



Papatoetoe West School

Together We Strive For Growth Through Learning

School wide newsletter

| Term 2

| 26 April 2025

Items your child needs to bring to school...

Stationery

It's important your child has their stationery so that they have what they need to participate in class. Please look at our website with what you need for each year level if you are new to the school.

Book bag (YO-3 only)

Students should bring their book bag each day



Drink bottle

Please ensure that your child has a **NAMED** drink bottle. In this weather it is important to keep hydrated.



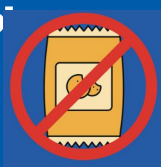
PE Shirts (Y3-6 only) House Teams

You will notice the purchase of a T-shirt is on the stationery list, which can be purchased at school for \$19.50.

Zero-waste healthy snacks

Snacks that shouldn't be brought to school

Snack or large packets of chips
Whole packets of biscuits
Fruit strings/sticks/roll-ups
Drinks other than water



Some suggestions for zero-waste healthy snacks:

Fruit
Vegetables e.g. carrot sticks, broccoli, cucumber
Rice crackers
Mini muffins
Popcorn
Small rice dish
A sandwich
Vegetable crisps
Trail mix, Nuts and seeds



We are working hard to reduce waste at our kura. If students bring a snack for their second break, we ask that it is **zero-waste**.

This means:



- Using **reusable containers** instead of throwaway packaging.
- Buying snacks in bulk and packing smaller amounts at home.

Students need to bring home any rubbish left over from their lunches. This supports our goal to

'Be Sustainable', which we know is important to our community. Thank you for helping us with this kaupapa.

Term 2 Inquiry: Science

Last term, we learned about Aotearoa New Zealand Histories by exploring the meaning behind place names across the country.

This term, our focus is Science. We are learning about Earth systems, especially volcanoes. Our big question is: **Living with Volcanoes – How did volcanoes shape New Zealand?**



We have many exciting learning experiences planned. The Volcano Van from Auckland Museum will visit our school, and all classes will get to meet experts and ask questions. We are also going on a trip to Maungakiekie (One Tree Hill) to see one of Auckland's volcanoes and learn more about how volcanoes helped shape the land around us.

Students will also take part in fun science experiments as they move through our school's inquiry cycle: wonder, explore, search further, and take action!

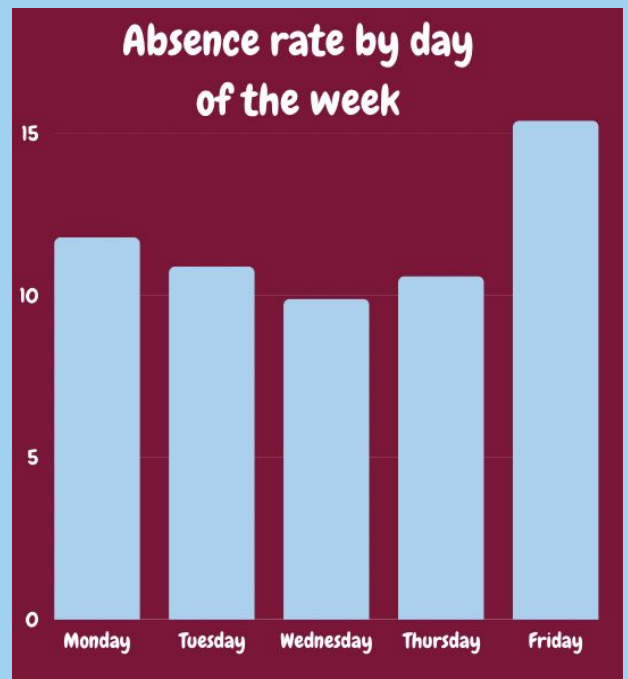
Term 1 attendance

Rate of attendance	Number of Students attending	Percentage of students attending
Regular attendance (90+%) Excellent work	404	60%
Irregularly absent (80–90%) Goal: Get to 90+%	133	20%
Moderately absent (70–80%) Goal: Get to 80+%	64	9%
Chronically absent (Less than 70%) Huge concern	72	11%

Our daily attendance rate across the term was **88%**

Every day we have **3%** of our tamariki unaccounted for (i.e. they are absent and we don't know why). This means they will be regarded as truant. It is most appreciated if we know of a child's absence in advance (the best way is to use the skool-loop app to inform us of absence).

We're observing a concerning trend of higher absenteeism on Fridays. This suggests families extending weekends which is a pattern we want to stop!



We want to maintain or even improve our attendance during the winter terms. We appreciate the improved efforts everyone is making to get their children to school.

Please keep this up - wind, rain or shine! We understand some life happens, and some things are outside of our control but we love our tamariki to be at school every day they can- this benefits them socially and academically!

