



# Kura Pānui

Shannon School

Te Kura o Hanana

Friday 19th September 2025

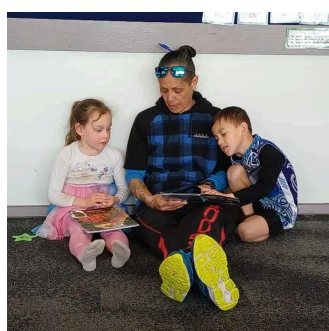
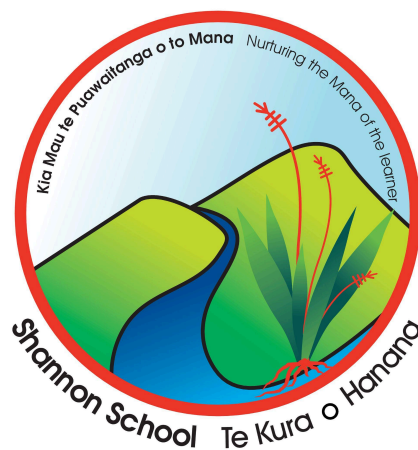
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## Te kōrero a te Tumuaki



*Tēnā koutou e te whānau whānui o Te Kura o Hanana, Ngā mihi o te wā ki a koutou katoa.*

*E mihi ana ki a koutou mō tō koutou aroha, tautoko, me te manawanui i te kura me ngā tamariki.*

At the start of Term 2, I was welcomed onto Whakawehi Marae at my pōwhiri — a moment my whānau and I will never forget. From the moment I was welcomed, I've been wrapped in warmth, manaakitanga and a strong sense of whanaungatanga. Ngāti Whakitere — thank you for the beautiful welcome and for the aroha you show our kura every day.

One day after my pōwhiri, we farewelled our previous principal, Nick Julian, with heartfelt thanks. It was a highlight to head down to Wellington as a kura whānau to officially hand him over to his new kura — a memorable moment filled with aroha (and a few laughs too).

To our Board, our staff, our tamariki, and our wider whānau — thank you for your support across two very busy but rewarding terms filled with learning, connection, and celebration. Our tamariki continue to shine in classrooms, playgrounds, and across all areas of school life, showing their growth, confidence, and pride in themselves and their kura.

Particular highlights over the term included the school choir's beautiful performance at the Kids Sing Festival in Whanganui, where they received a silver award and a special commendation for the most moving performance of a New Zealand song. A special thanks to Jo Harrington, who worked tirelessly alongside the tamariki to prepare for the festival. Other significant events included the school and interschool cross country, where all the tamariki gave their best, and it was heartening to see them support each other to complete the race. We entered two teams in the Kerekere Netball Tournament, who did themselves proud. And finally, our Kapa Haka performed at Te Ahurei Kapa Haka Festival - after five intense weeks of rehearsal. Their performance was stunning! A huge mihi to Rhea and the team for all the extra practices they ran to support our tamariki.

Looking ahead to Term 4, key events include Ag Day, Athletics Day, Tabloid Sports, and our School Production. We are especially excited to present a Christmas-themed extravaganza for our production, and we will also be celebrating and farewelling our tuakana — our Year 8 students. Another very busy term!

A small reminder: **attendance really does matter — every day counts**. Tamariki learn best when they're at school, connected with their peers, and part of the action.

Finally, I want to acknowledge our staff. It's been two terms of change and growth, and you have shown real openness and commitment to new expectations. Ngā mihi nui — I am truly grateful for all you do for our tamariki and our kura. Please enjoy some well-deserved downtime over the break.

Kia kaha, kia māia, kia manawanui. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou mō tō koutou aroha me tō koutou tautoko i tēnei wāhanga o te tau. Ka kite anō tātou i te wā e heke mai nei.

*Rochelle Thorn | Tumuaki*





What a fantastic day we had at the **Kerekere Inter-School Cross Country**! Our tamariki represented Shannon School with pride, determination, and a wonderful attitude. Each and every runner gave it their absolute best, showing perseverance and great sportsmanship. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and the way they supported one another throughout the day.

A big thank you to all the whānau who were able to come along and cheer on our tamariki. Your encouragement and presence make such a difference — it's always so special for our learners to see their families on the sidelines celebrating their achievements.



At the end of last term, several of our Year 4–8 learners took part in the **Tough Guy Tough Gal Challenge** at Massey University. They had an amazing time tackling the course and came away muddy, tired, and very happy!



Our school choir performing at **The Big Sing** in Whanganui.





# TE RITO HUB

## Shannon School Te Kura o Hanana



Kia ora e te whānau me ngā hapori o Te Kura o Hanana, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa for your ongoing support this term.

