



SAVE THE DATES!

School Assemblies: All at 1.45-2.30pm

- Friday 17th May

School Pool Closes

- Thursday 21 March

Easter Weekend: No school

- Good Friday 29 March
- Easter Monday 1 April
- Easter Tuesday 2 April - No School

Horotiu School Gala: All families onboard to help please

- Sunday 7 April @ Horotiu School

Major Reward Day - Wheels Day

- Thursday 11 April

Year 5-8 Touch Tournament - Matamata

- Wednesday 10th April

School ANZAC Service & Final day of Term 1

- Friday 12 April (11-12)

School Reports Go Out

- Friday 12th April

Term 2 Starts

- Monday 29th April

Term 2 Powhiri

- Monday 29th April (9:15am)

Year 7-8 Technology Week

- Tuesday 30th - Friday 3rd May

Year 7-8 Transition Day - Ngaruawahia High School

- Wednesday 15th May

Year 0-4 Interschool Football Tournament

- Friday 17th May

School Photos

- Tuesday 22nd May

Transition to School - New Entrants

- Thursday 30th May 9-10:30am

Teacher Only Day - School Closed

- Friday 31st May

King's Birthday Holiday

- Monday 3rd June

School Assembly

- Friday 14th June 1:50pm

Matariki Week of Celebrations

- 24th-27th June
- Friday 28th - Matariki Holiday Observed

Last Day of Term 2

- Friday 5th July

Panui/ Newsletter: March 2024

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

Kia ora e te whaanau,

What a whirlwind of a term. There have been cool games out in the playground including touch, netball and basketball but also fiercely competitive chess games using the large chess pieces. All classes have been participating in Education Outside the Classroom including: sleepovers in tents, cooking on open fires, stand up paddle boarding, biking and tramping. Thanks to all our volunteers who stayed overnight in tents or helped out with the activities.

Teachers have been diligently writing school reports for tamariki. Remember these are "where your child is now" documents which should continue the conversation between home and school. You will get a chance to sign up for parent/caregiver hui in Week Four of Term 2 - Monday 20th May 2-6pm and Tuesday 21st May 2:50-5pm to keep up the korero - kanohi ki te kanohi (face to face).

As ANZAC Day is during the Term break, we will be celebrating ANZAC day as a school on Friday 12th April at 11am - all welcome.

Our Gala is on the weekend of Sunday April 7th. It's always a busy day but also lots of fun. It is great to see our community come together for the benefit of our children. Thank you also to those families who have offered an hour or so of their time on Sunday at the Gala. We do need parent volunteers to help throughout the day and the more involved, the less everyone has to do.

If you have yet to book in a time please do so through this link: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/wjx78>

Finally congratulations to Miss Mikayla Callaghan who is expecting her second child and due in July. We are currently planning for the new teacher working in the Kawakawa 5 space and hope to announce this early next term. She is aiming to stay until the July holidays.

Ngaa mihi nui

Jo Wright

School Events and Notices:

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

The countdown to Gala Day has begun!

Thanks to those who have already booked in an hour or so to help at a stall etc on the Gala Day. We would really appreciate at least an hour of time from each family. It really is a great day for everyone if we all pitch in and turn up to our scheduled time and activity. We love that the roster is beginning to fill up. Click on the link to add your name if you haven't already. <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/wjx78>

We will be collecting items for Gala from next week. Please swipe through the photos to have a look at what we need. Pick and choose what you can contribute to if you are in a position to do so. House points will be allocated for donations each day from Monday.

Paid stop work meeting for NZEI Teachers - Paid Union Meeting

This meeting was to brief teachers on the changes happening/coming to the education sector with the change of Govt and to get teacher voice on the key points they want NZEI to lobby for on their behalf.

Some of the key things happening within the education sector currently...

- The move towards twice-a-year national testing in reading, writing and maths. How this data will be used and shared has yet to be announced. Observations from other countries warn us that performing in tests becomes the focus of the education system with National Testing.
- Significant cuts to funding support for children with learning needs.
- Attendance - the MOE directive to target attendance has been left to teachers and other school staff to improve without additional support.
- The "social-work" aspect of working with families has moved from external agencies to now sit largely with schools.
- Agencies who work with schools face significant cutbacks.
- Property maintenance has been significantly cut back.

This meeting aims to make the education sector aware of the impact of these changes across the board and develop key lobbying points to take forward.

School Attendance:

Term 1 is a timely reminder to everyone about how important it is to maintain regular attendance for our children so they are able to be successful at school and make steady progress.

