



Letter From the Principal

BY HANNAH O'BRIEN

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back to Term 4! This term always flies by, and before we know it, Christmas will be upon us.

It's important to note that as a Sun Smart School, in Term 4, **students must wear a hat** at breaktimes to keep them out of the sun. If they do not have a hat, they cannot be in the playground at breaktimes.

Our **school will be closed on Thursday 23 October** as our staff take part in the national teachers' strike (unless there are developments and the union calls it off beforehand).

This strike is not only about teachers getting paid more. It is about the breakdown in negotiations between the Government and our union over issues such as working conditions, teacher workload, pastoral and learning support for students, and fair pay. At Te Akau School, teachers are campaigning for more support in school to help meet the increasingly complex learning and behavioural needs of our students, as well as more time and resourcing to implement the rapid curriculum changes introduced this year and continuing into next year.

And yes, pay is also part of the picture. At a time when it is extremely difficult to attract and retain New Zealand trained teachers – with around 1,250 current teaching vacancies reported nationwide – NZEI (our union) is seeking a pay increase that at least keeps pace with inflation. Fair pay helps to recognise the challenging work teachers do every day and ensures teaching remains an attractive profession for future educators.

You may notice your tamariki coming home and talking about 'the way we do things' at Te Akau School. This term we are focused on our values of **resilience, responsibility and respect**. Our teachers are working hard on building a Behaviour Curriculum around our school values, and as a result, we are talking to students about the way we do things at school. For example, this week our focus has been on 'how we play Gaga ball at Te Akau

School' and 'how we get help', including how to approach the Staffroom. As with anything else we teach our students, teaching behaviour is an important part of our time in the classroom. Below are some examples of our new Behaviour Curriculum.

Ngā mihi nui, Hannah.

IF WE NEED HELP, AT TE AKAU SCHOOL, WE:

1. Go and find the Duty Teacher.
2. If the Duty Teacher is busy, we go and find a Senior Leader.

If we need come to the Staffroom we:

1. Only go to the outside door, not through the Office.
2. Knock before we go in.
3. Stand outside the door and wait for a teacher.

We are Responsible,
Respectful and Resilient



IF WE ARE ON HOT LUNCH DUTY, AT TE AKAU SCHOOL, WE:

1. Collect the Hot Lunch Trays from the classrooms at morning tea time or Wednesdays and Fridays and take them to the Staffroom.
2. Knock before we go in.
3. Stand outside the door and wait for a teacher. Listen to the teacher's instructions.
4. At lunchtime, we wait outside the Staffroom door for the trays of hot lunch. We get each class's lunch on its table closest to their classroom.
5. We return the trays to the classrooms where it belongs.

We are Responsible,
Respectful and Resilient



Important Dates

Friday 17th October 2025

The Wizard of Te Akau
production – Te Akau
Complex

Thursday 23rd October
CLOSED NZEI Primary School
Strike

24th & 28th October
Life Education Trust

Monday 27th October
CLOSED – Labor Day

Friday 31st October
School Photos

Friday 7th November
Junior Games – Ruawaro

Monday 10th November
Te Akau School Athletics

Week 6 & 7
Scholastics Book Fair

Friday 14th November
Senior Athletics – Glen
Massey

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

Monday 2nd February 2026
Term 1 2026 starts

YEAR 7-8 TECH DATES

23rd October
6th November
20th November
6th December

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.

School Uniform at Te Akau School

At Te Akau School, wearing the correct uniform shows pride in our kura and helps create a strong sense of belonging for everyone.

Our uniform includes a Te Akau polo shirt, sweater or hoodie, and plain black shorts, skorts, tights, pants, or trackpants. Leaders' shirts may be worn on special occasions. Black thermal tops are permitted under school shirts in winter and raincoats or winter coats may be worn *to and from school only, not in the classroom*.

Small plain stud earrings or small, plain sleepers with a release catch are allowed. If your child wears a necklace with cultural significance, please contact their classroom teacher to gain permission for it to be worn at school.

Students wearing incorrect uniform items will be asked to remove them, and parents will be contacted. Fake nails are not permitted at school. Thank you for supporting our school values by helping your tamariki wear the correct uniform each day and take pride in being part of Te Akau School.



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

Kauri
932

Toiara
766

Rimu
797

Reporting Absences

If your child won't be at school, please let us know why, either by calling the school office, emailing office@teakau.school.nz or via the Hero app.

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

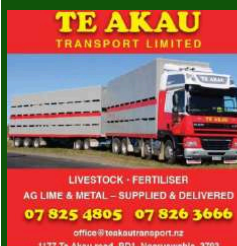
TERM 4, WEEK 2

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



RESPONSIBLE

RESILIENT

RISK TAKER

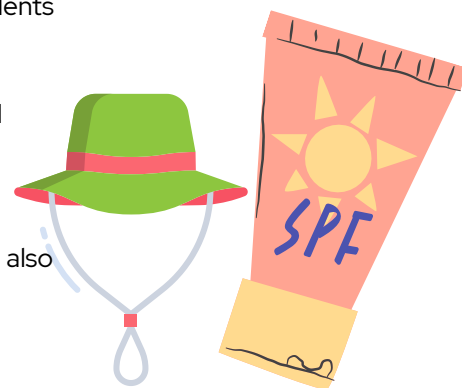
RESPECTFUL

Te Akau School is a Sun Smart School. During Term 1 and Term 4, it is compulsory for all students to wear a hat while outside. Please ensure your child brings a hat to school every day.

Students without a hat will be required to play in the shaded areas only. We do have a limited number of spare hats available; however, we encourage students to bring their own to help prevent the spread of head lice.

Sunscreen is available at school for students to self-apply during morning tea and lunch. We also ask that you apply sunscreen before school each morning.

Thank you for helping us keep our tamariki sun safe!



Term 3, Attendance Awards

ATTENDANCE AWARD'S TERM 3, 2025



Te Akau School celebrates and reward students who show exceptional commitment to their learning through consistent attendance.

At the end of each term, students with the top three attendance records (provided their attendance is above 90%) will receive special certificates and House Points as follows:

🥇 1st Place 100% Attendance – 50 House Points – **Sadie MacDonald**

🥈 2nd Place 99% Attendance – 30 House Points – **Jessica Horsley**

🥉 3rd Place 98% – 20 House Points – **Paige van den Bemd and Billie van den Bemd**

☀️ Well done to our Term 2 Winners ☀️

🏆 Trophy Recall – End of Year Prizegiving 🏆

As we prepare for our End of Year Prizegiving, we kindly ask for the return of all 2024 trophies listed below to the school office as soon as possible.

Academics

- Numeracy Trophy Snr – Angel Sheehan
- Numeracy Trophy Jr – Koby Smith
- Arts Trophy – Ollie Jackson
- Cultural Cup – Hikaka Tengu
- Achievement in Literacy – Samantha Towl
- BOT Leadership Cup – Jessica Horsley
- Principal's Award – Kade Copeland
- Academic Achievement – Hikaka Tengu

Sports

- Outstanding Swimmer – Angel Sheehan
- Water Wisdom Cup – George Jackson
- Outstanding Achievement in Athletics – Jessica Horsley
- Sportsmanship Trophy – Te Hiritanga Tengu
- Rugby football club – Tommy Rowe

Personality

- School Citizen Jr Cup – Delilah Andrews-Wright
- School Citizen Snr Cup – William Glenn



First and foremost a heartfelt thank you to our amazing judges who took time out of their own day to spend it with us at Te Akau School's 2025 Pet Day. Your enthusiasm, support, and encouragement made the day truly special for our students! ❤️

👤 Indoor Art Judges

Diane Bull, Diane Brown, Audrey Pitts, Robyn Bregmen, Tracy Swindells and Sue Easter. Thank you for the thoughtful time and care you put into viewing all of our students' wonderful creations.

🐾 Pet Judges

Preschool & Dog Rings: Max Cornes and Mackenzie Leathers (Growing Future Farmers students)

Indoor Pets: Tracy Swindells

Junior Lambs: Helen Reeves

Senior Lambs: Jamie Ward

Calves: Tony Cocker

Goats: Gay Gibson

We are so grateful for everyone's time, expertise, and dedication. You helped make Pet Day 2025 one to remember! 🌻

And of course, a huge thank you to our past Te Akau School students who turned up, helped out, and showed what leadership and community spirit is all about. From stewarding to face painting, we are so proud to have you come back home to Te Akau School on days like this - Savannah Copeland, Ella Caprice, Courtney Ewen, Catherine Ewen, Lillyana Andrews-Wright, William Glenn and Harry Jackson.



Congratulations to our 2025 Pet Day winners! 🎉

We're so proud of all our students and their wonderful animals who took part in this year's Te Akau School Pet Day. A huge congratulations to all our placegetters! The standard was definitely raised this year – the quality, care, and strong bonds all students have with their animals was impressive. Congratulations to you all!

Champion and Reserve Champion results

Calves

- 🏆 **Champion Calf:** Blake Bregmen
- 🥈 **Reserve Champion Calf:** Lyla Merrilees

Lambs

- 🏆 **Champion Snr Lamb:** Noah Crawford
- 🥈 **Reserve Champion Snr Lamb:** Mason Lilley
- 🏆 **Junior Champion Lamb:** Declan Tovey
- 🥈 **Junior Reserve Champion Lamb:** Lyla Merrilees

Dogs

- 🏆 **Champion Dog:** Lyla Merrilees
- 🥈 **Reserve Champion Dog:** Angel Sheehan

Goats

- 🏆 **Champion Goat:** Lillie Crawford
- 🥈 **Reserve Champion Goat:** Piper Lilley

Indoor Exhibits

- 🏆 **Champion Indoor:** Declan Tovey
- 🥈 **Reserve Champion Indoor:** Lachlan Andrews-Wright



Support your local school



By purchasing Ballance Agri-Nutrients fertiliser this spring, \$1 for every tonne purchased can be donated to a local cause of your choice.*

Plus, \$1 for every 10 litres of selected agrichemicals purchased can also be donated to a local cause.*

To find out more, ask in-store at PGG Wrightson or visit:



Cash for Communities

cashforcommunities.co.nz

*Open to PGG Wrightson Ltd account holders for purchases during the qualifying period 1 September 2025 – 30 November 2025. Excludes Lime, Gypsum and 1,000 L agrichemical drums. Fertiliser purchases only qualify if made through the MyBallance channel. Donations limited, first in first served. See full Terms and Conditions and list of qualifying products at cashforcommunities.co.nz

TE AKAU KIDS DAY IN THE DIRT 2025

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

PETER GLIDDEN HONDA



4-7PM
5TH DEC

AGE RANGES
SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES UP TO 18 YEARS

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER

LOCATION
1202 RUAKIWI ROAD, TE AKAU

SAFETY FIRST
HELMETS AND BOOTS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHILE RIDING

REFRESHMENTS
BYO FOOD AND DRINK, BBQ SUPPLIED FOR COOKING

PETER GLIDDEN HONDA

MOTUL

CONTACT JACK BREGMEN: 027 8277 291

FREE MOTUL OIL CHANGE ON ALL KIDS BIKES



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.

WHERE: The location will be Te Aakau Hall carpark (next to the school).
keep an eye out for a letter from the council later this month with further information