

# PIOPIO COLLEGE

## TE KURA TUARUA O PIOPIO

### IMPORTANT DATES TERM THREE

**MON 14 JUL**  
**FIRST DAY OF TERM 3**

**TUE 12 AUG**  
PhotoLife  
Sport Photos

**SUN 31 AUG -**  
**FRI 5 SEP**  
AIMS Games  
(Juniors)

**THU 11 - FRI 19 SEP**  
Senior  
Japan Trip

**FRI 19 SEP**  
**LAST DAY OF TERM 3**

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Tēnā tatou e te whānau

Well the cold has finally arrived but it is fantastic to still see the bulk of our students getting to kura.

With our big push to create an environment that supports students achieving academically to the best of their ability, getting to school as much as possible is really important. I am also a massive believer of extra - curricular activities and getting students involved in learning outside of the classroom so with all the extra trips and activities going on being present for in class learning as much as possible is a priority.

I would also like to say a huge well done to all our students participating in sporting and cultural activities. Some teams are performing really well and getting some fantastic results. To these teams and students, well done. These results don't just happen. It takes practice, commitment, good coaching/management support and positive culture. There are also some teams trying really hard but the results aren't going their way. My message here is don't give up. These hard times won't last and the lessons you learn now will make you a better sportsperson in the future.

I would also like to highlight Ruby-Rae McCarthy's performance at the Tainui Secondary Schools Kapahaka Festival as part of Te Waikooowharawhara. I was super proud to see photos of yourself and your whānau representing your whānau, community and kura with pride.

Continued Pg 2



**AIM HIGH**



**BEN DRAPER**  
Principal/Tumuaki

Principals message continued...

With a roll of only 136 creating full, competitive teams for sporting and cultural competitions can at times be challenging. We have worked really hard this year to have winter sports on offer across all the usual sporting codes. We are planning towards the future and if we can lift our school roll to the 170 mark creating competitive teams will become a lot easier.

We are planning and working really hard to create a kura for our community that is fit for purpose and is something we can all be proud of, to do that we need to get as many local students through our school as possible. You would have started to have seen surveys coming out asking for your feedback. These will continue, conversations will be had, hui held and changes made until we create a school that works for as many of our community families/whānau as possible.

I have an open door policy at kura so if you would like to come and catch up over a cup of tea, pop in any time. Let's work together to create the best small school in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Ngā mihi nui  
Ben Draper  
Principal/Tumuaki

## Tainui Secondary Schools Kapa Haka Festival 2025

We would like to congratulate and acknowledge Ruby Rae on her stand at Tainui Regionals Secondary Schools Kapahaka Competition at Te Papanui [Claudelands Event Centre]. Ruby performed in the local rōpū Te Waikōwharawhara, which included students from two other kura Te Kuiti High School and Te Wharekura o Maniapoto, with tutors Te Waata Tamepo and Kōka Te Aroha Papa with the support from staff and whānau.

Ruby did her school and whānau proud.  
Miharo rawa atu koe Ruby.



# BOW TAG fun!

**Congratulations to these students who gained a 3.5 and above in their Effort Reports**

Poppy Edwards	Benson Whitehouse	Maia Young	Izzy Gibson
Hineamaru Wihongi	Chloe Darke	Aria Newton	Heath Cody
Mela Bates	Azlaan Khan	Addie Bryant	Jamie Burnell
Olivis Brown	Bruce Burgess	Putiputi Barnsdall	Carys Barron
Izzy Houghton	Layla Holley	Miriama Newton	James Loomans
Caleigh Mouat	Shaliyah Kemp	Ruby Barrera Cassidy	Ebony Gardner
Saskia Watkins	Miley West	Abbie Blakeman	Korvell Young
Ruby Omelvena	Sophie Buckman	Jayden Brown	Sage Cotterill
Travis Hunt	Elili Walters	Kimi Mulholland	Aimee Brownlie
Caleb Buckman	Jei Lowrie-Lynch	Grace Purdie	Louisa Laver
Bentley Jones	Uenuku Hunt-Pikia	Reon Hancock	Glenda Brown-Ngatai
Ollie Thomson	Jessica Price	Rikki Marshall	
Charley Ray Ballantyne			
Tonowai Bodger-Kearns			

