



# Mokoia School Newsletter

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## Congratulations

Well done to Tiaho, Arlo, Bobbie and Edward who earned teacher awards. Well done to Poppy and Arekaanara who won the principal's award.



## Code of Conduct

With the start of the school year, the Board of Trustees have asked me to remind all people on site of our Code of Conduct. The full policy can be found on Schooldocs website. Just type in our school name and the password, which is "flame".

The essence is that we treat each other kindly and we set good examples for the children when on school grounds and school trips. The code also includes talking with staff respectfully and not taking up excessive time, especially out of school hours.

I would also like to remind parents that the school drive way is not a race-track. The Board of Trustees have set the speed at 10kmph. In order to keep children safe when they cross the road to the bus or walk back to cars with their parents, we ask that parents drive up the driveway, turn at the turning circle, and then park up under the cherry trees with space between your car and any others. This way when you leave you don't need to reverse, thus endangering little ones that are hard to see. Your car needs to be facing the directions of "traffic". Cars should not be trying to overtake other vehicles.

This year we ask you to not park by the tennis courts or by the dead tree– these spaces are reserved for staff and visitors.

## Dates for Your Diary

### Term 1

<b>27 February</b>	Water skills for life instruction (at school)
<b>29 February</b>	Senior Swimming sports Waverly Pools <b>2 adults needed and 1-2 cars</b>
<b>29 February</b>	BOT meeting 7pm All welcome
<b>6 March</b>	Mokoia Swimming Sports 1pm
<b>8 March</b>	Teacher Only Day– school closed for instruction
<b>11 March</b>	Taranaki Anniversary Day– school closed for instruction
<b>15 March</b>	Cultural performance and hangi 6pm
<b>18/19 March</b>	Parents Evening
<b>21 March</b>	Year 5-6 Cricket Waverly School <b>2 adults needed (will use minibus)</b>
<b>25-29 March</b>	<b>Senior Camp</b>
<b>29 March-2 April</b>	Easter public holidays– no school
<b>4 April</b>	BOT meeting 7pm all welcome
<b>9 April</b>	Whole School Athletics– Patera Area School <b>3 adults needs and cars</b> <small>(10 April Postponement date)</small>
<b>10 April</b>	PTA Evening Meeting 7pm all welcome
<b>12 April</b>	Last day of Term

## **Homework**

From Monday we will be sending home “homework”. Every child is expected to spend 5-17 minutes an evening consolidating skills learned at school in reading and spelling. As a school we are trying hard to improve our literacy skills. Reading and spelling are two skills that children have to revisit several times a day to really consolidate, which is why we ask them to do so at home too.

## **Expectations**

**Early Readers:** Each week we will send home a picture book for you to share with your child. Whilst we are developing reading skills with them like recognizing letters, reading key words, tracking words 1:1 with their fingers, sounding out words etc. we aren't sending home reading books yet. Instead, we are sending home picture books that you can explore. The book will come in it's own packet, and sometimes might have additional resources like puppets or activities. We would like you to share the book with your child, each evening. This may be a simple read through, it might be talking about pages, concepts etc. If the book has a pattern or a refrain, you could encourage your child to join in. You might want to re-enact the story with your child. You might want to explore some of the vocabulary.

We will also include some key words, that your child needs to practice. These words they should be learning in class already, and they just need to practice them at home. These words will help them get ready for reading books.

**Readers (Red Levels-24):** Each night your child should be bringing home a reading book. Lower levels will have a different book each night, higher levels might have the same book for a few nights as they are longer. They will usually be told how much to read as a minimum, but can read more if they like. Red and yellow books will come with 6 key words to practice for that week, that correspond to the books. If your child already knows these words, we may add in a couple of new words to support them further.

**Fluent Readers (past level 24)** Each night your child should be reading at home. This is likely to be a chapter book chosen at school, but could be a book that they have from home. We ask them to read 15 minutes independently each day. It would be helpful if once a week you heard them read as reading out loud is quite a different skill.

**Spelling:** With the exception of very early writers, most children will be bringing home 4-8 spelling words a week. These are words that are used often and/or are tricky to spell, like “the”, “after” and “couldn't”. When writing it's helpful for children to have some words as instant recall, so spelling is important for this. Spelling words will be sent home in small notebooks.

## **Swimming**

Senior swimming is on Thursday. In order to participate we need 1-2 parents to attend as we are taking 13 children to Waverly swimming pools. Please let us know if you can help.

There will be sausage sizzle and juices on sale.

## **Parents' Evening**

Parents' Evening is on 18 and 19 March. We will be offering one late evening on Monday, as in the past we have had very little up take of evenings. Monday appointments will be 3pm-7pm, and Tuesday will be 3pm-5pm. Please let us know what times suit you via the sign up sheets at the office (in the morning), by the pool (after school) or via email/text/call if your kids are on the bus.

# Community Notices

## Whānau Pakari



Now is a great time to join us to build a healthier lifestyle.

Whānau Pakari is a community-based, no cost, whānau-centred programme for children and adolescents aged 4-15 years (inclusive), wanting to improve their lifestyle.

Whānau Pakari uses an expert team to support children and their whānau to make long term changes to activity, food and lifestyle choices, in a respectful and non-judgemental way.

### Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand

Taranaki

Weekly group activity sessions in Hāwera and New Plymouth for 4-10 year olds, two half-day workshops for adolescents 11 years and over, and a term of physical activity sessions twice per year.

The Whānau Pakari team includes:

- dietitian
- clinical psychologist
- paediatrician
- physical activity specialist
- healthy lifestyle coordinator.

#### To access the service or information:

Healthy Lifestyles Coordinator:  
whanaupakari@tdhb.org.nz or  
753 6139 extn 8729

#### For information or to self refer:

www.tdhub.org.nz >  
Services > Whānau Pakari



Whanau  
Pakari



Whānau Pakari  
#238489936

For more information, see these videos: <https://vimeo.com/238489936> and <https://vimeo.com/267925793>

## Chess Club at Hāwera LibraryPlus



**ALL AGES WELCOME**  
Thursdays 3:45-4:45  
During School Term



#### Save the Date

We will be having our hangi on Friday 15 March.  
We will be laying down the hangi at school that day.  
For those who would like to help or come and learn how to do that, please come along in the morning.

We will also need help preparing the vegetables on the day, and collecting hangi stones from the beach, earlier in the week.

#### **Donations**

As this is our school fundraiser, we would appreciate donations of food. Last year people donated pumpkins and potatoes from their gardens and someone even donated some mutton! We don't expect an entire sheep, but if you have something you are able to donate, like something from your garden, a hunk of meat from your home kill, or a bag of veggies, it would mean that we could raise more funds for the school to use on camps.

We plan on using the cherry wood that was chopped down last year, but if you have pallets (without paint on), then we would appreciate those.