



# HOROTIU SCHOOL

Te Kura o Horotiu

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www.horotiu.school.nz



## SAVE THE DATES!

### Year 8 Dinner & Movie

- 9th December

Service Assembly: 11am - 12.30pm: 12th Dec

School Prizegiving @ 6pm - 7.30pm: 12th Dec

### Last Day of School:

- 13th December, 12 noon finish



### 2025 Term Dates:

- Term 1: Thursday 30 January (Pōwhiri) - Friday 11 April
- Term 2: Monday 28 April - Friday 27 June
- Term 3: Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September
- Term 4: Monday 6 October - Friday 12 December



## Panui/ Newsletter: December 2024

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

Kia ora e te whaanau,

As I reflect on this year, I am reminded of the song "Die with a Smile" and its uplifting message about living fully, finding joy in every moment, and sharing that positivity with others. It's a reminder to embrace life with gratitude and to recognize the beauty of who we are and what we bring to those around us. This is a value we hold dear at Horotiu School, as we encourage each learner to shine as their authentic selves.

Looking ahead to 2025, we are excited about the changes to the New Zealand Curriculum, particularly in Mathematics and English. These updates represent an opportunity to make learning even more meaningful and engaging for our tamariki, equipping them with the skills and confidence they need for the future. Our staff have been diving into professional development this year to prepare for these changes. They are ready, keen, and optimistic about the positive results these developments will bring for our students.

To ensure all students can be transported home safely and on time, **school will now start at 8:50 AM** instead of 9:00 AM. All breaks will remain the same. However, to accommodate the bus schedule, **school will finish at 2:30 PM for everyone.** Please note that **drop-offs should be between 8:30 AM and 8:50 AM** and **pick-ups must be by 3:00 PM sharp.**

I am so proud of the way our staff and community have embraced innovation and change. This spirit of adaptability and determination is what makes Horotiu School thrive. It's not just about achieving academic goals—it's about fostering a love for learning, a sense of belonging, and the courage to step into the future with confidence.

As we close the chapter on 2024, I want to thank our staff, School Board, parents, caregivers, and most importantly, our students. Together, we are building something truly special—a school where everyone feels they belong, and where every learner has the chance to succeed.

Meri Kirihimete and happy holidays - Jo

## Celebrations and Reminders:

### Schoolwide Transition Day: Future Hub Day

Schoolwide Transition Day saw students moving throughout the school to their 2025 future hub. Students reunited with peers they'd worked with before and met new ones who may have enrolled since the last transition. There were smiles and conversations everywhere and it was great to see so many of our whaanau head into classrooms in the afternoon to connect with their children, meet kaiako and familiarise themselves with the hub spaces.

Our Year 8 students headed to the Awa to bless their handmade hoe (paddle) in preparation for their Prizegiving and Graduation. We hope their hoe will remind them of their memories and learnings here at Horotiu as they paddle forward into the future.

As part of this day students worked alongside their teachers for 2025. Teachers for each space are:

**Pohutukawa** (NE-Y0) (note a change of classroom spaces): Mrs Kim Crook

**Koromiko** (Y1 & 2): Mrs Sonja Inglis and Miss Jamie Gibbens

**Harakeke** (Y3 & 4): Whaea Kiri Kaywood and Whaea Mikayla Callaghan

**Kawakawa** % (Y4 & 5): Miss Britney Stirling

**Kawakawa** % (Y5 & 6): Whaea Paula Evans

**Maanuka** (Y7 & 8): Whaea Alex Wakeman and Whaea Antonia Whittaker

**Classroom Release Teachers:** Matua Gig Abraham, Mrs Megan Parker



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

Join us on Thursday 12th 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 for the year.



## Celebrations and Reminders:

### Athletics - School and Interschool

We are very proud of all those who participated in the School Athletics event earlier this term and of those who represented at Horotiu School at the annual Interschool Athletics at Bremworth Park. The effort and behaviour of all those who attended was exemplary and we had a number of our students place right across the track and field events. The confirmed results can be found on our recent Dojo posts.



### Horotiu Hawkes - Year 3/4 Basketball Team Champions!



Congratulations to the Year 3/4 Horotiu Hawkes Basketball team for winning their grade in their very first season!

