

STIRLING SCHOOL

2025

SUCCESSFUL



TENACIOUS



ACTIVE



RESPONSIBLE



TERM THREE, WEEK SIX

CONGRATULATIONS

This week the teachers were looking for students showing the Stirling Star values. Well done to Blessing (Tupu), Gloria (Rākau), Te Manawa (Kākano), and Christian (Māhuri) for being this week's recipients.

PRINCIPALS AWARD

Amelia (Māhuri) for always being an active and engaged learner in all tasks.



CONGRATULATIONS

Classroom certificates this week went to Ehi (Māhuri), Eunice (Rākau), Fuifatu (Tupu), and Nico (Kākano).



SPORTS:

Please check either Skool Loop or our Facebook page for sporting information. From now on, all registrations will be completed online through Google Forms. This applies to both after-school sports and tournaments.

DAFFODIL DAY:

Next Friday - yellow or floral clothes and gold coin donation.



PRINCIPAL WATSON MESSAGE

Kia ora, Talofa

Week 6 complete - and we still haven't had a drop of snow! Over the last few weeks I have been attending meetings regarding the direction of education and the requirements asked of schools. One of the current topics is around school consultation and how the community feel about the direction of our school. I will hold a short parent cup of tea session in Term 4, where you can view our questions and add your ideas/opinions for how our school moves forward. This consultation then is collated and shared with the board and staff to guide us in creating our strategic plan. The questions are not tricky for example, 'what is 1 thing you like about Stirling School and why?' Community period for Term 3 will be Friday 19th September at 2:15pm with a focus on our science inquiries.

Tofa, Donna Watson
phone: 418 0540

UNION MEETING - FRIDAY 29TH AUGUST

This meeting is for principals, teachers and support staff to work together across New Zealand making sure our schools have the support needed for all learners to thrive. If you are able to collect your child/children early, that would be appreciated. Students in Years 1 - 6 can be collected at 12:40pm. Students in Year 7-8 will finish at technology by 2pm at South Otago High School, you can either collect from the high school or they will return to school by 2:10pm for you to collect. We hope everyone understands that all staff feel this is an important meeting to attend with the desired outcome of improving learning for all students.



WELCOME:

Te Manawa and Kyrah-Rose have joined Kākano.

MANUIA LE ASO FANAU!

Kyrah-Rose - 5

CLASSROOM NEWS:

RUMA KĀKANO

We had such an awesome Science Day on Friday! The tamariki got to explore four fun experiments such as magic milk, oobleck, fizz balloons, and floating and sinking. There was so much excitement and curiosity in the room, and it was wonderful to hear the children using lots of new science words as they shared their discoveries with each other.

We also had a special visit from Skip, which was a highlight of the week. The children loved the activities and worked hard on developing their hand-eye coordination in such a fun way.

In maths, we have been learning about number representations, discovering that numbers can be shown in lots of different ways.

We have also been continuing to practise our handwriting and learning new sounds to help us become confident readers and writers. It has been fantastic to see the progress the tamariki are making and the pride they are taking in their learning.



RUMA TUPU

This week in Tupu we have been enjoying the big book *The Alley Cats' Party* by Jill Eggleton. The children wrote their own creative stories about the alley cats and had fun making colourful alley cat artwork.

In maths we have been learning about place value using equipment to build numbers, and some children have been using this knowledge to solve addition and subtraction problems.

Our Year 3 students had a great day at the football tournament on Thursday and showed wonderful teamwork and sportsmanship. While they were away, the Year 1 and 2 students enjoyed a fun day with the Year 7 students and Mrs Williams, creating some cool art pieces together.

Today we also had a session with our sports activator, Skip, where the children practised their hand-eye coordination and small ball skills.

During Tūhura time the children rotated through a range of exciting science experiments:

- Oobleck – made from cornflour and water. The children discovered it can act like a solid when squeezed but flows like a liquid when relaxed.
- Magic Milk – using milk, food colouring and dish soap, the children watched colours burst and swirl as the soap broke down the fat in the milk.
- Baking Soda and Vinegar Balloon – the children mixed baking soda and vinegar inside a bottle and watched the fizzing reaction create carbon dioxide gas that inflated a balloon!
- Floating and sinking

These hands-on experiments created lots of excitement and sparked great discussions about how and why things happen in science.



CLASSROOM NEWS:

RUMA MĀHURI

This week our whole-class reading focus was around the football tournament. We read about a famous soccer player, Cristiano Ronaldo, learning how he came from a modest upbringing and, through hard work and dedication, became one of the most skilled players in the world. We also discussed how he shows kindness by donating to charities with his earnings.

In literacy and numeracy, we made some adjustments to our task boards. Tamariki could choose to complete activities independently, with a buddy, or on a device. It was fantastic to see children challenging themselves, with some even asking for harder work on Studyladder to help "grow their brain"!

The football tournament was a big highlight of the week. We were so impressed with everyone's sportsmanship, developing skills, and willingness to give things a go. A big thank you to all the families who came along to support us, and a special mention to Simon who helped coach and showed fantastic leadership.

Friday Funday was a success! We finished off lots of tasks, had a session with our sports activator, and then used the butter from our science experiment to make cupcakes with buttercream icing - a delicious way to end the week!



RUMA RĀKAU

Another great week in Rākau!

Whaea Ezra has been teaching literacy, Year 6 maths, and a STEM unit. Our whole-class reading texts this week were on bridges to go with our STEM activities. Descriptive writing has been the focus for writing. Students had to describe a mystery object, focusing on its shape, size, and texture, and write sentences to help others guess what their object was. The STEM task is to build a bridge that is at least 40 cm long to hold a weight and test its strength. The planning stage is nearly complete, and the students are looking forward to making their bridges out of popsicle sticks.

We also had a couple of afternoon sessions to plan and work on our science fair projects. There may be some items children need to bring from home for themselves or others. Hopefully, everyone knows what they need to do for their science fair investigations.

The football tournament was a highlight for the Year 6s, and we had a great day! Some of our Year 7 and 8 students took on leadership roles by managing teams and refereeing for the day. Thank you to Max, Seaoga, Lincoln, Boston, and Matini for their great efforts refereeing all day, and to Evie, William, and Simon. We are very grateful for your help managing teams as well!

We had another engaging session with Skip today. The focus was on teamwork, cooperation, and listening to instructions.

SAMOAN SPEECH COMPETITION

Toeleiu Seke (Year 4), Matauaina Seke (Year 5) and Asora Totua (Year 5) travelled to Christchurch to compete in the Samoan Speech Competition on the 15th August.

All spoke well about being kind and good people, attributes that these three students display each and every day. All were awarded medals and Matauaina placed 3rd in her age group.

Well done to you all, just like your families, we are very proud of your achievements.



TERM 3 CALENDAR

Weeks 5, 7, 9	Year 7-8 Technology
28 th August	Golf Tournament - seniors
29 th August	Daffodil Day - gold coin donation - dress in yellow or floral clothing
2 nd September	Little Learners - 2pm
10 th September	Bob Bickerton - performance at school
16 th September	Little Learners - 2pm
19 th September	Community Period 2:15pm (please bring a plate for shared afternoon tea) Last Day of Term Three