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Principal's Voice



Ngā mihi o te wā ki a koutou katoa. Kia pai tō koutou wā whakatā me ngā tau e tū mai nei.

As the academic year comes to a close, I want to take a moment to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and growth that have marked 2024. This has been a year of incredible achievements, from the classroom to the sports fields, from curriculum events, such as kapa haka festivals, camps, and school visits to community service projects.

Earlier in the term we had a community consultation about the direction of the school moving forward. This will help the Board of Trustees navigate the school's strategic direction.

Next year, on March 6th 2025, Shannon School will host a community event on Community Housing. We will discuss the process involved in placing a new dwelling (Granny Flat) on your current section. Council members, bankers, and property people will be there to help. It will be held in Te Whare Whiringa (hall) from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

Our students and kaiako hosted a visit from Seatoun School at Poutu Marae this term. It was a memorable day of connection and learning.

The school shone in our touch rugby games in the Horowhenua Primary Schools Competition, with the highlight being our Year 7 / 8 team going through the competition undefeated. We had our Athletics events, with impressive participation and sportsmanship from students across all year levels.

Some of our kapa haka groups showcased their talent and pride at the regional kapa haka competition for Te Roopu o Te Awahou. We were also very lucky to have Te Roopu o Te Awahou come to Shannon School and perform. Ka mau te wehi!

We bid a heartfelt farewell to Pā Wylie, who has been a pillar of strength and guidance in our school community. His contributions will be greatly missed.

Ag Day was a highlight of the term, with students showcasing their creativity and connection to nature. The animals, art displays, and community engagement made it a day to remember.

-Heated Pools: We are thrilled to have completed the heating of our pools, ensuring year-round use for students.

-Harakeke 4 Classroom: The new Harakeke 4 classroom is now ready, providing a modern and inspiring learning space.

-Mahi Rākau Space: The Mahi Rākau area is nearly complete and promises to be a wonderful addition to our school.

As we wrap up this fantastic year, we look forward to continuing this momentum into 2025. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making Shannon School a vibrant and supportive community. Wishing you all a safe and restful holiday season.

Ngā mihi nui,

Nick Julian- Tumuaki/Principal Shannon School

Board of Trustees

Kia ora tātou kātoa,

Taking stock at the end of another year, once again, there is a lot to celebrate and to acknowledge.

First, once again, thank you to our staff, he mihi nui ki ngā kaimahi kātoa - for the commitment and aroha that you demonstrate throughout the year - working directly with the tamariki and also behind the scenes, to nurture their learning journeys. To all the support staff and to members of the community who offer their time in different ways - the school would not be what it is without you all.

Thanks too, to the team who have made up the Board of Trustees. We have been joined by Laii Tangataevaha this year, who is also a part of the Kohanga Reo community/staff. Billy Paul has continued in his role regarding property matters and Sole in her work with Carol and Nick on the school financials. Sadly for us, due to time commitments, Sole has had to tender her resignation from the BoT from the beginning of 2025. We will be arranging an election for a replacement for Sole at the beginning of next year.

Our kura is in good shape on the property front. Nick has mentioned the solar heating system that has been installed in the pool. Particular thanks to Billy for pushing that project along. We're already seeing (feeling) the benefits of this. The pool is a valuable community resource - and we hope that it is heartily enjoyed (and looked after) over the holiday period.

In terms of kaupapa Maori, it's fantastic to be able to reflect on a successful first year of our dedicated kaupapa Maori space Te Whare Kākano - headed up by Rhea. Feedback from our students and whānau has been overwhelmingly positive, and, while we know there is a long way to go, to have had such keen interest and positive response has been very encouraging. Thanks to the great team that has worked alongside Rhea in this space - Pa Wylie, Jo, Puhwahine, Ani, Amiria, Te Meera and Annalise. Looking forward to this space continuing to develop in 2025.