The team showed incredible skill and determination, making us all proud with their fantastic mahi. A special thank you to Matua Gig for his dedication as coach, training the team during his lunchtimes, and to Nadia Green for her amazing support as the team manager. We also want to acknowledge all the whaanau who helped out in any way, ensuring the team's success. Kei runga noa atu koutou! 🏀🎉

### Congratulations Max Fendall - Can you help with Sponsorship?

Special mention and congratulations to Year 7 student, Max Fendall, who has been invited to represent New Zealand at an in-line hockey tournament in Australia next year. Max has been playing in-line hockey since he was 5 years old and over the years has played in many tournaments. After recently playing in an inter-regional team, Max was selected for a national team to play in New Plymouth where the team, *Hamilton Devils Under 11s*, placed second. Next year's tournament is being held in Bendigo and the team Max is in will be playing against eight other teams, seven of them Australian.

Max's family are looking for sponsors or donations for raffles to help fund the trip and are currently looking a quiz night, skate nights, ball hockey tournament, amongst other things. If you are in a position to support, please contact Max's mum, Suzy: [suzybuchanan04@gmail.com](mailto:suzybuchanan04@gmail.com)





## Around the Hubs

### Tiitoki:

What a busy term we have had in Tiitoki. We farewelled Whaea Paige and made kebabs and had a dress-up Hullabaloo. We have visited the Dental clinic as a class so we are happy to go when it is our turn. We have explored Force and Gravity in Science, made planes and discussed how to make them fly further and faster.



### Koromiko (Year 1-2)

Last week as part of our EOTC, we had our overnighter at school! The tamariki were buzzing at the idea of sleeping in tents with whaanau on the field outside our classroom!

Thursday was a full day with lots of activities such as: Using nature to make fairies, leaf rubbings and making mini boats, compass directions and coordinates, going on the bike track, planks, A Kim's Memory Game, burma trail in the native grove, and having dinner at school!

On Friday we spent the day out at Lake Kainui with Pete from Perry Outdoor Education Trust (POET) to have lots of fun for the day! The tamariki did the walk around the lake, where they spotted fairy houses and left their fairies from yesterday inside! They also made pikelets on gas cookers, made charcoal pencils and completed some challenges with some cabbage tree pieces, given to the teachers from Harko Brown. Some VERY tired tamariki on Friday afternoon, a sign of a great couple of days!

Thanks to Pete from POET the tents and sharing the day with us, but also to the whaanau for all the jobs that needed doing and helping where possible, or for coming along to stay the night!



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y4/5  
Kawakawa Y6



Y7-8



**Harakeke (Year 3-4)**

Kia ora koutou!

Our students had a fantastic time at Patterson Park where they participated in a "Move Well Day". This was a wonderful opportunity for us to join together with other cluster schools and engage in fun, cooperative games. It was a day full of laughter, teamwork, and plenty of active fun!

Maui Potiki, our very own 'Elf on the Shelf' has arrived just in time for the festive season! Maui Potiki will be getting up to all sorts of mischief around Harakeke for the remainder of the term, and we can't wait to see what he gets up to each day!  
E mihi ana, The Harakeke Team!



**Kawakawa 4/5 (Year 4 & 5):**

We have had so many exciting things happening this term! Our focus for Inquiry over the term been 'Social Studies' looking at the way different cultures celebrate and also learning more about different places around the world.

As a class, we have been working hard at creating our own in clas festival/celebration called '**Kawakawa 4/5 Maanakitanga Festival**'. This festival was all about coming together, showing kindness and having fun. Our tamariki created and planned this festival with little help. We spent the morning swimming, played some classic kiwi games outdoors with each other, used our beautiful awa track to go for a bike ride and then ended our day with a shared lunch where we invited our whaanu to join us.

We are now wrapping up the end of the year and getting into the Christmas spirit before heading off on our well-deserved Christmas holiday.



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y4/5  
Kawakawa Y6



Y7-8



### Kawakawa 6 (Year 6):

Kawakawa 6 had an amazing time during Week 6 at our Sports Camp. Each morning we focused on a different sport. We had a skills session in the first block and a tournament or a game in the second block. In the afternoon we had a swim and then reflected on our day creating a slide of our favourite part of the day and selected pictures of ourselves.

