

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**WEST END TE
KURA Ō MŌRERE**

WEEK 6 TERM 3 2026

Tena koutou

Last Friday and Monday this week we had our Teacher Only Days at school. With the introduction of a new mathematics and statistics curriculum the government allowed all schools two days to develop understanding of the changes. We spent part of Friday visiting two local schools. The teachers enjoyed seeing how other teachers work with the new curriculum and the government provided resource- Maths, no problem. We then spent the rest of the time working at school on unpacking the new documents, developing plans for delivering the curriculum and problem solving the challenges at our school. Our aim is to always give our students the best possible chance to succeed in their learning and these days were excellent in giving the staff time to improve.

TATARAKIHI

This year the Tatarakihi kapahapa festival takes place in Hawera on the 10th of September. There will be a dress rehearsal the week before at Devon Intermediate. Our Tuakana at Devon will also perform for us. The dress rehearsal will be a great opportunity for whanau to see our students perform, if they cannot make it to Hawera. Whaea Carri Anne has sent out permission forms and information to parents. Please make sure you have read and return the important information.

FRESH AIR CHALLENGE

Next week we are doing the Fresh Air Challenge. This is to log the different ways students come to school. We are wanting to continue to encourage children to bike, scooter or walk to school. Dropping your child off and walking into school is also encouraged. We need to build up our students ability to walk down the road into school instead of dropping off at the door and picking up the same. If you drop your child off at Belt Road or at the taekwando hall they can walk safely into school.

CROSS COUNTRY

This term we are all practicing for the school cross country. This takes place at our school on Wednesday 26th August. We are doing a 'traditional' cross country where students will run a set distance. They can either be competitive or run socially. We are focusing on all students completing their age group course and persevere, even when it is hard. Start times are on HERO.

We will select a team to take part in the New Plymouth Cross Country. This takes place at Vogeltown Park on Monday 14th September. This is for 9 year olds and up.

The Taranaki Cross Country is in the last week of term. Any student from 9 years old can go. This event is in Hawera and will be the responsibility of the family to arrange travel and supervision. The school will arrange the registration.



Room 4 learning about myrtle rust

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

Parent/Caregiver Feedback Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our annual survey about how the school is doing. The survey forms an important part of the School Board's work and helps guide where we focus our efforts.

A consistent theme in the feedback is the high regard that you have for our teachers and staff. One comment that we felt reflected the feedback well was:

"The school is fantastic, and the teachers are incredible."

Thank you to our staff for the outstanding work you continue to do every day. We know this positive feedback reflects the care, commitment, and effort you bring to our school. If you have the opportunity, please let our staff know how much you appreciate them too.

We also heard valuable feedback about areas where we can continue to improve. Key themes included:

- Improving communication about what is happening throughout the term and year, so families have more notice and opportunities to be involved.
- Clarifying the best ways to communicate with your child's teacher, whether through Hero or in person.
- Continuing to develop and strengthen our wellbeing and behaviour support processes to ensure they are consistent across the school.
- Tidying up a few areas around the school grounds to enhance the overall appearance of the school.

Finally, we held a prize draw for those who completed the survey. Congratulations to our winners: Na Liu, Adele Gichard, and Angela McGregor.



Doing the draw with Craig

DATES AND EVENTS

2026

Term 3

24 Aug

26 Aug

28 Aug

3 Sept

10 Sept

14 Sept

22 Sept

25 Sept

Term 4

12 Oct

14-16 Oct

16 Oct

Enviroschool visit jnr school

School Cross Country

Daffodil Day- Dress Yellow

Tatarakihi Dress Rehearsal

Tatarakihi in Hawera

School Disco at Devon Int

Maori Language Week

New Plymouth Cross Country

Fancy Dress Dance YMCA

End of Term

Term 4 starts

Book Fair at West End

Grandparents Day

SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

The school social and fundraising committee is holding a disco at Devon Intermediate. After the success of last years event we are looking forward to putting on a great evening for our children. The Disco will start at 6.00pm and finish at 7.30pm and cost \$2 per person. There will be glow products and snacks for sale.



Senior school dance practice



Senior School boys

CANCER SOCIETY DAFFODIL DAY- 28TH AUGUST

We are registered with the Cancer Society Daffodil day fundraiser and families can donate via the attached QR code at anytime or bring in a donation to school on Friday 28th August. We are encouraging donations and to dress in yellow on the 28th.

