



Te Kura o Hau Karetu

He waka eke noa: *We're all in this waka together*
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13 February 2024

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR NEWSLETTER

Kia ora to Whanau/families/aiga of the tamariki at Te Kura o Hau Karetu,

Ngā mihi kia tau hau Pakeha! Happy New Year and welcome back to the new year at school for 2024. I hope you had a relaxing day last week for Waitangi Day. I went down to Orongomai Marae and thoroughly enjoyed myself. There were a lot of people who went to a huge amount of effort to make the day successful, including some of our own staff. Ngā mihi to Whaea Carol, Paige, and Mākere who supported our Tamariki and children from other schools, who performed kapa haka items.

New Students:

- We have lots of new faces this year. Nau mai, Haere mai (welcome) to: Reeco, Rico John, Reimana, Samantha, Dawn, Zara-Jane, Cortez, Jon-Kyrie, Hine, Lee Ariki, and Wesley. Nau mai hoki mai (welcome back) to Te Morehu and Manaia.

Staffing:

- Teachers and staff are excited to be back at school. Our teachers have been working hard to create beautiful environments in the classrooms ready for some amazing learning to happen.

We have a few new staff members to introduce:

- Whaea Jackie is teaching Thursdays and Fridays in Te Waipuna with our 5 year olds. Jackie Kaio is familiar to us, as she used to be our reading recovery teacher five years ago.
- Whaea Rachel is starting as an office assistant on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
- Matua Brad is teaching in Te Whanganui with our year 5 and 6s on Mondays and Fridays.

This is what classrooms look like this year:

Year 1/New Entrants	Te Waipuna (the Spring waters)	Whaea Donna & Jackie
Year 2	Te Hikuwai (the Headwaters)	Whaea Victoria
Year 2/3	Te Awa (the River)	Whaea Michelle
Rumaki	Te Mātāhae (the Distributary Channel)	
Yrs 4-8	Ngā Mātāmua	Whaea Paige
Yrs 1-3	Ngā Pōtiki	Whaea Carol
Year 4/5	Te Pūao (The River Mouth)	Whaea Annemarie & Kylie
Year 5/6	Te Whanganui (the Harbour)	Matua Shea & Matua Brad

Te aronga matua o tēnei tau / This year's focus:

Our main focus for this year is Te Ao Hurihuri ki Te Awakairangi ki uta / The evolving world in Upper Hutt. Each term's focus will be on the four seasons: Term 1 Raumati/Summer, Term 2 Autumn/Tokerau, Term 3 Winter/Hōtoke, Term 4 Spring/Kōanga.

Stationery:

- A reminder that stationery is being paid for this year so there is no need to purchase anything. If you would like to purchase a special pencil case and some felt pens, then that would be nice. Also, if you are in Te Pūao, Te Whanganui, and Ngā Mātāmua, your child may bring a chrome book to school. This is not compulsory, so please don't feel any pressure to do so. Chromebooks are what your child will be using in intermediate and college.

School Start and Finish & Attendance:

- Please remember that school begins at 9am and finishes at 3pm. It's important children are at school every day and on time. The beginning of the day is a time for us to set the tone for the day. However, we would rather children were at school late than not at all. Getting to school by 9am is important for children's routines. Thank you.
- Attendance – it is important that your child is at school every day. Please advise the office via text on 0275269552, or via the Skool Loop app. Make sure you tell us the reason they are absent.

New Details:

- If you have a new address or phone number, please let Roseanne know. It's important that we have your latest contact details in the event of an emergency.

Potae/Sunhat:

- Please ensure your child has a wide brimmed sunhat to wear during term 1. Even when it is cloudy, the UVs are out in force. We are a Sunsmart School and we want to keep our tamariki safe from sunburn.



Swimming/kaukau:



- Swimming is part of the curriculum and is compulsory. All students are expected to swim. Please check your class teacher's newsletter for days which you are required to bring togs.
- **Togs must be polyester, not cotton** or they will not be allowed to swim.
- Long hair needs to be tied up.
- Anyone with a sore or plaster will not be able to enter the pool – bugs could get into their wounds, and plasters play havoc with the filters.
- Anyone who has had vomiting or diarrhoea in the last two weeks will not be able to swim as the bugs can be carried in the water and passed on to others. Thanks.