We have seen great success with sending the fortnightly update of student absences so will continue this initiative throughout the year. A reminder, if we already have reasons for absences listed already you don't need to reply to us (it's still good for you to read the email though as a way of monitoring your own child's attendance at school).

Staffing update

We're excited to share that Ruth Hickton will be opening a new Year 1 class—Rūma 28—at the start of Term 2. It's been a joy to see our reception tamariki grow in confidence, and now see many move to a new class. We are looking forward to welcoming many new learners at the start of the term.





**Interested in learning about what
plants & animals are living in our parks?**

Kohuora Park Nature Tours with Ruud Kleinpaste – The Bug Man

10 am – 1 pm Saturday 3rd May 2025 (Rain date Saturday 10th May)

44 Station Road, Old Papatoetoe. (far end of the carpark)

Join Ruud Kleinpaste as he explores what's living in Kohuora Park, a wonderful green space with native trees, a looped nature walk, wetland and stream in Papatoetoe. Learn about bugs, plants and maybe even a few birds. Ruud will explain how you can do your own observations on the iNaturalist app for your phone.

This fun FREE community event supported by Auckland Council is suitable for all ages. No registration needed, just turn up and join a tour.



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.

PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

At our kura, cultural groups are a valued part of school life—celebrating identity, building performance skills, and engaging tamariki in the arts through waiata and dance.

By now, students have had the opportunity to try out a group and should have made a commitment. The focus this term is on following through—attending practices regularly and showing dedication as they prepare for performances later in the year.

Each cultural group meets once a week during break time for practice and fortnightly during an afternoon block. Students need to be prepared to attend both the break time and class time practices.

We're mindful that students also need unstructured time to play and recharge, so we encourage tamariki to choose only the groups they can realistically commit to. Each extra group adds an extra practice to their week, and we want to help them maintain a healthy balance.

Please note, students who do not attend practices consistently may not be able to take part in upcoming performances, as it's important they feel confident and ready as part of the group.

A timetable of break time practices is included with this pānui so you can help your child remember when their group meets.

Ngā mihi nui for your continued support!



What's on at Break Time - Term 2

What's on today - Y5&6

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1st break	Girls Soccer on the Field  Mrs Latham	E&F Netball on top courts  Miss King	C&D Netball on top courts  Ms Bell	Enviro team in garden/39  Rugby - Mr Iese 	Y5/6 Kapa Haka roopu Performing arts room  Ms Evans	Y5/6 Pasifika group in the hall  Mrs Latham
2nd break		Boys Soccer on the Field  Mr Waller	Y3-6 Choir  Mr Jan		A&B Netball on top courts  Miss Calicdan	Y5/6 Indian dance Performing arts room Whaea Elisha 
3rd block (odd week)			Y5/6 Indian dance group Performing arts room  Whaea Elisha			Y5/6 Choir Music room  Mr Jan
3rd block (even week)			Y5/6 Pasifika group in the hall Mrs Latham 	Y3-6 Ukulele Mr Jan Music Room 		Y5/6 Kapa Haka roopu Hall  Ms Evans

What's on at Break Time - Term 2

What's on today - Y3 & 4

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1st break	Y3-4 Pasifika dance group Performing Arts room  Mr Iese				
2nd break		Y3-4 Indian dance group Hall  Hall Mrs Devi	Y3-6 Choir Music Room  Mr Jan	Y3-4 Kapa Haka roopu Te Kakano  Whaea Debbie	
3rd block (odd week)			Y3-4 Kapa Haka roopu Hall  Whaea Debbie		Y3-4 Pasifika dance group Performing Arts room  Mr Iese
3rd block (even week)			Y3-4 Indian dance group  R36 Mrs Devi		Y3-4 Choir Music Room  Mr Jan

What's on today - Y1&2

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1st break		Choir Y1-2 Music Room - Mr Jan 		Y1-2 Pasifika group Hall  Whaea Jess & Mrs Venu	
2nd break	Y1-2 Indian dance group Hall  Mrs Kaur and Ms Mehta				Y1-2 Kapa Haka roopu Hall  Miss West & Mrs Dalziel
3rd block (odd week)			Choir Y1-2 Music Room - Mr Jan 		Y1-2 Pasifika group Hall  Whaea Jess & Mrs Venu
3rd block (even week)			Y1-2 Kapa Haka roopu Music room  Miss West and Mrs Dalziel		Y1-2 Indian dance group Performing arts room 

Stay Connected with us

Skool-loop is our main app we use for communication (all notices/newsletters through the app are also automatically loaded on our website).



We use Seesaw - for a more direct contact with your child's teacher. You can access this via app or website.



