

Thursday 27th June 2024



**Tokoroa North School**

*Together we learn for life - Ako ngatahi ki te ora*

**Term 2 Week 9 2024**

### OUR KURA PEPEHA

*Ko Whakauru te maunga  
Ko Matarawa te awa  
Ko Tainui te waka  
Ko Raukawa te iwi  
Ko Te Raki o Tokoroa te kura.*

## MARAMATAKA

### Upcoming Dates

<b>28 June</b>	<b>Matariki Day</b>
<b>5 July</b>	<b>Last Day of Term 2 / Teacher Only Day</b>
<b>22 July</b>	<b>Term 3 starts</b>
<b>7-8 Aug</b>	<b>School Photos</b>
<b>18 Aug</b>	<b>BOT Hui / Reading Journey</b>
<b>16-28 Aug</b>	<b>Life Education</b>
<b>26 Aug</b>	<b>Science in a van</b>
<b>3 Sep</b>	<b>Cross Country PM</b>
<b>18 Sep</b>	<b>BOT Hui</b>
<b>20 Sep</b>	<b>Cultural Festival</b>
<b>27 Sep</b>	<b>Term 3 ends</b>

## KŌRERO O TE TUMUAKI

### From the Principal

Traditionally, Matariki was a time to acknowledge those who have passed in the previous year and to release their spirits to become stars. It was also a time to reflect, to be thankful for what we have and for family and friends.

As I reflect on my first two terms at Tokoroa North, I am thankful for our friendly enthusiastic tamariki; their love of life, and learning. I am thankful for the way whānau continue to introduce themselves and catch up at the gate in the mornings. I am thankful for the staff and their obvious dedication to your tamariki. I am thankful for my Leadership Team who are there to help negotiate the many challenges of leadership and celebrate the successes, and I am thankful for the board who step up to support whenever needed.

Matariki is a time to say farewell and a time to welcome. This term we farewell our teachers, Anne Rhodes and Emma Martin and wish them well in their next chapter. Next term we welcome Olivia Sheldrake, Sasha Harper and Kareena Sneddon to the team. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

We also farewell Karen Tyrrell next week. Karen has given 35 years of her life to teaching and passionately supporting Tokoroa North School. Her commitment and dedication to generations of tamariki in Tokoroa is second to none. As a new principal, Karen has been invaluable in her support; sharing her vast knowledge, her wisdom, and her kind caring nature. You will be sorely missed in this space, Karen, however, the impact you have had will resonate in this

Thursday 27th June 2024

space for years to come. Happy retirement,  
Karen.

Ngā mihi,  
Angela Main

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR KURA?

Kei te aha mātou i roto i te kura?

### TOROA:

*Matariki: A time which signals a new life cycle, a time to reflect, a time to learn.*

*Stephani Preston*

The arrival of Matariki signals not only the beginning of the Māori New Year, but also the beginning of winter. It is a time when Māori would gather to share kai, entertainment, hospitality and learning. Matariki: A time too, to acknowledge the past year's activity and then greet the new and focus on the future.

In our team, classes have been learning about Matariki and its importance – not only to Maori, but to many other people around the world. We acknowledge Whaea Kelly and Whaea Petalla who have done an amazing job to prepare resources and activities for our tamariki to learn about the 9 stars of Matariki. You may have been asked to help your child with their pepeha or mihi (telling others who they are and where they come from) or by talking about those who have passed. Perhaps you could use this time to reflect on their achievements and set new goals for the new year. Matariki is also a time to think about new life cycles, so you may all decide to plant a seedling to symbolise that. Have fun and enjoy doing things together as a family this Matariki weekend.

Although the cold winds of Tawhirimātea remind us it is Winter; it is also a reminder that winter sports are in full swing. It is a pleasure to hear

about the weekend matches and see the enthusiasm of children practising after school. A sincere thank you to those parents who have committed to coaching or managing their children's teams, you are truly valued. A reminder to all that coaches are volunteers and that they have given up their time to coach. Please remember to thank them for their contribution to school sports.

I want to take this opportunity to farewell Whaea Emma who is leaving us this week. She has contributed so much to our kura with her leadership in the Arts, Literacy and Health and PE. But more importantly is her love and commitment to her ākonga. She knew her students and made good connections with her whānau. We will miss your vibe in our kura, our loss is the Intermediate's gain. Go and shine and show them your value e tai. He raa ano ki tua, a new day is ahead - better times are ahead with new beginnings and opportunities.

Ngā mihi,  
Stephani Preston



### KEA:

Term 2 has just whizzed by and I am writing my final Kea news. I have thoroughly enjoyed leading the Kea team over many years. The

Thursday 27th June 2024

tamariki are delightful, always willing to share stories about their experiences, ask questions and display a keen interest in what is going on around them. We have been finding out all about Matariki, listening to the stories about each of the 9 stars, completing lots of activities, participating in the whanaungatanga assembly where Maggie and Kenzie presented their pepeha and having the hangi yesterday where we ate with our buddy class. We hope you enjoy the extra day off with your tamariki to celebrate Matariki and enjoy the quieter pace of the holidays.

We farewell Ms Rhodes from Room 8 this Friday after over 20 years teaching at Tokoroa North School. Ms Rhodes started her teaching career in the senior school but we were fortunate that she decided a move to the middle school would be a challenge to end her teaching career, 4 years ago. She has nurtured the tamariki in Room 8 and encouraged them to make the most of their education opportunities and to be the best that they can be. We wish her all the best on her move up North, to retirement and to be closer to her family. Arohanui.

