



Letter From the Principal

BY HANNAH O'BRIEN

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back to a brand-new term. We have so much to celebrate from last term and an incredible lineup of activities ahead.

A massive congratulations to our school community, as our **regular attendance reached 62% last term**. This is a huge improvement, and we are thrilled that more than half of our students have earned a trip to Ninja Valley as a reward for their dedication. Our goal now is to keep this momentum going and maintain an attendance rate of over 60% for the whole year, so let us keep pushing together.

A huge shoutout and heartfelt thanks goes to the Pitts family for generously installing our brand-new basketball hoops. The students are already loving them, and we deeply appreciate the time and effort spent improving our outdoor spaces.

Mid-year reports all went home at the end of last term and I am very happy with the rates of achievement within our school. Our students are making wonderful progress, which is a direct result of their effort and the commitment of our hard-working teachers. Thank you to our team for your continuous dedication.

We have an action-packed term ahead full of fun and learning. On Wednesday the 19th of August we have the postponement date of our pūrākau storytelling, and **you are warmly invited to join us for a soup and bread lunch**. Senior students will be taking part in BoxFit later this term, and we also have rural schools hockey in the last week of the term, right before Pet Day, which is always a real highlight of the year.

Finally, with winter bugs around at the moment, please remember to take care. The Ministry of Health website has great information, and Healthline is a fantastic resource if you need advice. We also have access to a public health nurse who can help if required.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school community, and let us make this another fantastic term.

Ngā mihi nui,
Hannah O'Brien
Principal



Important Dates

Te Akau School Cross Country
7th August 2026

Cluster Schools Cross Country - Waikaretu
14th August 2026

CLOSED TOD - Maths professional development
17 August 2026

Matariki pūrākau POSTPONEMENT DATE
19th August 2026

Ninja Valley attendance reward Term 2
24 August 2026

Boxfit - year 6-8 (at school)
19, 26 August & 2 Sept. 2026

Year 7 & 8 Tech Dates
28th July 2026

11th August 2026

25th August 2026

8th September 2026

22nd September 2026

RESPONSIBLE
Kia mau to tikanga

RESILIENT
Kia kaha mahia te mahi

RESPECTFUL
Aroha ki te tangata

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.

Spelling Bee

Congratulations to all our 2026 Spelling Bee champions from Term 2!

On Wednesday 24th June, we held our annual Spelling Bee competition. The day began with all students taking part in a written spelling test before morning tea, competing for a place in the finals.

After morning tea, the competition stepped up a level as those who qualified moved on to the verbal round. In front of the whole school and some proud parents, students took turns spelling increasingly challenging words, with each round narrowing the field until a winner was crowned for each group.

Alongside the individual competition, all our students took part in fun group spelling activities, working together as house teams to solve word challenges and support one another.

It was a fantastic day of learning, teamwork, and perseverance—well done to everyone who took part!

Group One Winners:

1st Sasha Orlando-Reep
2nd Jocelyn Chamberlain
3rd Delilah Andrews-Wright

Group Two Winners:

1st Paige van den Bemd
2nd Lillie Crawford
3rd Sadie MacDonald

Group Three Winners:

1st Jayden Smith
2nd Katara Williamson
3rd Koby Smith

Group Four Winners:

1st Noah Crawford
2nd Billie van den Bemd
3rd Rory McRoberts-Maihi



Thank You!!

We have a few special thank you messages to share from over the school holidays.

Firstly a huge thank you to everyone who supported our school through purchases on our firewood and mulch fundraiser! Especially to **Mike van den Bemd** and **Jack Bregmen**. These legends worked to secure buyers for our firewood and woodchip – making calls, organising logistics, and loading trailers. When the school needs a hand, these two blokes consistently step up without hesitation. And we truly appreciate your time, effort, and ongoing support!

We would also like to extend a massive thank you to **Matt and Beccy Pitts, and their business Coastline Fencing**. They generously lent their team and expertise to install our new basketball hoops. This was no small task, with the new reversible hoops requiring significantly larger footings than the originals to support both basketball and netball use. We are incredibly grateful to each of you for your hard work and support. Our school community is stronger because of people like you. Thank you all! 🙌

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

RESPONSIBLE
Kia mau to tikanga

RESILIENT
Kia kaha mahia te mahi

RESPECTFUL
Aroha ki te tangata

TERM 3, WEEK 3

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 & Beccy Pitts
Waikato Building Relocators

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.





Playcentre Open Week
17-21 August 2026

Nau mai, haere mai.
We invite you to visit us during Playcentre Open Week.

Playcentre
Where whānau play, learn and grow together

Celebrating **85 YEARS**

Te Ākau Playcentre
953 Te Ākau Road
teakau@playcentre.org.nz
027 880 4732

Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm

Te Ākau School Marquee for Hire
100% of hire costs goes straight into our School.



9m x 12m - \$250

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



AFFCO
NEW ZEALAND
ESTABLISHED 1988

Jamie Ward
Te Ākau & Raglan Livestock Buyer
021 947 321

Long time sponsor and supporter of Te Ākau School

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 Ākau Hall carpark (next to the school).

Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser

At the Te Ākau Waingaro Community Complex
On Friday August 28th
Doors Open @ 6:30pm
7pm Start
Teams can be made on the night

Teams of 6
\$25 per person

Great Auction Items and Raffles

Bar Open with Light Supper

Bring cash for Raffle

Help Support the PONY, TURF and RUGBY CLUBS

Please register your Team
Claire - 0212348540
claire.field@xtra.co.nz
Lynda - 0274760476
tengakinga@gmail.com

Board Of Trustees Update

As another busy term progresses, we'd like to take the opportunity to share an update from the Board and thank those who continue to support our school community.

Firstly, we would like to acknowledge the resignation of our Presiding Member, Jamie Andrews, who has recently stepped down due to his family's upcoming move. On behalf of the Board, we sincerely thank Jamie for his time, commitment, and dedication to Te Ākau School. The countless hours Jamie devoted to supporting our school community and our students over the years have been hugely appreciated. We wish Jamie, Jacqui, and their family all the very best for the next chapter.

We would also like to extend a big thank you to the many parents who have given their time to help around the school and school house. Matt and Beccy Pitts have done an incredible job putting up our new basketball hoops, it was not an easy task so thank you again, the kids are very excited to be using them. Another big thank you to Tom Jackson, Jack Bregman and Rob Horsley who have helped with some work at the school house, whether it's lending a hand with maintenance, tidying gardens or tackling odd jobs, every parent's willingness to help makes a real difference. On the school bus note, our bus committee has had their first meeting and have put an action plan in place to support this valuable service for the school. More details will come from the bus committee in due course. Lastly, we wish all the students the best of luck for cross country on Friday and look forward to seeing everyone down there.

Have a great rest of the week ahead.

nga mihi nui,

Chrissy Johnston, James Jackson and Dani van den Bemd

Board Of Trustees Contact Details

Christina Johnston chrissy@teakau.school.nz
James Jackson jamesjackson@teakau.school.nz
Danielle van den Bemd danielle@teakau.school.nz

Hannah O'Brien (Principal) hannah@teakau.school.nz
Hayley Smith (Staff Rep) hayley@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

The next Board meeting is:
7th September 2026
5.00pm
Te Ākau School, All Welcome!

RESPONSIBLE
Kia mau to tikanga

RESILIENT
Kia kaha mahia te mahi

RESPECTFUL
Aroha ki te tangata