

Kia ora e te whānau o Kahurangi,

As we reach the end of Week 3, I wanted to acknowledge what has been a really positive start to Term 2. The children have settled back into routines quickly, classrooms have felt calm and purposeful, and it's been lovely seeing our tamariki reconnect with their learning, friendships and wider school life.

I also want to celebrate some encouraging attendance progress from Term 1. Historically, attendance both nationally and here at Kahurangi has been a genuine challenge. Like most kura across Aotearoa, we saw attendance rates decline significantly following COVID and rebuilding strong attendance habits is taking time.

That's why it was really pleasing to see our regular attendance lift to 72% in Term 1, up from 67% at the same time last year. In fact, this is the strongest Term 1 attendance result we've had since we began tracking attendance data back in 2020. We also saw fewer tamariki falling into the "irregular attendance" category, and 81% of our students were arriving at school on time consistently.

These improvements don't happen by accident. They come from whānau making a real effort to get children to school each day, kaiako creating classrooms where tamariki feel connected and supported, and all of us continuing to reinforce that school matters. So thank you. We genuinely appreciate it.

At the same time, attendance remains one of our biggest ongoing focuses as a kura. Children learn best when they are here regularly. Learning builds day by day, lesson by lesson, conversation by conversation. Strong attendance also helps children feel connected socially, develop confidence, and maintain friendships and routines.

To be really clear, we absolutely want sick children to stay at home. If your tamaiti is genuinely unwell, resting and recovering is the right thing to do. We never want families feeling pressure to send sick children to school.

However, we also know there are times children simply don't feel like coming to school. Sometimes they're tired, wanting an extra day at home, or avoiding something that feels tricky. To be honest, as adults we've probably all had mornings where we haven't particularly felt like going to work either - I know I do!

*Principal's message
continued on next page...*



Our tamariki building huts from the branches of our pruned bouncy trees.



Our oldest tamariki supporting our youngest tamariki during our Cross Country.

noticeboard



Tues 12 May

A trip to the Zoo

For our tamariki in the Junior School (Year 0-3)



Fri 29 May

Teacher Only Day

No school for tamariki!

Keep informed

See the full list of key dates on the last page.



We're excited to welcome another lovely group of tamariki to our Kahurangi whānau.

A very warm welcome to **Violet**, who has started as a new entrant in Rimu Tahī. Violet and her whānau are brand new to Kahurangi and we're so pleased to have you all join our kura.

A warm welcome also to **Kaspar**, who has also started as a new entrant in Rimu Tahī. Kaspar and his whānau are new to our kura too.

Manaia has started in Rimu Tahī and is already a familiar face around school as Manaaki's younger brother.

Amaia joins our new entrant class as well and is the younger sister of Kamiza.

A big welcome back to **Ferris** and his whānau, who have returned to Kahurangi. It's lovely to have past whānau reconnect with our school community again.

We also welcome **Mirza**, who has joined Rimu Toru as a Year 4 student. Mirza is already well connected to our kura as Maleek's older brother.

Nau mai, haere mai to you all. We hope your first days at Kahurangi have been happy ones, filled with new friendships and a growing sense of belonging.

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Part of growing up though is learning that there are days we still need to show up, push through a little discomfort, and keep building positive habits and routines. That's an important life skill. Often, once tamariki arrive at school, reconnect with friends, and get into the rhythm of the day, they end up absolutely fine.

We also try to do our bit at school to encourage positive attendance habits. Sometimes that's through little incentives, celebrations, and treats that help make coming to school feel positive and rewarding for tamariki.

Our attendance data also shows that not all absences are illness related. A significant number come from things like holidays during term time, tiredness, sleeping in, "needing a day off", or children feeling reluctant about school.

Our overall goal is for all tamariki to attend school regularly, which means being at school more than 90% of the time. In practical terms, that's no more than around four and a half days away across an entire term.

We know perfection isn't realistic and life will always throw challenges our way. But together, we can continue building the habits and routines that give our tamariki the very best chance to thrive.

Ngā mihi nui, Kyran Smith, Tumuaki

Haere rā Fono after 10 Years of Service



Today we farewell Fono, who finishes up at Kahurangi after 10 years of caring for our kura as our groundsman.

Much of Fono's mahi happened quietly behind the scenes. He was often first to arrive each day, unlocking buildings, turning on lights and checking our grounds were safe for tamariki. Then, once everyone had gone home, he'd return again to empty bins, tidy the school, lock up buildings and make sure the many lost jerseys, lunchboxes and treasures found their way to lost property.

