



Papatoetoe West School

Together We Strive For Growth Through Learning

School wide newsletter

| Term 4

| 17 October 2025



OCTOBER 20TH - 24TH

We will be celebrating the week with:
Break time activities everyday
Classroom language learning
Assembly - Monday 11:45am



NOVEMBER 3RD - 7TH

We will be celebrating the week with:
Break time activities - 1st break everyday
Classroom language learning
Assembly - Monday 11:45am

From our Deputy Principal

Kia ora koutou,

We're off to a bustling start this term! We've welcomed new staff and tamariki at our whakatau, had Constable Marina in to support our Keeping Ourselves Safe unit, and our Year 1 and 2 students were a great audience enjoying an exclusive performance by some of our shining stars. We're also looking forward to lots of our exciting upcoming events!

As we dive into a busy few weeks, we want to celebrate the fantastic learning happening here and encourage you to keep that momentum going at home. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou for all the support you already give. There are so many easy, wonderful ways to support your child's education every single day!

Simply asking, "What did you learn at school today?" can spark great conversations. You can also continue the learning throughout the afternoon - why not practise counting or reading labels during a trip to the supermarket? And of course, reading any readers or library books that come home makes a huge difference. Every little moment of support truly counts! It's a genuine partnership that makes a huge difference.

Ngā mihi,

Emma McKeown

Tumuaki Tuarua/Deputy Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 3

Mon 20 - Fri 24 October Niue Language Week

Mon 20 October 11:45am- Assembly

Wed 22 October Year 4-6 Athletics at Mt Smart

Thu 23 October Teacher Strike (School Closed)

Week 4

Mon 27 October Labour Day observed (School Closed)

Week 5:

Mon 3-7 November Hindi language week

Thu 6 November 11:45am - Assembly

Friday 7 November 9 am-10:45 am Junior athletics

EXPLORING KOHUORA PARK!

Last week, year 2 and 4 students walked to Kohuora and met Frazer from Auckland Council to explore the park. They used binoculars to look for birds and saw ducks, pukeko, swallows, tuis, sparrows, a harrier hawk (kahu), pigeons, a white faced heron and magpies. They learned about what the different birds eat. They explored the wetland area, grass area and the bush area. The students' next step to help Kohuora are to notice things, pick up rubbish and learn more about everything that lives there!



Year 4 update

Cobra's Disco Birthday Party

One breezy, chilly morning when all the animals were waking up, they all remembered that today was Cobra's 20th birthday. All the animals prepared a disco party with disco music. Peacock, with her colourful rainbow fantail shaped feathers, played loud pretty music. Wombat placed lights all around the zoo. Parrots hung up decorations on the fence. Lion, Mouse and Moose made a huge rainbow chocolate cake and on the cake were all of Cobra's best animal friends. Fantail and Tui sang pretty songs. Monkey prepared a big feast for everyone. Each one of the animals brought their favourite foods. Dolphin played water games and Rabbit made land games for the other animals who do not want to play in the water. Chicken was announcing a legendary animals' script that was held a long time ago. When Harry saw Cobra, everyone hid! Once Cobra entered, everyone shouted, "Happy Birthday!" Cobra was so happy that he cried. Everyone was so happy because Cobra was really happy.

By Jordynne

Diary of a Snake

March 27th

This morning, I had Mum's famous rodent pie for breakfast. It was crunchy on the outside and soft in the middle. Mmm... delicious! After my feast, I slithered out into the warm sunshine to meet my best friend Lucas, the eagle. He said he was going to teach me how to fly. (Note: snakes can't fly.)

March 28th

I really didn't want to go to snake school today, but Mum gave me that "no excuses" look. So off I went. For the first break, I had a nice, stinky dead fish. It's just the way I like it. While I was playing, Lucas flew over my head. I quickly tucked my head under the slide so he wouldn't see me, because I heard my teacher calling out my name and saying, "Be careful!" For the second lunch, Mum packed me her special rabbit stew. Yummy!

March 29th

Swimming Day! I couldn't wait to hiss and splash in the water. But then, boom! It started raining cats and dogs. Mum growled at me not to go out. "You'll be easy prey out there," she said. I was so disappointed. I slithered back to my room, buried my head under the pillow, and fiery tears rolled down my scaly cheeks.

April 1st

April Fools' Day! My favorite day of the year! I set up all my pranks and waited like a sneaky little serpent. When Mum and Dad woke up, I pretended to be asleep. Bang! The firecrackers under the toilet seat went off. Hahaha! But that was only the beginning. I went to Lucas's house next and filled it with surprises. The bangs and booms were so funny.

April 2nd

Uh! Mum wasn't smiling. She was furious. My punishment? I had to stay outside. So I slithered away sadly. Then, disaster struck! I curled up under my neighbor's car tyre and lost my tail. Nobody wanted to help a crying little snake. I shouted, but no one came. I lay there by the garage, lonely and hurting, until Lucas swooped down and saved me. I gasped and said, "Thank you, my friend!"

