



Letter From the Principal

BY HANNAH O'BRIEN

Kia ora koutou,

As we wrap up the final week of the school year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the success and challenges we have shared and extend my warmest wishes for the holiday season.

A massive congratulations goes to Jodie this week on successfully completing her provisional registration period! We are absolutely delighted that she has now moved to full registration and will continue to be a valuable part of our team. Well done, Jodie! This week, we also say a fond farewell to Kate, who is finishing her time with us. We thank Kate for her hard work and contributions to the school community and wish her all the very best.

Reports will be coming home with students soon. I encourage you to celebrate your child's successes and commitment to learning throughout what has been a fantastic year. Please take the time to discuss their achievements and, together, set some goals for next year. A special acknowledgement must go to our wonderful Year 8 students who will finish their primary school journey next week: Riley, Coralee, and Te Whai Ao. We wish you all the very best as you take the exciting step up to high school. We also want to acknowledge those students who are heading off to boarding school next year: Angus, Mason, and Ollie. This is a big and exciting move, and we know you will thrive in your new environments. We wish you every success!

A school's success is a collective effort, and this year, we have seen incredible support from so many people. Thank you to the Board for their commitment and governance, the PTA for their tireless fundraising and community building, and our amazing support staff for keeping the school running smoothly every day. Thank you also to our parents and whānau for your partnership in your child's education. And most importantly, thank you to our students—your energy, curiosity, and spirit are what make our school such a vibrant place. This year has certainly been challenging for our staff, and I want to offer my deepest gratitude and sincere thanks for their resilience, flexibility, and unwavering dedication to our students. They have truly gone above and beyond.

As a result of our strategic planning process, we are excited to unveil the three core values that will guide our learning and community culture from 2026: Respect (Aroha ki te tangata), Resilience (Kia kaha mahia te mahi), and Responsibility (Kia mau to tikanga). These values will underpin everything we do and will help us to continue to shape well-rounded, thoughtful, and capable young people in 2026.

I wish everyone a very merry and relaxing Christmas and a safe, restful holiday break. Take this time to recharge and enjoy precious moments with loved ones – I know I will.

Remember to be kind to one another—it is the greatest gift we can give. We look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready for an exciting new school year.

Ngā mihi nui,
Hannah O'Brien
Principal

Important Dates

Monday 15th December
Room 1 & 3 Trip to
Waterworld

Tuesday 16th December
Prize giving – last day term
4, 2025

Monday 2nd February 2026
Term 1 2026 starts

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.

Stationery for 2026

At Te Akau School, we are fortunate to be able to provide stationery for all our students. This year however, we kindly ask whānau to supply a pencil case for each child.

For Room 2 students, we also ask that you provide a book bag, which will be used as their homework bag in place of the traditional homework book. All notices, homework, and library books will be sent between home and school in these book bags.



Thank you for your support! Let us know if you have any questions.



Meri Kirihimete

And that's a wrap for 2025!

From all of us at Te Akau School, we have thoroughly enjoyed spending the year with you all.

It has been wonderful to see the growth and achievements of our students. We wish you all a safe, restful, and happy holiday break!

To our leavers – Riley, Te Whao Ao, Coralee, Mason, Ollie, and Angus – we wish you all the very best in your journey ahead. May it be full of exciting opportunities and wonderful experiences! You will all be greatly missed!

MARQUEE FOR HIRE



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

HOUSE POINTS



SCHOOL CONTACTS

School Phone

Website

Hannah O'Brien
Gabbie Bregmen
Donna Palmer
Jodie Redpath
Hayley Smith
Ann Reeves
Kate Dermer

Principal
Office
Room 2
Room 3
Room 1 & DP
CRT Release
Room 3 & GTT

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
kate@teakau.school.nz

TERM 4, WEEK 10

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!



PETER GLIDDEN HONDA
2800 HONDA



RESPONSIBLE

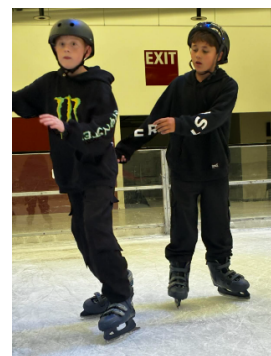
RESILIENT

RESPECTFUL



Room 2 wrapped up the year with a fantastic trip to the pop-up ice rink at Claudelands! It was a true test of resilience as many students began the session nervously clinging to the railing. After just 90 minutes, though, many were confidently whizzing around the rink.

It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to try something new, challenging, and fun. A big thank you to all our parent helpers on the day – we couldn't have done it without you!



Pickleball Tournament!



Whaea Donna has been running a pickleball tournament over term 4. There has been an interesting array of teams including Pickles, Le Grande, T-Rex, Anonymous, Chimpz, Girlies and Pickleticklers.

On Wednesday we held the final showdown between Girlies (Riley and Angel) and the Pickleticklers (Noah and Koby).



It has been great to see the students' skills improving, and we were treated to some nail-biting rallies. The crowd was excited and supportive. In the end, the **Pickleticklers came through to take the win.**



NAIKE PLAYGROUP
EVERY WEDNESDAY 10-1PM
BRING LUNCHES AND TOGS
CONTACT SHELLY COX 027
580 0275

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 CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
Warmly Invites you to our
TE AKAU / WAINGARO DISTRICTS

CAROL SERVICE

Bring your family and friends for a
celebration of evening carols

**DECEMBER 20 2025,
7 PM**

CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Bring your family and friends for a
short celebration of readings and
carols in our little country "Church of
the Good Shepherd"

**DECEMBER 25 2025,
10 AM**

Corner of Te Akau Road and Te Akau South
Road

Contact John Jackson 07 825 4883

Board Of Trustees Update

Hello Everyone,

As the end of the year draws to a close, we wish you all a safe and happy Christmas break! This is just a brief message from me, as I'll share the rest in my speech at Prizegiving on Tuesday.

A huge thank you to Andrew Culley and family for generously funding the van for the Te Akau bus run – your support has not gone unnoticed! We are pleased to share that the insurance for the bus repairs has been approved, and we hope to have the bus back on the road in time for 2026.

Over the holidays, we have some exciting updates underway at school. Work on the staff room and office area is scheduled to begin, with completion planned before we return in February. The school pool will also be ready for students' return in 2026. Our dedicated teachers will be returning during the holidays for Professional Development on the new Numicon maths curriculum, with further training days scheduled throughout 2026.

From all of us on the Board of Trustees, we wish you a wonderful festive season!

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

1st December 2025
5.30pm
Te Akau School

All Welcome!