

Tauranga Special School

Learning together



Newsletter 11 Week 4 Term 3 13/08/2026

Kia ora e te whānau, and welcome to our Week 4 term 3 newsletter! In this edition, we celebrate a major milestone with the official opening and blessing of our new Te Puke Satellite classroom. Inside, you'll also find important reminders to book your child's upcoming IP and Ara progress meetings, as well as key dates to mark in your calendar—including our staff-only day on August 24th, our exciting whole-school Multicultural event on September 22nd, and the end of Term 3. Please read on for all the latest updates, and we hope you have a fantastic rest of the week!

If you have anything to add to future newsletters please email: pipj@taurangaspecialschool.nz

Important dates

Monday 24 August

School closed {Staff only day}

Friday 4 September

Hei Awhi expo

Tuesday 22 September

Whole school Multicultural event

Friday 25 September

Last day of Term 3

Monday 12 October

Term 4 starts

Key Contacts

School Landline:
07 578 4424

Attendance phone (call/txt):
027 558 5917

A message from our Principal

Kia ora e te whānau,

It's hard to believe we are already nearing the end of Week 4! Over the past few weeks, the energy across our kura has been fantastic- we held the blessing of our new Te Puke building last Tuesday morning and a mihi whakatau last Thursday to welcome new staff, tamariki and their whānau to our school.



Satellite Progress We are absolutely thrilled to share that our Te Puke Satellite officially opened its doors this past Monday, 10th August! It has been an incredible week welcoming our learners and their whānau into this beautiful new space, and seeing the classroom come alive with learning and smiles. It has been fantastic to become a part of the Te Puke community again. We currently have 6 learners enrolled in the space, but we anticipate this will grow quickly!

Multicultural Day We are excited to announce that our next whole school event will take place on Tuesday, 22nd September (Week 10) at our Base School. We will share more details in the coming weeks but please put this date in your calendar now as we really encourage whānau to join us on these days.

IP and Ara Meetings Our IP and Ara meetings have begun this week and will continue to take place across our kura for the next 5 weeks. These meetings are an important check point on your child's progress this year. If you haven't booked your meeting yet, please contact our office who can assist you in this process.

Key Dates & Reminders

- **Teacher Only Day:** Monday, 24th August (School closed for instruction)
- **Multicultural Day:** Tuesday, 22nd September

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership as our school community continues to grow!

Ngā mihi nui,

Dale Megson
Tumuaki/ Principal

HEI AWHI DISABILITY EXPO 2026

AN INFORMATION EXPO FOR
PEOPLE WITH ANY TYPE OF
DISABILITY, THEIR WHĀNAU,
EDUCATORS AND SUPPORTERS



**SUPPORT GROUPS
TRANSITION SERVICES
THERAPISTS
ADVOCACY
CHARITIES
EDUCATION PROVIDERS
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
ENRICHMENT SERVICES
FUNDING PROVIDERS AND
MORE!**

**September
4th 2026
10am-2pm**

TAURANGA RACECOURSE
EVENT CENTRE
1383 CAMERON RD
SIR TRISTRAM LOUNGE

FREE ENTRY FOR GUESTS

**\$30 FEE FOR
STALLHOLDERS**

ORGANISED BY
TAURANGA SPECIAL SCHOOL



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, OR IF YOU
ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A
STALLHOLDER, CONTACT

HEIAWHI@TAURANGASPECIALSCHOOL.NZ

Whānau group



Whānau group coffee get together

— ✨ ✨ —

Come and connect with other Tauranga Special School Whanau.
Enjoy a complimentary coffee and baking.
All welcome.
We would love to see you.



Date: Friday 28 August



Location: Classic Flyers



Time: 10.30 - 12.00

Please rsvp by text to Sharon 0275739744 or Sandra 0210320811.
We would love to hear from you if possible by Wednesday 26 August to secure a table.
However please also feel free to just drop in on the day!

Ngā Hau e Whā

Spotlight on Ngā Hau e Whā: Supporting Te Ao Māori in Our School

Here at school, we are proud to have Ngā Hau e Whā—a dedicated group of teachers and teacher aides committed to uplifting Te Ao Māori Kaupapa across our school. Working alongside our Kaumatua Kalani Tarawa and Kapa Haka Tutor Josie Brown, our team helps bring key cultural events and learning to life. From welcoming new whānau at our Mihi Whakatau and celebrating Matariki, to supporting weekly Kapa Haka and Kapa Haka performances, whilst also creating Māori classroom resources and providing PLD for staff. Ngā Hau e Whā is here to nourish and grow tikanga and reo Māori across our school environment.

Our team is as pictured below-

Back row: Denise Parata, Jay Rotarangi, Tash McQuoid, Jade Mackie, Michele Maxwell, Helena Fredricks

Front row: Cheynah Wharepapa, Awhina Brown

Absent: Mems Rameka

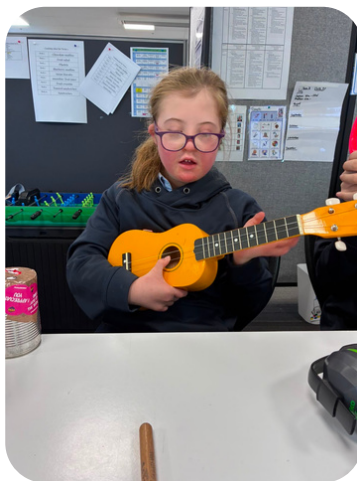


Pāpāmoa College satellite, Janel

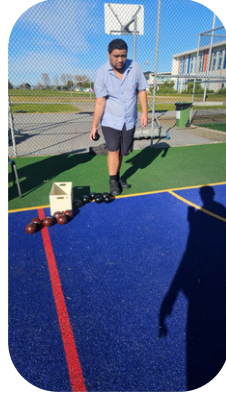
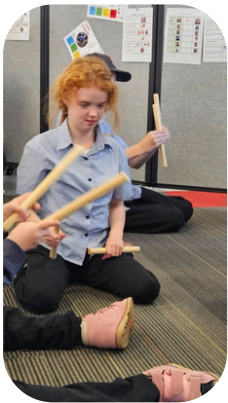