By Hezekiah

This week, Year 4 has been working on recounts. They loved learning about different animals and writing diaries pretending to be them.

The Diary of a indoor Cheetah by Daniel

July 17th

I live at James house because it's the best place ever, James loves to play video games and plays it while eating, cooking and sleeping. James calls me Charlie although I wanted to be named Razer because I'm fast, cool and unstoppable while running.

July 18th

One day I snuck into the kitchen while James was playing a race car game on the TV. I snuck towards the fridge and then I opened the ice tray and threw ice on top of James face and he lost the game. He went to look for me but I hid at Charles the deer's house and he didn't look for me there.

July 19th

James was on the games again but he gave me food this time. I threw it down and turned the oven on and cooked him a tasty chilly cake, he ate it and suddenly ROARRR! James was breathing out fire like a dragon and started burning the house. I laughed at him. Silly James.

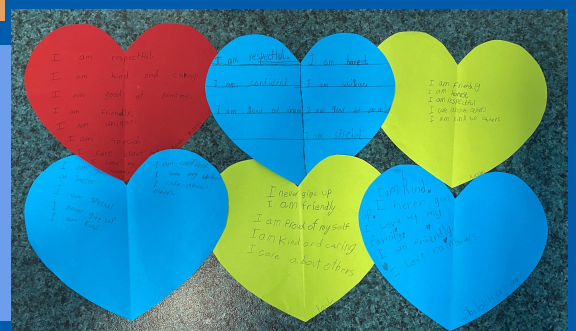
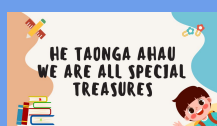
July 20th

Charles tried to do my jump with speed but he had twisted his leg and I patted him. It's okay you'll do better than this. He sounded sad which I hated. He was a good friend.

Birthday Party by Solomon.

At my birthday party, I invited my friends, the aliens, a sloth and also a monster. Everyone was muttering! After everyone stopped, we played games and made balloon swords. We went on the most bouncy trampoline. It was a blast! After we rested, we put on our swimming togs and went to the pools. First, we went on the slippery slide. Next, we went to the super fun bubble pool and splashed water on each other. We went back to my house and everyone was dancing. After the dance, we got fizzy drinks. Then the aliens dropped their UFO and it crashed in my backyard! After that, the moment had come to eat the cake. It was super yum.

We have had an awesome start to our Health Inquiry. The children were excited to share what makes them special and how we are unique. What makes you unique?



The West Way



WINNING HOUSE CELEBRATION

What a great way to kick off the first week back at school - with our Winning House Celebration!

We celebrated in style with a Ball Party! With music pumping and balls galore, our tamariki grooved, threw, kicked, passed, spun, and ran around with huge smiles on their faces.

This awesome group earned the top spot by consistently showing respect for SELF, OTHERS, and the ENVIRONMENT. What a fantastic example of our school values in action!

We're so proud of their efforts and can't wait to see which house will take out the next celebration. The challenge is on!

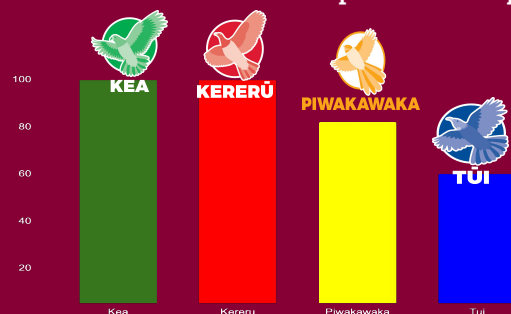


This term, we are showing respect for ourselves and others by being SunSmart. We keep ourselves safe and healthy by remembering to protect our skin from the sun.

One way we show respect for ourselves is by wearing our hats whenever we're outside and not playing in the shade. We show respect for others by giving friendly reminders to wear their hats too.

Together, we can all help keep each other be SunSmart and safe!

Check out how our Term 4 points are shaping up!





Te Wānanga
o Aotearoa

MANAAKI TANGATA SEM A

MAURI VIBRATIONS

CONNECTING COMMUNITY THROUGH SERVICE



FREE COMMUNITY EVENT- TE WHAIORA MARAE- 18TH OCT 10AM-2PM

**JOIN US FOR MAURI VIBRATIONS, CELEBRATING LIFE, CULTURE, AND CONNECTION!
COME EXPERIENCE THE POSITIVE MAURI (LIFE FORCE, ENERGY) THAT FLOWS
WHEN PEOPLE COME TOGETHER IN UNITY, SERVICE, AND JOY.
EXPECT A DAY FULL OF GOOD VIBES, GREAT KAI, & ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE WHANAU**



- FACE PAINTING & FUN GAMES
- FITNESS & ZUMBA SESSIONS
- SAUSAGE SIZZLE & FOOD STALLS
- LIVE MUSIC & DJ
- PRE-LOVED CLOTHING GIVEAWAY
- FREE CAR WASH
- FREE WATER & ICE CREAM
- FREE TEA TASTING
- HEALING & RONGOA SPACE
- FOOD PARCELS



