



Papatoetoe West School

Together We Strive For Growth Through Learning

School wide newsletter

| Term 1

| 28 March 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 31 March -

Whānau Hui/Afternoon Tea - 3pm

Monday 31 March - Friday 4 April

Book Week

Thursday 3 April

Book Parade 9:45 am

Friday 4 April

PhotoLife - Class and Individual Photos

Monday 7 April

Photolife - Sibling Photos

Thursday 10 April

Whole School Assembly - 11:45 am

(Indian groups performing)

Friday 11 April

End of Term 1 - School finishes at 2:55 pm

From our Assistant Principal

Kia ora whānau,

What an incredible Week 7 & 8 we've had! A huge thank you to all the whānau who joined us for our Literacy and Maths Open Morning on Wednesday. It was fabulous to see so many of you attend and observing our students as they explored a range of literacy and numeracy activities.

Looking ahead to Week 9, we are excited to celebrate Book Week, a special time dedicated to all things literacy! The highlight of the week will be our Book Parade on Thursday morning at 9:45am, where students dress up using what they have made in class with whānau and school.

A reminder about attendance for EID: EID is coming up and is a huge celebration in our community. If your child has one day off to celebrate, they will be marked as J for Justified—this is in line with Ministry of Education guidelines. However, any extra days will be marked as E for Explained but Unjustified. Please be aware that all absences do impact your child's overall attendance as they are considered 'Not in Class.' You must let us know if your child will be away for EID.

We can't wait for another fantastic week of learning and fun as we get closer to the term break!

Ngā mihi nui,
Mrs Kelley Farley
Tumuaki Kaiāwhina /Assistant Principal

BOOK WEEK



31/3 - 4/4 2025

THURSDAY: BOOK PARADE AT 9:45AM IN THE HALL

CLASSES WILL PLAN AND MAKE A CLASS WIDE DRESS UP THEME AT SCHOOL
WHANAU ARE WELCOME TO COME ALONG!

LOTS OF FUN
READING
ACTIVITIES
THROUGHOUT
THE WEEK
ACROSS THE
SCHOOL!



A WEEK TO
CELEBRATE
ALL THINGS
BOOKS AND
THE MAGIC OF
READING!

PLEASE JOIN US Whānau Hui Afternoon Tea for our Māori Whānau

MONDAY 31 MARCH 2025, 3:00 PM
IN THE SCHOOL STAFFROOM
FOR CAKE AND A CUPPA

AN INFORMAL HUI WHERE WE WILL BE SHARING INFORMATION FOR EVENTS
THIS YEAR
(MATARIKI, TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI AND PERFORMANCES)
WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS ON PLANNING FOR THESE
EVENTS

LET'S STOP THE MOTH PLANT!!!

Thank you Sally-Ann for caring for our environment and collecting 102 moth plant pods to stop this invasive weed taking over other plants in its path! You are a super star.

We encourage others to do the same! Let's work together to stop this weed!!!



Snacks!!!

- Is it a good size? Students are generally bringing in WAY too much!
- Is it healthy? We are seeing TOO many whole packets of biscuits
- Is it zero (or limited) waste? Don't use single-use packaging please!



Here are examples of snacks brought in by our tamariki. Remember they get a WHOLE school lunch and a piece of fruit at school as well.

Updating school details

An important email will be coming home soon asking you to update your contact details. Even if nothing has changed, we'd really appreciate you taking a moment to confirm them.

Having up-to-date contact information is essential for the safety and wellbeing of our tamariki—especially if your child becomes unwell or has an accident at school. It helps us get in touch with you or another trusted adult quickly.

To thank you for your time, everyone who completes the survey will go into the draw to win a \$50 Westfield voucher! It only takes 2 minutes to fill in, so please keep an eye on your inbox.



Holi Celebration

During break time last week, PWS came alive with vibrant colour and joyful energy as we celebrated Holi, the festival of colours.

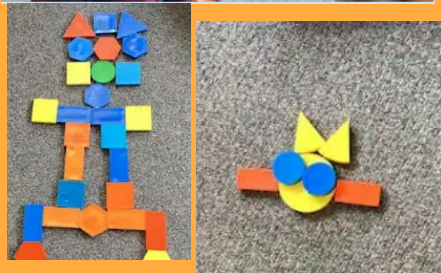
Tamariki enjoyed a fun-filled outdoor session with bursts of colour powder, water play (led by staff), and lively music creating a festive atmosphere. The celebration provided a wonderful opportunity for our school community to come together in a spirit of joy, inclusion, and shared experience.

