

## Letter From the Principal

BY HANNAH O'BRIEN

Kia ora koutou,

It has been an action-packed few weeks at Te Akau School with a wonderful variety of visitors coming in to deliver educational and fun programmes to our tamariki. We have enjoyed hosting Waikato Volleyball, St John in Schools, and the Waikato District Council Dog Safety training, all of which provided fantastic learning opportunities for our students. Alongside these visits, our seniors recently took the lead by organising a mufti day and a shared lunch. We were immensely impressed by the maturity and organisational skills they displayed throughout the process.

Looking ahead to the weekend, I want to wish our students the very best of luck as they head off to the Agri Kids competition. They have been training incredibly hard to prepare, and we are sure that effort will shine through. We would also like to extend a sincere thank you to Hugh Jackson, as well as Morgan and Grant from Growing Future Farmers for coming into school recently to facilitate a dedicated training afternoons for the team.

As this term draws to a close, we prepare to say a heartfelt farewell to the Glenn family. All four of their children—William, Angus, Lucy, and Grace—have attended Te Akau School, and the family has been a vital part of our community. Jimmy has served on the school Board for the last few years, and Sarah has been the chair of the PTA for quite some time. We thank them both for their immense help and support over the years and wish the whole family nothing but the best as they move into their next phase.

Finally, please remember that the last day of school for this term is Thursday the 2nd of April. I wish everyone a very safe and relaxing holiday spent with your family and loved ones.

Ngā mihi nui,  
Hannah O'Brien  
Principal



## Important Dates

**AgriKidsNZ Competition**  
28<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**New whānau pōwhiri**  
30<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026**  
CLOSED - Good Friday

**Term 1 Last Day**  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026

**Term 2 First Day**  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Kia ora whānau,

You are warmly invited to a pōwhiri for our new students and caretaker on Monday, 30 March at 2:00pm at school.

This short ceremony (around 20 minutes) will officially welcome our new whānau and Gary to the Te Akau School community.

We warmly invite you to attend if you are available. We will also be providing a light afternoon tea following the ceremony.



# Housekeeping

## DAILY SCHOOL BELLS

9am	School Starts
11am	Morning Tea
11.30am	Session Two
12.50pm	Lunch
1.30pm	Session Three
3.00pm	Home Time



## HOT LUNCHES

Mondays and Fridays, students can bring hot lunches wrapped in tin foil and clearly labeled to heat up in the oven.

# Agri Kids

Safe travels and best wishes to our students and whānau travelling to Te Teko Raceway on Saturday to compete in the Agri Kids 2026 competition.

A special thank you to Hugh Jackson and Ashley Diprose for generously giving their time and sharing their knowledge to help coach our students through the many possible challenges. During training, Agri Kids competitors don't know what tasks they will face on the day, making competition day a true testament to their skills, adaptability, and knowledge within the agricultural sector.

### We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has supported our team:

- Helen from The Shepherd & The Shepherdess for sponsoring our epic team uniforms
- Hannah O'Brien for taking charge of the leg work in organising the event with Agri KidsNZ
- Mrs Reeves for coordinating every training session with both Hugh and theory lessons
- Morgan Lilley for stepping in as our event day team manager, organising sponsors and vehicle trainings.
- Grant and Frankie the sausage dog who taught our students about vehicle safety and pre-start checks.
- Jack Bregmen for supplying the farm vehicles for the vehicle safety training.
- And of course, our Agri Kids parents for making this trip possible your support means so much and plays a huge role in our students' success.

Best of luck to all our competitors – we can't wait to hear all about your experience next week!



## THE SHEPHERD

home of  
THE SHEPHERD & THE SHEPHERDESS  
[www.theshepherd.co.nz](http://www.theshepherd.co.nz)



## SCHOOL CONTACTS

### School Phone

### Website

Hannah O'Brien	Principal
Gabbie Bregmen	Office
Donna Palmer	Room 2
Jodie Redpath	Room 2
Hayley Smith	Room 1
Ann Reeves	CRT Release

07 825 4777

[www.teakau.school.nz](http://www.teakau.school.nz)

<a href="mailto:hannah@teakau.school.nz">hannah@teakau.school.nz</a>
<a href="mailto:office@teakau.school.nz">office@teakau.school.nz</a>
<a href="mailto:donna@teakau.school.nz">donna@teakau.school.nz</a>
<a href="mailto:jodie@teakau.school.nz">jodie@teakau.school.nz</a>
<a href="mailto:hayley@teakau.school.nz">hayley@teakau.school.nz</a>
<a href="mailto:ann@teakau.school.nz">ann@teakau.school.nz</a>

# Bus Sponsors

Te Akau School is incredibly grateful to our sponsors for their support in helping us achieve our goal of maintaining our school-owned bus.

