



## SAVE THE DATES!

### Whole School 'Future Hub' Day:

- Wednesday 6 December

### Year 8 Dinner: Monday 11 December

### Major Reward Day: Wednesday 13 December

### Pool Key Requests close: Wednesday 13 December

### EOY Service Awards Assembly:

- Thursday 14 December 11am

### Whole School Drive in Prizegiving:

- Thursday 14 December 6pm

### End of Term 4:

- Friday 15th December 12.30pm

### Start of Term 1, 2023:

- Tuesday 30 January 2024



**Meri Kirihimete**  
from all of us at Horotiu School!

## Panui/ Newsletter: December 2023

### Principal's Message! *A Note from Jo:*

Kia ora e te whaanau,

Only a week and a bit to go before the Christmas break. This is the last newsletter update for 2023 from the team within Horotiu. This year has been an enormous one and collectively we would like to thank you all for your support over the year.

There have been many successes:

- A successful Horotiu School "Chorus"
- Celebrations of our Matariki Hautapu Ceremony
- Brand new Airtime Basketball hoops and other landscaping developments with Gala funds
- Three musical band performances for our tamariki

Horotiu School staff have fitted in a massive amount of quality teaching and learning such as: Technology learning, The Arts celebrating, Health and Physical Education, Science, and much much more. There are high energy levels in the school as students look forward to: Student Transition sessions, Year 8 Dinner, Water Fun Rewards, our School Service Assembly and of course, our Final Prize Giving.

Next year is shaping up to be an interesting and rewarding one for us too. We will:

- Run the School Gala again (Save the date: Sunday 7th April!)
- Take over the running of Year 7 and 8 Technology for Horotiu School
- Continue to focus on Reading, Writing and Mathematics across the curriculum

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Horotiu Staff, Board, and whaanau who have contributed across the school for your dedication, passion and professionalism. Your efforts don't go unnoticed and your work is appreciated.

Have a great break and fun-filled Christmas break!

Ngaa mihi, Jo Wright



## School Events and Notices:

### Whole School Future Hub Day: Wednesday 6th of December

At Horotiu School, we know that when children transition to a new hub they can be a little nervous. This is one of the reasons we have our schoolwide "Future Hub Day". This is a day of connecting, collaborating, growing confidence and becoming comfortable in our new learning environment. All pupils have received their invites indicating which hub they will be in and who their teacher/s are for 2024.

On Wednesday, children will start in their 2023 for roll call and karakia then their teachers will take them to the 2024 hub where they will spend the day. Whaanau are encouraged to join the 2024 class from 1.10pm on this day. This is a time to say hi to the teachers, have a look at the new surroundings and spend time with your children in their new learning environment.

Pupils will be dismissed from their future hub at hometime, so if you are unable to attend earlier, picking them up from their new hub would be another great opportunity to meet their teachers and have a look at where they will be in 2024. Any queries please contact your hub teachers, or myself on [m.parker@horotiu.school.nz](mailto:m.parker@horotiu.school.nz)

### Prizegiving and Service Awards: Save the Date!

Join us on Thursday 14th December for our two end of year special award ceremonies:

- 11am for our Service Awards
- 6pm Whole School Prizegiving on our back field.

The Service Awards ceremony is to recognise those who have held Leadership roles this year. Whaanau are welcome to attend - please note this doubles as a practice also so will be less formal.

The Whole School Prizegiving begins at 6pm.

Watch from the comfort of your car (at the back) or walk in with whaanau and enjoy from your picnic blanket (up the front). All students will be called to sit together at the front of stage near the beginning of the ceremony. On arrival, they should remain on your picnic blanket or in your car for safety reasons.

Please note that this year in our attempt to preserve and care for our trophies, recipients will not be able to take home their trophy/award. They will be presented at the event, students and whaanau will have time to have a photo with it/them and then the award will be handed back in for staff to return to the trophy cabinet for safe keeping. We thank you for your understanding in this. Our trophies hold a lot of historical and sentimental value to our school and many of them are aging. They will all be on display in the foyer's trophy cabinet.

### Pool Key Hireage:

These are available now for school parents. The fee is \$150 (\$100 + \$50 bond) and must be paid through eftpos only. The last day for these to be arranged is Wednesday 13th December, 3pm. Keys are limited. The sooner you come in to arrange one, the more chance you have of getting one. Please ensure you follow the contract rules to ensure the pool and people using it are well-looked after.