*Monday Ki-o-rahi*  
By Alicia

The three things I enjoyed today  
 1. I loved all the games  
 2. I liked hanging out with the teacher  
 3. There was great competition

Other thoughts: I love to play

Wednesday touch  
By Tyler

What I liked most today  
 I liked how everyone was being humble  
 I liked the drill where you had to latch on to each other  
 I liked how the teams were going in the touch game

**TUESDAY ~PERRY~BIKE~PARK**

By Harper

THE THREE THINGS I ENJOYED MOST TODAY WERE:  
 1. BIKING NEAR THE ROAD.  
 2. BIKING AROUND THE TRACK.  
 3. EATING.

OTHER THOUGHTS: I LOVED BIKING AROUND THE TRACKS AND SWIMMING.

Thursday netball - By Harry

Favourite things today  
 1. winning every game in the tournament  
 2. doing the netball training with Miss Callaghan  
 3. doing netball training with Whaea Paula

Other thoughts  
 I think today was really fun but I can't wait to stay till 8:30

### Maanuka (Year 7/8):



Maanuka have had another successful camp week at Aongatete Outdoor Education Centre based on the other side of the Kaimai Ranges near Katikati.

This education centre is in the bush. We did a lot of walking in the bush and students and adults learned a lot about conservation, native birds, rongoa plants, how to use a compass to navigate through the bush and much more. We thank our parents who took time off their busy schedules to volunteer and support us at camp, and also to Mr Wright and Ms Purdy for your support. We appreciate you all.



### 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 Learning Support:

Mrs Foster - Learning Support Coordinator (LSC)



As the holidays approach, here are some fun and engaging activities you can enjoy with your tamariki over the summer break:

**Engage in Family Reading Time** - Dedicate time for reading. Explore a mix of age-appropriate books, including new stories and characters your tamariki haven't encountered before. Introducing new books expands children's imagination. After reading, take time to discuss the stories together—this not only strengthens comprehension and critical thinking but also creates meaningful whānau connections.

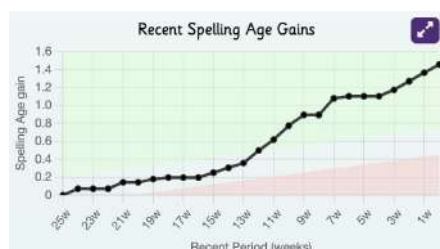
**Educational Games and Activities** - Turn learning into fun by playing board games, creating obstacle courses and making puzzles - great ways to practise communication, and problem-solving skills.

**Outdoor Experiences** - Explore gardens, beaches, parks, and nature walks. These outings provide physical and hands-on learning experiences that inspire curiosity.

**Cooking** - Involve your tamariki in meal preparation to build maths and life skills. Activities like measuring ingredients, noticing weights on packaging, and planning or adapting recipes make maths practical and fun.

**Journaling and Creative Writing** - Encourage tamariki to start a summer journal, write Christmas cards or try creative writing projects. Reflecting on experiences and crafting stories enhances writing skills and imagination.

**Online Learning Platforms** - Keep up literacy and numeracy skills with online programs like [StepsWeb](#) and [Mathletics](#), available throughout the holidays. Below is a graph showing the amazing progress that can occur when students work on StepsWeb at home and school.



**Community Engagement and Kindness** - Teach the value of giving back. Whether it's donating old toys and clothing or cleaning up a local park, these activities nurture empathy and teamwork.

**Explore Cultures and Traditions** - Celebrate diversity by learning about different cultures. Read books, watch documentaries, or try new recipes from around the world to broaden your horizons.

**Exciting Science Projects** - Spark curiosity with hands-on science activities at home. Build simple machines, conduct fun experiments, or explore coding to inspire young innovators. More ideas here: <https://www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities>

Enjoy the special moments with your whānau this summer. Wishing you a wonderful holiday season, and I look forward to seeing you all in 2025!



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**Kelly Club:**

**Before- and After-School Care**

We understand how hard it is to juggle the workday schedule, and find safe, fun, high-quality care for your children. Kelly Club is a place where kids have heaps of fun, and feel they are at a home away from home.

Kelly Club's 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.

**Summer Holiday Programme -**

Kelly Club will be running exciting trip days and programmes giving your kids things they love to do, in an atmosphere of support and encouragement. Book online at <https://kellyclub.co.nz/> and enter Horotiu as your school. Kelly Club staff look forward to seeing your kids there. Any questions - pop in and see the team.

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



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  
 Respectful**

**Be a  
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