Photos from the event have been shared on our Facebook page.

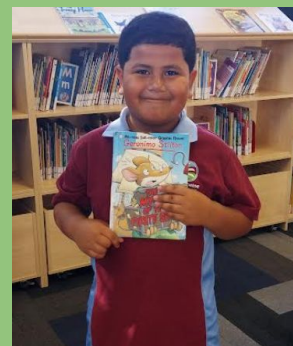
A huge thank you to the staff who helped coordinate this vibrant celebration—it was a memorable moment of fun, connection, and colour for all involved.



Year 2 update



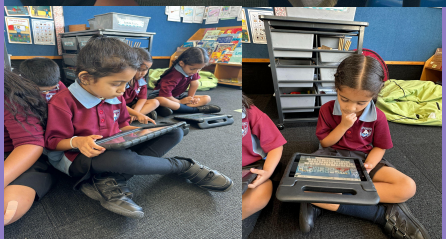
We are learning to identify, describe and sort 2d and 3d shapes.
Rūma 35



Reading in the Wonder Hub is fun. We love choosing our own books every Monday. Rūma 36

In Rūma 33, we enjoy swimming. It develops vital life skills, builds confidence and promotes our physical and mental health.

"I've learnt how to float and breath underwater"
- John.N



Our tamariki are learning how to add through fun activities like games & using iPads in Rūma 32!

The Year 2 team tried out a Science experiment. We found out what happens when you put dishwashing liquid into milk and food colouring. Here is a snippet from Rūma 31!



Title: Magic Milk

Materials: Milk, Dish soap, Food Colouring, Cotton bud, Plate

Steps:
First put milk on the plate.
Then put food colouring on the milk.
Next dip the cotton bud in the dish soap.
Finally put the cotton bud in the milk and food colouring.

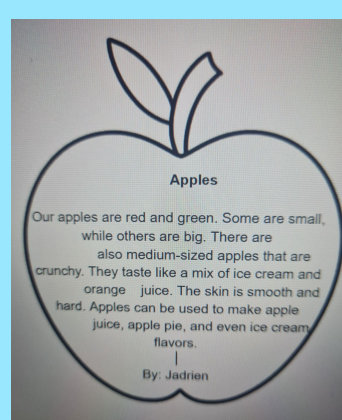
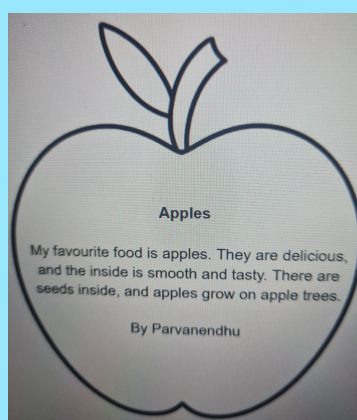
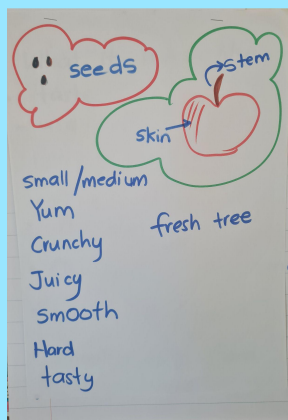
What did I see?

I made a star.

By KadyN

We absolutely love the healthy snacks we receive at school! They not only fuel our bodies and minds with energy for learning but have also inspired us to write a wonderful descriptive piece all about apples!

Rūma 34.



Year 4 trip to Kohuora Park

Last Friday the Year 4 team and whanau supporters walked to Kohuora, our adopted park. Our goal was to learn about what lives there and take action to help our local environment. Anna from Auckland Council met us to give us background information and help us learn about the plants. We picked up rubbish as we explored the park. Ka pai Year 4!