Daffodil Day



Rob Cope Tickets



Netsafe Survey



DIGITAL SAFETY AND NETSAFE

Netsafe is inviting parents and caregivers to share their experiences of supporting children and young people to stay safe and well online. The survey asks about the challenges families face, what helps when something goes wrong online, how schools can support children and whānau, and what advice or resources would be most useful. Your feedback will help Netsafe to develop practical online safety support for parents, young people, and schools. Have your say and be in to win 1 of 5 \$150 Prezzy Cards! Scan the QR code for the survey.

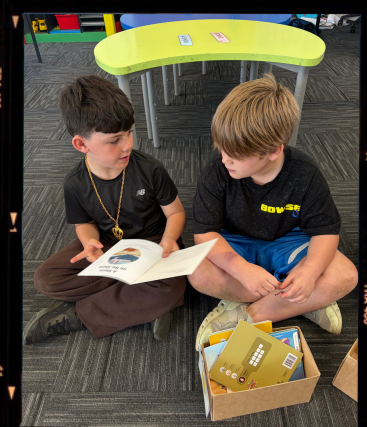
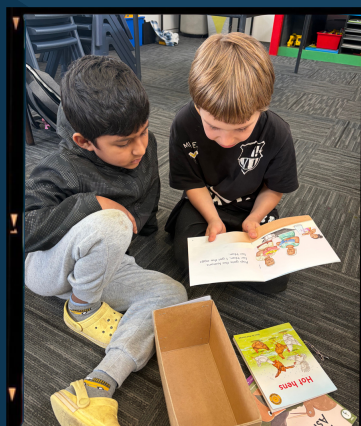
Online Safety Parent Evening!

Our school has had the privilege of being invited to join with other NP Schools for a Parent Information Evening on Online Safety by renowned filmmaker and parent educator Rob Cope. Known for his honest, upfront, informative and humorous sessions, Rob will cover:

- cyberbullying – what does it look like?
- online predators – the methods they use and how to spot them
- explicit content – how to protect and talk to our kids about it
- gaming and the developing brain – what's the big deal?
- social media and mental illness – what's the connection?
- artificial intelligence – the rise of chatbots, voice cloning, radicalisation, deepfakes
- PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS – knowledge, filters, smarter-phones, boundaries, the 3 golden rules, how to talk to your kids

This will be held on the 24th of September (week 10) from 6.30pm. Please note that this is an adults only event. Get your tickets by scanning the QR Code.

This is an extremely important topic for our community and we therefore request that at least one person from each of our school families attends. If the \$10 ticket cost is a barrier for you, we do have a handful of free tickets we can issue so please contact the school office.



**Buddy
Reading- Room
8 & Room 3**

TERM 4 SPORT



WE WANT YOU

We have posted a list of sports available for term 4 this year.

- Cricket- Softaball and possibly hardball
- Soccer
- Hockey
- Touch Rugby

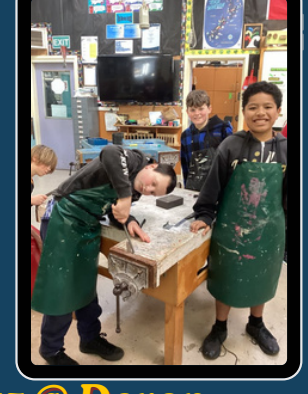
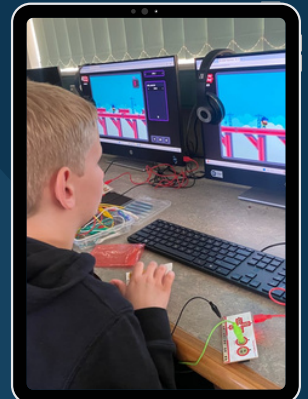
These teams are for giving your children a chance to enjoy participating and learning a new physical activity.

We need your help with managing these teams. We cannot run the teams without your help. Please fill out the survey as soon as possible. Your child is expected to commit to the whole season and not drop out after a few games. This makes it really challenging for the rest of the team.



TECHNOBITZ

The year 6 students recently visited Devon Intermediate for Technobitz. They had the chance to take part in a technology lesson with one of the specialist technology teachers. They had performing arts, cooking, ICT, and hard tech as options to try. If you have not enrolled your year 6 child in an intermediate school, we encourage you to get in contact with your preferred school.



Technobitz @ Devon