



## Te Kura o Hau Karetu

He waka eke noa: *We're all in this waka together*  
32 Hillside Drive, Māoribank, UPPER HUTT 5018  
Phone (04) 5269-552, 027-5269-552  
Email: [office@tehaukaretu.school.nz](mailto:office@tehaukaretu.school.nz)

4 February 2025

To the Whanau of: \_\_\_\_\_

Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Mālō e lelei, Kia orana, Namaste, Kumusta,

Ngā mihi o te tau hou – happy New Year, and welcome back to everyone. Settle in for a big read!

We are so excited to be back at school. Teachers have worked over the break to create a great learning environment for everyone to be in. We are looking forward to another year of hard work and learning heaps – and I don't mean just students. Teachers will be completing professional development this year in literacy and mathematics, as they were last year. Learning doesn't stop.

**Nau mai, haere mai to our newbies:** Whaea Ryleigh who is teaching in Te Hikuwai; Anasitasia who has started in Te Pūao; Esa, Tali, Titus, Grayson and Lincoln who have started in Te Waipuna, and Ngārāitekahurangi who has started in Ngā Pōtiki.

**Newsletters this year:** There will be a change this year – we will be sending out newsletters fortnightly instead of weekly. We will send home a printed version of the newsletter to your oldest or only child as well as putting it on our Facebook page, and will send via Skool Loop.

### **Data from 2024:**

The results of our data analysis from 2024 showed that our children's progress in literacy and numeracy is overall accelerating. This is due to :1) your children working hard, 2) your teachers working hard, 3) intervention programmes we have in place for some students, including teacher aide support and small group support. Our Board has contributed a lot of money to ensuring that we have intervention programmes in place.

We are heartened by these results as it reflects how much effort we have put into our mahi, but we still have a way to go as by the end of 2025, we want at least 80% of our children to be working at or above their cohort level in reading, writing, and maths. The reason we are working so hard on the 3Rs is because they are the gateway to accessing the rest of the curriculum. If you can read and write, you can do anything and be anything you want to be. When you achieve well in mathematics, it helps you to understand the world around you. Anyone can learn mathematics, and we always make sure we have a growth mindset around our learning saying, "I might not be able to achieve it YET, but if I keep trying, I will!"



### **Attendance:**

The government is cracking down on truancy in schools. We are now required to report to the Ministry of Education each day on our attendance. While we have always contacted parents/carers of children who are not at school via either text or phone, you may notice an increase in correspondence from me via emails, a visit to your home, and more phone calls. We are not in the business of judging you, but we are in the business of educating your child and need them to be at school on time and each day. It's important to us that your child reaches their potential. We will always expect children to be at school every day, unless they are unwell. If they are going to be absent from school, you need to contact us please. Thank you.



### Lunches in Schools:

You may have heard loads in the media about the Lunches in Schools programme, and probably thinking your child will be having no lunch until 3pm. Not true. We are lucky to have 3 providers who are really switched on and have managed to get lunches to us right on time.

Yesterday there was delicious lasagna and a side of veggie chips, and today a sandwich, chips and a cookie. The quality of the food shouldn't change, but we may see a reduction in the sides provided. It is our policy to encourage children to at least try the food, and we will always put the school lunches in front of them. Children are monitored for 10 minutes from 1-1.10pm to make sure they have eaten something from the lunches or their lunch boxes.



### Bake Sale Valentine's Day:

We are holding a bake sale next Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February (Valentine's Day) at morning teatime to fundraise for UHUB. UHUB was created by schools for the Upper Hutt community to support whānau raising children up to 12 years old. They have information that can help including advice around health, cultural matters, child development, education, and parenting. Our school would like to be able to contribute financially to UHUB and would like to raise at least \$500, which is about \$4 per child. We would appreciate your support – please bring baking and money along next Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. Thank you so much for your support.

### Theme for this term – The Evolving World – Focus on Aotearoa/New Zealand

Last year, our focus was around our local environment, and this year we are branching out to think about our whole country. Of course, next year will be the world!

We will be studying pūrākau/legends and stories about Aotearoa, pre-European history, and more recent NZ history.

### Potae/sunhats:

We require all students to wear full brimmed sunhats please. We are a Sunsmart School which means we require all to wear sunhats, provide sunblock, and encourage children to play in the shade when possible. This year, we have been lucky enough to have our sunhats provided by the **Inner Wheel Upper Hutt** who have paid for and/or made potae for everyone in the school. Thank you so much to this amazing group of ladies.