On Friday, the whole class went to Kohuora Park. We took a questionnaire, and we had to have a buddy to help us find plants and birds. Now we got to the fun part. First, we lined up with the other Year Four students, and then we started to explore. We saw a Pukeko and a Tui. Then we found different kinds of plants, like Harakeke and Mapau. After that, we walked over a little bridge and saw many gigantic trees. Then, we all sat down and drew a leaf, a plant and a tree. Finally, we went back to school. By Jannat, Rūma 15



At Kohuora Park I was going on the bridge. Secondly it was bad luck because I lost my pen. We had to walk around Kohuora park for nearly 1 hour. The best thing was hunting for plants, it was so fun! There was lots of Pukeko's with red beak, blue feathers and a little bit of black feathers.

By Daniel Rūma 16



On Friday 21 March, we walked to Kohuora Park. We learned that Kohuora is a volcano. We picked up rubbish and we were disappointed because there was a lot of it! We walked and saw harakeke, they have like spiky leaves. We also saw mānuka and they looked so beautiful with their tiny white flowers. I heard pukeko, people talking and birds tweeting.

By Salvation Rūma 19



I drew some of the trees and the plants. It was hard to add all the detail on the plants. I really like it, I would love to go back to Kohuora park.

By Romina, Rūma 17



Last Friday it was a nice sunny day and we went on a trip to Kohuora Park. We saw trees and we saw birds, lots of birds! We picked up super lots of trash such as bottles and plastic. We sat under a shady tree and drew what we saw in a field. It was a humongous field. We saw houses and grass. I enjoyed our park and learning.

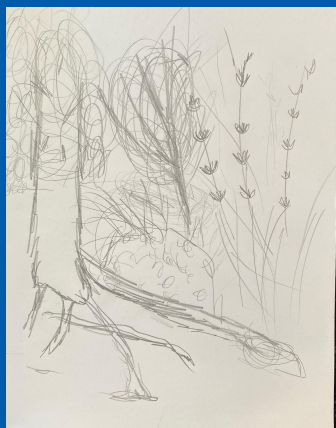
By Solomon Rūma 19



Today our class went to Kohuora Park. There were so many plants and trees.

My favourite was the Mānuka. I love the colour! I thought I saw a Ponga (silver fern) but it was actually a different type of fern. We also picked up any rubbish we saw. Me and my class had a lot of fun!

By Jordynne, Rūma 18



Playball/Cricket

On tournament day last week both cricket and playball results didn't go our way. The teams persevered, won some games and lost some games. At the end of the day it was a great learning experience, fun, enjoyable and learning new skills.



Thank you to all the children for your hard work, dedication, and teamwork in cricket and playball. Your effort, enthusiasm, and positive attitude make every game special, and we're so proud of the way you support one another on and off the field. Keep up the great work!

A big thank you also to our wonderful coaches Mr Grant Kibblewhite - Boys Cricket, Mr Philip Waller - Girls Cricket, Miss Belinda King - Girls Playball. and Miss Gail Calicdan- Boys Playball.



Our next sports are Rugby, Soccer and Netball - Whanau, if you are able to come support or coach one of these teams, please contact our Tupu Iese (tupui@pap-west.school.nz) or call the school and we'll get in touch. We'd love to have your support!

Bike and Scooter Safety

Just a reminder that if your child rides a bike or scooter to school they are required to wear a safety helmet.



Music at PWS

Kia ora whānau,

It's been such a joy to join the fabulous team here at Papatoetoe West School! I've been warmly welcomed by both kaiako and tamariki, and I'm loving every moment.

So far this year, I've had the pleasure of working with two-thirds of our Year 1–6 classes, and with the second SPEC rotation now underway, I'm getting to know even more of our fabulous learners across the school.

In our music sessions, we've been diving into vocal activities—starting each class with a warm-up song. This term, we're focusing on building confidence and volume when singing, encouraging every child to find their voice. We've also been learning key musical concepts such as tempo and beat, and beginning to explore a range of classroom instruments.

It's been an exciting start, and I'm enjoying every moment of this musical journey with our tamariki!

Ngā mihi nui,
Januel Magtibay (Mr Jan)
Music Specialist



The Junior and Middle Choir performed the song to the whole school "I am but a small voice" during the international day. We had two amazing soloists- Lavinia & Mireya.



Students in year 5 and 6 practising the song "I want to rise" on xylophone and "The Good Morning" song on piano.

Reading Together Programme

Help your child
love reading

Quality time
with your child

A Research
Based
programme

What is the Reading Together Programme?

