# Papatoetoe West School

Together We Strive For Growth Through Learning

School wide newsletter | Term 4 | 20 November 2026

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Week 8 Term 4**

**School Board Meeting** - Mon 30 November 5pm
**Inter School Touch Rugby** - Tues 1 December
**Preschool Meeting** - Wed 2 December - 2 pm
**Student Leaders/Road Patrols trip** - Fri 4 December

**Week 9 Term 4**

**Performance Evening** - Wed 9 December 6 - 8 pm
**Year 6 Fun Day** - Fri 11 December

**Week 10 Term 4**

**Y0-3 Prizegiving** - Mon 14 December 9:30am
**Y4-6 Prizegiving** - Mon 14 December 11:45 am
**Year 6 Graduation** -Tues 15 December 6 pm
**School Finishes** - Wed 16 December 12pm

## Think and be me Puppet show

This week, our Year 0–4 tamariki enjoyed an interactive Think and Be Me live show focused on mental wellbeing and managing big emotions like anxiety and anger.

Using puppets, stories, and songs- including characters like the Worry Watchdog and Cool Cat-students learned practical ways to shift toward helpful thinking, guided by the motto: "Change what you think, change what you do, and your feelings will change too." Seeing our teachers join in on stage was a clear highlight!








## From our Assistant Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

It has been a vibrant and action-packed couple of weeks across our kura during Weeks 5 and 6! Read on to see all the exciting things our tamariki have been up to.

As we begin our planning for 2027, we would greatly appreciate your help. If your child is currently in Years 0–5 and will be moving to another school in 2027, please let both your classroom teacher and the school office know as soon as possible. This really assists us in being well-prepared and ensuring balanced classes and the very best for our tamariki.

Looking ahead, we have plenty more to look forward to as we wrap up the school year!

Ngā mihi,

Kelley Farley



# Junior Athletics Day











We had a wonderful Week 5 Junior Athletics day out in the sun! It was our last in-school event for the year, and all the kids brought amazing smiles and energy throughout the day.

TŪI

**Junior Athletics 2026 Winning House**

**(1819 points)**

# Inter-school athletics





What a day at Interschool Athletics yesterday! 🏃‍♀️💨 We headed to Jellicoe Park in Manurewa for the very first time with our Year 3–6 team, and thankfully the weather stayed on our side! Our students competed across everything from sprints to high jump and shot put, even taking home a few awesome placings in the field events and girls' relays! 🏅

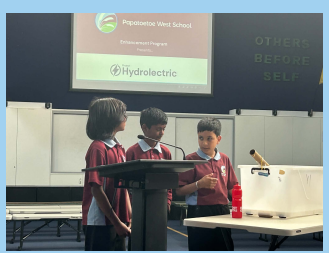
Huge congratulations to every single one of our athletes for giving it their absolute all. We are so proud of you! 👏🎉

| Track Event results | Field Event results |
|---|---|
| **7 Year Old Boys 50m Sprints**<br>Kirt - 1st overall | **9 Year Old Girls Shot Put**<br>Senerita - 3rd Overall |
| **8 Year Old Boys 75m Sprints**<br>Poitau - 3rd overall | **10 Year Old Boys Shot Put**<br>Metali - 2nd Overall |
| **9 Year Old Boys 75m Sprints**<br>Elijan - 3rd overall | **10 Year Old Girls High Jump**<br>Kiana - 2nd Overall |
| **10 year old Girls 75m Sprints**<br>Roziana - 3rd Overall | **10 Year Old Boys High Jump**<br>Fuji - 2nd Overall |
| **10 Year Old Girls Relays**<br>3rd Overall | **11 Year Old Boys High Jump**<br>Iowane - 3rd Overall |
| | **11 Year Old Girls Long Jump**<br>Adi - 1st Overall |

## Well done to Gurekam, Banson & Azlan!

These amazing Year 6 tamariki participated in the 2026 Papatoetoe Principals Association Engineering Enhancement Programme. They confidently presented their Hydroelectric project to students and community members in Puhinui this week.






## Strategic plan consultation

At PWS, taking care of our tamariki and planning for our school's future go together. We are making a plan for the future, and we want to make sure it focuses on what is important to our community.

Click here to provide your input. If you complete the survey you go in the draw to win a $50 Pak n Save voucher, a food hamper or paradise ice skating passes. Last day to enter 9/12/26.

