



SAVE THE DATES!

Schoolwide Super Smash Cricket Sessions:

- Wednesday 21 & Thursday 22 February

Initial Gala Meeting: All welcome with ideas/sharing and/or come and hear about how our Gala works

- Wednesday 21 February, 2.45pm

Year 3/4 'Get Set Go' Interschool Day & Lunch Fundraiser

- Friday 23 February

School Assemblies: All at 1.45-2.30pm

- Friday 23 February
- Friday 8 March
- Friday 22 March

Class Assessments/Show Me Weeks:

- Monday 26 February - Friday 8 March

Senior Swimming Sports (all 8-13 year olds)

- Monday 4 March @ Ngaruawahia Pools (please make arrangements to meet and be picked up from there).
- If postponed, it will be held on Tuesday 5 March

Junior Swimming Display

- Year 0-3 @ Horotiu School Pool, 1.30-2.30pm

Interschool Swimming Sports (age-group reps)

- Thursday 14 March (no postponement day) @ Ngaruawahia Pools
- Students involved to meet and be picked up from the pools please

Turangawaewae Regatta: Waka Kopapa

- Friday 15 March @ Turangawaewae riverside
- Training days to be advised for those involved

Year 7/8 HPV & Boostrix Immunisations

- Monday 18 March @ school

Transition to School (New Entrants)

- Wednesday 20 March, 9am-10.30am in Tiitoki

School Pool Closes: Return keys please

- Thursday 28 March

Easter Weekend: No school

- Good Friday 29 March
- Easter Monday 1 April
- Easter Tuesday 2 April

Horotiu School Gala: All families onboard to help please

- Sunday 7 April @ Horotiu School

Major Reward Day (schoolwide for all those deserving)

- Thursday 11 April

School ANZAC Service & Final day of Term 1

- Friday 12 April

Panui/ Newsletter: February 2024

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

Kia ora e te whaanau,

It is my pleasure to welcome you back to another exciting school year. I hope you had a wonderful summer with this beautiful weather and are ready to dive back into learning here at Horotiu School. Our dedicated staff took a break with family and friends and returned refreshed to prepare for your return.

Tamariki have returned to school with smiles, keen to come together with friends and staff. Our Meet the Teacher day on Monday 5th February gave whaanau and staff a chance to mingle with tamariki enjoying the exciting activities staff had organised for the afternoon. Aakonga have settled well into their respective hubs and classes and are quickly coming together as engaged and successful learning teams for 2024.

We have a number of exciting initiatives and programmes planned, including new strategies and resources to engage learners and enhance learning. Some of these are our:

- Year 3/4 'Get Set Go' Inter-school Tabloid Sports hosting by us at Horotiu (Friday 23rd February)
- Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) Experiences. Hubs/classes will be involved in a variety of experiences including: walks, water experiences, tenting, and cooking.
- Y5-8 Senior Swimming Sports (Monday 4th March @ Ngaruawahia Pools) with reps competing in the Interschool event (Thursday 14th March)
- Waka Kopapa Training (12th and 13th March) and Regatta (Friday 15th March)
- Horotiu School Gala (Sunday 7th April - we need as many whaanau as possible to make this event a success please).

Let's continue to strive together for success. We look forward to supporting each and every student with their personal and academic growth.

Kia pai too raa!

Jo Wright

School Events and Notices:

Written Reports to Parents:

Thanks to those families who were able to make it down to the ‘Meet the Teacher’ School Picnic Day at the beginning of the year. It was a good opportunity to informally meet and catch up with whaanau and the kids loved it!



This year we will be sending our written reports home at the end of Terms 1 and 3. We think this is a better way of reporting - allowing students, staff and whaanau time to work on the next steps identified. Parent-teacher conferences/interviews will continue in Week 4 of Term 2 as we have done in the past couple of years. Parents are of course, always welcome to come in and touch base with teachers anytime.



