

Tawhai School News

Week 3 Term 2!

Monday 12 May 2025

Kia ora e te whānau

A big thank you to all our whānau for making the extra effort to get your children to school despite the changeable weather over the last week. We really appreciate your support in helping keep attendance strong and routines consistent – rain or shine.

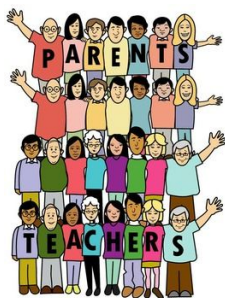
Thank you also for coming along to support your child at the Cross Country on Wednesday. A big thank you to Ryan McGarry for organising the event.

As previously shared, Anna Sissons will be stepping away from teaching for a year as she begins an exciting new chapter – parenthood! We wish you all the very best, Anna, for the journey ahead and can't wait to meet your new addition when the time comes. Jane Cox will be covering Anna's maternity position.

Just a small reminder about school starting times. Classrooms are supervised from 8:30am. Teachers are often meeting or preparing for the day prior to this. For your child's safety, the best time to arrive at school is between 8:30am and 8:45am.



Upcoming Assessments and Learning Conversations



From the MOE:

"The regulatory requirements to report to parents and whānau have not changed.

At least twice a year, schools and kura are required to report to students, their parents, and their whānau in plain language on the student's progress and achievement across the curriculum and in literacy and mathematics.

There are no changes to these requirements, but schools are now required to report progress against the new English Years 0-6 and Mathematics and Statistics Years 0-8 learning areas.

So what does this mean for Tawhai? toward the end of this term, teachers will be administering a range of assessments to help inform the writing of your child's mid-year report. These reports will be based on the new English and Mathematics curricula, and will reflect how your child is progressing in relation to current expectations.

In Week 2 of Term 3, you'll be invited to a Learning Conversation with your child's teacher. During this meeting, the report will be shared and discussed, providing an opportunity to celebrate progress and talk about next steps in learning.

Professional Learning for Teachers

As has been previously mentioned, our Year 0-3 teachers have been completing their microcredential (university course) on the Better Start to Literacy Approach (BSLA).

Last term, our Year 4-6 teachers took part in the BSLA (Better Start Literacy Approach) trial. This term, they are continuing their professional learning through a BSLA microcredential programme.

On Monday and Tuesday this week, all Year 4-6 teachers, along with Sharon and myself, are attending off-site workshops as part of this learning. Class teachers have taken great care to prepare their students for their absence. They have planned thoughtful, consistent programmes to ensure routines remain stable and learning continues smoothly while they are away from the classroom.

This professional learning supports us in developing a consistent, schoolwide approach to literacy, grounded in research and validated by our children's progress. We are excited about the positive impact this will have on our learners.

From the PTSG

- Sausage sizzle lunch next Friday 23 May. Orders are open on Kindo this Friday 16 May and close Thursday 22 May at 9am.
- Hoodies have been ordered and should be delivered in Week 4.

Farewell and Thanks to Naomi Byrdon

We'd like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank Naomi Byrdon, who has recently stepped down from our committee. Naomi has contributed a great deal of time and effort, especially during her role as Secretary, and her dedication has been truly appreciated.

On behalf of the committee and wider community, thank you, Naomi, for all that you've done — your support and commitment have made a real difference.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 4 June at 7pm online via Teams, anyone is welcome to join.

If you have any questions or would like to join a meeting to see what we do then please email ptsg@tawhai.school.nz

School Docs

We welcome you to participate in the policy reviews for this term.

Pop on the link and follow the review instructions [School docs](#)

Username : tawhai

Password: empowering

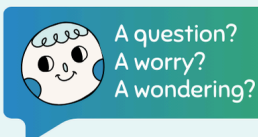




- Friday 16 May - Pink Shirt Day
- Friday 16 May - Book Sale 3pm - 6pm
- Friday 23 May - PTSG sausage sizzle
- Friday 30 May - Teacher Only Day, Maths Curriculum
- Tuesday 27 May - School Board Hui 6pm
- Week 6 - 4 June Whānau hui - more details to come
- Monday 2 June - King's Birthday (Public Holiday)
- Thursday 19 June - Matariki Celebrations
- Friday 20 June - Matariki (Public Holiday)
- Friday 27 June - End of Term 2
- Monday 14 July - Beginning of Term 3



Clearing the path
to a positive future
Para he huarahi ki te ora

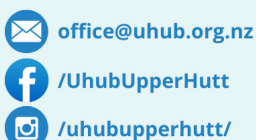


Connect With Us ...

The UHub space is open:
Mondays 9:30am - 4.00pm

The Learning Centre,
Fergusson Drive,
Upper Hutt City Library.

All Welcome - No Cost



UHub
Invites
You to ...

Our 'Empower U' Sessions:

Term 2, 2025

Our 'Empower U' Sessions are one hour long and are designed for parents, grandparents, caregivers, along with Educators. All welcome, at no cost!

★ Understanding Challenging Behaviour



Join us for a special session with Emma Hodgson from Positive Pathways! Exploring gentle, practical strategies to support tamariki who may strongly resist everyday demands, experience BIG emotional responses, or shut down when overwhelmed.

This session gently draws on insights often associated with Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)—a profile recognised within the autism spectrum—while embracing a neuroaffirming approach that honours each child's unique needs and strengths.

★ All Kinds of Minds - Notice, Recognise, & Respond



Following on from our popular ADHD-focused sessions, this term we're diving deeper into neuroaffirming tools and strategies to help us notice, recognise, and respond to the unique needs of tamariki.

Whether you're supporting tamariki at home or in the classroom, come and explore practical, strengths-based ways to create safe, connected environments where all kinds of minds can thrive. Led by Shelley — experienced RTLB, — this session will leave you feeling encouraged and equipped to support neurodivergent tamariki with confidence and care.

Book your
spot now!

www.uhub.org.nz

Whānau Focus Sessions:

Monday 26 May: 1pm - 2pm

Venue: The Learning Centre,
Upper Hutt City Library, Fergusson Drive

Or

Thursday 29 May: 7pm - 8pm

Venue: The Learning Centre,
Upper Hutt City Library, Fergusson Drive

Educator Focus Session:

Wednesday 28 May: 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Venue: The Learning Centre,
Upper Hutt City Library, Fergusson Drive

Whānau Focus Sessions:

Monday 9 June: 1pm - 2pm

Venue: The Learning Centre,
Upper Hutt City Library, Fergusson Drive

Or

Thursday 12 June: 7pm - 8pm

Venue: The Learning Centre,
Upper Hutt City Library, Fergusson Drive

Educator Focus Session:

Wednesday 4 June: 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Venue: The Learning Centre,
Upper Hutt City Library, Fergusson Drive



Ngā mihi nui,
The Tawhai School Team