Lateness also has a significant impact for students, it’s often a barrier for children who miss the calm and welcoming routine of the morning, miss notices and instructions that set them up for the day. Being on time early: 8.30-9am is the perfect time for your child to arrive and unpack their belongings, check in with their teacher(s), meet up with their friends and relax into their day. Class starts at 9am.



Our school has an attendance support team whose role it is to analyse our data and provide us with guidelines around attendance issues (through the Ministry of Education) and we also have Ramon (pictured), our School Attendance Officer that works alongside our school and whaanau to support students in getting to school regularly. At Horotiu School we aim for our students to be here at least 90% of the time. When it drops below this, we seek to make contact with families and explore how we can support them and their child(ren) in getting here.

We ask that all parents do their best to set their child(ren) up for success by getting them to school on-time and regularly. If they are unwell or there is another reason for absence, please communicate this to the office or teaching team. Please note that the online system notes any unexplained absence as ‘Truant’.

Horotiu School ANZAC Service

‘We will remember them.’ Please join us, under our flag, at 11am on Friday the 12th April for our school ANZAC Service. ANZAC Poppies will be available from the office (once they are released) for a gold coin donation. If you are attending the Ngaruawahia ANZAC service in the holidays please wear your school shirt, we will select some children who are at the cenotaph to present our school wreaths on our behalf.



Around the Hubs

Tiitoki (Reception-Y1):

Tiitoki have been busy learning about outdoor education. We did a bush walk at Pukemokemoke and some of us even summited it. We have also been doing walks down to our Awa and learning about how this connects with some of our Pepeha, as well as learning about the importance of our river to acknowledge our past Kings and Queen.



Koromiko (Year 1-2)

Kia ora e te whaanau!

We have had a very busy start to the year! Last week we had our 'overnight camp', and although we unfortunately couldn't stay overnight due to the weather we still enjoyed a couple of fun days of activities! The tamariki enjoyed going on the bikes, completing a burma trail, made ice cream in a bag and practiced their team work in some games. The next day we went on a walk at Lake Waiwhakareke, where we spotted lots of our Koromiko growing locally!



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y5
Kawakawa Y6



Y7-8

Pohutukawa (Year 3/4)

Here in Pohutukawa we have had lots of fun things going on and lots of learning being done. Constable Tom came and reminded us about the correct way to cross the road, using our school road crossing. We were even lucky enough to have him visit our classroom and answer some of our burning questions about what it is like to be a police officer.

We have also just had our EOTC overnight stay. Our tamariki got out of their comfort zone and tried lots of new activities. Some of our highlights were doing the archery, setting off bottle bombs, making s'mores over a fire and biking down the awa to Mangaharakeke Pa.

We were beyond grateful for our amazing whanau who helped out and we count ourselves lucky to have a really supportive community who are all striving together for success.



Harakeke (Year 3-4)

Kia ora e te whaanau, thank you all once again for making our EOTC camp experience possible as well as amazing. Ngaa mihi nui kia koutou. Whaea Kiri & Matua Gig.



Reception Y0

Y1-2

Y3-4

Y3-4

Kawakawa Y5
Kawakawa Y6

Y7-8



Kawakawa 5 (Year 5):

Kawakawa Tuarima have been super busy over the few weeks. We had tamariki involved in Waka Kopapa, swimming sports, and of course our Education Outside of the Classroom experience.

We were fortunate enough to have YouthTown come and share their amazing resources with us. Activities that we did were archery, bottle rockets, burma trail, flintstone carts, orienteering and tee-pee building. Our tamariki then put up their tents, prepared and cooked kai for themselves and our whaanau and then stayed overnight at school.

On the second day we used our extraordinary backyard and went along the awa on a river ride to The Point in Ngaaruawaahia. Below are some photos of our time.



Kawakawa 6 (Year 6):

We have been having the time of our lives in Kawakawa Tuarima. Camp was very successful with all the tamariki making it to the top of the Hakarimata Summit Track.

We also had a sensation time at Christian Youth Camp going on the flying fox, kayaks, mudslide, rock climbing, swimming, and the burma trail. We are so lucky with the amazing parent support we have in our hub so a big thank you again to all the parents!



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

We've been very busy over the past month. Our term has been packed with a lot of learning and other events such as Tech and Assessment Week, Waka Kopapa and Swimming Sports. Tamariki have adapted well to the busy weeks that we've had so far.