### End of Year Events:

#### Service Awards

**Thursday 14th December  
@ 11am (Hall)**

#### Whole School Prizegiving

**Thursday 14th December @ 6pm  
(Field - Drive or walk in)**



## School Notices:

### Christmas Baubles: Junior Christmas Craft

Our Junior Christmas Craft begins next Monday and we are on the hunt for any large Christmas baubles that we can repurpose into Christmas Owls. If you have changed your tree theme/colour or have any that you no longer need we would really appreciate reusing them rather than buying some. We would need these by Friday this week please. Thanks in advance, Megan Parker



### Tug of War: House Competition - Friday 8th December 1.15pm

We will be running our hotly contested Tug of War House competition this Friday. A reminder to students to get behind their house and have some fun by wearing their colours. Whaanau are welcome to attend.

### Singing Group for the Lions Club Christmas Luncheon:

This is taking place this Saturday at the Ngaruawahia Town Hall. Students who have expressed interest have taken home a letter to parents. It would be great to have these in as soon as possible so we know the number of students attending. If your child is interested however in coming along to see for the Lions Club group, feel free to bring them along. The group will meet Whaea Marleina and Whaea Antonia at 1pm, they'll sing waiata for about 25 minutes and can then go home - it will all be finished by 1.45pm. Students need to wear their school t-shirts and can wear something Christmasy if they wish. Parents are welcome to attend. It's a wonderful opportunity to give back to our community and spread the Christmas cheer.



## Around the Hubs:

### Maanuka (Year 7/8):

Maanuka Hub spent a wonderful 3 nights and 4 days away at Narrows Camp. The adventure began with a hikoi up Kakepuku Maunga before arriving and setting up the campsite. This was followed by two jam-packed days of activities such as air rifles, axe throwing, carting, water slides, kayaking, horse-trekking and toasting marshmallows before heading to Perry Aquatic Centre for a swim and a sausage sizzle on the way home. We are so proud of the Maanuka Hub for being risk-takers and learning to be comfortable outside their comfort zones.

We would like once again thank all parents and staff that helped make our camp successful.

*Ki te kotahi te kaakaho ka whati, ki te kaapuia e kore e whati.*







## Around the Hubs

### Tiitoki (Reception-Y0):

We have been integrating physed skills of throwing using beanbags to land on a word with our reading programme. Also we have been busy doing the nature of technology and exploring how calculators have made life easier for us to do maths problems and how calculators have changed over the years. Merry Xmas from us all to your whaanau!



### Pohutukawa(Year 0-1)

The last few weeks in Pohutukawa, we have been busy learning about food in Te Reo Maaori and New Zealand Sign Language! As part of our learning, we made fruit kebabs, vegetable soup and kumara chips! The tamariki enjoyed helping to prepare the food as well as eat it! We have also been busy out in the garden weeding it to plant our kumara slips and some flower seeds, learning about how our food grows!



Reception Y0



Y0-1



Y2-3



Y3-5



Y5-6



Y7-8





### Koromiko (Year 2/3)

Wow, it is, really hard to believe that this is the final newsletter for the year. We wish Miss Stirling all the best as she moves into her own classroom in 2024.

We have had another busy end of the term. We are back into swimming, and we have had the disco and donuts, tamariki participating in athletics, enjoying our new basketball hoops, busy writing letters for gala, and also to Santa. Jackson, Angus, Harry and Locky have been thoroughly enjoying participating in Brick Club with Matua Nick.

We are looking forward to Christmas Craft in Week 10, as another part of transition and showing Tukana Teina to our younger tamariki. Have a wonderful holiday Whaanau, and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.



### Harakeke (Year 3-5)

As the end of the school year approaches, Harakeke has been focusing on raising our expectations and behaviours. We have had huge successes in this. We earned a reward for every single member of Harakeke present, reaching the top of our Dojo poutama for the first time ever, resulting in a PJ's day and ice cream. We also demonstrated kaitiakitanga by weeding our gardens, our way of connecting to our learning about Kiingitanga Maori.

Meri kirihimete koutou, Whaea Kiri & Matua Gig.



Reception Y0



Y0-1



Y2-3



Y3-5



Y5-6



Y7-8





**Kawakawa (Year 5/6):**

We are having an outstanding term, full of art, swimming, padder tennis and lots of other learning. In Art, we have explored the elements of colour, including hot and cold colours, primary, secondary and complimentary colours, tints, shades and hues, along with line, texture, pattern and space. Below is some of the art our tamariki have produced with Mrs Parker. Have a wonderful Christmas with family and friends!

**Monochrome Animals**

Using one colour, one shade and one hue.



**Diwali Peacocks**

Using hot and cold colour and mix media



**NZ Beach Scenes**

Paint and Black PVA



**Are your Contact Details Up-to-Date?**

If you have changed your contact details please take a couple of minutes to let us know via email [office@horotiu.school.nz](mailto:office@horotiu.school.nz) or via text on 027 829 9010.



## Home and School Support:

### Home Learning with Mrs Foster (Learning Support Coordinator - LSC)

The holidays are fast approaching so I thought it would be timely to suggest some activities you can do with your tamariki over the summer break.



#### Engage in Family Reading Time:

Encourage a love for reading by dedicating time each day to reading. Choose age-appropriate books for each family member and discuss the stories afterwards. This helps improve comprehension and language skills.

#### Educational Games and Activities:

Incorporate learning into playtime by engaging in educational games. Board games, puzzles, and online educational apps can be both fun and educational, covering various subjects like math, science, and language.

#### Visit Local Museums and Historical Sites:

Take advantage of the holiday break to visit museums or historical sites in your area. This hands-on experience can spark curiosity and supplement classroom learning.

#### Cooking and Math Skills:

Involve your children in holiday meal preparation to enhance their math skills. Measuring ingredients, adjusting recipes, and understanding cooking times provide practical applications of math concepts.

#### Nature Walks and Exploration:

Explore the outdoors together with nature walks or hikes. This not only promotes physical activity but also offers opportunities to discuss and learn about the environment, ecosystems, and local wildlife.

#### Journaling and Creative Writing:

Encourage your child to keep a holiday journal or engage in creative writing. This helps improve writing skills and allows them to reflect on their experiences during the break.

#### Online Learning Platforms:

Explore StepsWeb and Mathletics. These online learning programmes will be available throughout the holidays for tamariki to enjoy and engage in.

#### Community Service and Social Responsibility:

Promote a sense of social responsibility by engaging in community service activities. Volunteer together as a family, whether it's helping at a local food bank, organising a neighbourhood clean-up, or participating in charitable events.

#### Cultural Exploration:

Use the holidays as an opportunity to explore different cultures. Learn about customs, traditions, and history from around the world through books, documentaries, or even by trying out international recipes.

#### STEM Projects at Home:

Foster an interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by working on simple projects at home. Building a small robot, creating a DIY science experiment, or even constructing a basic circuit can be both entertaining and educational.

**Enjoy spending quality time with your whaanau. See you all in 2024!**

### Just a reminder: Our Fields are Not for Dogs

Our fields are for children to enjoy playing on, running on, lying around on in the sun. They are not a dog-exercise area. Please refrain from bringing dogs on-site.

### Kelly Club:

#### Before- and After-School Care

Kelly Club is committed to caring for your kids in a happy, safe, encouraging environment where they have loads of fun and feel right at home. The high-quality programmes are carefully designed in conjunction with the Horotiu School and community to provide the service that best suits your children.

The friendly staff are passionate about working with children. They are provided with training on child protection, behaviour management techniques, first aid, art and craft, sport and cooking activities. Kelly Club offers set activities each day including crafts, cooking and sports over the week during our after school care.

#### Holiday Programme

The Kelly Club Holiday Programmes are full of exciting activities and event days that will guarantee your children have a great time! Kelly Club operate every school holiday from 8:00am to 6:00pm and offer a variety of flexible timing options to meet the school communities' needs. Click [here](#) to find the Kelly Club December 2023/ January 2024 holiday programme information.

#### OSCAR Subsidies

Kelly Club is an OSCAR approved provider and complies with all of MSD's childcare requirements. Qualifying families can therefore receive WINZ subsidies towards their fees. Click on the Kellyclub link below for more information.

TO BOOK: <https://kellyclub.co.nz/horotiu>

CONTACT Monique Killgour Phone: 07 8399017

Email: [horotiu@kellyclub.co.nz](mailto:horotiu@kellyclub.co.nz) Facebook: @KellyClubHorotiu

### Looking for a Playcentre?



Did you know on the Horotiu School site we also have Horotiu Playcentre? They provide early childhood education sessions where the caregivers are the first educators with the playcentre philosophy of child initiated play. Watch you child develop and gain great life skills and friendship, through positive guidance. We also provide free adult education, whanau cooperative and above all fun.

Birth - School Age

Multiple Sessions throughout the week  
9.00 am - 12 noon

3 FREE Visits, under 2's FREE  
Spaces Available Now!

For more information  
Horotiu Playcentre Facebook Page  
Email: [horotiu@playcentre.org.nz](mailto:horotiu@playcentre.org.nz)



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**Be a  
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# HOROTIU SCHOOL

STAFF | 2023



*Merry  
Christmas*