Te Kura o Te Kauaeranga

Thames South School

PĀNUI - NEWSLETTER

Paraire 13 o Noema 2026

Tēnā koutou e te whānau,

He wā whakahirahira tēnei ki tō tātou kura! Our tamariki continue to demonstrate excellence in te ao Māori me te ao hurihuri, with rich learning experiences grounded in our whenua, whakapapa, hauora pai and hapori.

Our paukena and watermelon tupu are in the whenua! Alongside kaiako and friends of our kura, our tamariki planted the next crop that will feed us, our kaumātua, whānau and hapori. Kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga in action – reconnecting with the mātauranga and practices of our tūpuna. A massive mihi to the anahera who donated the replacement tupu and all who support our tamariki and curriculum in action. Remembering to remember – Once Were Gardeners!

Whakawhanaungatanga – It was a privilege to welcome our Early Childhood Centres into our whare for a morning of learning, connection and exploration. We look forward to strengthening these relationships as our future tamariki transition into kura.

Hawaiki Hauora – Athletics & Rippa Rugby! From our kura Athletics Day to the Thames Valley Rippa World Cup, our tamariki demonstrated determination, teamwork, competitive spirit and plenty of heart! Ngā mihi manahau to our whānau, kaiako and kaitautoko who make these opportunities possible.

Growing Critically Conscious Citizens! Our tamariki have been analysing political parties, policies and local candidates before casting their own votes. We are growing informed, socially aware young citizens who understand the power of their voices. Thank you for voting for our tamariki.

Every one of these experiences reminds us that learning extends well beyond the four walls of our akomanga. It takes a village to grow our tamariki into confident, capable and critically conscious rangatira of apōpō.

Te Ara Whakamua – Together We Excel!

Turou Hawaiki!

Nāku iti nei,
Whaea Barbara Hetaraka
Tumuaki – Te Kura o Te Kauaeranga

Te Amorangi

Te Amorangi have been given the task of making a street sign to help Santa find his way to Thames for the Whānau Day on December 5th.

Our pāngarau lessons were learning about how Papatūānuku is organised into lines of Latitude which tell us the distances from the poles to the Equator. Papatūānuku has a diameter of 20,000km and divided by 180 degrees is 111km. Thames is on the 37th line of Latitude south of the Equator. 37 x 111km = 4107. The North Pole is on the 90th parallel North of the Equator which means 90 x 111 = 9990. 9990 + 4107 = 14097km - which is the distance Santa needs to travel to get to Thames. Tamariki then worked out the distances from the North Pole to a location representing their whakapapa.



TE KAWENGA



Kua ako ā mātou tamariki i tētahi karakia hou i roto i tō mātou akomanga. He karakia tuku iho tēnei nō Turi Ariki o te waka o Aotea, te tupuna o Ruapūtahanga, ā, e whakakaha ana i tō mātou hononga ki ngā kōrero tuku iho me ngā whakapapa o Aotea. E tūmanako ana mātou ka whai wā ngā tamariki ki te whakarangona tēnei karakia i te wā ka tū rātou ki te pae karakia.





Whai muri i ngā whakaharatau kaha mō te kapa haka, i whakapau wā ā mātou tamariki i te ata ki te puna kaukau me ō rātou tuākana. He wā tēnei mō te whakawhanaungatanga, te ako tahi, me te ngahau tahi. He huarahi pai tēnei hei whakapakari i ngā hononga ā-whānau i waenganui i ngā teina me ngā tuākana, ā, hei tīmatanga pai hoki mō te rā



I tēnei wiki i whai wā ā mātou tamariki ki te whakaatu i ō rātou pūkenga i ngā whakataetae hākinakina ā-kura, i whakapau kaha rātou ki ngā momo taumahi katoa. I mua i te rā nui, i ako mātou i ētahi tikanga me ētahi pūkenga hei whakapai ake i ā mātou whiunga kōpere taumaha (*shot put*) me te kōpere poro (*discus*), ā, i kitea ngā hua o aua whakaharatau i te rā. I rere hoki ā mātou tamariki i te oma 100 mita me te kaha, te māia, me te ngākau hihiko. E tino whakahīhī ana mātou ki te kaha, te manawanui, me te wairua whakataetae i whakaatuhia e ā mātou tamariki puta noa i te rā. Ka mau te wehi!