As most of you should know we decided last year, to do our 'Tech' programme in school rather than at Ngaruawahia Primary School and our first rotation of Tech seemed to be a hit with our tamariki. We ran this over two weeks. Two groups did Food Tech and Woodwork with Whaea Antonia and Mr Wright while the other two groups stayed in the class with Whaea Alex. The following week the other two groups did Paper-Making and Tukutuku Panels with Whaea Alex and Ms Purdy.

In Food Tech we utilised the fruit on our trees and made pear loaf and apple muffins, as well as calzone and focaccia bread. In Wood Work they made wooden spoons, a wooden cell phone speaker and banana holders. In Paper Making they used their own DIY paper to make diaries and they also made their own charcoal to make pencils out of harakeke stems. In Tukutuku they went on a field trip to the University of Waikato and the Hamilton Museum to see traditional and contemporary tukutuku before designing and weaving their own tukutuku panels. Ka mau te wehi! We're looking forward to doing it all again next term when students will change to their next rotation.



EOTC Water Safety Trip to Lake Puketirini

Maanuka class went on a trip to Lake Puketirini. When we got there we all helped to unpack the gear. After that we had some morning tea. Then we walked around the lake, the sky was blue with some clouds and the environment was very calm and relaxing. - Fernando

The class put on their life jackets and we got into our rotations. First my group did water safety. We got to pull somebody out of the water with a rope and make a circle in our group by holding hands with the person next to you "make a circle" the group yelled to everyone.

- Eva

After lunch, I moved on to paddle boarding. I was really good at keeping my balance on my feet and upside down on my head. The water was so refreshing when I fell in! There was a six man paddle board but I didn't go on that, I was having so much fun on my own board. - Ashlee

Then we went to the jetty for a free swim. We did manus and staples. It was fun and we also did flips. Then we packed up and went back to school. - Ira



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Waka Kopapa

This year the waka kopapa regatta was held on Tuesday 19th March at Turangawaewae Marae. Waka kopapa are different to waka ama, they do not have seats in the waka and the shapes of the hoe (paddles) are different.

We took 8 teams of year 5 - 8 tamariki. All teams had at least 2 races and depending on their placing with three teams making it to finals in Division 3 and one team making it to finals in Division 2.

Both of the Year 5 & 6 girls teams came first and second in their Division 3 final. The Year 7 & 8 boys team placed 3rd in their Division 3 final. One Year 5 & 6 boys team made the final for Division 2 and placed third, which they received a trophy for. Unfortunately only Division 1 and 2 received trophies.

It was a great day on the awa! Also well done to Brendon Graham, Denarau and Denarau's brother Nungs who represented Horotiu in the teacher and student race. That was exciting to watch and we're all pretty sure they came first!

We are all very proud of the learning and hard work that our tamariki put in to practise for this event, also the commitment from tamariki and their parents to get them to and from the awa. Thank you all for helping to keep this taonga of waka kopapa alive in our kura. We hope to get more tamariki interested in participating next year



Photo Gallery



Maanuka tamariki using the peaches off our tree to make peach roll ups.

Home and School Support:

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

This month, I've decided to focus on executive functions. Let's take a deeper dive into what they are, and how you can support your child in developing these critical life skills.

What are **executive functions**?

Executive functions are thinking skills that enable people to:

- plan, organise and prioritise
- focus attention
- remember instructions
- solve problems

We all use executive functions every day. As a parent, you use your executive functions not just for yourself, but for the the whole whaanau. For example, getting kids to school and/or sports practises on time, planning meals, purchasing kai, completing chores... the list goes on. All these things require planning, time management and organisational ability which are key executive functions.

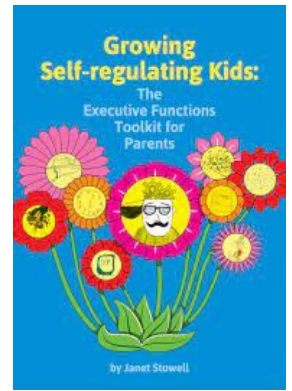
Children with executive function difficulties often feel misunderstood which can lead to frustration and comments like: "This is too hard." or "School is boring." The great news is that executive functions can be modelled and explicitly taught.

