

WEEK 8 KAWERONGO - NEWSLETTER

5 September 2025

Kia ora koutou,

Last week at AIMS games Tauranga Special School had eight students competing in three sports - cross country, table tennis and indoor bowls.

Our amazing ākonga walked away with a gold in table tennis, gold and bronze in the indoor bowls singles competition, gold in the indoor bowls pairs competition, silver and bronze in the boys cross country and bronze in the girls cross country.



Ngā mihi
Barrie Wickens
Tumuaki Principal

Important dates:

12 Sept	Ra Whakangahau Kapa Haka
19 Sept	Last day of Term 3
24 Oct	Staff Only Day (no school this day)

Room 3



Our Tamariki in Room 3 have had another wonderful term! We have been learning to demonstrate an understanding of our names in literacy, looking closely at phonics sounds and how they help us read and write. In maths, we've been exploring Numicon and using it to develop our number knowledge through fun, hands-on activities. The students have enjoyed working together, building confidence, and celebrating their progress. Ka pai, Room 3!

Some of our students had the pleasure of attending the Kapa Haka Festival in Bethlehem, hosted by Tauranga Special School. It was a wonderful opportunity to admire the hard work and dedication of all the performers – such talent and pride on display! At Base, we also enjoy weekly Kapa Haka sessions with Whaea Josie, where our tamariki continue to grow in confidence and connection with te ao Māori through waiata and Kapa Haka.

Pāpāmoa College - Shane's class



It's been a busy term as always. During maths we have started to explore numicon, familiarising ourselves with the colourful shapes and how they relate to numbers. In literacy our class text related to one of our favourite waiata from morning hui - Rona and the Moon. We delved into emotions and feelings, identifying how Rona felt at different stages of the story and connecting this with an art project as we made our own 'Zones Masks'.

We've dedicated a lot of time to preparation for AIMS Games and the Specialist Schools Kapa Haka Festival which Tauranga Special School hosted this year. We combined regular visits to Waipuna Park to explore the cross country course and engage in regular training, as well as making the most of sunny days at school to get out and be active. Kapa haka is part of our daily routine in class - every day we select a few waiata to sing to start, and on Friday we visit base for a session with Whaea Josie.

Lastly, I'd like to welcome Whaea Nat into the class who will be onsite every Wednesday. It's great to have her with us - we will all profit from her knowledge and experience.

Pāpāmoa College - Brendon's class



Term 3 has been super busy for the SPEC students at Papamoa College. We have been exploring 'Techno Tools' as part of SPEC and this has meant that some of our students are now sending emails to the people in our lives.

We love to take photos and we are using these to create great stories and recounts about our adventures. The Kapa Haka festival was a huge highlight for us with some of the students being super brave and going up on stage. It definitely inspired several others to jump up there as well given half a chance.

We also got to welcome back our lovely Khy who has been away for quite some time. We really missed her smile and cheekiness. We are looking forward to having everyone back on deck fulltime and ready for more adventures.

Pāpāmoa College - Janel's class

Swimming Sessions



Library Time



Rotations: Rakau Making



Exploring Numicon Tiles



Kapa Haka Festival



Technology in Practice



Our tamariki enjoyed a variety of weekly activities including swimming, library time, Kapa Haka, and class rotations. A proud moment was performing at our school's Kapa Haka Festival – they shone on stage and gave it their all!

In numeracy, we explored Numicon Tiles, making maths more hands-on and engaging. As part of our Technology theme, students explored using a remote control car, paper shredder, and kitchen appliances such as a kettle, microwave, stove top, Nutribullet, electric mixer, and oven. They built confidence using these tools – and loved tasting what they created!

We were also excited to welcome some new faces to our class: Lacey, Whaea Mems, Carina, and myself. Thank you all for such a warm welcome to our kura – it's great to be part of the Pāpāmoa College and Tauranga Special School whānau!

CELEBRATING GREAT THINGS HAPPENING THROUGH PARTNERSHIP AND CONNECTION

A WEEK IN SNAPSHOT



MANA KAHA

OBSERVATIONS & ANALYSIS

NOTICING STRENGTHS, CHALLENGES & ENGAGEMENT OF TAMARIKI

SHARING IDEAS, DATA, EVIDENCE & PRACTICE

WHĀNAU CONTACT

PHONE CALLS, TEXTS, EMAILS, KŌRERO & HUI

PARTNERING ALONGSIDE, WORKING TOGETHER

REFERRAL MEETINGS

CURRENT SUPPORTS, ACTIONS NEEDED & FUTURE PLANNING

ĀKONGA PATHWAYS & STEPS TO GET THERE

AGENCY LIAISON

SEEKING INFORMATION, SHARING UPDATES, LINKING WITH WHĀNAU

LOCAL AGENCY SUPPORTS, FUTURE PLANNING

REFLECTION & LEARNING

SUCCESSES, CHANGES, RESOURCES, PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

COLLECTIVE MAHI & PERSPECTIVES TO
FOSTER SUCCESS

WE ARE YOUR MANA KAHA TEAM – HELPING YOUR TAMARIKI BE
THE BEST THEY CAN BE!