



"On A Great Learning Adventure"

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEDNESDAY 12th February 2025 | TERM 1 WEEK 2  
*Give it a Go, Respect, Excellence, Attitude and Teamwork*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

- Thurs 6th Waitangi Day—school closed
- 17 -1 8th Senior leadership camp
- Thurs 20th Meet the Teachers and BOT BBQ
- Thurs 27 Rakautatahi Marae visit

### MARCH

- 6th & 7th Rugby skills in the afternoon
- Mon 17th BOT meeting 5.15pm
- Mon 24th Country Schools Swimming Sports

### APRIL

- Tues 1st Interschool Swimming Sports
- 7—9th Life Education caravan visits
- Friday 11th Last day of Term 1
- Friday 18th Good Friday
- Mon 21st Easter Monday
- Friday 25th ANZAC Day

## 2025 Office Hours

Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 3.30pm  
Thursday 8.30 to 9.30am and Friday  
8.30am to 12.30pm.  
We will be checking the phone/cellphone  
before the end of the day.

## REMINDERS

- ⇒ Stationery pack payments
- ⇒ Swimming togs/towels to school daily
- ⇒ "Meet the Teachers and Board"  
evening and BBQ on 20th February
- ⇒ Rakautatahi Marae
- ⇒ Sun hats compulsory this term
- ⇒ Correct school uniform please

### Welcome / Velkommen / Kia Ora Koutou

It's been great to see how well our tamariki have settled into the new school routines and how well they are working.

We would like to give a **big Norsewood welcome** to Jon, May-Lee, Tama, Stephen, Nikko, Lochie and Sharn who have joined our Kura.

Thank you to the parents who have already paid their **stationery accounts**. Packs are being delivered to the students as they are paid for. Please pay for this account as soon as possible so all children have the books needed for their classroom.

We are **swimming daily**. Having our own pool is a privilege and we try to use it as much as possible. Please ensure togs are sent daily.

Next week is very busy. Our seniors are on camp Monday and Tuesday at **Ranui Farm** near Takapau. On Wednesday and Thursday, our staff are having Structured Literacy Professional Development. There will be relievers and release teachers in classes for these two days. Our **Board of Trustees BBQ** is on Thursday evening starting at 5pm. We would love to see as many whanau from our school as possible. To help with catering numbers, please fill out and return the form attached. This is a great opportunity to meet the teachers and board members. You will also be able to hear about new initiatives in our PB4L space and have your say about what you want to see in our Kura.

Yesterday, your child should have brought a notice home about our **Rakautatahi Marae trip** on 27<sup>th</sup> February. Please send the return form back to school by next Wednesday..

We look forward to seeing everyone next week.

**Ka Kite**  
**Angela McQuarrie**



## SCHOOL BUSES

With new management in the Go Bus office this year, an anomaly has surfaced. There have been a number of children in the Dannevirke area (including Norsewood), who have been travelling on Go Bus buses to schools out of their zoned area.

Go Bus is contracted by the Ministry of Education to transport children to the closest school. If they are caught transporting anyone else, they may well lose their Government contract. It is also the duty of the enrolling school to inform parents of this and this has obviously not been happening.

While parents have the right to choose what school their child attends, it is up to them to transport their child/ren to their chosen school each day if they choose a school outside their area.

We have a great school here in Norsewood which we are very proud of and know we offer many opportunities that are not given in the larger schools in town.

## This week in Rata...



**Anyone for Conga?**



**Poi Patu**



**Making Oobleck**



## “Caught being good cards” - SHOWING OUR SCHOOL VALUES

**TEAMWORK** - James Taylor — for being a focused learner - this week's book award

**RESPECT** — Dylan - for being a respectful focused learner during ako time

**ATTITUDE** - Jon - for finishing his work in class





"On A Great Learning Adventure"

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEDNESDAY 5th February 2025 | TERM 1 WEEK 1

*Give it a Go, Respect, Excellence, Attitude and Teamwork*

## Welcome / Velkommen / Kia Ora Koutou

Welcome back to Term One 2025. We have had a great start to the term with a very positive vibe in our Kura. Our classrooms have settled and are working well and our students are getting used to the new routines through the day.

In the next few weeks we have a **Senior Leadership Camp at Ranui Farm** and a trip to the **Marae**, so please keep an eye out for notices coming home.

Over the holidays there was a lot of work put into a **Behaviour Management Plan** for our school. This will encompass our PB4L and Zones of Regulation that we use. Although it is still in draft form, it will be sent out to parents as soon as possible. This will give you a clear picture of how we are dealing with any behaviour concerns and make sure that we are consistent throughout the school.

One of our other points of concern last year became our students' **school uniform**. Like every other school in this area, we are a uniform school and we are also very generous in what we give to our tamariki. If you need any uniform items, please let Whaea Jackie know and she may be able to help. We want our students to be proud of our school and its uniform. Ripped, torn and non-uniform will be addressed.

Our school pool is open for use. Pool Solutions from Waipukurau have been in and sorted the high chlorine content and it is now safe for students to swim. We swim every day if possible. **Please send togs with your children every day.**

Rata rebuild is forging ahead. At this stage, **Rata** will remain in its temporary room for Term One as our carpet is not arriving until April. The new room looks amazing; very light and airy and I know our seniors can't wait to get in there.

We also have a **bell system** being installed in the next couple of weeks. This will ensure that our bells are on time and we get the maximum use of class time.

Teachers will be participating in **Structured Literacy Professional Development** this term. As part of the Government curriculum roll out, both Structured Literacy and Structured Maths will be introduced into our Kura over 2025. While this is an exciting journey for all staff, it will take some time to learn about and implement these curriculum structures.

