

Te Horo School

#Newsletter #20 - 10th December 2025

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Important dates - Term Four

Thursday 11 December	Community Picnic 5 - 7pm All welcome, bring your picnic and blanket to the school field UPDATED Performance Schedule: 5.15pm Te Kōwhai singers (Years 0-4) 5.40pm Kapa Haka performance group 6.10pm Rock Bands 6.30pm A special visitor arrives!
Friday 12 December Please see messages below	Choir Excursion Leaving THS approx 10.15am, returning 3pm NB We may be late back (just after 3pm) from the Retirement Village so please collect students from school - no bus home please.
Last day Term 4	Tuesday 16th December at 2.50pm - Full day at school
First Day of Term 1 2026	Tuesday 3rd of February - School starts at 8.55am
Waitangi Day - Public Holiday	Friday 6th of February - School closed

Farewell to Year 8s

As we say farewell to our Year 8s, we want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible individuals they have become. You've filled our school with laughter, kindness and a genuine sense of community.

Your courage to step outside your comfort zone, your empathy for others and your infectious sense of fun have made a lasting impression. The respect and tolerance you've shown towards your peers is truly amazing!

As you embark on your new chapter, we wish you all the best. May your time at college be filled with exciting opportunities, lifelong friendships and success. Remember, the world is yours to explore, so dream big and never stop believing in yourself!

Last Day Of Term 2025

Just a reminder to parents that this year our last day of school is Tuesday 16th of December *Please note this is a full school day!! Not a half day as it has been in past years. Any questions please contact the school office office@th.school.nz

Choir Excursion: Friday 12 December

Transport helpers (thank you!) meeting on room 5 deck at 10.10am

Students to bring: backpack with drink bottle, large lunch (no pizza orders), sunhat, jersey

Students to wear: red school top (or borrow one from Wendy) OR Christmassy clothes
can wear Christmassy headbands etc

Please note: we finish in Waikanae at 2.50 and most likely won't be back in time for the bus. Please arrange to pick up from School just after 3pm. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Leavers Dinner - Monday 15th December - 6pm

The Year 8 Leavers Dinner is booked for Monday 15th December at 6pm. This will be at The Apple Quarters Cafe - 30 Addington Road (please note change of venue due to the Winemakers no longer operating as a restaurant). In previous years the students have dressed up and parents have taken photos of the children when they are dropped off. There are no formalities for this event - although Peter, Hannah and I have something up our sleeve! The children will be served appetisers, a main and dessert. The children can be picked up from 8pm. The cost of dinner is covered by the school, however drinks are not included in this so soft drinks or organic apple juice will be sold to the children for \$4 each, so they will need cash for this. There will be a number of staff in attendance, so your children will be well supervised. We are looking forward to sharing this dinner with Year 8 children.

Prizegiving Monday 15th December - 1:30pm

Our School Prizegiving will begin at 1:30pm on Monday 15th December, please arrive in enough time to be seated before the start. It would be great if the students could wear their school polo top if they have one, and if they do not, something red or black. If your child is receiving an award or has a part to play in assembly you will have received an email from Danielle and Wendy. We are looking forward to celebrating our students alongside you!

Market Day

A massive thank you to our Year 7 & 8s for organising such a wonderful Market Day. It was a lovely afternoon out on the turf and it was great to see all our students enjoying an afternoon in the sun making lots of purchases. In total the Year 7 & 8s raised \$1405 - which is incredible for an afternoon of selling their goods - although this was many hours in the

making. Thank you for supporting the Market Day by sending some \$ along with your children and talking to them about what they might purchase. So successful it is highly likely we will see this happening again!



Year 7 Kapiti Island Trip

Yay! The Year 7s finally made it to Kapiti Island and what an awesome experience it was for them to finish off the year. The weather was perfect! From our previous trips the boat has had a significant upgrade with it only being a 10 minute journey across to Kapiti Island - the boat ride was a highlight for most! Everyone made it to the hihi bird feeder which is said to be about a $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way up - but it certainly felt like more than a third. At the bird feeder a cheeky Kaka was encountered - so cheeky that they managed to take the lid off a lunch box and get away with a sandwich! Needless to say we didn't see them back - they had what they were after. A number of our keen beans made it all the way to the top in just over an hour and enjoyed a run on the way back down. A great experience for all! Many thanks to Whaea Hannah for arranging this trip and to the parents and Mrs McMurchie for their support!



Te Horo School Out of Zone Enrolment Places Term 1 & 2 2026

The Te Horo School Board has determined that up to 5 new entrant places are likely to be available for Year 0 -1 in Term 1 & 2 2026.

The exact number of places will depend on the number of applications received from students who live within the school's home zone.

For students seeking enrolment within Year 0 -1 in Term 1 & 2, the deadline for receipt of applications for out-of-zone places is noon on Monday 15th December 2025.

Parents of students who live within the home zone and intend enrolling their child at any time during the next year should notify the school at their earliest convenience to assist the school to continue to plan appropriately.

Ballot forms are available from the school office office@th.school.nz or call 06 364 3071.

If the number of out-of-zone applications exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot. If a ballot for out-of-zone places is required for Term 1 & 2 2026, it will be held on Thursday 18th of December 2025 . Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within three working days of the ballot being held.

Enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the school office.

Commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

The Te Horo School Board continue to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, this is embedded in The Te Horo School policy & strategic plan.