Fono has been a calm and familiar presence around our kura for many years and our staff will miss seeing him around the school.

Fa'afetai tele lava, Fono, for your years of care and service to Kahurangi. Enjoy your retirement, tōfā soifua and ngā mihi nui.



Such Wonderful News!

A huge congratulations to **Anna Ravendran** and her partner on the exciting news that they're expecting their first baby! What a special and life-changing chapter ahead. We know there'll be plenty of excitement, nerves, and joy over the months to come. We're all absolutely thrilled for you!



Congratulations Mr Masters!

Over the holidays, **Nicholas Masters** got married – and we wanted to take a moment to acknowledge this special occasion. We're very happy for Mr Masters and his partner as they begin married life together and wish them many happy years ahead. Ngā mihi nui and congratulations from the Kahurangi whānau.



School life...



Our Year 8 boys recently spent some time with the Deputy Principal and a Year 13 student from Rongotai College, who came to kōrero with them about the transition to college and some of the opportunities ahead. It was a great chance for our rangatahi to ask questions, hear about college life, and start thinking about the next stage of their learning journey.

All our tamariki absolutely loved the recent visit from the Duffy Theatre team. The show had our children laughing, joining in, solving riddles, and fully engaged from beginning to end. The message that “it’s cool to read, it’s cool to achieve” really came through in a fun and memorable way. A big thank you to the Duffy Theatre crew for bringing such energy, creativity and joy to our kura.



NGĀ MIHI NUI!

TO OUR TERM 1 COACHES, MANAGERS & STAR HELPER!

You give your time, share your skills, and cheer on our tamariki – and that makes all the difference.

Ka mau te wehi!

FLOORBALL

Coach: Phirum
Manager: Hinrich

Coach: Sebastian
Manager: Libby

WATER POLO

Coach: Olivia
Manager: Ben

NETBALL

STAR HELPER: Tineke

MINI POLO

Coach: Ash
Manager: Francie

Coach: Phirum
Manager: Chani

Coach: Melita
Manager: Carissa

TOUCH RUGBY

Coach: Faye
Manager: Vicki

Coach: Hoani
Manager: Ata

Coach: Zara
Manager: Sam

Coaches: Mari-Antoinette & Ludwich
Manager: Mari-Antoinette

AND A HUGE SHOUT OUT TO OUR TEACHER **NICHOLAS MASTERS** for all his organisation behind the scenes – registering, forming teams, supporting coaches and so much more.

MĀ TE KŌTUI, KA TĀEA!

**A NEW ADDITION
TO OUR KURA!**

**A HUGE THANK YOU
TO A GENEROUS WHĀNAU
FOR FUNDING A NEW GAZEBO**

VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY
\$2,500



This will be a fantastic addition to our kura and will be well used at school events, sports days, and occasions in our wider community.

SPORTS DAYS COMMUNITY EVENTS SCHOOL OCCASIONS SUPPORTING OUR TAMARIKI & KURA

WE'RE SO GRATEFUL FOR THIS GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR TAMARIKI AND KURA.
E NGA MIHI NUI E

What's coming up

Tuesday 12 May

A trip to the Zoo

For our Junior School
Tamariki

Wednesday 13 May

Eastern Zone School Cross Country

For selected year 4-8
tamariki.

Friday 15 May

Pink Shirt Day

We encourage tamariki to
come to school wearing
some **PINK** if they can.

and

Wellington East Girl's College visiting

An opportunity for our year
8 girls to hear what WEGC
is like.

Thursday 21 May

Mihi Whakatau

A special occasion in which
we will formally welcome
new whānau to our kura.

Wednesday 20 May

Eastern Zone Primary Schools' Football Tournament

For selected year 4-8
tamariki.

Friday 29 May

Teacher Only Day

No school for tamariki.

Monday 1 June

King's Birthday

No school for tamariki.

News from the Community



**NOW TAKING
ENROLMENTS**


Peninsula
EARLY LEARNING

10th JUNE 2026
6 - 7:30 PM




ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE
OPEN DAY

www.stcatherinescollege.school.nz



Te Kura Kōhine o te Rāwhiti o Te Upoko o Te Ika
Wellington East Girls' College

OPEN DAY
Thursday 11 June
3pm and 6pm



Please register your interest by booking a ticket on our website:
www.wegc.school.nz