Finally, thank you to all you committed whānau members - both for the way that you contribute in different ways directly to the life of the school and also, more importantly, for the ongoing love and support that you give as devoted parents and caregivers to our tamariki. This 'mahi' can be the hardest, and often goes unnoticed, but is so crucial to their wellbeing, to the wellbeing of our kura, and to the wellbeing of our community. No reira, ngā mihi.

Kia tau ki a tātou te rangimarie me te aroha o te Atua i te Kirihimete me te tau hou Pākehā.

Leigh Harrington Chair, Board of Trustees



The Te Rito Hub has had an awesome Term 4! We have been focusing on art skills including painting, sketching and drawing. We have painted our new 'book boats' that we can sit in and read. These have been a great motivator for our more reluctant readers. Our tamariki have loved having the pool open and we have used it every week this term; it's been lovely and warm! It was a pleasure to host 270 five, six and seven-year-old tamariki from all around the Kerekere (Foxton and Shannon) area for our annual Tabloid Sports. We had an amazing day having a go at the egg and spoon race, balance stilts, frisbee toss and the floor is lava, among other games. We had a fabulous day! Our Ag Day was in Week 5 of this term and we loved making our animal art and sand saucers to share with everyone, as well as bringing in all of our animals!



We have started mindfulness time after lunch each day where we lie down, breathe and calm our bodies accompanied by some soft piano music. This sets us up for the rest of our day beautifully and means we always have lovely calm afternoons. We highly recommend it!



We are especially appreciative of our awesome staff in Te Rito Hub this year. Our team has been second to none, constantly going above and beyond for our tamariki. Thank you to Sophia, Sarah, Leah, Emma, Crystal, Zirae and Sarah-Rose for your ongoing dedication to our tamariki. A special well done to Zirae, who has finished and passed his first year as our student teacher in the Te Rito Hub. We are incredibly proud of him and his efforts across the year.



TE WHARE KĀKANO

Shannon School Te Kura o Hanana



Mauri ora e te iwi! We have had another awesome term filled with learning new te reo phrases in the kitchen, more waiata that our kids love, and more learning experiences outside the classroom. Hosting Seatoun School at Poutū Marae was an amazing day of exchanging cultures. We sang our favourite waiata at the No One Walks Alone event in Foxton and some of us performed in the Primary School Kapahaka Regional Competition with Te Rōpu Kapahaka o Te Awahou. Ka rere te mihi ki a rātou. It is great to reflect on our first year and say that we have learned many things in māori medium teaching and learning. We have sown seeds for the future by achieving some steps towards our collective goals. We wish to take this time to thank the School Board of Trustees, the supportive Leadership, Staff, Whānau, Community, and Tamariki who love this learning journey. Mo te mutunga kōrero ki te Whānau Tafilipepe ka wehe koutou i te huarahi painga ki Ahitereira. Ka ngaro mātou i a koutou kawea atu to mātou aroha ki a koutou 💖





Tēnā koutou katoa

In the Harakeke Hub this term we started with camp. What a fantastic experience for our Year 6, 7, and 8 tamariki. They all took advantage of the many opportunities to step outside their comfort zones and continue to develop the virtues we value in our kura.



We had a visit from Kaipo Olsen Baker, a current Black Fern fresh off their European tour. Kaipo talked about the determination, hard work, and whanau support that have helped her achieve her dreams of becoming a Black Fern.

The Science Extravaganza allowed our tamariki to showcase what they had learned and the processes they followed to be able to carry out their group's experiment.

Ag Day was another great event in the Term Four calendar. Our Harakeke tamariki enjoyed showing off their pets of all shapes and sizes. The seniors took advantage of the opportunity to raise money for their end-of-year trip by making yummy waffles and selling tickets for a baking raffle. Having so many of our whanau join us for the annual event was fantastic.

Unfortunately, the weather didn't play its part and we had to go with plan B for our school athletics this year. We ran the events over the the space of a week and selected 32 tamariki for our interschool team. They competed on Friday 6th December. Well done team!