### Stationery:

Thank you to those of you who have purchased your stationery already. We know that times are tough out there and we do have some very generous people in our community who are happy to support with the costs of stationery if you are unable to afford it. Please let us know at the office, and we will let our benefactors know so they can purchase it for you.

### Swimming:

We are swimming already. Swimming is compulsory and it is part of the NZ Curriculum. Please ensure any child with long hair has it tied up. Please provide togs and a clean towel for each of the days your child is swimming – thank you:



Times	Mane	Turei	Wenerei	Taite	Paraire
9.15-10am					Pōtiki
10-10.45	Te Waipuna	Te Waipuna	Te Waipuna	Pōtiki	Exceptional
11.30-12.15	Te Pūao	Te Pūao	Te Pūao	Te Hikuwai	Te Hikuwai
12.15-1pm	Te Awa	Te Awa	Pōtiki	Te Awa	
1.30-2.15	Exceptional	Te Whanganui	Te Whanganui	Te Whanganui	Pool maintenance
2.15-3pm	Te Hikuwai	Mataamua	Mataamua	Mataamua	

### Whānau involvement in the school – important dates:

This term we will be asking a lot of you. We have lots of opportunities to meet you and seek your advice on your child, and as well, we have lots of opportunities to offer you. We would love to see you at:

- **Meet the Teacher – 17<sup>th</sup> Feb** here at school from 5-6.30pm. Bring a picnic. Sausage sizzle provided. Come and meet the teacher, the School Nurse, the Learning Support Coordinator, Navigator in Schools, Counsellor in Schools and Social Worker in Schools.
- **Cyber Safety - 18<sup>th</sup> Feb at Maidstone Intermediate 7pm. Our school has paid for you to attend this. I cannot stress how important it is to hear the message that Rob Cope has to give you. Don't be the parent that says, "not my child, they wouldn't do that" - you need to attend this.**
- **Goal setting interviews – 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> March** here at school. We expect everyone to attend these please.

### Breakfast Club Volunteers:



A plea – please - we need volunteers for Tuesdays and Thursdays for Breakfast Club. We really struggled last year to get volunteers for Breakfasts, and I don't blame you as it is early morning, but breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Please help! Thank you.

### Forms to be completed:

Tomorrow we are sending out two forms for you to complete. They are so important, and we need everyone to complete them please:

- 1) **Updated details** – please update your contact details, as well as updating your emergency contacts. If you want your child picked up in an emergency, the person who picks them up must be on the form otherwise we cannot release your child into their care.
- 2) **Google docs permission** – We require permission from you for your child to be able to use Google Apps. Your child will not be able to use any devices at school until this is signed. Using devices is an important part of learning at school. Please see the google form (link below), or you can sign the permission form we are sending out tomorrow.

<https://forms.gle/SCNXNnqb6i3Jzn7A>

Ngā mihi nui  
Karen Wellington  
Tumuaki/Principal

### Events Term 1, 2025

Week 1 3-7 Feb	Mihi whakatau – Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 9am for all newbies Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Waitangi Day – see you down at Orongomai Marae Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Teacher only day – please do not come to school on this day.
Week 2 10-14 Feb	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Valentine's Bake Sale – fundraising for UHUB Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb - Matiu Te Huki Storytelling performance 10-11am – all welcome.
Week 3 17-21 Feb	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Meet the Teacher Evening at school – 5-6.30pm Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Cyber Safety – Maidstone Intermediate 7pm
Week 6 10-14 March	Heart Foundation Fundraiser – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March – dress in red and please bring a donation.
Week 7 17-21 March	Goal Setting interviews at school Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> between 3.15-7pm, and Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March between 3.15-5pm. Bookings can be made on Skool Loop, or contact the office on 0275269552.
Week 10 7-11 April	Last day of school 11 <sup>th</sup> April at 3pm

# U Day For UHub



14 February 2025

*UHub is here to support whānau raising children up to 12 years old in Upper Hutt. We listen, connect and empower you with helpful information, resources, and support, to help you nurture your child's learning and wellbeing.*



**Because  
U Matter!**

**U Day** is about celebrating and supporting UHub Upper Hutt.

Thank you for supporting your school or ECE with their fundraising initiative. All funds raised will go to UHub.



[www.uhub.org.nz](http://www.uhub.org.nz) [f/UhubUpperHutt](https://www.facebook.com/UhubUpperHutt)