Te Akomanga o Māui Tikitiki





Our mahi continues with our Whare Tapa Whā models. Ākonga are becoming more confident with the saws and hammers. Our next step is to put on the maihi, amo and tekoteko. We also found time to practise our dolphin dives, underwater swimming and improve our overall swimming techniques. Kaylin was our tino whetū and tidied up every single pool noodle in 1 go.





TE AWATEA

On Wednesday 11th November, Te Awatea, alongside Whaea Lyn, and the tamariki paku from Te Kawenga, with Whaea Zhar, demonstrated true **manaakitanga** as we warmly welcomed and hosted groups of tamariki from Pioneer Kids and Central Kids Early Childhood Centres in Thames.

It was a wonderful opportunity for our tamariki to show kindness, care, generosity and hospitality, sharing their space and making our manuhiri feel welcome.

Ka mau te wehi, tamariki mā! We are so proud of you for demonstrating the values of manaakitanga in action. ❤️

We shared our love of learning. We had fun with our manuhiri on the bike track. We listened to stories and we put our Pūtaiao potae on and learned how to make "Magic Milk" - an exciting, reactive experiment. One of our visitors made up his mind right then that he wants to be a scientist!

We intend to have similar days with our kohanga reo and other Early Childhood Centres in the near future. Fun times to look forward to.













TE HAEATA
Te Haeata





Kia ora e te whānau!
We have wrapped up our school athletics day, and I am so proud of all our tamariki and the effort they put into every activity. Ka pai, tamariki mā!
This week, we have been exploring ways to strengthen our taha wairua and taha hinengaro. We shared ideas about what might help us feel good, then voted to head outside for a nature hikoi.
We spent time observing the ngarara, manu, plants and rākau around our kura. This sparked some lovely kōrero! Taemaringi shared how her nanny uses leaves to make pare kawakawa for tangi, while Izrael told us his nanny makes rongoā with kawakawa and that he loves the smell. Micah and Tangaroa found sticks that reminded them of hands and deer antlers.
We finished by sharing how we felt. Calm, happy and even a little nervous about the spiders were some of our answers!
Sometimes slowing down and connecting with our taiao is just what we need. What will you try today to nurture your taha wairua and taha hinengaro?

Whaea Dallas





Te Hāpai Ō

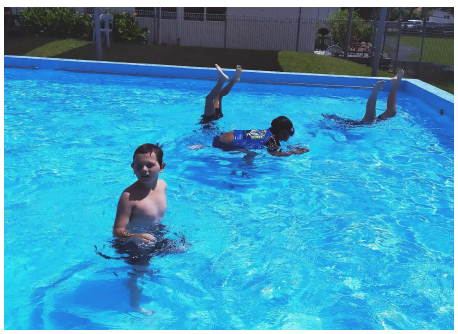
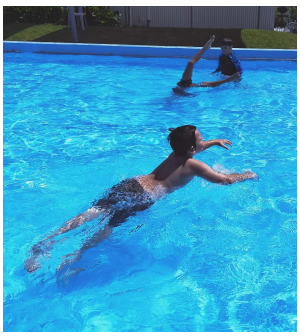
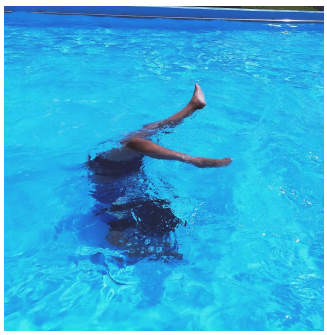




Te Hāpai Ō are working on our māra getting it ready for planting next week. Which tupu should we plant?

We are also excited about our wild meadow tupu we are growing in our akomanga!

We are loving building our confidence and skills in the pool, getting ready for our hot - hot - summer.

Paukena Harvest