**In recognition of this outstanding achievement for Term 2 these students were rewarded with an hour out of class to enjoy a game of "Bow Tag"**

**Effort in class is something we like to instil in our students!**

**What will the reward be for Term 3?**





# Year 7A Reflect on Matariki at Piopio College

**Despite starting with two periods of class, the energy quickly shifted after morning tea when Matariki celebrations took over! From kēmu rotations to balloon releases, our tamari-ki made the most of the day.**

Here's what some of our 7A students had to say:

"We chose art — we decorated masks with the Matariki theme." – Tekaua, Sam & Ruby

"Yesterday was sooo fun." – Tariana

"I helped prepare the food. There were delicious cookies waiting for us. My favourite part was cooking the frybread." – Nathan

"Ki-o-Rahi was fun, ripping my friends' tags and having a delicious kai." – Ty

"I did the kēmu rotation. Bowls, Orienteering challenges were fun and Badminton... a delicious kai with dessert and frybread." – Lennox

"We let balloons go for all the loved ones..." – Sorcha

"Ki-o-Rahi with Corey was easy because we versed the boys..." – Amy

"Yesterday was the best... we got to have food and STEAMED PUDDING!!! I ate three bowls." – Coop

"It was a fun day at school but would have been funner at the marae. It was a good way to lift the Matariki spirit." – Kadius

**The yummy kai prepared by our peers was delicious and filling, and the chance to remember our loved ones through balloon releases added a beautiful and emotional touch.**

**Matariki brought us together through sport, stories, food, creativity, and remembrance — exactly what it's all about.**





# KickStart BREAKFAST



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA

## Starting Term 3 - Every Monday 8.00am to 8.30am at the Canteen

We're very glad to let you know that we've recently joined the KickStart Breakfast programme!

KickStart Breakfast is a free programme where we will receive Sanitarium Weet-Bix and Anchor milk for our students to have access to at school.

Everyone is welcome to join our KickStart Breakfast programme for some kai, a chat and to connect with peers.

The programme is a community partnership involving Fonterra, Sanitarium, and the Ministry of Social Development, which has been running in Aotearoa since 2009 and currently includes nearly 1,500 participating schools.

Our Breakfast Club will be open to all, and we look forward to watching the programme grow in our school.

Ngā mihi  
Ms Smith

### Support Piopio College PTA!



List and sell your property with me, mention this offer and I'll donate \$500 to the Piopio College PTA after settlement.\*

#### When you sell your home with me, you get.....

Your Professional marketing package FREE\*\*

No upfront costs \* \*

Fair Flat Fees

Get in touch to book your free, no-obligation market appraisal.



**Caren Herman**

phone: 027 371 3738

email: [caren.herman@tallpoppy.co.nz](mailto:caren.herman@tallpoppy.co.nz)

\*Valid for properties sold in the King Country, Waitomo & surrounding areas with settlement on or before 31 December 2025

\*\*Terms and conditions apply

Bulsara T/A Tall Poppy Real Estate under the REAA 2008

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# Piopio College U16 Rugby Undefeated and Building Momentum

As Term 2 draws to a close, the Piopio College U16 Rugby team is riding high with five wins from five games, proudly standing as the only unbeaten team in the Waikato U16 Competition.

This weekend, the boys travel to Taumarunui High School for their final match of the term – a challenge they're embracing as they aim to carry their momentum into the break. With confidence growing each week, the team is already eyeing a potential holiday fixture against a local school to stay sharp ahead of a big Term 3.

