



Letter From the Principal

BY HANNAH O'BRIEN

Kia ora koutou,

I hope you are all having a fantastic week. It's a busy time of term, and there is plenty of great news to share from across our school.

This week, I am away in Auckland attending the Rural and Teaching Principals Conference. It is an excellent opportunity to connect with leaders from other small schools across the country, share experiences, and bring back valuable knowledge to help our school continue to thrive. Our teachers have also been focussing on professional growth; last week, they attended a targeted maths professional development session at Waitetuna School alongside other local schools, collaborating on new ways to inspire and engage our students in mathematics.

We have received excellent feedback following our cluster Winter Sports event last week. A huge thank you goes out to all of our incredible staff who worked tirelessly to ensure the day ran so smoothly. We also couldn't do these events without our amazing community, so a special shout-out goes to our parent referees: Tim, Sammi, Ashleigh, Karen, Mike, and Sheldon. Thank you for stepping up and supporting our kids!

Our school attendance is tracking well so far this term—let's keep up the great momentum! As a reminder, students must maintain an attendance rate above 90% this term to qualify for our exciting trip to Ninja Valley next term. Please note that under current government regulations, all absences—including medical reasons—count toward a student's total absence record. Every day counts, so thank you for your ongoing support in getting our tamariki to school.

Our Year 3 and up students have now completed SMART testing, the government's new national assessment tool. I want to say a big thank you to both our teachers and children for the focus and effort they put into completing these. Looking ahead, mid-year reports will be sent home at the end of this term, giving you a clear picture of your child's progress and achievements so far this year. These reports will look very different, but I will have a lot more information for you about that when the time comes.

Finally, I wish everyone a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable long weekend ahead.

Ngā mihi nui,
Hannah O'Brien
Principal

Important Dates

CLOSED -
Kings Birthday
1 June 2026

Spelling Bee
24 June 2026

The Great Waikato Critters
Comp 2026
26th - 28th June 2026

End of Term 2
3 July 2026

Year 7 & 8 Tech Dates

Tuesday - 21 April
Tuesday - 5 May
Tuesday - 19 May
Tuesday - 2 June
Tuesday - 16 June
Tuesday - 30 June

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.

Enviro Schools

We were fortunate to have visits with Anna from Enviroschools who spent time sharing her knowledge about healthy water with our students.

These were informative theory sessions where students learned about who lives in waterways, why we need clean waterways, how waterways get dirty (land use), and how we can test waterways.

Our second session with Anna saw us visit the nearby stream with a goal to find macroinvertebrates (bugs), assess their habitat as well as water flow, clarity, temperature, & pH.



Thank you!

Room 1 extends a very warm thank you to Michelle Crake for her generous donation of slipper socks. They have been a big hit with the tamariki who now have the warmest and styliest feet in the district!



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

hannah@teakau.school.nz
office@teakau.school.nz
donna@teakau.school.nz
jodie@teakau.school.nz
hayley@teakau.school.nz
ann@teakau.school.nz

Bus Sponsors

Te Akau School is incredibly grateful to our sponsors for their ongoing support in helping us maintain our school-owned bus.

Your contributions make a real difference, ensuring our students have safe and reliable transport to and from school, as well as to valuable learning opportunities beyond the classroom.

Thanks to you, our school community continues to grow stronger, and our students are given more opportunities to thrive. We truly appreciate your belief in our vision and your role in supporting our journey.

A special thank you to our long-standing sponsors who continue to stand by us year after year:

- Te Akau Transport
- Te Akau Racing
- Hinemoa Produce
- Waikorea Quarry
- Peter Glidden Honda

We also warmly welcome and thank our new sponsors for 2026:

- Andrew Culley
- C & H Johnston
- James Jackson & Mich Kooij
- On Road Transport – Don
- AC & MA Crawford Partnership
- Matt & Becky Pitts

We are always seeking additional sponsorship to support our school bus. If you're in a position to help, we would love to hear from you—please get in touch.



RESPONSIBLE
Kia mau to tikanga

RESILIENT
Kia kaha mahia te mahi

RESPECTFUL
Aroha ki te tangata

Te Akau School was a sea of pink on Friday 15th May, as we came together to support Pink Shirt Day.

This important day raises awareness about bullying and promotes kindness, inclusion, and respect in our schools and communities.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to raising both funds and awareness for this cause – together we raised \$61.20 ❤️



Uniform Reminder – Colder Weather

As the weather gets colder, we have noticed an increase in students coming to school wearing mufti jerseys. Please note that these are not an acceptable part of our school uniform, and students will be asked to remove them.

If your child is feeling cold and does not have a clean school jersey/hoodie available, they may wear a plain black long-sleeved top underneath their school polo shirt. Choosing to follow the guidelines even the small ones, shows respect for your school community and saves your energy (and ours) for the classroom.

Thank you for your support in maintaining our school uniform standards.

Bus Driver Vacancy

After several years of dedicated service, our much-loved bus driver Tracy is moving on from her role at Te Akau School. Tracy has been a wonderful asset to our team, and she will be greatly missed by staff, students, and our wider community.

Te Akau School Board is now seeking a reliable, punctual, calm, and friendly Bus Driver for the Te Akau School bus.

This position is approximately 20 hours per week, operating morning and afternoon runs, Monday to Friday, during school term time only.

The successful applicant will:

- Hold a clean, current Full NZ Driver's Licence (Class 2)
- Have a current P Endorsement
- Demonstrate excellent driving skills and a strong safety record
- Ideally have experience driving on unsealed rural roads
- Be committed to ensuring the safe transport of our students
- Be able to pass a Police vetting check prior to employment

WE'RE HIRING!



Please send your application, including your licence classification, to bot@teakau.school.nz by 7th June.



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 Aakau 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



Jamie Ward
 Te Akau & Raglan Livestock Buyer
 021 947 321

Long time sponsor and supporter of Te Akau School

BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER

Right here, in Te Ākau

Everyday people pitching in to protect the Te Ākau community. **Join a team that counts.**

To find out more contact Rural Fire Controller Mike Crosbie: Mike.Crosbie@fireandemergency.nz, or call 07 825 4867

SAVE THE DATE!

THE GREAT WAIKATO CRITTERS COMP 2026

KIDS HUNTING COMPETITION

POSSUMS

RATS

TURKEYS

26TH - 28TH JUNE 2026 GET READY FOR AN **EPIC WEEKEND OF ADVENTURE!**

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

www.teakau.co.nz

jasicamurphyxx@gmail.com

pta@teakau.school.nz

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!
 KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR ENTRY INFO, RULES AND PRIZES.

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

BOT Meeting

Rescheduled meeting from 11th May 2026 will take place on:
4th June 2026
5.00pm
 Te Akau School, All Welcome!

RESPONSIBLE
Kia mau to tikanga

RESILIENT
Kia kaha mahia te mahi

RESPECTFUL
Aroha ki te tangata