Kaihautu Korero Week 9 Term 3 2026

Important Dates

Year 4 to 6 Camp – Monday 21st to Wednesday 23rd September

Koru Games – Tuesday 22nd to Thursday 24th September

Term 3 Ends – Friday 25th September

Term 4 Begins – Monday 12th October

Athletics Day – Friday 23rd October

Labour Day – Monday 26th October

Pet Day - Tuesday 27th October

Agricultural Club Group Day at Tai Tapu School – Wednesday 4th November

Anniversary Day – Friday 13th November

Prize Giving – Wednesday 16th December

Ham Night – Thursday 17th December

Term 4 Ends – Friday 18th December

Mao ana ki ua, ua ana ki mao

It is fine until it rains. It rains until it is fine

We were fortunate to have 4 great days at the Taumutu Marae this week. A huge thank you to PALS for supporting us and paying for the buses so all of our children are able to have this opportunity.

While 3 of the days had brilliant weather which allowed the children to play touch on the grass, roll down the hill and play on the playground, our final day was wet and we didn't get to do all of those things (though they did still get a chance to get on the playground!).

What was really fantastic was the way in which our children all stood up and shared their pepeha (and the way the adults did too) and learnt about the history of the people of Taumutu, including their ancestor Rakaihautu. Every person who went to the marae learnt something and that is why our bi-annual trip to the marae is such an important part of our calendar.

It was also terrific to see the way children were able to use waiata they had learnt during kapaha in a real context on the marae. They sung well and were able to support the speakers during the mihi whakatau with their singing.

Many of us do not whakapapa Maori. Spending time on a marae, is though, an important part of being a New Zealander. Not all marae throughout the country are able to be as accommodating as Taumutu. Our children were able to go there this week to learn about the place, the history, its customs and to try out te reo Maori in a place where it has been spoken for hundreds of years.

We are also fortunate that we were able to have this opportunity during Maori language week. This meant that it had more significance for our childfren.

While every child may not use Maori language everyday, it is important that we keep offering these opportunities for our children to experience and learn about a culture unique to our place.

So whether it was sunny or whether it was rainy this was a fantastic trip for our children

Assemblies this Term

We have 1more assembly this term on Tuesday afternoon in the Ladbrooks Hall

22 September

Everyone is welcome to come along to these assemblies which begin just after 2pm.

PALS

PALS are an important part of the success of our school. Their often unnoticed work in organising events like the quiz night, providing the Friday lunches, running events like the Sound of Thunder, garden tour and the sunflowers, mean our children are supported in ways that they wouldn't be without the work of people in this group.

If you think that working with PALS might be for you, have a chat to Sean and he can help you to make contact with the right people to help you.

Classes for 2027

Here is the make up of the classes for 2027

Weka – Year 0/1

Tuatara – Year 2

Kakapo – Year 3

Toroa – Year 4

Kowhai – Year 5&6

Pirita – Year 7&8

We are currently working through the staffing part of the classrooms as we have a permanent position as well as 2 teachers returning from maternity leave (at differing times). Once this has been sorted we will let everyone know which teachers will be in each of the classrooms.

Sporting Opportunities

We are fortunate that many of our children get to be involved in a wide variety of sporting opportunities. We had a number of children attend the Canterbury Primary Sports



Duathlon, where they all did well and Lucca Brown finished 4th in the Year 5 Boys category. We have Year 5&6 children representing our school at the Canterbury Primary Sports Hockey tournament. Our annual athletics day with Broadfield School is coming up next term. We also have the Year 7&8 children heading to the annual Koru Games tournament next week. Well done also to Maddie and Austin who have qualified for the National Aquabot final in Blenheim later in the year.





A big thank you to the parents who support these events through transport and coaching. We couldn't do it without your help.

Anniversary Day

Over the past few years, the staff have had a teacher only day on the Thursday before Anniversary Day. This will not be occurring this year.

As a result, the Thursday will be a regular school day. If you choose to take your children out of school on this day for an extended weekend, it will be counted as an unjustified absence in line with the Ministry of Education official guidance.

Grass Heads

With pet day coming up the children have been given the annual grass head competition equipment. It is a paper cup with grass seed in it.

There are 2 competitions. The first is longest hair and the second is best decorated. Sean will judge these on pet day so you have until then to get growing.

If your child is not interested in growing a grass head then you can just tip the soil into the garden.

Office Position

Dot is retiring after 25 years at the end of October. We are sad to see her go but understand she has chosen the right time for her. We will be having a farewell for her next term closer to her finish date.

We welcome Angeline Van Dyk to the team. She will be joining us next term and have some crossover time with Dot before she leaves.

Turou Hawaiiki

Sean