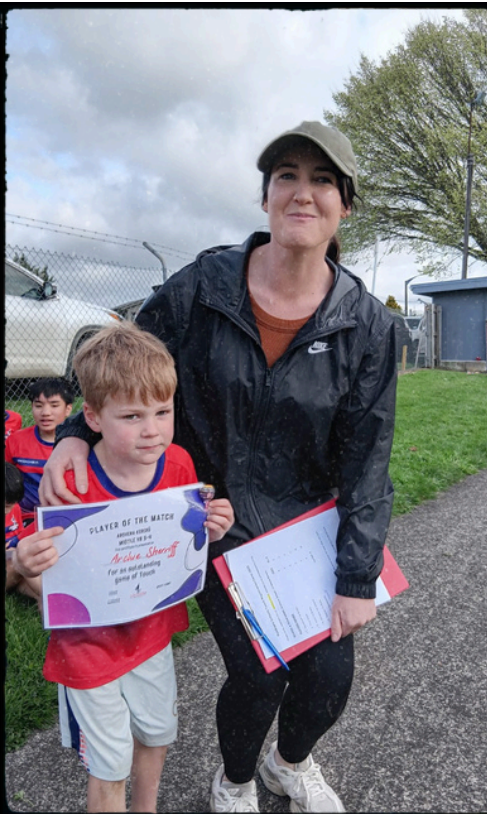
There will be NO MORE THAN 6 players allowed on the field at any one time (unless both teams agree to put on 7 players). A minimum of 4 players are required for the match to be played.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT PLAYERS COME TO SCHOOL ON FRIDAYS AND TURN UP FOR THE GAME.

Arohena School Touch Teams



Pīwakawaka
Player of the Match
Kylo



Kererū
Player of the Match
Archie



Tūi
Player of the Match
Mac



Term 3 Birthdays



acknowledging ākonga and whānau who
celebrate
in other ways

ATTENDANCE STRATEGY

Learner Attitude & Engagement

Our school attendance goal for 2025 is to raise each school Term's attendance rates higher than the same periods in 2024

IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL

1

Learners who believe attending school every day is important are more likely to attend regularly

ENGAGEMENT WITH LEARNING

2

Being interested in schoolwork and activities, along with positive relationships with kaiako and peers promotes attendance

MOTIVATION AND GOALS

3

Learners with strong motivation and goals for achieving, and positive beliefs about their own academic abilities, are more likely to attend.

FUTURE OUTLOOK

4

Learners who see school as important for their future are more likely to attend regularly.

DIFFICULTY OF SCHOOLWORK

5

Learners who find schoolwork too difficult may be less likely to attend regularly.

ATTENDANCE STRATEGY

School Environment &
Support

Our school attendance goal for 2025 is to raise each school Term's attendance rates higher than the same periods in 2024

1

WELCOMING & POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT

Creating a welcoming environment, promoting positive relationships between teachers and learners, and fostering a sense of belonging are crucial for improving attendance.

2

ADDRESSING BULLYING & CULTURAL SAFETY

Implementing an anti bullying plan and ensuring cultural safety can also improve attendance.

3

SCHOOL LED INITIATIVES

School and kura-led initiatives are effective ways to influence attendance

4

MONITORING SUPPORT

Closely monitoring at-risk learners and providing targeted support can help improve attendance.

ATTENDANCE STRATEGY

Family & Community Factors

Our school attendance goal for 2025 is to raise each school Term's attendance rates higher than the same periods in 2024

1

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Parents, caregivers and families play a crucial role in supporting attendance.

2

GOOD ROUTINE

Establishing good morning and evening routines can help ensure children are prepared for school.

3

OPEN COMMUNICATION

Talking to children about school, attending school meetings, and addressing any concerns or difficulties can help improve attendance.

4

ADDRESSING BARRIERS

Recognising and addressing barriers to attendance, such as poverty, transport issues, and mental health challenges, is essential.

5

MENTAL HEALTH & ANXIETY

Mental health and anxiety issues can also contribute to non-attendance.