Reading Together® is a research-based workshop programme which helps parents/whānau to provide effective support for their children's reading (and thereby also supports teachers in their classroom programmes).

The programme has been shown to raise children's reading achievement in a significant and sustained manner, and to improve relationships between children and parents, and between parents and teachers

[More information about about the programme can be found here.](#)



Session 1

How to help with reading at home

1. Introduction - an overview
2. Your child as a reader - sharing ideas and experiences
3. Ways of helping your child with reading - explanation, demonstration and discussion
4. Finding time to help at home
5. Using libraries

Session 2

How to check the difficulty level of reading materials

1. Sharing experiences
2. Finding and using the right material with your child
3. Helping your child to read suitable material

(please bring your child to this workshop)

Session 3

How to help your children overcome problems in their reading

1. Sharing experiences (including books enjoyed at home)
2. Ideas about how we read and what helps us to read
3. More ways of helping children, especially when they cannot recognise a word

Session 4

Sharing ideas about reading, giving feedback and looking ahead

1. Sharing progress and experiences
2. Other ideas about learning to read

Term 2

Workshop Dates:

Start at 3:15 pm

Monday 12 May 2025

Monday 19 May 2025

Monday 26 May 2025

Monday 16 June 2025



Are you interested in
coming along?

Let us know via the [google form](#)
(click the link) and we email
closer to first session with the
venue.

Your child's school photos will be taken
at **Papatoetoe West School**
on **Friday 4th & Monday 7th April 2025**

View and purchase your child's photos online



- Look out for your Child's Photo Keycode that they will bring home a couple of weeks after PhotoDay or it will be EMAILED to you.
- Use your unique Photo Keycode to view your child's photos at www.photolife.co.nz
- Orders placed before the Free Delivery Expiry Date will be bulk printed and delivered to the school for your child to bring home.
- Check the Bulk Expiry Date when you go online to view your child's photos.

Sibling Photographs P.T.O

If your school has approved for us to take Sibling Photographs you need to do the following:

1. **RETURN** the signed Booking Form listing your children's names and room numbers to the School Office **BEFORE** Photo Day.
2. If there is **NO SIGNED FORM OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE NOT AUTHORISED TO TAKE A SIBLING PHOTOGRAPH.**

PhotoLife SIBLING PHOTO REQUEST

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED BY PARENT OR CAREGIVER AND RETURNED TO SCHOOL
BEFORE PHOTO DAY FOR PHOTO TO BE TAKEN.

FAMILY LAST NAME: _____

List Full Name and Room Numbers of Children to be Photographed Together – **OLDEST FIRST**

Name:

Room No:

Name:

Room No:

Name:

Room No:

Name:

Room No:

Name:

Room No:

I authorise the above detailed children to be photographed together for a Sibling Photo:

PARENT / CARGIVER SIGNATURE:

**After Photo Day you will receive a Photo Access Key to view and
purchase your Sibling Photo Pack ONLINE**

We are here to help



If you have any further questions
please contact us
09 262 1040 or 0800 501 040

PhotoLife
www.photolife.co.nz



Papatoetoe West School

Together We Strive For Growth Through Learning

2025 dates

TERM 1

Number of weeks	10
Term start & end dates	Term starts: Monday 3 February to Friday 11 April (98 half days)
Public holidays	Waitangi Day - Thursday 6 February
School holidays	Saturday 12 April - Sunday 27 April (includes): • Good Friday - 18 April • Easter Monday 21 April • Anzac Day - Friday 25 April

TERM 2

Number of weeks	9
Term start & end dates	Term starts: Monday 28 April to Friday 27 June (86 half-days)
Public holidays/ School not open for instruction	Teacher only day- Friday 30th May King's Birthday- Monday 2 June Matariki- Friday 20 June
School holidays	Saturday 28 June- Sunday 13 July

TERM 3

Number of weeks	10
Term start & end dates	Term starts: Monday 14 July to Friday 19 September (100 half-days)
Public holidays	None
School holidays	Saturday 20 September to Sunday 5 October

TERM 4

Number of weeks	11
Term start & end dates	Monday 6 October to Tuesday 16 December (102 half days)
Public holidays	Labour Day- Monday 27 October

- 386 half days in 2025
- Ministry of Education to allow for 1 additional teacher only day in 2025 (DATE TBC)