

MOKOIA INTERMEDIATE NEWSLETTER



TERM 1 WEEK 5 | 28TH FEBRUARY 2025

MATUA RAWIRI'S SHOUT OUT

Kia Ora Parents, Caregivers, and Whānau,

I'd like to use this opportunity to formally introduce myself. I have taken over from Jackie Jones as the Deputy Principal in charge of pastoral care. Jackie is currently on refreshment leave for the year. I have really enjoyed my first few weeks at Mokoia, the staff and students have been truly welcoming.

I have been teaching for almost 30 years in the Rotorua region. I started my teaching journey at Owata Primary School and lived on the Eastside for many years.

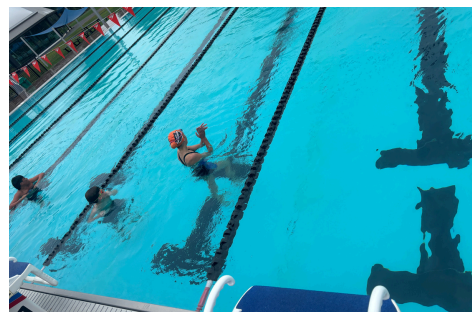
I have been really fortunate this year as Matua Rawiri and the Board of Trustees have allowed me to bring my dog Ripley to school with me. Ripley has worked as a therapy dog at Rotorua Intermediate for the last two years. She is loving all the attention she gets at Mokoia, to tell the truth I think she is already far more popular with the staff and students than I could ever hope to be.

Should your child face any issues throughout the year that are related to their general and emotional wellbeing, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me so we can discuss possible support options.

Ngā mihi nui

Matua Dean and the "A" Team

We are limitless! We are passionate! We are Mokoia!



SWIMMING SPORTS

Congratulations to those students who braved the bad weather to take part in our competitive swimming races today. We'd also like to acknowledge all of our students, staff and caregivers for being so flexible with today's arrangements.



KEY DATES FOR TERM 1 2025

Term 1 Week 6

- Monday 3rd March - CBOP Golf Competition
- Friday 7th March - Super 11 Surfing

Term 1 Week 7

- Wednesday 12th March - Vision and Hearing
- Friday 14th March - Super 11 Tennis

Term 1 Week 8

- Tuesday 18th March - RATS Duathlon
- Wednesday 19th March - Yr 8 Vaccinations
- Friday 21st March - Super 11 Swimming
- Friday 21st March - 1/2 Day Teacher Only Day - **School Finishes at 11:30am.**

Term 1 Week 10

- Tuesday 1st April - Whānau Curriculum Evening

Term 1 Week 11

- Friday 11th April - Last Day

Whānau Curriculum Hui

We warmly invite all our whānau to join us for our **Whānau Curriculum Information Evening** on **Tuesday, 1st April, from 5:45pm to 6:45pm in the school hall.**

The New Zealand Curriculum has recently undergone a significant refresh, designed to better support our ākonga (students) in their learning journey. These updates focus on clearer learning progressions, stronger connections to real-world skills, and a more inclusive approach to education.

This evening is a great opportunity to:

- ✓ Learn about the key changes in the new curriculum and what they mean for your child.
- ✓ Understand how the new curriculum compares to the previous levels you've seen in school reports.
- ✓ See how learning at Mokoia Intermediate will align with these changes.
- ✓ Ask any questions or share any thoughts you may have.

We are here to share, inform, and support you through these changes. We look forward to seeing you there!