Save the Date: Horotiu School’s Annual Gala: Sunday 7th April, 9am-1pm

It’s that time of year again when we need to start planning for our major fundraising event of the year, our Annual School Gala. The date for this is set down for Sunday 7th April, 9am-1pm (please note this in your diary and underline it). Later in the term we will be calling on all Horotiu School families to join our school staff to help make the day a success. And as the saying goes, more hands make light work!

To get us started right now though, we would appreciate anyone keen to be involved with the planning group to **please attend our initial Gala Planning Meeting in the staffroom on Wednesday 21st February at 2.45pm**. We will discuss how the Gala works, what we need help with and note down any new ideas/suggestions. All are welcome to the meeting and all involvement in the Gala organisation on the day and in the weeks leading up to it, is greatly appreciated!

Something to ponder for morning drop offs:

Saying ‘goodbye’ to your children at school in the morning can be different for all families. Some children go quickly with a wave and a smile, others take time to adjust. Karen Young, a psychologist has some good advice around this. We thought it was worth a ponder.

“As long as you are still with them, their amygdala (the part of the brain responsible for anxiety) will have hope that the separation won’t happen, and it will keep the fight or flight response going. Once you leave, the amygdala registers futility. Only then can your young one’s brain and body rest. The neurochemical surge that is driving the physical, emotional and behavioural symptoms of anxiety will start to neutralise and their anxiety will start to ease. The sooner that happens, the sooner your child will settle and get on with the day. There might be big tears when you leave, and that’s okay. These tears are a sign the brain has registered futility, and it moving to adaption, which lies at the heart of resilience. It’s never easy watching someone you love in so much distress, but remind yourself that they are safe, that the tears will pass quickly, and that you are providing the experience that will build resilience and courage, and show them they can do hard things.” *Karen Young*

What to do... When you know they are in safe hands, **let the goodbye be loving, quick, and confident**. Our staff are really good at distracting children and comforting them in these situations. They will always ring you if they need to.

We love how our Kiss’n’Drop Zone (in the carpark) is working in the mornings! Well done to the parents who received Bee Cards last week for demonstrating the system at its best! Remember if you need to park the car to walk your child(ren) in, you’ll need to park on the roadside or in our front carpark.



School Notices:

6 Bricks Resources



Our staff have been busy learning about an exciting new learning tool for our kura. Six Bricks is a hands-on tool for learning. Through fun and short activities with sets of LEGO® DUPLO® bricks in six bright colours, children can practice their memory, movement, creativity and more. We can adapt activities and of course make our own activities to match the children's skills and interests. Every hub is lucky enough to have access to this amazing resource, provided for free by LEGO. We are looking forward to seeing how Six bricks will enhance our daily programme.

School Bus

Tamariki must have a bus ticket in order to catch the school bus. A bus ticket is \$20 for 10 rides and can be purchased at the school office or online. Please allow 2 days for online payments to be processed. There are no 'tick ups' - no bus ticket, no bus! Parents will be called to pick up their child/children. We recommend always being in credit at least 1 bus ticket per child.

School Stationery

The school office no longer sell or supply school stationery for students. Feel free to use any of the numerous stationery suppliers. However Warehouse Stationery at the Base is the closest stationery supplier and has all the pack for each class/hub. Please dojo your class teacher/s if you need to clarify.

Hearing and Vision Checks

Vision Hearing Technicians from Community and Southern Rural Health will be visiting our school on the 27th March. The objective of the test is to identify previously undetected vision and hearing problems.

Which children are routinely checked?

- Children who have not completed vision and hearing checks as part of their B4 School Check
- Children absent from previous visit, require rescreens or follow up
- New Immigrants
- Year 7 student's vision only

If there is a genuine hearing concern, parents/caregivers or teachers may request a hearing check - NB parents must consent to this. The Vision Hearing Technician will only be able to undertake a maximum of 5 screens on any visit. If there is a concern regarding vision, parents/caregivers are encouraged to seek advice from an optometrist. A subsidy is available for families/whanau that have a Community Services card or High Use Health card.

What tests are carried out?