Unfortunately, our **school Facebook page** was subject to a hacking concern in October last year. It has taken 4 months for 'Meta' to sort this out, so we have made the decision to close this page and restart. This is to keep everybody's sites safe, including our staff, who have admin responsibilities. As soon as our new page is up and running, you will be informed.

We will be having a **"Meet the Teachers"** on **Thursday 20th February**. Our Board of Trustees will be putting on a BBQ and you are welcome to come and have a look around the school and talk to your children's teachers. It takes strong partnerships between school and home for our tamariki to thrive so let's start the year well. There will be more details to follow, but please save the date.

Everybody in the community can help our Kura grow and thrive. By talking about all the great things we are doing, we can encourage more people to get involved and support our Kura. Sharing our achievements, celebrating our students' successes, and spreading the word about our programmes helps build a strong, engaged community. Whether through word of mouth, social media, or local events, every conversation makes a difference. Together, we can create a vibrant and thriving Kura for everyone.

**Ka Kite**

**Angela McQuarrie**  
**Principal**



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### *Lunches in Schools*

*Unlike other schools around the country, we are fortunate to have our own school kitchen so our lunches are kept up to a high standard and on time. Whaea Andrea has taken over the Ka Ora Ka*

*Ako programme this year so that Whaea Jackie has more time to spend on our Enviro School projects, school garden and her role of Hauora teacher aide. This includes school uniforms so if you need any uniforms, Whaea Jackie is here every morning till 11.00am*

### STATIONERY PACKS

These are now at school ready to go. We have tried to keep costs down as much as we can so the 2025 prices are as follows;

New entrant packs (includes book bag)	\$30.00
Kahikatea (Year 1 and 2)	\$20.00
Totara—Years 3 to 5	\$13.00
Rata—Years 6 to 8	\$18.30

Invoices will be emailed out in the next few days.

### REMINDERS

- ⇒ Swimming togs/towels to school daily
- ⇒ Book packs now available
- ⇒ “Meet the Teachers” evening and BBQ at school on 20th February
- ⇒ Sun hats compulsory this term
- ⇒ Correct school uniform please

### **2025 Office Hours**

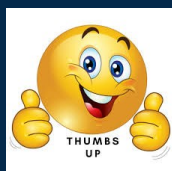
Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 3.30pm  
Thursday 8.30 to 9.30am and Friday 8.30am to 12.30pm.  
We will be checking the phone/cellphone before the end of the day.

### **FUEL FOR SCHOOLS**

*Please register your farm or business for the Fern ‘Fuel for Schools’ programme.*

*It costs nothing to register and your children’s school can receive fantastic Sports, IT and STEM equipment. Your family and friends can also register, so spread the word.*

*Email: [enquiries@fernenergy.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@fernenergy.co.nz) or phone 0800 99 99 89*



*A big thank you and Thumbs Up to our current sponsors*

- |                        |                          |
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**On a GREAT Learning Adventure**

**Monday 3 February 2025**

**Dear Parents and Caregivers,**

We are excited to inform you about an upcoming whole school trip to Rakautatahi Marae, located on Snee Road, Takapau. This visit is part of our ongoing commitment to cultural learning and giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The marae visit will provide students with a unique educational learning opportunity to deepen their understanding of the rich history of Rakautatahi Marae interweaving multiple curriculum areas of learning Math's, English-Reading, Writing, Oral Language, Visual Language, Art and Aotearoa Histories.

**All parents and whānau are welcome to join us on this special day of learning at our local marae.**

**Details of the Trip:**

**Date:** Thursday, 27 February 2025

**Departure from School:** 9:15 AM

**Return to School:** 2:30 PM

**Lunch:** Provided by Whaea Andrea

**What to Bring:**

- Drink bottle
- Morning tea
- Hat
- School uniform
- Shoes (must be worn during the visit)

**Learning Programme for Rakautatahi Marae**

- 8.50- 9.00am Attendance Roll
- 9.05-9.15am Depart School
- 9.30am Arrive at marae, assemble in the carpark
- 9.40am-10.30am Whare Whakairo, mihi whakatau- Koka Hiraina korero about the marae
- 10.35-10.55am Morning Tea in the Whare kai
- 11-12pm First activity rotation Tukutuku
- 12-1pm Second activity rotation Kowhaiwhai
- 1.05-1.35pm Lunch in the wharekai "Te Rau Aroha"
- 1.40-2.20pm Third rotation Rakau, Marae layout
- 2.30pm Depart Rakautatahi Marae to return to school

**Transport Support Needed**

We require assistance with transportation to and from the marae. If you are able to help with transport, please indicate on the return slip below

This visit aligns with our school's GREAT values of Give it a go, Respect, Excellence, Attitude and Teamwork. We will incorporate our Key Competencies. It will be an enriching experience for our students, offering opportunities to learn, connect, and celebrate the significance of Rakautatahi Marae within our community. I will send out a follow-up newsletter with transport organisation.

Thank you for your support, we look forward to an engaging and meaningful day together at Rakautatahi Marae.

*Ngā mihi nui,*

*Koka Hiraina*

*Teacher in Charge*

# Return Slip

**Rakautatahi Marae Trip – Thursday, 27 February 2025**

***Please return this slip to school by Wednesday 19 February 2025.***

Student/s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to participate in the learning opportunity at Rakautatahi Marae on Thursday 27 February 2025.

Parent/Caregiver Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

I can assist with transport:

- Yes, I can take \_\_\_ children in my vehicle.
- No, I am unable to assist with transport.
- Yes, my car has a current registration and warrant of fitness.
- Yes, I have a full driver's licence.

**I would like to attend the marae visit.**

- Yes, I will join the trip.
- No, I am unable to attend.

***Thank you, for your support to invest in our Education outside the Classroom (EOTC) learning experience.***