We too are very grateful for all the staff who have been working hard with our tamariki this year Mrs E, Whaea Jo, Mrs Sayles, Mrs King, Whaea Rhea, Mr Julian, and Whaea Lisa.

We wish our whanau and community a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.



A message from our School Office



Kia ora

We thank all our school-wide helpers for supporting our children throughout the year. You are all amazing! This support is much appreciated and you all make a real difference with their learning. THANKYOU!! We especially want to acknowledge our 'Breakfast Mum' Bethany McMillan's dedication to our Breakfast Club this year.

If you are a community member with some spare time and would like to help around the school, please contact the school office. We are always looking for more Breakfast Club Volunteers to cover the days Beth can't come in, reading with our tamariki, or even helping with our vege pods. Let us know if you would be interested in this type of support.

We wish you all a very safe and happy holiday season.

The Carol's

(Carol B & Carol C)

Donated Kathmandu Puffer Jackets

Our school wants to do a huge **SHOUT OUT** to one of our very generous community members.

Charles Manson donated jackets to give to 8 of our children.

The office staff selected tamariki who always display good virtues in the office.

Well done Jade, Xavier, Leon, Fate, Rocky, Galaxy, Logan and Althy (absent).



SHANNON SCHOOL POOL

The School Pool will be open to the public from Thursday 19th December until Sunday 2nd February.

It will then open each day from 1.00 pm - 6.00 pm, weather permitting apart from the following five days, when it will be closed.

- 24th December - Christmas Eve
- 25th December - Christmas Day
- 26th December - Boxing Day
- 1st January - New Years Day
- 2nd January - Day after New Years Day

Our pool will be run and maintained by HDC staff over the school summer holidays.

It may be closed at short notice if there are any staff working on site for any reason or there is an accident in the pool.

This will be advertised asap on social media.

The cost is \$1 for children and \$2 for adults.

No one should enter the pool area outside the operating hours. The school has spent a substantial amount on Solar Heating this year and want to make sure the pools facilities are looked after and children are not swimming unattended. Please report any after hours activity to the Police on #105



Shannon Community Civil Defence Response Group

Follow us on Facebook

Email: shannonccdrgr@gmail.com

The primary role of this volunteer group is to assist the local community in the event of a major emergency. **Civil Defence Starts With You!**

GET READY In a disaster will you be ready?



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.



KCE, owner of Mangahao Power Station, proudly supports Shannon School with the supply of stationery packs to all enrolled students. KCE also contributes to providing a swim instructor in Term 1 each year.

As we approach the end of the school year, King Country Energy congratulates all those who have worked so hard this year and wish you all the best over the holidays. We want to remind you that swimming in rivers and exploring near power stations can be dangerous so take care, read the warning signs carefully and look after each other. Remember the lessons you learned from your swim instructor.

As part of supporting local communities, KCE is also a sponsor of the Waikato Westpac Rescue Helicopter and the Grassroots Trust Rescue Helicopter (servicing the Manawatu and Horowhenua regions). KCE is proud to support these vital services, which help protect the health and well-being of the local communities for whom KCE generate power.



Thanks to the team at Fujifilm Business Innovation Corp for printing our newsletters each term!

FUJIFILM
Value from Innovation



Happening NOW - Shannon Community Plan: the voice of that community highlighting goals and aspirations.

Progress so far: the journey began with Council and Ngāti Whakarete inviting Shannon residents to a launch event at Whakawehi marae. Following this, Council, iwi, and the Shannon community gathered for the first workshop in November. Discussions focused on forming a Working Group, identifying other ways for people to get involved, and exploring the most effective ways to engage with the wider community. The second workshop took place on the 5 December, where the Working Group began developing an engagement plan to gather feedback from the wider community.

Have Your Say: Now, it's your turn. We're looking for your ideas, insights, and vision for Shannon's future.

Ways to have Your Say: online survey, please watch Facebook/social media platforms (paper copies will be widely available in community with a secure drop box). Visit us at community events such Christmas Celebrations, Shannon Summer Pools Opening, Shannon Car Show