KEY DATES FOR 2025

Term 1

Starts - Wednesday 29th January

Ends - Friday 11th April

Friday 21st March - **1/2 Day Teacher Only Day - School Finishes at 11:30am.**

Term 2

Starts - Monday 28 April

Ends - Friday 27 June

- Friday 16th May - **1/2 Day Teacher Only Day - School Finishes at 11:30am.**

Term 3

Starts - Monday 14 July

Ends - Friday 19 September

- Friday 1st August - **1/2 Day Teacher Only Day - School Finishes at 11:30am.**

Term 4

Starts - Monday 6 October

Ends - Thursday 11th Dec



MERIT AWARD WINNERS

K1 Rumaki	Shylayka Henry - He kōtiro koi ia i ngā wā katoa. He kaha ia ki te tutuki i ngā mahi katoa ia rā. He pai te rere o tōna reo te nuinga o te wā. Tau anō ia ki te whakamaumahara i ngā kupu o ngā karakia me ngā waiata o te kura. Ko ia tētahi kōtiro hei rangatira mō āpōpō. Eke panuku e hine.
K2 Rumaki	Brock Macfarlane - He mihi nui ki a koe Brock me tō kanohi hōmiromiro ki ngā mahi marau katoa. Waihoki, tō ngana ki te hāpai i te reo Māori ki rō akomanaga. Ka tautoko koe i ō hoa ki te whakatika i ngā hapa reo me tō kaha ki te oti pai i ngā mahi kua whakaritea. Mokori anō ngā mihi ki a koe mō to kaha ki te tū hei māngai mō te whānau Kaituna. Rarawe noa iho Brock!
K3	Jack Hesford - Jack you have had a great week! You are working so hard and trying your best no matter what we are working on! Ka Rawe Jack! Keep being you and keep up the fantastic work!
K4	Lauryn Matua - Well done on an excellent start to the year. You've demonstrated your talent through your fantastic pepeha and portrait art, as well as by completing your inquiry to a high standard. Kaituna 4 is lucky to have such a kind and caring person in our class who is always encouraging and helping others. Keep up the great work!
P1	Willow Taylor - A huge shout out to you for stepping up last minute to lead Week 5's assembly as class councillors. You handled it so well, staying organised and confident - I'm really proud of you! Macy Green - A huge shout out to you for stepping up last minute to lead Week 5's assembly as class councillors. You handled it so well, staying organised and confident - I'm really proud of you!
P2	Tycho Frickey - You have worked hard at managing yourself and your time in class. Your efforts are noticed and appreciated Tycho. Well done, keep it up. 😊
P3	Amber Spence - for your bubbly, positive and enthusiastic personality. You have an amazing range of general knowledge and you are always happy to share ideas with the class. We appreciate your curiosity and individuality. Keep being you Amber. ❤️ Jay Kirkby - for the way you have settled into new routines and made some lovely new friends. You are focused, humble and always try your best. We love your caring nature and your super quirky sense of humour. Thank you Jay. You rock. ❤️😎
W1	Finley Jarmey - You have shown Whakaiti and Upoko Pakaru with your passion towards Digital technology. You have really embraced this opportunity and constantly want to do bigger, better Projects, Ka Rawe, keep it up.
W2	Stellen Flay-Martin - For his amazing art work and descriptive writing. He is showing Ūpoko Pakaru in all that he does... MIHARO koe Stellen! Ben Thorlby - For his perseverance and always reflecting on his learning. True Kōmaitanga values shown daily! Ka Mau Te Wehi BEN!
W3	Bema Tuhou-Marron - You did an amazing job reading your book this week! I love how you sounded out words you didn't know, and your reading fluency is improving so well. Your dedication to reading every day is really paying off, and both Whaea Anna and I are very proud of you!
W4	Deegan Morrissey - For the way you are always polite, respectful and kind towards others. Your beautiful manners are truly a pleasure to witness. You are a wonderful classmate and friend to others. Keep it up Deegan!



UTUHINA MERIT AWARD WINNERS - TECHNOLOGY

Art/Toi Ataata

Blaine Gordon K2: Blaine you have really stepped up in Toi Ataata this term and the watercolour painting that you've created is excellent! I can't wait to see what you paint next. Ngā mihi for being an inspiration to those around you. You can be very proud of your efforts. Ka mau te wehi! ★

Karly Hunt K5: Karly the positive energy and enthusiasm that you've brought to Art this term is fantastic! You are not afraid to explore new ideas, experiment and take creative risks. I'm looking forward to seeing what you create next. We are lucky to have you in the class. ☀️

Jonty MacPherson P4: Jonty thank you for the thoughtful contribution that you made to our class discussion around portraiture and identity this week. You have a wonderful creative mind and we were all inspired by your unique perspective. You are a star! ★

Hikairo Adams Ngawhika P3: Hikairo the positive energy and enthusiasm that you bring to Toi Ataata is excellent! Thank you for being thoughtful and confident in sharing your thoughts during our class korero on portraiture. You had some really interesting insights that inspired us to think deeper about the artworks that we were exploring. He whetū koe! 😊

Olivia Filipo W1: Olivia you are such a talented and thoughtful artist! You always approach your work in such a unique and innovative way. It is exciting to see your ideas take shape. Thank you for always inspiring those around you. Keep shining bright! ☀️

Maddison Orr W2: Maddison the positive energy and enthusiasm that you bring to Art is fantastic. You are not afraid to experiment with different materials and explore new ideas. I love how you get stuck in! I hope you enjoy your time in Art this term. You are a star! ★

Food Technology

Ryan Stevens P4: Ryan is a true leader who loves to cook. He leads by example and encourages his peers to contribute. It is such a pleasure having someone like Ryan in our class, who helps Whaea Delina to keep the class in check. Those presentation skills are impressive too. Well done !

Eli Hall W2: Eli you were a wonderful leader in class this week. Supporting your buddy right throughout the lesson. What amazing leaderships skills you demonstrated and what a great start to 2025! It's such a pleasure watching you grow and develop in Food Technology.

Koda Harris P2: Koda, you demonstrated amazing skills in the food technology room and you lead by example. You work efficiently without compromising on quality, and take all the learnings on offer to you. It is such a pleasure to have you in class.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

BIKING AND SCOOTERING






Whānau we have two very important messages for those of you who have children who bike or scooter to and from school everyday.

1. It is imperative that students bring a bike lock to school and use it when putting their bikes or scooters away. As a school we are doing everything we can to ensure they are safe during the day. All bikes and scooters are locked away in the bike compound from 9am till 3pm and this can only be accessed by a staff member if needed. We also have 24hr camera surveillance on the area. However having items locked up inside will add an extra level of security and safety.

2. Travelling to and from School – Safety & Respect

We have received a growing number of concerns from both staff and the community regarding unsafe and disrespectful behaviour from some of our students while travelling to and from school on bikes and scooters.

Some of the key concerns include:

-  Unsafe road crossings – not stopping or checking for traffic.
-  Riding at extreme speeds on the wrong side of the road.
-  Not wearing helmets while riding at speed on the road. All students on bikes **must** wear helmets.
-  Riding through groups of younger primary students at high speeds.
-  Blocking pathways by standing in large groups with bikes, forcing pedestrians (including younger children) onto the road.

While many pathways are dual-use, it's important that everyone shares them with care and respect. Unfortunately, unsafe behaviour is becoming so frequent that it feels like a matter of when, not if, someone gets hurt.

We have spoken to our students about this, but we need your support as whānau to reinforce the importance of safety, respect, and responsibility on our roads and pathways. Please take the time to have these conversations at home and gently remind them that the pathways are not the forest bike tracks.

Thank you for helping us keep all our tamariki and community members safe!