# PWS ELECTIONS- RUN BY OUR Y5/6S











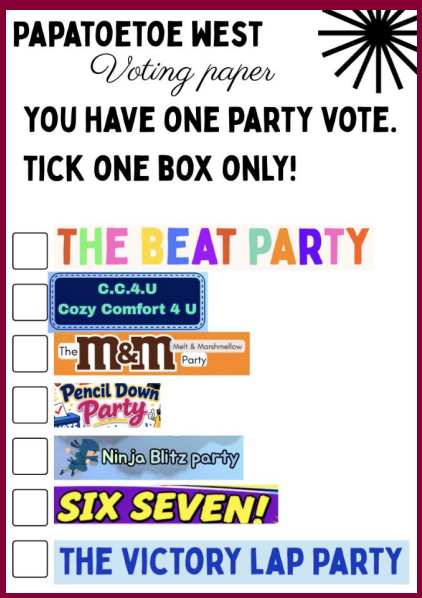


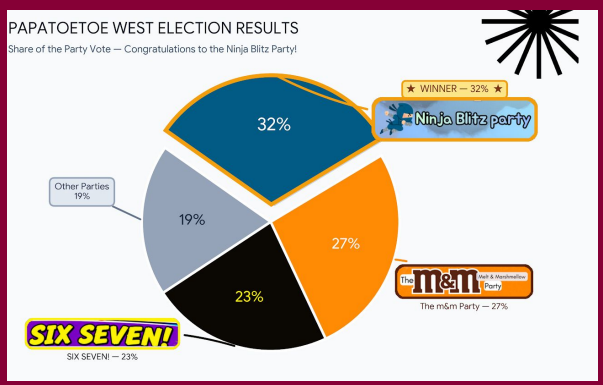












**Over 91% student vote turnout!!!**

Last week, our school, Papatoetoe West, had a pretend election. Our party was called Six Seven. Our policy was free time on our chromebooks for one hour a week. The trade off if we won was that we would have to sit still for 2 break times. We thought that was fair enough. On the election day, our party won 23% of the votes, though we lost. Still, no way the winning party, Ninja Blitz. is going to complete their policy and build a ninja course. **Daniel**

Last week's Thursday elections went smoothly. The results were fair, the advertisements represented the parties well and the little kids didn't double vote (I think).The only downside is that Ninja Blitz's Ninja park will never happen. **Isaac**

Last week on Thursday, we had a pretend election. My party was the Beat Party and our policy was to play music during breaktimes but the trade off was no more music classes. The winning party was the Ninja Bliz party but no way the school is buying a ninja course. **Micah**

Last week we had an awesome fake election. Our party Six Seven, came 3rd place. M&M came 2nd place. 1st place was Ninja Blitz party. Six Seven's policy was going on our devices for a block a week. M&M's policy was when its cold you can drink hot chocolate. Ninja Blitz wanted to build a ninja course on the field. **Malaefou**

# YEAR 6 Fun day at WERO

What a day! On Monday, our Year 6s headed to Manukau's Wero Whitewater Park, where excitement quickly beat out any nerves.





In helmets and life jackets, students teamed up to tackle the rapids, float the lazy river, and jump in for a swim! On the high ropes, quiet nerves soon became cheers and laughter as everyone harnessed up and conquered the obstacles. Watching kids push past their fears was The West Way at its finest.





Every student was a champion, showing teamwork all day (giving teachers a relaxed day with zero 'growling' required!). As our Year 6s prepare for their next big step beyond Papatoetoe West, this trip captures the true heart of primary school. We hope they treasure these memories forever, holding onto the friendships, laughter, and courage they found together.

# WERO Scrapbook Memories...









**Check us out on the water…**







**and in the air!**













# Papatoetoe West School

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# 2027 dates

| TERM 1 | |
|---|---|
| Number of weeks | 10 |
| Term start & end dates | Tuesday 2 February to Friday 9th April (94 half days) |
| Public holidays | Waitangi Day - Observed Monday 8th February<br>Easter- Friday 26 March, Monday 29th March, Tuesday 30th March |
| School holidays | Saturday 10th April- Sunday 25th April |
| **TERM 2** | |
| Number of weeks | 10 |
| Term start & end dates | Tuesday 27 April to Friday 2 July 2027 (94 half days) |
| Public holidays/ School not open for instruction | ANZAC DAY - Observed Monday 26 April<br>King's Birthday- Monday 7 June<br>Matariki- Friday 25 June |
| School holidays | Saturday 1 July- Sunday 18 July |
| **TERM 3** | |
| Number of weeks | 10 |
| Term start & end dates | Monday 19 July to Friday 24 September 2027 (100 half days). |
| Public holidays | None |
| School holidays | Saturday 25 September to Sunday 10 October |
| **TERM 4** | |
| Number of weeks | 10 |
| Term start & end dates | Monday 11 October to Thursday 16th December 2027 (96 half days) |
| Public holidays | Labour Day – Monday 25 October. |

- 376 half days in 2027
- Ministry of Education to allow for 2 additional teacher only days (date TBC)

AUT
AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

# PACIFIC FAMILIES' EXPERIENCES OF HEALTHCARE IN SOUTH AUCKLAND



## Has your child received care from a Paramedic within the last 6 months?

Was that visit for a sore throat, a skin infection or sore, or an illness where the paramedic checked your child's throat or skin?

