27 FEB 2026

ISSUE NO. 2

KĀRETI KARERE

Message from the Principal

Community Expectations and School Values
As a school community, we are committed to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning environment for all students and staff.
Our core values — Respect (Me Māhaki), Responsibility (Me Ngākau Titikaha), Resilience (Me Tohetoa) and Personal Identity (Tuakiritanga) — underpin everything we do. These values guide how we treat one another and how we respond when expectations are not met.

We want to be very clear about our expectations:

- Harassment of any kind — including verbal, sexual, physical, online or discriminatory behaviour — is not acceptable. This includes harassment directed toward students, staff, or members of our wider community.
- We have a zero tolerance of physical violence, threats of violence, or intimidating behaviour.
- Any actions that compromise the safety and wellbeing of others are taken extremely seriously.

We actively manage sitiuations where students do not meet the our expectations in accordance with our Behaviour Management Plan and the school's disciplinary procedures. Consequences will reflect the seriousness of the behaviour and our responsibility to maintain a safe learning environment.
We remind you that online threats are in breach of our internet agreement and code of conduct around the Harmful Digital Communications Act.

We are working alongside Police Youth Aide in educating our students around assault, fighting, and online bullying.

We regularly promote and reinforce our expectations through assemblies, conversations and reward systems. We know when we have clear expectations, classrooms are spaces where learning can happen and students can achieve their potential.

We encourage all whānau to support us in reinforcing these expectations with your young people at home. Working together, we can ensure our school remains a place where everyone feels safe, valued and able to learn.

Ngā mihi
Andrew Lau
Acting Principal.

Athletics

This day required a true team effort, and it was fantastic to see so many staff stepping up, supporting students, running events efficiently, and creating such a positive atmosphere throughout the day. Because of your support and commitment, it was a great day for everyone involved.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and it was awesome to see the participation, house spirit, and encouragement on display.

A special congratulations to Maurua-Ki-Tua for the win.

Nā Micaela McKenzie

Maurua Whānau Hui

Big mihi to all our parents who showed up at our first Maurua Hui. Also, congratulations again to Matua Hemi Williams who will continue to be our BOT representative. Next hui, at the end of term one, an email will be sent out to all parents. Our aim, is to have all 90 plus parents to the hui.

Athletics Day Placings

Junior Boys
Magnes Biddle 1st
Hail Warren 2nd

Intermediate Boys
Takimoana Hei 1st
Shaye Maui-Mason 2nd

Senior Boys
Te Mana Mani 1st
Rakena Nepe,
Omarumaomao Poihipi
and Chris Paruru 2nd Equal
Boy

Important information for students and whānau

Another reminder to our community, we encourage all our whānau to stay up to date with school activities and events. Please follow our Facebook and Instagram pages, and join our Skool Loop app for important updates about the school and upcoming activities.

If whānau have any concerns, please phone the office on 07 315 7022, or alternatively, drop by and visit us at 22 Saint John Street, Ōpōtiki.

Touch

Touch season has started for the school this term. With heaps of interest from tauira accross the year groups. We are fortunate to have members from the community and ex-students volunteer their time and matauranga to our kura and tauira. Special thank you to everyones support!

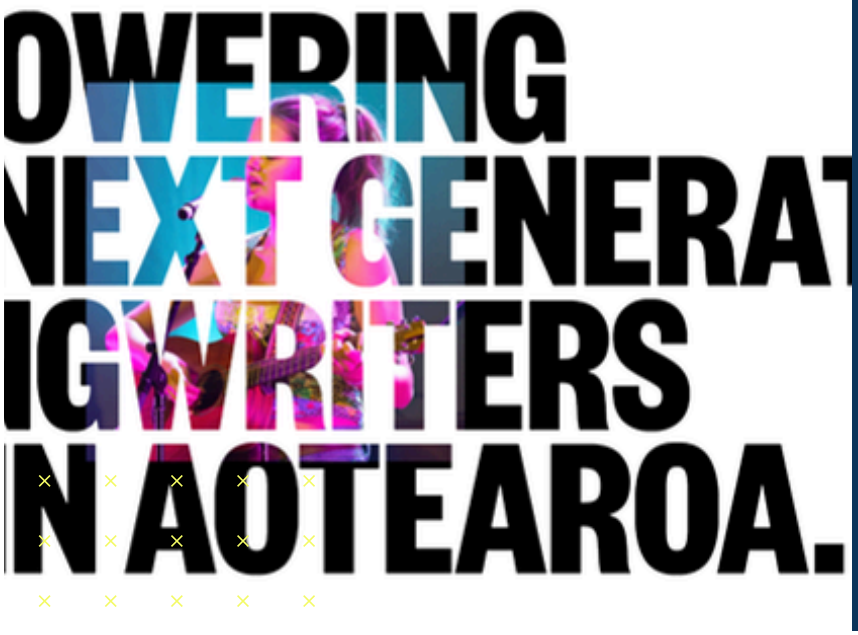
Sports

Winter Sport Musters have begun for our tauira. Keep an eye and ear out for future pānui regarding sports, events and trainings for our rangatahi!

Attendance

We continue to have a massive amount of students with 100% attendance. keep up the awsome work e te whānau!

PLAY IT STRANGE

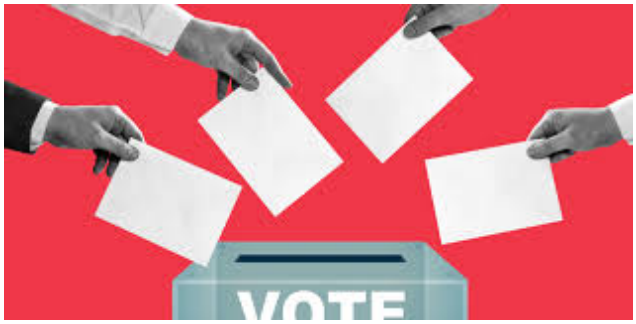


Music competition

- Name: Play It Strange
- Purpose: Give students across Aotearoa the opportunity to showcase their songwriting skills and win prizes
- Link: https://www.playitstrange.org.nz/
- Categories: Junior (Years 9-11)
- Open NZ: Years 9-13
- Waiata Maori: Open

Board of Trustee Nominations

Your child should have brought home voting papers for whānau to select a new parent representative for our Board of Trustees. As you know, Glenn Phipps, our previous parent representative, will be stepping into the role of Principal, so we now need someone else to fulfil this position. Please drop completed forms at the office! Nominations close midday Monday 9 March.



Volleyball Competition

Our volleyball teams have been training every week and will be away this Friday as they head to their competition. We wish all our teams the best of luck and hope they enjoy their time away. Keep an eye out for pānui and photos from their weekend.

Athletics Day Placings

Junior Girls
Te Rina Kurei 1 st Girl
Layla Waugh 2nd Girl

Intermediate Girls
Emanuelle Waititi 1st
Madison Munro 2nd

Senior Girls
Taliah Munro 1st
Kavayla Clay 2nd

IMPORTANT DATES

WEEK 5

- Monday 2 Defensive Driving Course
- Tuesday 7 March Canteen Open at Lunch and New Sports Uniform Photo-Shoot
- Thursday 8 March Canteen Open Interval
- Friday 6 March Level 2 & 3 Aquaculture Zip Lining in Rotorua and New Sports Uniform Photo-Shoot

WEEK 6

- Monday 9 March Defensive Driving Course
- Tuesday 10 House Swimming Sports TBC
- Wednesday 11 March Defensive Driving Course
- Thursday 12 March Canteen Open at Interval and Competition Swimming Sports: TBC
- Friday 13 March Volleyball Competition