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WEEK 10 KAWERONGO - NEWSLETTER

17 September 2025

Kia ora koutou,

Board of Trustees Election Results:

The following people have been elected as the new Tauranga Special School - Board of Trustees 2025 to 2028.

Angelo Morehu, Michelle Hollands, Sandra Peter, Anna Somerville, Toni Taylor, Malcolm Poppe and Amy Bisley as Staff Representative.

Congratulations to all those named above.

The new Board's first official meeting will be held Tuesday 21 October at 7pm at our Base School.

Strike Day:

The NZEI union for primary and intermediate schools, including special schools, has confirmed after a majority membership vote that a strike day will be held on Thursday 23 October.

The vote for industrial action follows the union's rejection of an offer of a pay rise for teachers between 2.7% and 4.6%, along with more issues.

Union negotiation lead Liam Rutherford said primary teachers, tumuaki / principals, school support staff and therapist staff will strike on October 23.

The decision comes after recent rolling strikes for secondary schools.

There are far more issues than just the rejection of the pay rise for the whole education sector.

Here are just a few: A significant shortfall in trained teachers, a significant number leaving to teach overseas, scarce relievers for both teachers and support staff, unsustainable workloads, major curriculum restructures that are poorly resourced and implemented at speed without comprehensive consultation, as well as children arriving in school with increasingly varied and complex needs and the resources to meet those needs have not kept up.

If you want to know more about why the strikes are happening simply google - Why teachers are striking in New Zealand? Several up to date articles can be viewed.

Ngā mihi

Barrie Wickens

Tumuaki Principal

Important dates:

19 Sept	Last day of Term 3
06 Oct	First day of Term 4
23 Oct	Nationwide teachers/tumuaki/principals/support staff and school therapists strike (Primary, Intermediate and Special Schools: (No school this day)
24 Oct	Staff Only Day (no school this day)
27 Oct	Labour Day (no school this day)

DRC Vicky's Class

Tui class has been getting out and into the community as much as possible this term. For Senior Curriculum we are looking into Shopping and Budgeting and we are loving trips to Countdown, using cash to pay for our goods. We also have students participating in RDA, Sailability and swimming at Greerton pools.



DRC Yasumi's Class

Students in the DRC Pukeko class have been enjoying making smoothies. They use a switch to activate the blender, and all the students are able to press the switch independently. They are very curious and excited to see what happens when they press it.



Room 4

Our class has been loving learning about cause and effect, focusing on science experiments. We have been guessing what would happen when we mix different ingredients together.

Volcanoes is a classic but a definite favourite in the class. Baking soda and vinegar can be used in so many different ways to create new and exciting experiments.

