

Week 8!

12/09/2022 by Karen Poole

Kia ora e te whānau

What a great couple of weeks we have had here at Tawhai School! Just a few things that have been happening;

- The Onesie Day was a huge success – thank you for your awesome support.
- A lot of our tamariki have been participating in sporting events including end of season Waterpolo, Netball and Miniball games.
- A small group of our tamariki attended the Science Roadshow with Mrs Boese
- A large group of our Year 6 tamariki visited Fergusson Intermediate and had lots of fun with sessions on visual arts, food technology and robotics. Just to remind parents, out of zone enrolments for Fergusson Intermediate close on September 30.

New long-term strategy for COVID-19

You'll be aware that New Zealand will move to a new, long-term approach to COVID-19. These changes have been made based on public health advice and reflect high levels of immunity and declining case numbers across New Zealand.

This new approach will only result in minor changes to the way we operate.

The very positive news is that household contacts of a person with COVID-19 do not need to isolate, but instead are asked to complete a RAT test each day, for five days. Therefore, ākonga who are household contacts but test negative and do not have COVID-19 symptoms, should continue to attend. It is the best place for them to be so they can be engaged in their learning, and connected with their teachers, classmates and friends.

Information on how to get RAT kits can be found here: [Request a RAT – Ministry of Health](#)

Mask wearing is no longer required.

All the other recommended public health measures will stay in place as we know they reduce the spread of infectious illnesses including COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, maintaining good hand hygiene, encouraging everyone to cough or sneeze into elbows and, most importantly, staying home and getting tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

Thank you for your ongoing support in protecting our community.

Public Holiday Announced Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Day

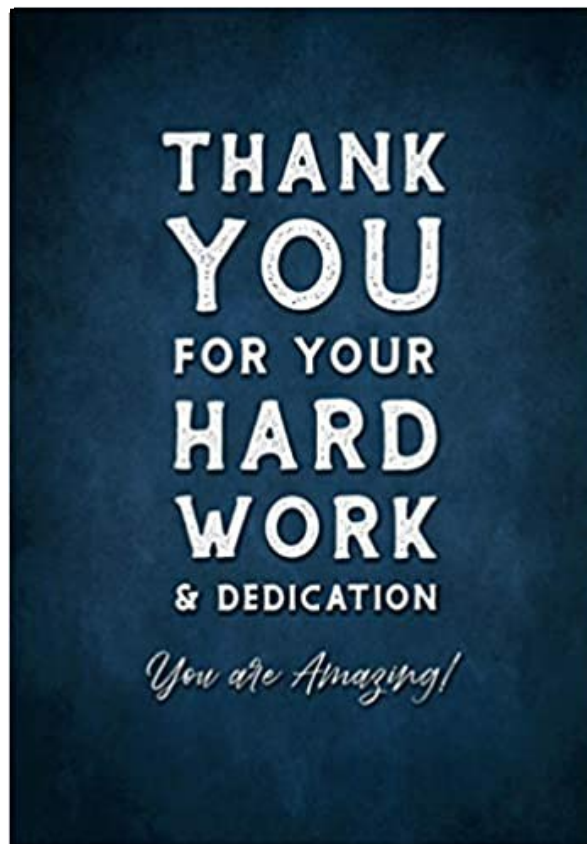
A public holiday will be held on Monday, September 26 to mark the passing of Queen Elizabeth II.



Tomorrow we will be announcing our new School Board. I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the existing members who are leaving after many

years of service.

Raewyn Lummis has been an integral part of property work and finances for 3 board terms. Raewyn's knowledge of school property and how school finances are managed is remarkable. During Raewyn's time on the board, several very successful property projects were completed including the carpark, renovations of the Pumpkin Patch and Rooms 3 and 4, and of course our latest project – Whakaruruhau (our canopy). Thank you Raewyn for all your support, guidance and the many, many hours you have dedicated to making Tawhai School a better place for our tamariki.



Ange Whitmarsh has spent 2 terms on the school board, and of course is our wonderful Presiding Member. Ange has also dedicated many, many hours preparing for and chairing our meetings, keeping us on track with our vision and strategic direction and has always ensured decisions made have had our tamariki at the heart. Thank you Ange, for your commitment to our tamariki and all the support and encouragement you have provided me.

Dominic Wright and Steve Kyle have both spent 2 terms on the board and contributed in many ways supporting our schools strategic direction. Thank you both for all your valuable contributions.

Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori

A few ideas for celebrating Māori Language week with your whānau.....
Use 5 Māori Words a Day

Create a family challenge where by every member has to use 5 Māori words in conversation each day. While it might seem like a difficult task at first, chances are you already know more than 5 words and use them without even thinking. Some common Māori words which are used in everyday conversation include:

- Kia ora – Hello
- Ka pai – Good
- Whare – House
- Kai – Food
- Whānau – Family
- Puku – Tummy
- Kōrero – Talk, speak, have a conversation
- Moe – Sleep
- Waiata – Song, to sing
- Karakia – Prayer, pray

Learn New Words

Make an effort to learn a dozen Māori words before the end of the week. You may choose to label rooms and furniture in your house, or find out the Māori words for your favourite animals. You can get instant translations for almost every word at www.maoridictionary.co.nz.



Monday 26 September: Public holiday to honour the Queen

Friday 30 September: Last day of Term 3

Monday 17 October: First day of Term 4

Friday 21 October: TEACHER ONLY DAY (Professional Learning day with

Upper Hutt Cluster)
Monday 24 October: Labour Day