SATURDAY 18TH OCTOBER 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM 20 OTARA ROAD, OTARA

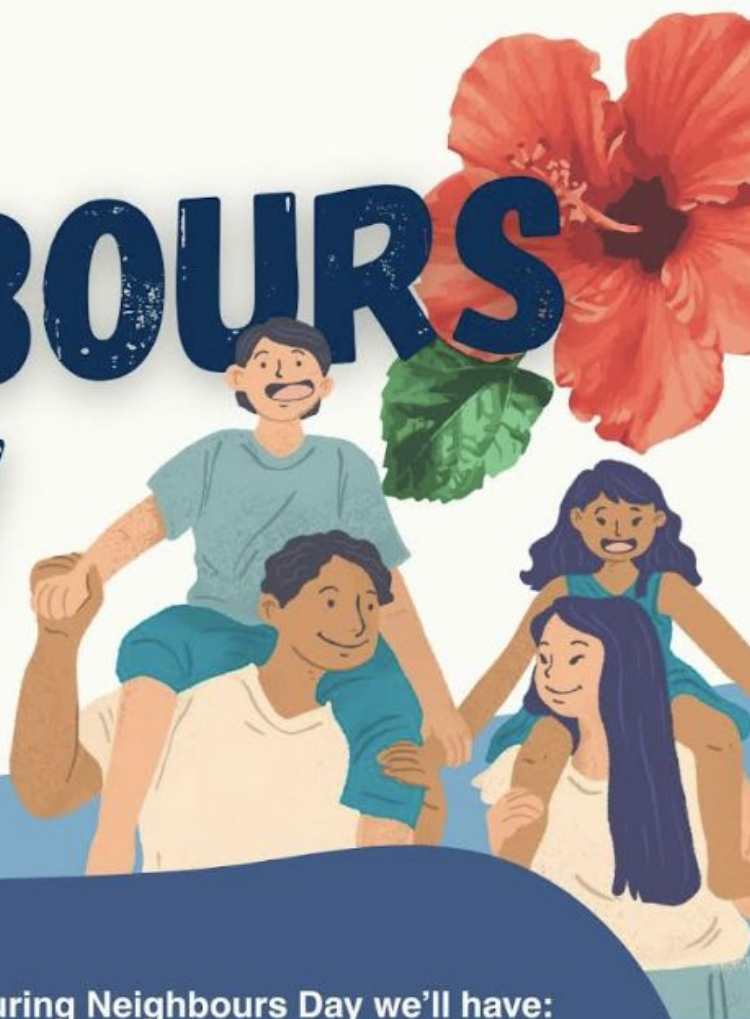
**THIS EVENT IS PROUDLY ORGANISED BY TE WANANGA O AOTEAROA MANAAKITANGA TANGATA (SEMESTER A)
AS PART OF OUR MISSION TO SERVE, UPLIFT, AND GIVE BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY.**



WAKA TŪ
WAKA ORA
Presents

NEIGHBOURS DAY

📍 41 BOUNDARY ROAD,
CLOVER PARK



**SATURDAY
18 OCTOBER**
10:00AM –
2.00PM
RAIN OR SHINE

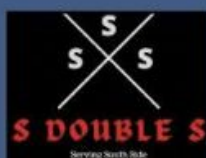
Bring your whānau to
meet the neighbours in
your hood, and find out
what we're up to here
at 41 Boundary Rd!

During Neighbours Day we'll have:

- DELICIOUS FREE HOT FOOD
- BIKE SHED OPEN FOR BIKES & REPAIRS
- GARDEN TOUR
- WORKSHOPS & GAMES
- PLANT SALE
- GIVEAWAYS AND MORE!

ALL WELCOME!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
'LET'S GROW BOUNDARY' ON FACEBOOK
OR WWW.PVA.ORG.NZ





Papatoetoe West School

Together We Strive For Growth Through Learning

2026 dates

TERM 1

Number of weeks	9
Term start & end dates	Term starts: Monday 2 February to Thursday 2 April (86 half days)
Public holidays	Waitangi Day - Friday 6 February
School holidays	Friday 3rd April - Sun 19th April (includes) • Good Friday - Friday 3 April • Easter Monday 6 April

TERM 2

Number of weeks	11
Term start & end dates	Term starts: Monday 20 April to Friday 3 July (106 half-days)
Public holidays/ School not open for instruction	ANZAC DAY - Monday 25 April King's Birthday- Monday 1 June
School holidays	Saturday 4 July- Sunday 19 July

TERM 3

Number of weeks	10
Term start & end dates	Term starts: Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September (100 half-days)
Public holidays	None
School holidays	Saturday 26 September to Sunday 11 October

TERM 4

Number of weeks	10
Term start & end dates	Monday 12th October to Wednesday 16th December (94 half days)
Public holidays	Labour Day - Monday 26 October

- 386 half days in 2026
- Ministry of Education to allow for 2 additional teacher only days (date TBC)