Facebook

Follow us on facebook! We'll be using this platform to share some of our tamariki's learning experiences.



Your Contact Information

If you have moved or changed phone numbers over the holiday, please contact your child's teacher or the school office so that we can update your information. It is **imperative** that this is up to date so that we can be in touch if there are any concerns, celebrations or emergencies.

Planned absences

The Importance of Attendance

Regular attendance is vital for your child's learning and well-being. Being at school every day ensures they don't miss out on key learning opportunities and helps build strong routines.

A gentle reminder:

- If you need to plan an absence, please notify us in advance.
- Please email or see the Principal or Deputy principal (sandyt@pap-west.school.nz or emmam@pap-west.school.nz).
- Requests for absences longer than one week, especially for holidays, are unlikely to be approved. In line with Ministry of Education guidelines, extended absences may result in your child being removed from our roll.

Let's work together to make attendance a priority and set our students up for success.

Traffic at the School

Our Drop Off Zone a safer space for our students now.

The drop off zone will be closed from 1:45 pm each day. You will not be able to park in this area to pick up your children.

When dropping off your child in the morning please make sure you move all the way up- this really helps with traffic and keeping students safe also!

A reminder that we have plenty of off street parking on Hillcrest road as well as at the Panthers carpark.



Drop off/pick ups Safety reminder

School gates open at **8:15 am**. Please do not drop children off earlier as there is no supervision. Students must also be picked up by **3:10 pm**.

We kindly ask families to limit early pick-ups during the day to avoid disrupting learning- this includes for siblings of Aorere students who finish on a Wednesday & Friday! Tracy Follas, one of our wonderful Learning Assistants, will continue to support with these matters.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Upcoming events

WEEK ONE

Mon 28 April- First day of Term 2

Friday 2 May - Kohuora Bioblitz

WEEK TWO

Mon 5 May- Term 2 Whakatau 12:30 pm

Wed 7 May- Year 4 Maungakiekie Trip

Thurs 8 May- Year 3 Maungakiekie Trip

Thurs 8 May - Y5/6 Sports Exchange vs Kingsford

Fri 9 May - Lockdown training

WEEK THREE

Mon 12 May- Reading Together Parent Workshop #1 - 3 pm

Mon 12 May- Year 5/6 Maungakiekie Trip
(Te Putiputi, R2,3, 4)

Wed 14 May- R9, 11, 31 & 35 Maungakiekie Trip

Wed 14 May - Writers Festival

Wed 14 May - Samoan Language week Fono 3pm

Thurs 15 May - Year 1 Maungakiekie Trip

Friday 16 May - Pink Shirt Day

WEEK FOUR

Mon 19 May - Y5&6 Maungakiekie Trip
(R5, 6 and Te Puāwaitanga)

Mon 19 May - Reading Together Workshop #2 - 3pm

Wed 21 May - R32, 33, 34, 36 Maungakiekie Trip

Thu 22 May- Y5/6 Sports Exchange vs Pap North

sKIDS



After School Care now at a reduced price.

Affordable, quality care, right where you need it at Papatoetoe West Primary School!

OSCAR Subsidy also available.
Call us on 0800 274 172 for more information.

Rise then Shine
7 am to 8:30 am,
just \$7!

Stay and Play
3 pm to 6 pm,
just \$17!



Secure your spot for Term 2 today! sKids.co.nz



SAMOAN FONO



LET'S TALANOAI COME ALONG TO PLAN FOR THE UPCOMING SAMOAN LANGUAGE WEEK. IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER IDEAS TO SUPPORT THE LEARNING AND CULTURE OF OUR SAMOAN STUDENTS, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR THEM!

SE'I O TATOU TALANOAI SAU E FESOASOANI E FUAFUA MO LE VAIASO O LE GAGANA SĀMOA. AFAI E IAI SOU MANATU E FESOASOANI I LE A'OA'OINA MA LE AGANU'U O TAMAITI SĀMOA, MATOU TE FIAFIA E FA'ALOGO I AI!



MAY 14
3PM

SWEET TREATS PROVIDED
ALONG WITH COFFEE AND TEA
rsvp: (or just come along)
debbiek@pap-west.school.nz



STAFFROOM

Pink Shirt Day
Friday 16 May 2025

FRIDAY 16 MAY 2025



JOIN THE MOVEMENT:
#PINKSHIRTDAYNZ



Speak UP
STAND TOGETHER
STOP BULLYING
KŌBERO MAI, KŌBERO ATU, MAURI TŌ, MAURI ORA

Papatoetoe West School will be celebrating
Pink Shirt Day.

Students are encouraged to wear PINK.
This is a FREE non-uniform day, however, if students would like to donate to the Mental Health Foundation, these will be gratefully accepted.



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)