Entry in to and from School:

• Mornings:

You can drop your child off at the front gate or the back. Our carpark can be quite full and it's safer to drop your child off at the gate and have them walk in. However, you can still drop them off in the carpark – please monitor them as they walk from the car to the gates. You do not need to drop them to the office unless they are running late – thank you.

• End of the day –

Front gates: The front gates are closed all day from 9am-3.10pm.

At the end of the day, two staff members will be at the gate to help cross students over the road at Hillside Drive.

Back gates: There will be two walking bus teachers – one at the front and one at the back. Students will be walked to the intersection of Hillside Drive, Moeraki, and Norana Roads and will be crossed over by the road patrollers. After that, the children walk on their own.

Kai/Food at School:

Breakfast Club:

- This will be run by volunteers and is run 5 days per week from 8 – 9am. Anyone who would like to volunteer for this job, please advise Roseanne or Rachel at the office. Thank you.

Lunches in Schools:

- The Ministry of Education will continue to provide lunches again this year. The kai will be offered to every child. All children are expected to at least try the kai. The purpose behind Lunches in Schools is that children will experience a variety of foods – they won't be to everyone's taste – but generally it's pretty yummy kai.



Snacks:

- We encourage you to provide healthy snacks for your child – please no fruit strings and the like – they are exactly the same as lollies which we definitely do not allow at school. The school always has snacks at the office if you don't have any. Your child just needs to go to the office after morning tea time – no need for an explanation.

Water only:

- We are a water only school which means children can only drink water while they are at school. We would encourage your child to bring a drink bottle of water each day – particularly while we are experiencing such hot temperatures. Thank you.

Meet the Teacher Evening:



We will be holding a “Meet the Teacher” evening on **Monday 19th February from 5-6.30pm**. There will be a sausage sizzle, the pool will be open, the slippery slide will be operating, and there will be a game on the field. You will get to meet your teacher, visit your child’s classroom, and meet other staff who are on site to support your child. You are welcome to bring your own picnic or fish and chips. We would love to see you there.

Assemblies:

We hold our weekly celebration Assembly on Fridays at 9am. All whanau are welcome to attend.

School Values – we teach the ākonga/students about these values every day. It would be great if you would be able to speak with your child at the end of each day to find out what they learnt about the values:



- Whakaute/Respect
- Akohia/Learning
- Kotahitanga/Togetherness
- Atawhai/Kindness

School Policies:

Our school policies and procedures can be found at schooldocs.co.nz, username: maoribank and password waka. We would encourage you to check these out as we will ask you to have your say on their review every three years. Thank you.

Finally, this will be the last paper copy of the newsletter from hereon in. We will be providing weekly newsletter updates each Tuesday on Skool Loop and Facebook. If you don’t already have the Skool Loop app downloaded onto your phone, please do so now. Our Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/TeKuraoHauKaretu/>.

Ngā mihi nui

Karen Wellington,

Kaihautu/Timekeeper on the Waka

Schedule of Events Term 1, 2024

Week 2 12-16 Feb	
Week 3 19-23 Feb	Monday 19 th Feb – Meet the Teacher evening 5-6.30. Bring togs. BBQ provided, but feel free to bring your own kai for a picnic. Life Education Trust Week – Harold is bringing his bus to school this week.
Week 4 26 Feb-1 Mar	29 th Feb – U-Day. Dress up as something with a U, wear your undies on the outside, be a Unicorn, bring an umbrella or a ukelele. Fundraising for UHUB – a community space for whanau/families in Upper Hutt to support every need for your child. We are aiming to raise \$4 per child. Support for Whanau with Children who are Neurodiverse Hui in Staffroom 9.30-10.30am.
Week 5 4-8 March	
Week 6 11-15 March	I have a Dream BBQ Friday 15 th after school
Week 7 18-22 March	Student Conference for a selected few, Friday 22 nd March
Week 8 25-29 March	Good Friday – Easter Holiday
Week 9 1-5 April	Easter Monday and Tuesday – Easter Holidays
Week 10 8-12 April	Last day of term 1 12 th April. Return to school on 29 th April. 9 th -12 th April – Dental Van/Bee Healthy Bus at school.