### You may be eligible to participate if you:

- identify as Pacific, are aged 18 years or older, live in South Auckland,
- and are a parent, caregiver, grandparent or legal guardian of a child aged 0–14 years
- who was seen by a Paramedic within the last 6 months as described above.

Participation involves one confidential Talanoa conversation lasting approximately 60–90 minutes.

A meaalofa/koha will be provided in recognition of your time and contribution.

Participation is entirely voluntary. Choosing not to participate will not affect your healthcare or relationships with healthcare services.

**SCAN HERE**

Scan the QR code to learn more and receive the Participant Information Sheet

**Interested in learning more?**
Please contact:
Melissa Tafea
Master of Philosophy candidate, AUT.
Email: fxw9618@autuni.ac.nz
Study phone: 021 120 6866

Approved by the Auckland University of Technology Ethics Committee on 22/09/26, AUTEC Reference number 26/208.

This is student research, supervised by Dr Alana McCambridge & Julie Blamires.

sKids

ADVENTURE PROGRAMME

Launching 18th Nov

# Festive COUNTDOWN

TERM 4 PROGRAMME



Wed 18 Nov
**Jingle Jamboree**
A musical and performance-focused week with festive songs, rhythm games, dance, and a mini play.




Wed 25 Nov
**Global Festivities**
Explore global celebrations, food and traditions, discovering how different cultures celebrate.



Wed 2 Dec
**Sparkle & Shine**
Glittering crafts, festive decorations and cheerful activities that create magical memories.



Wed 9 Dec
**Festive Makers**
Create, decorate, and design festive food inspired by seasonal traditions.

GLOBAL KIDS

**Book TERM 4 now!**

Where play *meets* potential

HOLIDAY HQ FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS

# sKids Papatoetoe West

1 Hill Road, Papatoetoe

Thurs 17 December 2026 to Wed 23 December 2026

0800 274 172
Site Ph: 022 010 7144

Scan to find out more, including pricing & session times.
www.skids.co.nz/holiday-programmes

sKids

## THU 17 DEC




Make Your Own Holiday Gifts

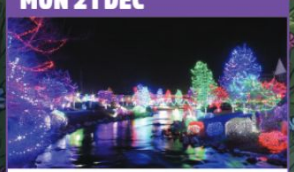
**SANTAS WORKSHOP**
**MAKE AND TAKE: FESTIVE GIFTS**
Step into Santa's Workshop for a day of festive making and giving! sKids is buzzing with activity as we decorate, construct and bake special Christmas make-and-take decorations and gifts to share with family and friends.

## FRI 18 DEC



**JINGLE BELL JAM**
**INCURSION: JINGLE BELL JAM**
Ring in the festive fun with a day packed full of Christmas excitement! Children will enjoy jolly holiday games, festive challenges, creative activities, and cheerful Christmas-themed fun.

## MON 21 DEC



**FESTIVE FUN**
**INCURSION: FESTIVE FUN**
Celebrate the season with a day packed full of holiday cheer! Children will whip up tasty Jolly Pancakes, create festive penguin and snowman crafts, enjoy exciting Christmas-themed games, and take part in merry activities guaranteed to spread smiles and holiday magic.

## TUE 22 DEC



**HOLIDAY MAGIC**
**INCURSION: HOLIDAY MAGIC**
Step into a world of festive fun and creativity! Children will put their problem-solving skills to the test with Candy Cane coding, create a beautiful holiday wreath to take home, enjoy Christmas-themed games, and take part in a day filled with festive surprises and seasonal cheer.

## WED 23 DEC



**DECK THE HALLS**
**INCURSION: DECK THE HALLS**
It's the last day of Holiday HQ for 2026 and we are wrapping it up with one last day of Christmas creativity and cheer! Children will craft rocking snowmen, create adorable gnome decorations, enjoy festive games, and take part in merry activities that celebrate the magic of the season.

If applying for OSCAR subsidy, eligibility criteria will apply. Visit www.skids.co.nz/oscar-subsidy for eligibility and entitlement. Please ensure all food complies with allergy guidelines. Programmes, surcharges, and activities may change; check our website for updates. Special Experiences incur extra costs for all attending children, regardless of participation.