Learning, Movement, and Fun

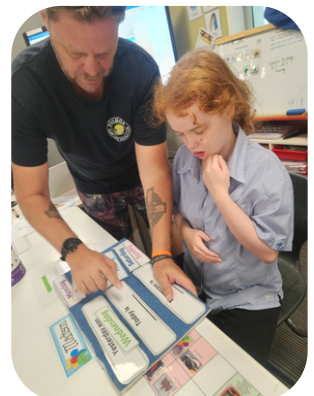
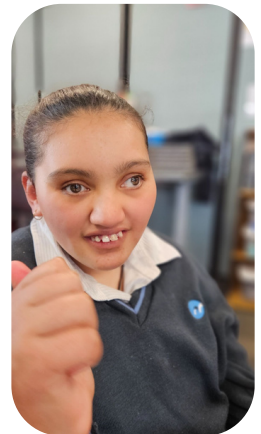
We started the term on a high note, with students returning to their routines eager to learn. In our rotations, students are exploring the story of Mauao through movement, art, and music, while classroom work focuses on letter sounds and retelling stories in literacy, along with Numicon tiles and rods for math. Water safety is a focus during our Tuesday swimming sessions with Baywave instructors. On Thursdays, our bus trips into the community build independence and safety skills, while practice for the AIMS Games in bowls and table tennis is also underway. We round out each week with Friday Funday activities, including Kapa Haka, cooking, and arts. It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we look forward to everything ahead!



Pāpāmoa College satellite, Brendon



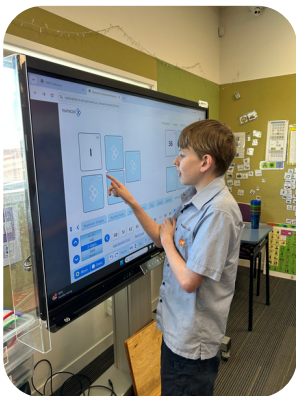
Term 3 has started with a hiss and a roar for the SPEC crew at Papamoa College. With the lovely weather comes the opportunity to get out and about more. We have been exploring Maori Myths, looking at the new pasifika songs for the festival, learning bowls (Tameta is a natural) and continuing on with BSLA. With the change in teachers we are seeing so much more engagement with the students and the relationships being built with the staff are fabulous. All in all – another top term for our seniors as they get ready for the Kapa Haka Festival and Multicultural day.



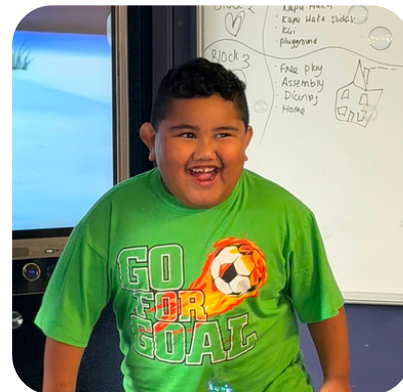
Pāpāmoa College satellite, Anne-Marie



Students at Papamoa have been very creative with our topic Mauao over the past 3 weeks. Across the three classes we have completed rotations which include telling and acting out the story, sensory and art activities. The engagement has been exciting to see. We are also enjoying the interactive board for Numicon activities and learning maths concepts through baking.



Room 3 Hayley



Room 3 have had the most amazing three weeks back at Kura!

Our tamariki have been exploring new books, discovering new ways of creating patterns, and enjoying lots of sensory exploration. Swimming continues to be the highlight of our week! Our tamariki have come such a long way in the water, and we are so proud of them. A huge thank you to Kim and Tammy for all their support and encouragement.

We have recently welcomed TeRina into our space, and she has had the most amazing transition. We would also like to warmly welcome her whānau to our TSS community. ❤️

Amalia and Bjorn are spreading their wings next week and will be joining TKOM and Welcome Bay. We will also be welcoming Dev and Iroh into our space shortly.

My team continue to shine every day, caring for the hauora of our tamariki and placing it at the heart of everything they do. I am so proud of the love, care and dedication they bring to Room 3 each day.

Ka pai, Room 3!



Community notices

you are invited to
IHC TAURANGA ASSOCIATION'S

Masquerade **BALL**



SATURDAY
3 OCTOBER 2026
6pm-10:30pm

STADIUM LOUNGE, MERCURY BAYPARK
84 Truman Lane, Mount Maunganui

For people with intellectual disabilities aged 18 and over.

Formal dress, masks optional.

DJ and dancing.

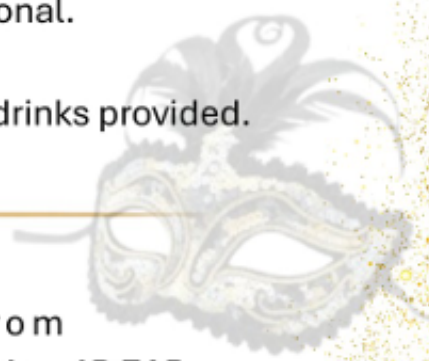
Light supper and two non-alcoholic drinks provided.

Cash bar available.

TICKETS \$40

purchase tickets from

<https://trybooking.com/nz/BEIP>



All enquiries to:

ihc.taurangaassociation@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE, supervision is not provided.

Caregivers will need their own tickets.