



# Mokoia School Newsletter

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Phone: 06 273 4106



## Welcome to 2026

Kia ora and welcome to the new year. We are excited to see your new children in a couple of weeks. We will kick off the term with a couple of days of home visits and then straight into class on Wednesday 28th January.

This year is set to be an exciting year, with studies including the Egyptians, Whalers and Explorers and a World Wide Study. We start the year off learning about who we are, where we stand and the local stories of our area.

## Poi.

At the end of the year, Whaea Priya kindly donated some poi which her daughter made. However, I misunderstood the donation and thought that they were gifts and so handed them out.

If your child was gifted with poi, please return them so that we can use them for kappa haka.

Much thanks.



## Dates for Your Diary

### Term 3

<b>26,27 January</b>	<b>Home visits</b>
<b>28 January</b>	<b>First day at school</b>
<b>6 Feb</b>	<b>Waitangi Day</b> – School closed for instruction
<b>13 Feb</b>	<b>Hangi tikanga meeting</b> – time to be confirmed. Please contact Evon if you are interested.
<b>17 Feb</b> (pp 18 Feb)	<b>Senior Swimming (non-competitive)</b> - Patea Pools
<b>19 Feb</b> (pp 20 Feb)	<b>Junior Swimming</b> – Whenuakura school
<b>20 Feb</b>	<b>BOT meeting 7pm</b>
<b>26 Feb</b>	<b>Water safety instruction</b>
<b>5 March</b> (pp 6 March)	<b>Mokoia Swimming Gala 1:30pm</b>
<b>9 March</b>	<b>Taranaki Anniversary Day</b> School closed for instruction
<b>20 March</b>	<b>Cultural performance and hangi</b>
<b>23 March</b>	<b>Athletics</b> – Patea Area School
<b>25/26 March</b>	<b>Parents' Evening</b>

## Home Visits

This year we will be doing home visits again. This is where the teachers come to your home to meet your children. Home visits last about 20 minutes. During that time we chat, we can play games, answer questions and find out more about your family. Many children like to show us their pets or special toys.

Home visits are a wonderful way of helping us get to know your child as a whole person—who they are, what matters to them, and how they learn best. Meeting children in their own environment helps them feel comfortable and empowered, as they connect with their teachers on their own terms. These visits also allow us to build strong, trusting relationships with families, so we can work together to support each child's learning, wellbeing, and success at school.

I know that this is not standard practice in New Zealand so might feel a bit strange to those people for whom it is new. We have found it an invaluable tool in helping up build up whanau-like connections with our children. Dates and times will be emailed out to you.



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## Stationary

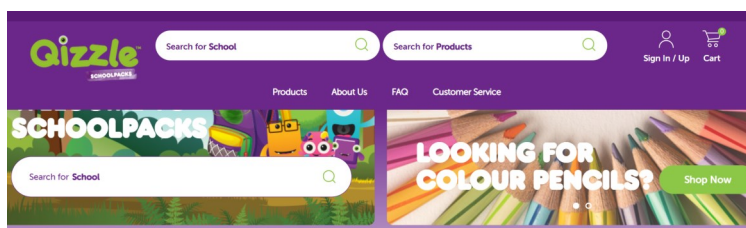
### Stationary

To make it easier for you, this year we have put the stationary list on **Qizzle**. You just go to the website, select school packs, select the school, enter your child's name and select the year group that your child is in. Or use this link:

<https://schoolpacks.co.nz/mokoia-school/>

A list will come up of all the things that are required. You can deselect items that you already have. If your child has just started a new book, they can continue to use it.

Once purchased, the items will be sent to you. Please only name books as glues, pencils etc will be shared.



## Mrs Hodge– our new teacher

We are excited to welcome a new member of staff this year– Mrs. Hodge. We are trying to set up her new place for her, so that when she arrives she doesn't need to worry about buying furniture etc. If you have something that you could lend or gift her and her family, that would be wonderful.

Currently, we have beds and cot for her children, a table and chairs, plates, cutlery, cups/ glasses and sheets.

Currently, Ms. Hodge's arrival is delayed due to family visa processing time, but we hope that she will be with us by the start of the term.

In the event that she is later, Whaea Evon will take the Senior class and Ko-



ka will take the Junior class until she arrives.

## Old Uniform

We have at school, a variety of school jumpers and t-shirts that have not been claimed. We will wash these and put these into school resources as "seconds". If you would like to buy one for \$3, please come to the school office. If your youngest child has outgrown their t-shirts and you would like donate them to school, we would appreciate it.

### A few reminders for next term:

- Drive **slowly** up the school drive
- For safety of child pedestrians, do not drive past the "round about" and park by the school gates, unless you have permission
- Long hair should be tied up out of your child's face
- Swimming starts on the first day of term
- School starts at 9am, but children can be on site from 8:30am, although they will not be actively supervised
- No lollies or chocolates in lunches

Thank you for your support. We are looking forward to a fantastic new year with your children.