Our tamariki have shown incredible flexibility as we've adapted our systems and processes, supported by the fantastic professional development our kaiako have been undertaking to strengthen learning even further. Despite the sickness going around, our tamariki have shown real manawanui (perseverance) and kept giving their best - we are so proud of how they've coped. It was wonderful connecting kanohi ki te kanohi at our 3-Way Conferences and celebrating our tamariki at Cross Country, where they demonstrated our kura values of kaha (effort) and whakamana (pride). A special mihi to our Year 4 tamariki who represented Shannon so proudly at the Interschool Cross Country in Foxton and at Kids Sing in Whanganui. Such fantastic achievements for them and for us as a kura!



Our ako has also had a science focus on life cycles, with tamariki especially enjoying learning about Antarctica. We were very fortunate to have a friend of Te Rito Hub, Nana Rose, visit and share her amazing experiences from her trip to Antarctica, and we've loved using the Horowhenua House of Science kits to explore this learning; such a valuable resource to have right here at Shannon School.

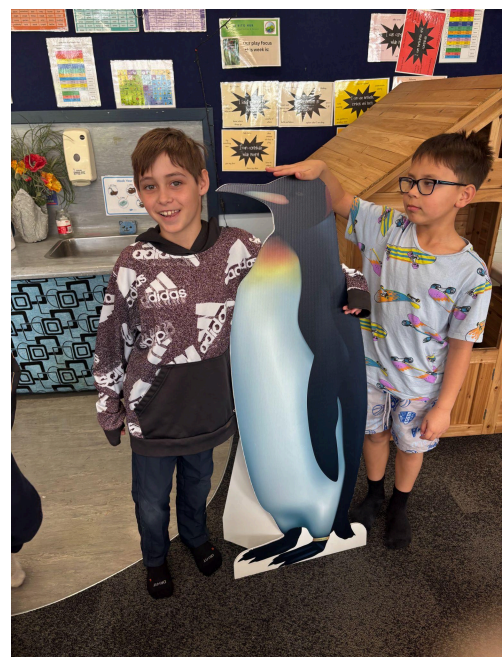


We have especially enjoyed our weekly P.E. sessions this term. We have been focusing on soccer skills for the last 6 weeks and have had the best time using teamwork, cooperation and communication while learning the basics of soccer. Our coordination and gross motor skills have improved a lot, all while having fun!

Ngā mihi nui to all our whānau for your ongoing tautoko; we're excited for all the learning and celebrations Term 4 will bring.

**Waiho i te toipoto, kaua i te toiroa**

*Let us keep close together, not far apart.*





# HARAKEKE HUB

Shannon School Te Kura o Hanana



Tēnā koutou e te whanau, he mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa.

It has been an action-packed term across the Harakeke Hub over the past 10 weeks. Our tamariki have adapted well to the changes and are experiencing success in their learning. Our teachers have been participating in professional learning across the board, which is proving valuable in our day-to-day teaching and learning.

We were excited to meet with our whānau at 3-way conferences at the beginning of the term.

Thank you all for taking the time to meet with us to talk about your child and their learning.

Through our structured literacy programme, our tamariki have been able to connect their learning between reading, writing, and spelling. This has helped them to become more confident when applying their skills to other areas of the curriculum.

We continue to work on strengthening our number knowledge in maths and have been learning about measurement. Some of the tuakana had the task of measuring out the playgrounds for the new bark, using what they had learned in a real-life context. In inquiry, we have been experimenting in the realm of flexi-physics. The tuakana were learning about energy and how it is the force that allows things to go, move, and happen. We experimented with and discussed different forms of energy, including gravitational, kinetic, stored, and potential. The teina have been learning all about their bones, heart, and lungs. We have had the opportunity to explore some pretty cool equipment through the House of Science kits, including being able to see the heart actually working, inside our bodies!

Daffodil Day provided us the opportunity to dress up in yellow and raise awareness of this awesome charity. Our Year 8 learners have been participating in Mahi Toi this term with Pa Te Meera and have been learning new skills and knowledge. We always look forward to Sharon bringing her reading therapy dog, Oslo. The tamariki like to grab a book and read alongside Oslo. Cross Country has been our main sport this term. The tamariki did us proud not only at our school event but also at the inter-school Cross Country at Coley St School. We came away with some top three placings, ka mau te wehi! On Tuesday afternoons, we have been developing our ball-handling skills and focusing on what it means to be a good team player.

Looking forward, we are gearing up for our Year 6-8 camp at El Rancho in Waikanae. This is being held in week 2 of next term. We also have our end-of-the-year school production, which we are already working on. We look forward to seeing you in and around the kura throughout term four. Please feel free to pop in and chat to us. Thanks once again for your continued support of us and your tamaiti on their learning journey.

Ngā mihi nui,  
Kia mau te puawaitanga o tō mana  
Harakeke Teaching Team





# TE WHARE KĀKANO

## Shannon School Te Kura o Hanana



Kimihiā ngā taonga o ngā tupuna whāia te reo māori me ona tikanga whakarongo titiro kōrero māori e ahakoa te itinga ko te kākano ahakoa te itinga ko te pounamu.

This term, we were delighted to welcome two kaiawhina to Te Whare Kākano, Whaea Horohau Te Peeti and Whaea Rachel Tamarapa. Both bring with them a wealth of mātauranga and wheako. Their presence has already enriched our whare. We have noticed an immediate increase in the use of te reo Māori within the akomanga, providing our tamariki mokopuna with valuable opportunities to whakarongo, ako, and strengthen



their pūkenga reo. Tēnā Kōrua! Not only that, we have also welcomed six new tamariki to the Whare. Ka mau te wehi! Our whānau hui was a great time to connect, the teina were so excited to share new kupu they have been learning in the kihini. Some of the tuakana shared their pepeha and their work in mahi toi. We have been developing our own assessment tool for Manaaki Mane, and have also reintroduced our guided reading lessons. We are noticing that the reading strategies our tamariki are developing in English are transferring beautifully into their te reo Māori reading. Ka rawe! We remain committed to nurturing tikanga and kawa on our marae. This term, we had the privilege of supporting the pōwhiri for Mihingarangi



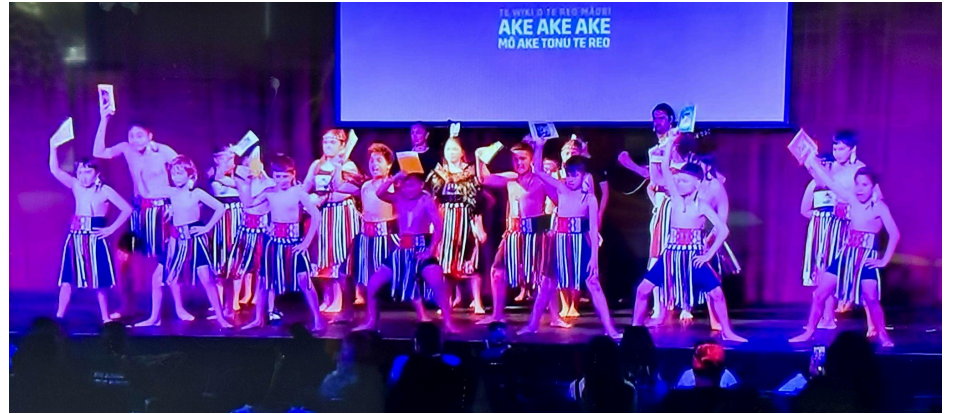
Forbes and her team. A further highlight was the opportunity to formally welcome one of our new tamariki and his whānau onto the marae. Finally, we are ending the term on a high note with the heartfelt kapa haka performance by the tuakana. Their passion and determination shone through as they came together to deliver a performance they can be proud of.

Nāku noa

Ngā Kaiako o Te Whare Kākano



Te Whare Kākano celebrated 50 years of Te Wiki o te reo Māori at the **Te Ahurei Kapahaka o Horowhenua 2025**. Tēnei te mihi ki ngā Pūkenga ki o koutou aroha me tō manaakitanga.



Our **School Cross Country** was a fantastic day for all. We narrowly missed the rain, and it was wonderful to see everyone giving their best effort. It was also great to see so many whānau out supporting our tamariki along the way!





Kia ora



King Country Energy,  
owner of the local  
Mangahao Power Station  
is proud to supply this  
year's stationery packs  
and contribute towards  
the Term 1 school  
swimming instructor.



What a busy term we have had! It has been great to welcome and connect with our new families. Term 4 is also going to be just as busy and exciting. Please remember to keep us up to date with any changes to your contact details. Currently, most information is emailed out from the office, and some is shared on our private Hub Facebook pages. Please refer to our Website to keep up to date with upcoming events. <https://www.shannon.school.nz/> Click on 'What's On' Community Calendar This is also the best place to notify us of absences.

Remember that in Term 4, it is compulsory for all tamariki to wear a Shannon School hat when they are outside. They are available to purchase from the school office for \$15.00.

It is super helpful for all clothing to be named, we have so much lost property at the moment! Also, remember to send a change of clothes (especially pants) for each child.

Have a safe and enjoyable two-week break.  
Shannon School Office