EVERY DAY MATTERS

2023	2024	2025
Term 1 - 33%	Term 1 - 41%	Term 1 - 65%
Term 2 - 49%	Term 2 - 61%	Term 2 - 21%
Term 3 - 27%	Term 3 - 53%	Term 3 - 48% (provisional)
Term 4 - 29%	Term 4 - 59%	Term 4 - TBC

Fridays have the highest absenteeism, so our kura has continued with and introduced initiatives to boost attendance:

- Top Attendee Awards: Two winners per class enjoy a day of rock climbing.
- Fluency Fridays: From 12 pm, students focus on interests and passions to build skills.
- Touch Games: Students must attend school on Friday to play.
- Term Prizes: Top attendees in Terms 2 & 3 combined without unapproved absences (E) & acceptable regular attendance go to Rainbow's End
- Term 4 will have a class award.

Attendance and achievement are closely linked.

RAINBOWS END
Terms 1 & 2 prize winners

Room 2

1st place: Tina
2nd place: Toby

Room 1

1st place: Archie
2nd place: no second place

The school will contact parents soon to organise the prize

I have met with our school Ministry of Education Adviser and after discussions our school will be adding to our Attendance Action Plan and this will be further shared with the school.

BOARD MATTERS

Board Hui

Venue: School office/staffroom

Day: Monday 20 October 2025

Time: 6.30pm

SCHOOL CLOSURE

You may have seen in the news that educators across Aotearoa are taking part in a historic national strike on Thursday 23rd October. For the first time, principals, teachers, support staff, and Ministry specialists are standing together to call for better support in schools, fair pay, and the resources our tamariki need to thrive.

It is important to note that this action is about more than just pay. Health, Education, and Emergency Services are key pillars of our society, and they are all under-funded and under-resourced. Pay is important, but our schools, like hospitals and frontline services, are not failing because of the people working in them. They are struggling because they are not being given the real investment needed to meet the needs of our communities.

In education, this means making sure tamariki have the support of a teacher aide in every classroom, valuing educators fairly and giving them secure work, upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi in education, and defending quality early childhood education. These things alone would go a long way to relieving pressure on the education system, and on my role as a Principal.

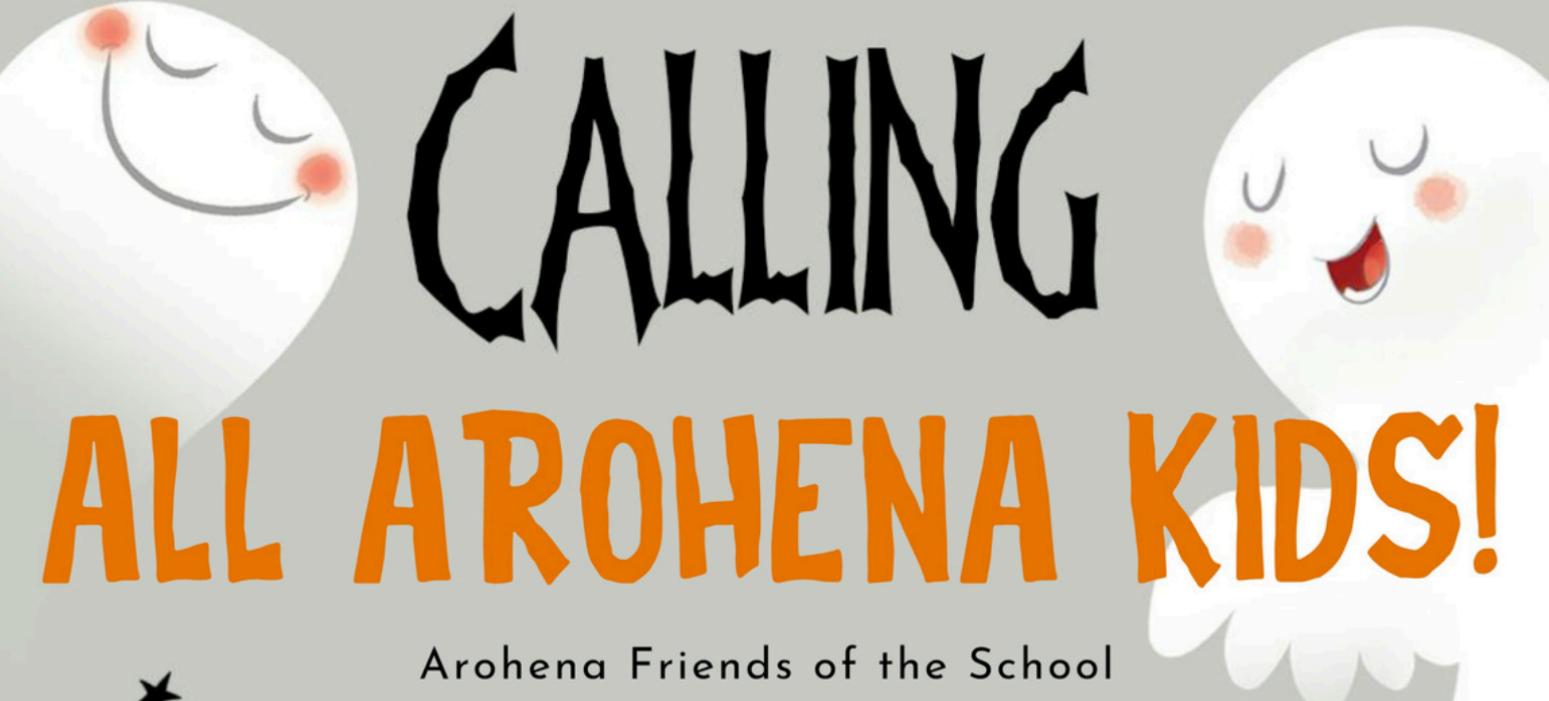
At Arohena School, our focus will always remain on caring for our ākonga: learners and ensuring they are safe and supported. On the day of strike action, our school will be closed for instruction. We encourage families to make alternative arrangements for the care of your children.