Your contributions have made a significant impact, ensuring our students have safe and reliable transportation getting to and from school and also to various educational activities outside our school.

Thanks to you, our school community is stronger, and our students have more opportunities to thrive. Thank you for believing in our vision and for being an essential part of our journey!



RESPONSIBLE  
*Kia mau to tikanga*

RESILIENT  
*Kia kaha mahia te mahi*

RESPECTFUL  
*Aroha ki te tangata*

**Congratulations** to all our swimmers who attended the Senior Cluster Schools Swimming Sports at Huntly Pools. You represented our kura with pride and did an outstanding job.

Despite some initial hesitation about the pool conditions - with a 25m length, a 1.5m deep start end, and a 1.3m shallow end - you showed true school values of resilience and embraced the challenge. It was fantastic to see you stepping out of your comfort zones and giving it your all.

Due to time constraints, the event was cut short after the girls' medleys. This meant the boys' medley and school relays were unable to be completed, and no placings were recorded for these events.

A big thank you to all our parents and caregivers for ensuring our students arrived safely, and to Glen Massey School for being such incredible hosts once again.

Well done again to everyone involved – **we are incredibly proud of your effort, attitude, and sportsmanship.**

## Finals - Girls

### Open 4 Length Freestyle

2<sup>nd</sup> Jessica Horsley

### Freestyle

7 & 8 year olds - 2<sup>nd</sup> Lillie Crawford

9 year olds - 2<sup>nd</sup> Reagan Lilley

12 & 13 year olds - 1<sup>st</sup> Jessica Horsley and 2<sup>nd</sup> Frankie Toia-Lewis

### Breaststroke

9 year olds - 3<sup>rd</sup> Paige van den Bemd

11 year olds - 3<sup>rd</sup> Ariana Potter

12 & 13 year olds - 1<sup>st</sup> Jessica Horsley and 3<sup>rd</sup> Frankie Toia Lewis

### Backstroke

7 & 8 year olds - 2<sup>nd</sup> Lillie Crawford

9 year olds - 3<sup>rd</sup> Reagan Lilley

10 year olds - 3<sup>rd</sup> Katara Williamson

11 year olds - 1<sup>st</sup> Ariana Potter

12 & 13 year olds - 1<sup>st</sup> Frankie Toia Lewis and 2<sup>nd</sup> Jessica Horsley

### Open Butterfly

2<sup>nd</sup> Jessica Horsley and 3<sup>rd</sup> Ariana Potter

### Noodle Race

3<sup>rd</sup> Katara Williamson

### Open Medley four lengths

3<sup>rd</sup> Jessica Horsley with a time of 1.33.47

## Finals - Boys

### Freestyle

9 year olds - 1<sup>st</sup> George Jackson and 2<sup>nd</sup> Koby Smith

12 and 13 year olds - 3<sup>rd</sup> Noah Crawford

### Breaststroke

9 year olds - 1<sup>st</sup> George Jackson and 3<sup>rd</sup> Koby Smith

12 and 13 year olds - 2<sup>nd</sup> Noah Crawford

### Backstroke

9 year olds - 1<sup>st</sup> George Jackson and 3<sup>rd</sup> Koby Smith

10 year olds - 2<sup>nd</sup> Rory McRoberts-Maihi

12 and 13 year olds - 3<sup>rd</sup> Noah Crawford

### Noodle Race

3<sup>rd</sup> Lucian Williamson

### Open Butterfly Boys

3<sup>rd</sup> Noah Crawford



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## WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL MONTHLY RECYCLING DROP-OFFS FREE FOR THE FIRST TWO YEARS



**WHEN:** 8:30am and 12:30pm on third  
Saturday of each month,  
starting on 16 August 2025 for two  
years.

**WHERE:** The location will be Te Akau  
Hall carpark (next to the school).

### Te Akau School Marquee for Hire

100% of hire costs goes straight into our School.



9m x 12m - \$250

Bookings through  
Te Akau School  
Ph 8254777  
office@teakau.school.nz

### 62nd WAIMAI BUSH SPORTS

Reeves Family Paddock  
Waimai Valley Road

Easter Monday, April 6th 2026

9:30am start

Warm-up jump to begin the day

Fun for all horse and pony riders!

A great day out featuring:

- Games
- Jumping events
- Friendly competition

Food & drinks available for purchase

Please, NO dogs

Contact Sue for more information

or to have the flyer/programme emailed to you:

sue.easter@gmail.com

### Meeting Notice - Waingaro School

**Date:** 2 April 2026

**Time:** 2.30pm

**Location:** Waingaro School

A meeting will be held at Waingaro School with  
Ministry of Education advisors to discuss the future  
of our school.

All interested parties are welcome to attend.