Practical ideas to help strengthen **executive functions** at home:

- Ensure you have routines and structure.
- Model good listening skills: stop, look and maintain eye contact with the person who is speaking.
- Model how to stop and think before you act.
- Use self-talk: e.g. "have I got everything?", "I can do this!"
- Have a place for everything and keep everything in its place.
- Teach your child how to organise their bedroom so they know where everything goes.
- With your child, work out a system to store similar clothes and items together.
- Model good time management - be on time.
- Have a calendar on the wall and write important events on it. Look at it with your child so they know what is coming up.
- Provide your child with visual checklists for *getting ready* or *preparing for bedtime*.
- Be consistent and clear about rules and consequences.
- Model behaviours you want to see (not what you don't want to see).
- Remove devices and screens, including TVs from your child's bedroom.
- Develop independence - don't do everything for them.
- Praise effort, hard work, persistence and perseverance.
- Model learning from mistakes and having a growth mindset.
- Set aside a minimum of 15 minutes a few times a week to do fun things together.
- Investigate your own strengths and weaknesses in terms of your executive functions. If you're weak in an area, ask someone for help.

If you would like to know more about executive functions then check out: *The Executive Functions Toolkit for Parents* by Janet Stowell. <https://janet-stowell.com/>

We also have a copy at school that you can loan.



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 - April 2024

Our Holiday Programmes are full of exciting activities and event days that will guarantee your children have a great time! We operate every school holiday period from 8:00am to 6:00pm and offer a variety of flexible timing options to meet the school communities' needs. Check out our booking website for details.

Kelly Club Holiday Programmes focus on giving children aged between 5 and 13 the opportunity to do things they enjoy in a safe, supportive, and encouraging environment. Click [here](#) for the April 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>

Phone: 07 8399017 Email: horotiu@kellyclub.co.nz Facebook: @KellyClubHorotiu

Links: [April School Holiday Programme flyer](#)
[April 2024 School Holiday Programme Timetable](#)

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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NEW WORLD Ngaruawahia

How can you help for Gala?

Gala: What do we need?

Easter Eggs:

These will be used for the Easter Raffles and can be sent in from Monday 25th March



GALA GARAGE SALE KIDS THEME

We are **ONLY** accepting items of excellent condition on this list this year:

- TOYS

(must be complete and in good working order)

- GAMES & PUZZLES

(must include all pieces & be boxed/bagged)

- WHEELS

(bikes, ride on toys, skateboards etc)

- KIDS' QUALITY FURNITURE

&

- MENS, WOMENS, KIDS' CLOTHING

(must be clean & in excellent condition only)

BRING TO SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY 27TH, THURSDAY 28TH MARCH,
WEDNESDAY 3RD APRIL OR THURSDAY 4TH APRIL
8.30AM - 3PM



GARAGE SALE CHECKLIST

- Kids Puzzles (complete & boxed/bagged)
- Kids Games (complete & working order)
- Kids Furniture (clean, excellent condition)
- Kids Bikes, Scooters, Ride-On Toys (safe & in good working order)
- Baby, Kids, Womens & Mens Clothing & Shoes (clean, great pre-loved condition)
- General Household Appliances, Electronics, Furniture, Linen, Bedding, Ornaments, Crockery, Tools, Books

Gala: What do we need?

Grocery Items:

All grocery items are put together to create 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for the Grocery Raffle.

Please make sure you check the expiry dates before sending them to school.

We cannot include items past their dates.



Gala: What do we need? Jars of Goodies for the 'Jar Game':

All you need to do is fill a jar with lollies, balloons, pencils, mini dinosaurs or anything that children love, then decorate the jar.

This game is extremely popular and a favourite at our Gala so we need as many goodie jars as we can get.

Hint:

Smaller jars are easier to fill



Gala: What do we need? Wrapped Lucky Dip Items:

Please wrap any items suitable for our Lucky Dips with a label stating suitable age, boy, girl, gender neutral.

As we sell these for \$2 they need to be at least this in value.



Gala: What do we need? Baking, Sweets & Preserves (final days)

Baking to be glad-wrapped and labelled with name of preserve and date.

Sweets bagged if necessary.

Drop off is on Saturday 6th April or directly to the stall on Gala morning (preferred).



We know not everyone will be able to help out in every way. We do appreciate families making the effort to help where they can. Whether it be sending in a grocery item, doing some baking for the cake stall on the day, or sorting out clean, quality family clothing and/or kids-themed toys at home for donation, we appreciate every bit of support.

As it is our major fundraiser of the year we really appreciate having as many of our families involved and helping out on the day as possible.

We do ask that where possible families please donate an hour or two of time to help run the stalls. We need volunteers to help for lots of different things: at the cake stall, chair-o-plane, crazy hair stall, icecream sundae stall, jar game, mystery envelopes, petting zoo, hamburgers and kai stalls etc. Click on the link to see what stalls are still available and book in:

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/wjx78>

In recent years, we've had the whole roster completely booked a whole week before the day - it was so amazing to see and feel the support! All and any help is appreciated!



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

