

Last week of School!!!!

08/12/2023 by Karen Poole

Kia ora e te whānau

Welcome to the last week of term.

As the year comes to a close, I would like to acknowledge the support we have received from our School Board and our wider community, and the commitment and passion from our teaching and support staff.

This morning children visited classes and may have made the assumption that this will be their class for 2024. While this may be the case, there may also need to be some changes so please keep this in mind.

On Friday your child will be sent home with a note to confirm their 2024 class and stationery requirements.

Developing resilience in our children is such an important part of our role as we help them deal constructively with the inevitable setbacks they will meet. This is particularly important prior to sharing the new class placements. When you see the placements, it may not be your preferred choice but please be reassured that teachers and leaders in the school have spent countless hours pondering the best place for each child. We take into account social, emotional and academic needs when establishing the best fit for them. Your child may not be with their best friend. This is OK. They can still see them every day, and it allows them to develop other relationships. Your child may be the youngest or oldest in a group, we might have recognised the need for them to develop leadership skills or to develop an understanding of what it means to be led. Every decision has thought behind it.

Staffing 2024

We are thrilled to share our Tawhai Team for 2024 :

Year 4/5/6 hub

Led by Dave Whiteman

Year 5/6 Janette Page

Year 5/6 Karen Johnston

Year 4/5 Dave Whiteman

Year 4/5 Cleo Syph

Year 4/5 Reuben Neely - new to Tawhai!

Year 4/5 Hannah Bui

Year 2/3 hub

Led by Lynley Poole (Assistant Principal)

Year 2/3 Jake Harris

Year 2/3 Ryan McGarry

Year 2/3 Julia Dorgan

Year 2/3 Micaela Duffy - returning from maternity leave

Year 2/3 Lynley Poole

Year 1/2 hub

Led by Deb Barnden

Annelise Auker

Anna Sissons

Fiona Burney

Deb Barnden

Part time teachers:

Jill Finlayson

Jessica Harris

Nicola Simons

Chelsea Sullivan

Karen Jones (Reading Recovery)

Teacher Aides

Rosa Stewart, Patsy Roberts, Renee Saul, Shona Buchanan, Debbie Howie

Librarian -Yvonne Olivecrona

Caretaker - Lloyd Laurent

Office Manager - Kelly Robinson

Deputy Principal - Sharon Boese

Principal - Karen Poole

While we are excited about some changes in our teaching team, we are also sad to have to say goodbye to a few staff who have become a special part of our whānau.

A big congratulations to Ginny Treadwell who is leaving us to join the team at Muritai School. Ginny won the position of Deputy Principal. Also a farewell to Jane Kenworthy who will be working at Naenae Primary School next year. I would like to thank you both for the contributions you have made to our Tawhai School Community and wish you all the very best for the future.

I would also like to acknowledge Clare James who has been supporting the children in Room 1 during Dave's absence and to Jess Harris who took over Room 11 earlier on in the year. Jess will be returning as a release teacher next year.

A reminder about Educa

As mentioned in the previous communication, we are reviewing what information we are sharing with whānau and an initial part of that review is to stop using the Educa platform. As of 2024 we will be using our school management system Edge as the main platform for communicating with whānau and reporting children's progress.

This means that as of December 31, access to Educa stories will be no longer available.

The Educa stories you can expect to be published by the end of the school term are Mathematics and General Comments (these will include an overall attendance rate).

N.B. 'Regular' attendance is defined by the MOE for statistical purposes as 90% or higher). Literacy comments for this half of the year have been posted.

If you would like to save your child's learning stories, please click on this link [How to save your child's stories](#)

What's on this week



Tuesday – Year 6 Leavers' Dinner

Thursday – Final Assembly

Friday – Last Day! School finishes at 1pm.



Term 1 begins
Thursday 1 February