Celebrating our wonderful Gael

Last week, our wonderful Gael celebrated her 70th birthday! Gael has been part of the Te Horo School team for over 26 years. We thought it was definitely fitting to celebrate her birthday, and all of the children sang Happy Birthday while she shed a few tears. Gael told the children that she loves coming to school each day, she loves seeing the children and being with the staff - it keeps her young! Hari Huritau e hoa.



Ngā mihi nui

Library books - Thank you to everyone that has donated books during 2025 to our school library, we are most grateful. Te Horo School is delighted to still be able to provide this learning opportunity for our community. Also thank you to

our wonderful Librarian Mandy Bruce who does a wonderful job keeping the library shipshape and provides a welcoming calm space for our students.

Pool

Unfortunately our school pool will not be open this summer, due to a variety of reasons.

We are hoping that it will be open to the community for the new term, we will keep you in the loop.

Students can bring their togs for the first day of term in 2026.

2026 Stationery Information

We are pleased to offer several convenient options for families to order stationery for the 2026 school year. Our aim is to make the process as easy as possible over the summer break.

Paper Plus – Coastlands

We are once again partnering with Paper Plus Coastlands for class stationery.

- Orders can be made in-store or online.
- Ordering opens 3 January 2026.
- Stationery lists for 2026 will be available on our school website, and a paper copy will be sent home tomorrow.

Qizzle – Online Ordering

Families also have the option to order online through Qizzle.

- Orders placed with Qizzle will be delivered directly to Te Horo School in early February 2026.
- To order, visit: www.schoolpacks.co.nz

We hope these options make your back-to-school preparation simple and stress-free. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Return to school dates & Information

The dates for next year are below, Te Horo School would be grateful if you could try and holiday at these times so that you don't get offended by the new coding requirements.

Thank you for all the support you have given this year to the school and your children. It has been a tricky year for many, but we have made it and are all looking forward to 2026.

I hope that everyone has a summer filled with fun and family and that we see you all in the New Year.

- Our return to school date for 2026 is **Tuesday 3rd of February**.

Also we have a couple of curriculum delivery days for 2026 - May 29th & Aug 21st.

School Holiday Dates

Term 1

Good Friday 3 April to Sunday 19th April

Term 2

Saturday 4th July - 19th July

Term 3

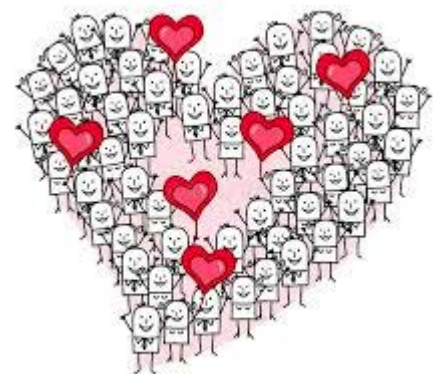
Saturday 26th September to Sunday 11th October

Term 4

Wednesday 16th December TBC

Te Horo Home & School Committee

As we wrap up another year, the committee would like to extend a very special thank you to each and every one of our members. Without your support, enthusiasm, and willingness to pitch in, we simply couldn't achieve even half of what we do. Your commitment—whether it's baking for the Mihi, jumping on a BBQ, running a stall at Paddy's, or taking the lead on a full fundraising event—is truly appreciated. Thank you for everything you bring to our school community.



Thanks to your efforts, the funds raised this year have gone towards purchasing sunhats for every new student, installing shade sails outside Rooms 5 and 6, adding a new freezer to the hall kitchen, topping up the Manaakitia Fund to support our community, buying two new sewing machines, and securing a wheelie bin for our emergency food supplies. These are meaningful contributions that make a real difference—thank you.

We're excited to welcome you back in 2026 for another year filled with connection, purpose, and plenty of fun fundraising moments. Over the holiday break, feel free to pop on your thinking caps and share any new event ideas you'd love to see come to life next year!

Wishing all of our wonderful Te Horo School families a heartfelt Merry Christmas and a joyful, festive season. May your holidays be filled with rest, laughter, and special moments with those you love.

Noho ora mai rā

The Te Horo Home & School Committee

Patrice Thomas - **Chair**

Dayna van Vlerkin - **Deputy Chair**

Lana Randall - **Treasurer**

Nic van Rooijen - **Secretary**

Angela Gadsby - **PR & Comms**



**TE HORO SCHOOL
COMMUNITY
PICNIC**

THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER

5-7PM

TE HORO SCHOOL FIELD

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS AT SCHOOL
WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS, ALL WELCOME

**BYO: PICNIC
AND A DONATION TO
THE FOODBANK**

Bring a picnic or support the
Te Horo Home & School BBQ
who will be selling sausages, pizza
by the slice, baked goods and drinks.

Santa will be making an appearance
and our kids singing will provide
the entertainment.

This is a fun family event for all.

The poster features a red background with white and green text. At the bottom, there is a cartoon illustration of Santa Claus in a red suit, white beard, and red hat, waving. There are also small white stars and green holly leaves scattered around the text.

Piano free to a good home

If you or anyone you know is looking for a piano get in touch with the school office. It's a Yamaha and will need to be collected if you are interested. Please email office@th.school.nz





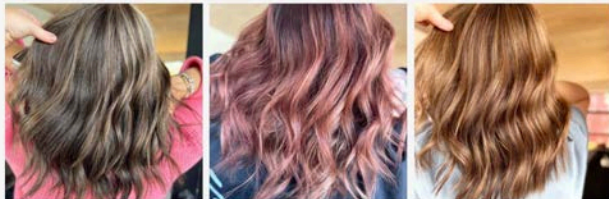
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