Ears

- Audiometry (hearing test)
- Tympanometry – middle ear function test (only carried out when hearing test is not within a normal range)

Eyes

Long distance vision tests – not a complete visual examination, but a simple screening test. All of these checks are non-invasive, safe and should cause no discomfort. The Vision Hearing Technician will notify parents/caregivers of all test results and enter results on Ministry of Education database (Enrol).

The Vision Hearing Technician will obtain personal details from the school ie; names, date of birth and contact parents/caregivers if needed. The service may share this information with other health professionals involved in the children's care. If any parents/caregivers do not want their child to be checked, or their child is currently under specialist care for their vision or hearing, they should let the school know.



Around the Hubs

Tiitoki (Reception-Y1):

Tiitoki have started off the year with 9 new tamariki and 5 from last year. We have been working on Manaakitanga in our classroom, doing activities together and listening skills using 6 Bricks, as well as reading, handwriting, story writing, maths and swimming.



Koromiko (Year 1-2)



Kia ora e te whaanau!

We have had a busy few weeks settling into our new space, getting to know the new routines, and diving into our learning. This term for maths we have been focusing on statistics. Tamariki have been learning how to write and count tally marks, and how to make a simple block graph with them. In one investigation we went out to record which type of vehicle drove past the most, and there were certainly a lot of cars!

In other learning, half of our class have been developing some great artwork, completing their self-portraits and practicing their painting techniques and proportions. The other half have been diving into science, so far learning about the human brain and how our eyes work!



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y5
Kawakawa Y6



Y7-8

Pohutukawa (Year 3/4)



Here in Pohutukawa we have had an amazing start to the year and have jumped straight into it.

Our tamariki are really enjoying having the opportunity of joining with Harakeke on a Wednesday for our inquiry, PE, Elective and Te Reo Maaori. We have been doing lots of learning about Taawhaki, Te Kura O Horotiu and the Waikato Awa.



Harakeke (Year 3-4)




Kia ora e te whaanau, we have had a fantastic start to the year in Harakeke! Our tamariki have been making the most of this beautiful weather and snapping at the chance to get outside where possible. We are also starting to experiment with our new resource, Six Bricks.

We have spent the first few weeks back at school establishing class routines and expectations. As a class, we came up with our **Tikanga o Harakeke** meaning our class values in Harakeke we will strive to follow. We came up with the three 'whaka' and the three 'tanga'. Have a look below at what each kupu (word) means. Feel free to test our tamariki to see if they remember!


We have a couple fundraisers coming up to help towards our EOTC Experience. Keep an eye out for paanui (notices) coming home!





Tikanga o Harakeke

Whakapono - Being honest.
Whakatika - Doing things to the best of my ability
Whakamaaia - Being brave enough to give things a go.
Manaakitanga - Looking after everyone.
Kotahitanga - Working together as one whaanau.
Kaitiakitanga - Looking after ourselves, our things, our classroom, our school, Papatuaanuku and Te Taiaao.





Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y5
Kawakawa Y6



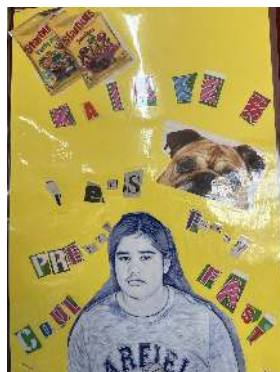
Y7-8



Kawakawa 5 (Year 5):

Kawakawa Tuarima have got straight into our mahi and have made an excellent start to the year. Our quote for the year is 'Who do you represent?'. We discussed that we represent not only ourselves, but our whaanau, kura and tīpuna. As a class we created our whaanau wall which has photos of the people most important to us, as well as self-portraits around how we value and see ourselves.

The *Great Kiwi Road Trip* is our inquiry focus for this term. So far we have travelled to Hamilton, Tauranga, Rotorua and Gisborne. Our tauira have enjoyed virtually travelling to these towns and researching different tourist attractions and costs. If you're heading to any of these places have a chat to the new town experts!



Kawakawa 6 (Year 6):

We have had a fantastic start to the year with students really striving together for success. I have loved witnessing students helping each other with swimming and demonstrating kindness and understanding to everyone in our hub.