We understand that this may cause disruption, and we thank you for your understanding and support. The decision to take this action is not made lightly, but it reflects the seriousness of the challenges facing education, and the urgent need for change.

Arohena School Board.

We invite you to visit the site at <https://arohena.schooldocs.co.nz> (note that there's no "www.").

Our username is "arohena" and password "arohena3877".



CALLING
ALL AROHENA KIDS!

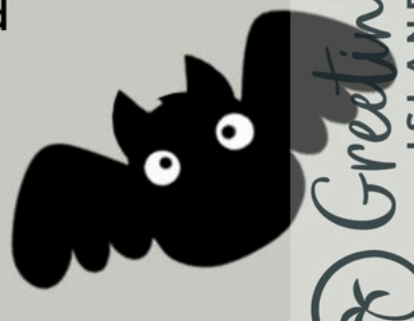
Arohena Friends of the School
invites you to come along to the...



Halloween
Disco Party!

THURSDAY OCTOBER 30TH @ 5:30PM
AROHENA HALL

Halloween goody bag for every kid,
food and drinks provided
and prizes for best
Halloween costume





MOUNTAIN BIKE SERIES

Spring Cup XCO 2025

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



9th
November



16th
November



23rd
November



7th
December



14th
December

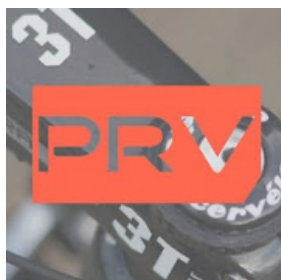
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Link to access race
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[https://my.raceresult.com/3568
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COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Playcentre

Arohena Playcentre
Tuesday 9:30am - 12noon

Queries to Judy
027 493 0845

Come and join us for coffee
and conversation

School Bus Information



If your child/ren is not
travelling on the school bus,
please CONTACT Neville or
Noelene to let them know -
even if this is due to a school
event.

Phone or txt:
021 160 7268
or
027 814 8865

Due to tight time constraints
your child/ren will need to be
at their bus stop 5 minutes
early. Our drivers will be
unable to wait for children
who are late to their stops.



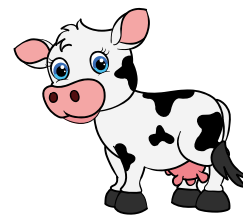
STOCK SCHEME

The Arohena School stock scheme is
here to help raise funds for our
school.

These funds will help our students
with the purchases of educational
resources and development of the
school.

We have many families that have
been supporting the stock scheme
for years and we are very grateful to
all of them.

We invite you to donate to our stock
scheme by contacting Cameron Te
Brake
027 344 2213



Otorohanga District Council

Our councillor to represent the
Wharepuhunga ward is
Shane Carr.

Please support our sponsors!

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