Jamie Ward  
Te Akau & Raglan Livestock Buyer  
021 947 321

Long time sponsor and supporter of Te Akau School

## Board Of Trustees Update

Hello everyone,

It's hard to believe how quickly time is flying, we're already nearing the end of Term One!

The final touches to the office are now complete, and it's looking fantastic. I really hope the staff are enjoying their new space.

I'd like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank James and Sarah Glenn for their dedication, hard work and countless hours they've given to the school. We wish them all the very best in their future endeavours.

A big thank you also to Hayden and Chrissy Johnston for their generous bus sponsorship, along with all of our other sponsors. Your support plays a vital role in keeping the bus running, something that greatly helps parents. We truly value everything you do to support getting our students to school.

If anyone knows of any potential sponsors for our great little school bus, please let me know. As we all know, it takes a significant amount of funding to maintain the bus and keep it running to a safe standard. Any support would be greatly appreciated.

We also have two new basket ball/net ball hoops ready to be installed on the court, so watch this space!

Cheers

Jamie Andrews

## Board Of Trustees Contact Details

**Jamie Andrews (Presiding Member)** jamie@teakau.school.nz

**Tom Lilley** tom@teakau.school.nz

**Christina Johnston** chrissy@teakau.school.nz

**Hannah O'Brien (Principal)** hannah@teakau.school.nz

**Hayley Smith (Staff Rep)** hayley@teakau.school.nz

**James Glenn** james@teakau.school.nz

**Danielle van den Bemd** danielle@teakau.school.nz

## School Policies

All of our policies are available from the office or  
online on our SchoolDocs page:

teakau.schooldocs.co.nz

LOGIN: teakau

PASSWORD: lifelonglearners

## Next Meeting

28th April 2026

5.30pm

Te Akau School

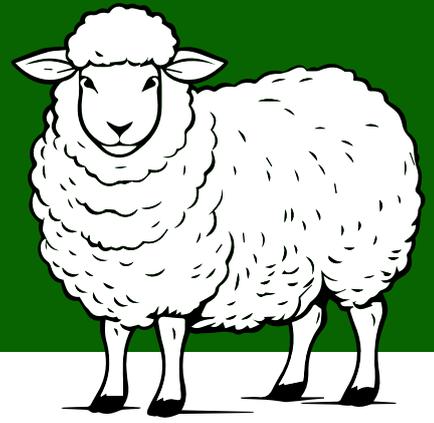
All Welcome!

RESPONSIBLE  
*Kia mau to tikanga*

RESILIENT  
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RESPECTFUL  
*Aroha ki te tangata*

# TE AKAU SCHOOL LAMB DRIVE



## Kia ora Te Akau Community,

Te Akau School Lamb Drive winners

Te Akau School PTA would like to extend a huge thank you to the local community who supported our Lamb Drive fundraiser. Your generosity will go a long way towards helping fund a new school bus, school camps, and essential classroom resources for our tamariki.

47 lambs were donated, making a total of **\$9,430.85**.

A big thank you to our local **Affco** agent **Jamie Ward**. On behalf of Affco Jamie has organised and generously donated \$1.00 per kilogram of lamb sent to Affco for the Lamb drive, this resulted in a **\$526.00** donation. Thank you Jamie and Affco for your continued support for our school and guidance setting up this initiative.

### Congratulations to our category winners:

 **Highest Total Kilograms Donated - 226.3kgs**  
Winner: **Sarah and Jimmy Glenn (Glenn Farms)**

 **Heaviest Lamb - 31.3kgs**  
Winner: **Dani and Mike van den Bemd (van den Bemd Ranch Ltd)**

 **Average Lamb Weight Across All Lambs Donated - 18kgs**  
Winner: **Josh & Laura MacDonald (Te Akau Farms)**



Jamie Ward  
Te Akau & Raglan Livestock Buyer  
021 947 321

Long time sponsor and supporter of Te Akau School

### We would like to acknowledge and thank the following farmers for their generous donations:

Sarah & Jimmy Glenn - 10 lambs  
Andrew Crawford & Caitlan Culley - 10 lambs  
Hugh Jackson - 10 lambs  
Dave & Ellyse Salmons - 1 lamb  
Roger & Bronwyn Crawford - 10 lambs  
Gabbie & Jack Bregmen - 2 lambs  
Dani & Mike van den Bemd - 1 lamb  
Laura & Josh MacDonald - 3 lambs

### A special thank you to our generous prize sponsors:

- Tim Orlando-Reep - Scenic flight from Te Kowhai to Port Waikato
- The Shack Raglan - Brunch voucher
- Te Karaka Lodge - Two-course lunch dining voucher
- PTA funded - Hamper and prize support

Later in the year when we repeat this drive, it will change to a 'stock drive'. Farmers can donate any class of stock of sheep or beef. We hope to reach a wider audience for our next drive!

Ngā mihi,  
Te Akau School PTA