Our inquiry this term is Financial Literacy. Each student has a bank account through the *Banqer Programme* and they earn money through a number of things including showing the 'Three Be's' and learner profiles. Most recently they have all applied for jobs in the classroom where they will get paid the minimum wage per hour (\$23.15) for a weekly salary of \$768.26 (after tax). With this money they need to pay for electricity, wifi and desk rental. It is something the students in Kawakawa Tuarima are very engaged in and they are wanting to complete their jobs well in hope of getting a 5% pay increase!

We have enjoyed using our Six Bricks resource in class. We have been using them for an array for things such as how we are feeling, assessing other people's learning and using them to work collaboratively.

- Whaea Paula



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 or via text on 027 829 9010.

Maanuka (Year 7/8):

Kia ora e te whaanau. What an awesome start to the year we've had in Maanuka! Most of our tamariki have settled into our learning environment and our hub routines quite well. Our learning space is humming at the moment!



As part of our learning around Waitangi Day we learned about *He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirenī - The Declaration of the United Tribes of New Zealand*. This document was signed on 28th October 1835 by 34 Northern chiefs and it was formally acknowledged by the British Crown in May 1839. By July 1839, 18 more chiefs signed it, including Potatau Te Wherowhero. Ask your tamariki what else they know about *He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirenī*!

Wow! It's so great to see so many people bringing their togs for swimming. Our focus so far has been on body position in the water, correct breaststroke arms and correct breaststroke kick. In the past we've noticed that this stroke is the one many tamariki struggle with, we were stoked to see lots of improvement after just one week! Keep up the good work and keep bringing your togs tamariki maa!



Home and School Support:

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

Welcome back, whaanau. I hope that 2024 has started well for you all. This term, I am on-site Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to support aakonga, whaanau and kaiako. Feel free to pop in and say 'hello', especially if you are new to our kura.



What is an LSC?

The LSC role is fairly new (introduced in 2020) and varies between schools. My role here at Horotiu involves working with the leadership team to support aakonga who experience learning difficulties. Students may experience learning difficulties for a number of reasons, some of which include: limited hearing or eyesight, autism, dyslexia, ADHD, memory and speech delay. One thing I love about my role is that no two days are the same. I collaborate with lots of different people and am always learning something new. A highlight is working with students, finding out what their strengths are, and using these to help them overcome struggles they experience.

Creating Connections

This term is an important time for building relationships and working together to support our tamariki. We look forward to connecting with you and seeing what new experiences we can add to our kete in 2024.

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Kapa Haka (Atkore Unistrut Hamilton Opening):

During the holidays we were approached by representatives of Atkore Unistrut and invited to do a short performance as part of this new businesses' opening day on Thursday 8th February. This business is located down the road from us on Evolution Dr so we were able to walk down and walk back. The tamariki were definitely excited and had a great performance, especially considering we'd only just started back at school and had limited practise time. Well done tamariki maa and welcome to the



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'Striving Together for Success' Newsletter:

Photo Gallery: Our Term So Far



Looking for Sports Opportunities/Clubs?

Click this [Sports Waikato](#) link to access the sports club directory. Here is a short list of sports clubs who have provided their information:
North Waikato Cricket Club (NWCC): Contact Chris Cummings chris@mcdonaldlaw.co.nz
Northern Districts Super Smash Cricket: www.ndcricket.co.nz/play
Kiwi VolleyBall <https://www.volleyballwaikato.org.nz/kiwivolley>
Northern United Sports Club Football [Northern United Sports Club Football](#)
Taupiri Junior Rugby Club [Taupiri Junior Rugby Club](#)

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.

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>
Phone: 07 8399017 Email: 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



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HOROTIU SCHOOL ANNUAL GALA

SUNDAY

7TH APRIL 2024

9AM-1PM

- QUICK FIRE RAFFLES •
- RIDES • SILENT AUCTIONS •
- MYSTERY ENVELOPES • GAMES •
- KAPA HAKA • BOUNCY CASTLES •
- SAUSAGE SIZZLE & KAI •
- STALLS AND MORE! •

COME ONE

COME ALL