Ngā mihi,  
Karen Tyrrell



**We will miss you Ms Rhodes**

## KIWI

Tēnā koutou katoa!

A special welcome to the following new tamariki in Kiwi and their whānau to Tokoroa North School; Mahalia and Legend to Room 10. This is an exciting time for you and your child as they begin their school journey at Tokoroa North School.

Next week our Kura loses an amazing teacher and Deputy Principal, Karen Tyrrell. She started at Tokoroa North as a foundation student and is now retiring after 35 years teaching at our school. Karen has always put tamariki and staff first and is the first person to offer to help if needed. We will all miss her. Enjoy spending time with your whanau Karen.

We welcome Whaea Olivia to our school next term. She will start a New Entrant room in Room 4 from Term 3. This will allow small numbers in our new entrants.

Our Kickstart to school programme will now be held in the library for the remainder of the year. Kickstart supports our tamariki with their transition to school. 10 school weeks before they turn five they can attend eight weeks of kickstart and the final two weeks before they start school they visit their new class. Each week we have a guest speaker who informs whanau about their role in our school or community while the children learn all about school. This is held every Wednesday morning. If you have or know of anyone starting school this year, please contact me and I am happy to show you around our amazing school. Enrolment packs are available in our office, at most preschools and I am happy to organise one for you if you require.

Ngā mihi,  
Mary Stratton

Thursday 27th June 2024



## PIKI KŌTUKU

Kia ora, Kia orana, Talofa.

Well here we are, very near the end of another term. This has been an excellent term of progress and lots of firsts. Sometimes it is important to look back to appreciate how much progress has been made.

Last week Piki Kotuku Room 3 attended the Footsteps dance sessions with the New Entrant classes. All of our children participated and enjoyed these sessions.

Every second Friday afternoon Room 16 our buddy class comes to play. This is great fun for all of the students and a good opportunity to practise the social skills we are learning in a safe environment. We often go to the playground to finish our buddy sessions. It is neat to see the Room 3 children watching the Room 16 students and then challenging themselves to try new things. It is the time of year where there are lots of yucky winter bugs going around. If your child is unwell please keep them at home until they are better. Many of the Piki Kotuku students are immune compromised and exposure to illness can lead to severe sickness. The Piki Kotuku team thank you for all your support throughout

another term. Enjoy the break with your children and we look forward to seeing you next term.

Ngā mihi,  
Megan Lamb



## KA HAERE NGĀTAHI TE MANA ME TE MAHI

Making positive choices for behaviour and learning



**Our kura celebrated Matariki yesterday by eating their hangi together.**

## SENCO

Newsletter time, Matariki time, long valued staff leaving time, former students popping in to say

Thursday 27th June 2024

hello, school assemblies and activities all happening and best part of all this week has been the support of parents really trying to do their best for their tamariki. So often we hear talk of life being tough, budget struggles, children wanting everything that every other child has and sometimes the challenges feel overpowering. It's worth thinking about 'cup half full or cup half empty' and what we can appreciate in daily life. Enjoy celebrating Matariki as a family.

Ngā mihi

Raewyn Whiteman-Thorne

### **ADVENTURE FUN RUN**

Thank you for the support received for our Fun Run fundraiser. So far we have raised \$18,152. Donations can still be made until Monday. Tamariki had a wonderful time as they completed the challenges of the fun run. Encourage them to share with their sponsors how well they did and to thank their sponsors. Not only have we had great community support for the fun run, we also raised money from the Sausage Sizzle with sausages donated by Hellers and the raffle with the cheese hamper prize donated by Fonterra. The raffle was won by Tegan Lamb. We have also been fortunate to receive grants from Pub Charity, One Foundation and Grassroots and had our very successful raffle earlier on this term. By the end of the holidays the green playground will have been removed and the new playground will soon be a reality.



### **NETBALL**

Next week is the final week of netball for this year. A big thank you to our wonderful coaches who have made netball possible this year, Anna Robinson, Mila Evans, Petalla TeRiini, Brenda Brown, Tyler Draper, Kareena Sneddon, Rebecca Woods, Emma Robson, Toni Sinton and Doug Alsop. The improvement in skills over the year has been huge and the players have all enjoyed their weekly games displaying great sportsmanship but most importantly having fun whether they win or lose.

Thursday 27th June 2024

## KŌRERO O TE WIKI

Quote of the week

“In any given moment we have two options: to step forward into growth or step back into safety.”

## FUN FACTS OF THE WEEK ABOUT MATARIKI

Meka ngahau o te wiki

1. In English, Matariki is called “Pleiades” or the Seven Sisters, the Hawaiian name is “Makali” or eyes of royalty, and in Japan, it is “Subaru” meaning gathered together.
2. There are about 500 stars in the Matariki star cluster but only six are visible from the naked eye.
3. At 440 light-years away, Matariki is one of the closest star clusters to Earth.
4. A legend tells the story of how Tawhirimatea, the god of wind, found out that his parents had been separated so tore out his eyes and threw them into the sky. The stars of Matariki are his servants eyes.

## NGĀ PĀNUI O TE HAPORI

Community Notices



**Free Lambs**  
Available from 25th July until 1st September 2024

GREAT FOR PET DAYS!

OR TO HELP KEEP GRASS UNDER CONTROL!

Phone/Message Ryan on: 0278 187 917 to arrange

FREE 20kg milk replacer for every 25 lambs collected!

The poster features a photograph of several lambs in a green field. It includes a WhatsApp icon and a phone icon next to the contact information.

Thursday 27th June 2024

TĒNĀ KOUTOU

Thank you to our supporters:

