



Letter From the Principal

BY HANNAH O'BRIEN

Kia ora koutou,

What a stretch of beautiful, hot weather we've been having! With the warmer days, our Native Patch is now open for play and exploration again – it's wonderful to see our tamariki enjoying this special space. A reminder to please help your child to be sunsafe by sending them with a named hat and ensuring sunscreen is applied before school. We're looking forward to our Athletics Day on Monday – a highlight of the year! Whānau are warmly invited to come along and cheer on our athletes. A big well done to all our students for the effort and enthusiasm they've shown in their training so far. A special thank you to our Year 5 & 6 students, who have been working hard to revitalise our concrete area with new painted games for both senior and junior students to enjoy during break times. It's fantastic to see student-led projects making such a positive impact on our school environment. From next week, please send togs and a towel to school. Our senior students will be heading to the creek for exploration and learning, while our juniors will enjoy some fun water play at school. Our pool will reopen in Term 1 next year, so these activities will help everyone stay cool and active in the meantime. Teachers are currently busy with end of year assessments and report writing, reflecting on the wonderful progress our learners have made this year. It's been pleasing to see so much growth and effort across the school. A warm welcome to Coralee, our new Year 8 student – we're so glad to have you join our Te Akau whānau! Finally, our kaupapa focus for the week (shared below) is Hometime and the Native Patch – a reminder for all students about our shared expectations and ways of showing care and respect in these spaces. Ngā mihi nui, Hannah O'Brien Principal



Important Dates

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November  
Junior Games – Ruawaro

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November  
Te Akau School Athletics

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November  
Senior Athletics – Glen Massey

Week 6 & 7  
Scholastics Book Fair

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
Book Character Day

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Prize giving – last day term 4, 2025

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026  
Term 1 2026 starts

YEAR 7-8 TECH DATES  
6<sup>th</sup> November  
20<sup>th</sup> November  
6<sup>th</sup> December

**IN THE NATIVE PATCH AT TE AKAU SCHOOL:**

1. If the Duty Teacher has opened the gate, we can go into the Native Patch.
2. There must always be at least 2 people in the Native Patch – no one can be in there alone.
3. If we find something that looks unsafe, we must tell the Duty Teacher.
4. We do not go in the mud in the creek bed.
5. We must wear shoes and hats in the Native Patch.

We are Responsible, Respectful and Resilient

**WHEN IT'S HOMETIME AT TE AKAU SCHOOL:**

1. We make sure we have all of our belongings and they are secure in our school bags. Our bags are on our backs.
2. We line up in our transport lines (bus or car). Wait quietly for our line's turn.
3. When the teacher calls our name, we call "bus" and walk to our bus.
4. After the second bus has gone, car students will be released. Parents will collect car students from inside school grounds.
5. After car students are released, 3<sup>rd</sup> bus students will be released to play.
6. If car students are picked up later, they will come and tell a teacher before they leave.
7. On rainy days, students will be released directly from their classrooms, following instructions over the loud speaker.

We are Responsible, Respectful and Resilient



## 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.

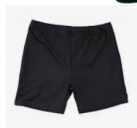
## School Uniform at Te Akau School

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



## Attendance and Lateness

While we understand that genuine illness and unforeseen circumstances do occur, it is important that students attend school regularly and arrive on time each day.

If your child is going to be absent, please notify the school as soon as possible by one of the following methods:

- Through the Hero app
- By calling 07 825 4777
- By emailing office@teakau.school.nz



### Key Takeaways:

- You must include the **reason for the absence** when making contact.
- If the school is not notified, your child's absence will be recorded as **Truant**.
- Students arriving **late** must report to the **office** to sign in before going to class.

## 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

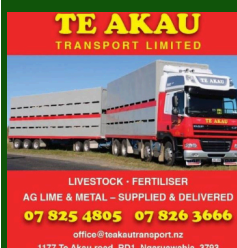
hannah@teakau.school.nz  
office@teakau.school.nz  
donna@teakau.school.nz  
jodie@teakau.school.nz  
hayley@teakau.school.nz  
ann@teakau.school.nz  
kate@teakau.school.nz

## 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  
2000 HONDA





# Congratulations Kauri House!

TERM 4, WEEK 5

A huge congratulations to **Kauri House** for winning the Term 3 House Challenge! To celebrate their fantastic effort, we will be providing Kauri House students Noah (Captain), Billie (Deputy), Aiden (Deputy), Katara, Kade, Rory, George J, Lillie, Lyla, Lucy, Sadie, Declan, Piper, Rylie, Katie and Skylah with a **shared lunch on Tuesday, 11th November**. Well done, Kauri House – keep up the great teamwork and school spirit!



## Measles Update from the Public Health Nurse

Airiini, our Public Health Nurse, visited Te Akau School today to provide an update on the recent measles outbreak in New Zealand. At this stage, there are no recorded cases in the Waikato.

**The first symptoms of measles** are often similar to a cold, COVID-19, or the flu, which can make it difficult to recognize at first.

Symptoms include:

- Fever (temperature of at least 38°C)
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Sore, red eyes
- Rash

The rash usually appears 3 to 5 days after the first symptoms. It starts as pink or red spots or bumps on the face before spreading down the rest of the body. The rash is not usually itchy and can last for a week or more.

**If you or your child develop any of these symptoms, please stay home and seek urgent medical advice by calling your doctor or Healthline on 0800 611 116.**

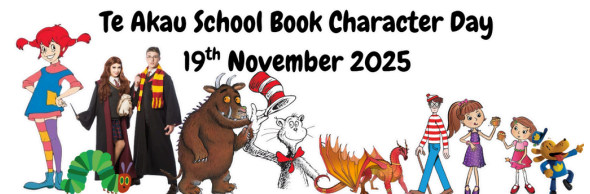
### Checking Immunisation Status

Adults should check their measles immunisation records through one of the following:

- My Health Record, Your GP or doctor, Your Childhood My Health Book, Laboratory results or Any overseas immunisation records

### Immunity guidelines:

- People born in New Zealand before 1 January 1969 are considered immune.
- People born after 1 January 1969 need to have received two doses of the MMR (measles) vaccine after 12 months of age to be fully protected.
- People born between 1969 and 2004 should note they may not have received two doses, as the vaccination schedule changed over time.
- People born overseas may not have complete records or may have received the measles vaccine before 12 months of age, meaning they may not be fully protected.



## Scholastic Book Fair is back for 2025!

It's that time of year again – the Scholastic Book Fair is back at Te Akau School!

If you're new to our school, here's a quick introduction to this exciting event. During Weeks 6 and 7 (10th–21st November), we'll have a wonderful selection of books available to view and purchase right here at school.

### Book Fair Hours:

🕒 8.30am – 3.30pm, Monday to Friday, for two weeks

🚫 Closed during lunch break: 12.50pm – 1.30pm

**Please see Gabbie in the office before entering the Book Fair. Students must be accompanied by a parent or staff member.**

We warmly welcome our wider community to visit during opening hours – everyone is invited to come along and find something special! Cash and card payments are accepted.

Every purchase you make helps support our school, as a portion of all sales goes towards purchasing new books for our library and classrooms. Best of all, every book on display is available to buy and take home the same day!

Another highlight of Book Week is our Book Character Day, and we're excited to invite our local Playcentre back again this year to join in the fun!

Come dressed as your favourite book character, bring along the book if you can, and take part in our Book Character Parade. There will be spot prizes for the best-dressed characters – so get creative and let your imagination run wild!

We can't wait to see all the amazing costumes and share the joy of reading together!

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:

cashforcommunities.co.nz

PGG Wrightson



Cash for Communities

\*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 MyBalance channel. Donations limited, first in first served. See full Terms and Conditions and list of qualifying products at cashforcommunities.co.nz



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*

TE AKAU KIDS  
DAY IN THE  
DIRT 2025

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

PETER GLIDDEN HONDA



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



4-7PM  
5TH DEC

FREE MOTUL OIL  
CHANGE ON ALL  
KIDS BIKES

PETER GLIDDEN HONDA

MOTUL

CONTACT JACK BREGMEN: 027 8277 291



TE AKAU WAINGARO COMMUNITY COMPLEX

Christmas Fete

FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025  
STALLS 3-6PM - BAR & BAND UNTIL LATE

Craft & food stalls, face  
painting, games, bar,  
entertainment and  
SANTA!!!

Email dmbemd@gmail.com to book a stall





It's that magical time of year again – the **PTA Christmas Fundraising Shop** is opening soon, and we need our elves to help stock the shelves!

**Join us for our Christmas Cracker Making Sessions in the School Hall on the following dates:**

- ★ Thursday 13th November – 9:00am to 12:00 noon ★
- Monday 17th November – 11:00am to 3:00pm
- ★ **Special Dads' Evening:** Wednesday 19th November – 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Many hands make light work, and we'd love your help to make this year's Christmas shop a sparkling success!

## Board Of Trustees Update

Hello everyone,

I'd like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our two new board members, Christina Johnston and Danielle van den Bemd. We're very pleased to have you both join the team and look forward to the valuable perspectives you'll bring to our board discussions and decisions.

We're excited about some upcoming improvements around the school, including upgrades to the staff room and office area. These changes will create a more comfortable and functional space for our hardworking staff.

Recently, the Life Education Trust visited our school, an event proudly funded by the board. We hope the students enjoyed the sessions and took away some valuable lessons from the programme.

We'll soon be organising a working bee (date to be confirmed). Many hands make light work, and we'd love to see as many parents and caregivers as possible come along to help out. It's a great way to get involved and support our school community.

A special thank you to Jack Bregmen, who kindly mowed the school lawns with his tractor, they are looking great.

We'd also like to extend our thanks to Tracy, our previous groundskeeper, for all the effort and care she put into maintaining the school grounds. We are now in the process of appointing a new groundskeeper to continue this important work.

I hope everyone is enjoying the sunshine and making the most of these beautiful days!

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](http://teakau.schooldocs.co.nz)  
 LOGIN: teakau  
 PASSWORD: lifelonglearners

## Next Meeting

1st December 2025  
 5.30pm  
 Te Akau School  
 All Welcome!