A massive thank you goes to **Neutroski Plumbing & Gas**, our main sponsor, whose support has been instrumental in getting the boys on the field and kitted out with pride. Your belief in our team fuels the passion and unity we bring each week.

Assistant Coach/ Manager Paiaka Muraahi shared his thoughts on the team's journey so far:

"The boys have shown real grit and unity over the last nine weeks. Every game has tested us in different ways, but our commitment to each other and our values has made the difference.

We're grateful for the backing from our school, our families, and especially Neutroski Plumbing & Gas for helping us put on the jersey with pride. We're building something special here."

A heartfelt thank you also to our staff, parents, and wider Piopio community. Your unwavering support – from our trainings to cheering on the sideline – is what keeps our team strong.





# S P O R T

## A Muddy Success!

Early in Term 2 saw the launch of our brand-new Mud & Mana Challenge – a fresh twist on our traditional Cross Country, designed to get every student active and engaged in a fun yet challenging environment. Despite the chilly conditions, students embraced the weather with enthusiasm, proving that a little mud and mana can go a long way in building resilience, teamwork, and school spirit.

The course offered more than just a physical test; it brought laughter, determination, and creativity. Whether students ran, walked, skipped, or roly-polyed their way to the finish line, one thing was clear – everyone completed the challenge. That was our ultimate goal, and we couldn't be prouder of the participation across the board.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with students appreciating the "different" experience and the inclusive vibe of the event. Constructive feedforward has also been gathered, and we value the role of student voice in helping us continue to evolve. As a staff, we'll take time to reflect on how we can continue building on this success and consider ways to reintroduce more competitive elements for 2026 – without losing the fun, inclusive nature of the day.

A huge shoutout goes to the incredible team who worked behind the scenes to bring this event to life – your efforts did not go unnoticed.

Here's to more mud, more mana, and even more memories in the years to come!

### ***Congratulations to our Champions for 2025***

Sub Junior Boy - Cooper Boddie

Sub Junior Girl - Tegan Grainger

Junior Girl - Elili Walters

Intermediate Boy - Trey Mason

Intermediate Girl - Putiputi Barnsdall

Senior Girl - Caitlyn Cody



## Waikato Secondary Schools Squash Competition

**Piopio College is proud to  
acknowledge the efforts of our  
talented squash players!**

Blair Ballantyne, Flynn Andrews, and James Loomans represented the school with pride at the recent Waikato Secondary Schools Squash Tournament.



**A special shoutout to Blair Ballantyne who finished Runner-Up in his division in the Individual Competition — a fantastic achievement!**

**In the Teams Event, our boys showed grit, determination, and great sportsmanship, proving to be highly competitive throughout the tournament.**

**Huge thanks to everyone involved in supporting these young athletes!**





# New Sports Grant initiative

## Piopio College Sport Grant Initiative - Now Open

Piopio College, in partnership with NZ Carbon Farming, is proud to announce the launch of our new Sports Grant initiative! This exciting opportunity is designed to support students in accessing and participating in sports by providing financial assistance.

### Who can apply?

All Piopio College students are eligible to apply.

### What can the grant be used for?

Funding may be used to cover costs such as: sports fees, sporting equipment, support services, travel to events etc.

### How to apply:

Students **must** apply for the New Zealand Carbon Farming Sports Grant' via an online form (please scan the qr code to access the form) completed forms will be reviewed and approved by the grant review person/s.

Scan QR code here



### Application Criteria:

- The funding goes to students who would otherwise miss out. There is a demonstrable need (e.g., disadvantaged circumstances) or financial barrier to participation in sport meaning the student might not participate.
- The individual shows positive interest, ability or potential in their sport.
- Funding would assist in potentially providing a better long-term outcome for that student in sport and life.
- Funding would be expected to cover direct payment of sports fees, sporting equipment, support services, travel to events etc.

***We are committed to ensuring every student has the opportunity to participate in sport and enjoy the benefits of teamwork, fitness, and personal development.***



New Zealand **Carbon Farming**



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