



SAVE THE DATES!

2025 Term Dates:

- Term 1: Thursday 30 January- Friday 11 April
- Term 2: Monday 28 April - Friday 27 June
- Term 3: Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September
- Term 4: Monday 6 October - Friday 12 December

Assemblies for Term 1: (1:45 - 2:30pm)

- Friday 14th February - Kawakawa (hosting)
- Friday 28th February - Harakeke
- Friday 14th March - Koromiko and Pohutukawa
- Friday 28th March - Maanuka
- Friday 11th March - ANZAC Special Assembly

Get Set Go Day - Year 3/4 Sports @ Horotiu

- Thursday 20th February

Harakeke EOTC (Camp) Experience

- Thursday 20th - Friday 21st February

School Swimming Sports

- Thursday 6th March (postponement day
Friday)

Interschool Swimming Sports @ St Paul's Collegiate

- Thursday 20th March (no postponement
day)

Year 5-8 Waka Kopapa Regatta

- Friday 21st March

Horotiu School Gala Meeting:

- Wednesday 19th February, 2.30pm in the
staffroom.

Horotiu School Gala:

- Sunday 6th April, 9am-1pm
We'd love as many families to help out on
the day as possible please as we strive
together for success :)

Reports Home to Whaanau

- Friday 11th April

Teacher Only Days for 2025:

- Thursday 19th June (No school on Friday
20th either for Matariki Holiday)
- Friday 22nd August

Panui/ Newsletter: February 2025

Principal's Message! *A Note from Jo:*

Kia ora e te whaanau,

I'm thrilled to announce that I've been appointed as the Lead Principal for the He Waka Eke Noa Kaahui Ako. This is a fantastic opportunity for both myself and Horotiu School. Our school will now be part of a larger network of 14 schools, several Early Childhood Centres, and Wintec, working together to support collaboration, professional development, and shared goals.

What does this mean for Horotiu School?

My commitment to Horotiu School remains my top priority. While this new role will require me to dedicate approximately two days a week to Kaahui Ako activities (these days may vary), I will continue to be your principal.

When I am involved in Kaahui Ako work, Karen Purdy (Deputy Principal) will be the designated leader here at school, managing day-to-day matters while continuing with her current responsibilities. I will also be readily available by phone and email.

The Kaahui Ako's focus is on supporting principals and teachers across the network, which directly aligns with our goals here at Horotiu. I'm excited to bring new ideas and best practices from this wider group back to our school. This network includes schools such as Aberdeen, Crawshaw, Forest Lake, Frankton, Fraser High School, Maeroa Intermediate, Nawton, Rhode Street, Te Kowhai, Te Akau, Vardon, Whatawhata, and Whitiara, as well as Early Childhood Centres and Wintec. We also look forward to sharing our own successes and having even more networking opportunities.

This is a wonderful chance for us to learn from and contribute to a larger educational community, ultimately benefiting all our students. Thank you for your continued support! I look forward to sharing the positive outcomes of this new role with you.

It was great to catch up with students and many of our whaanau over the first few weeks. I look forward to an amazing year!

Notices:

Save the Date: Horotiu School’s Annual Gala: Sunday 6th April, 9am-1pm

It’s that time of year again when we need to start planning for our major fundraising event of the year, our Annual School Gala. The date for this is set down for Sunday 6th April, 9am-1pm (please note this in your diary and underline it). Later in the term we will be calling on all Horotiu School families to join our school staff to help make the day a success. And as the saying goes, more hands make light work and it really is a fun and fantastic day when everything goes to plan.

To get us started right now though, we would appreciate anyone keen to be involved with the planning group to **please attend our initial Gala Planning Meeting in the staffroom on Wednesday 19th February at 2.30pm**. We will discuss how the Gala works, what we need help with and note down any new ideas/suggestions. All are welcome to the meeting and all involvement in the Gala organisation on the day and in the weeks leading up to it, is greatly appreciated!

For anyone wishing to help get the word out into the community about our Gala, feel free to drop into the office and collect some Horotiu School Gala posters and/or share the [Horotiu School Gala Facebook](#) page with friends and family.

Board Elections: 10th September 2025

Just a heads up well ahead of time - The Board Elections are coming up again this year and as always we want to give everyone an opportunity to either put their own name forward or nominate someone else who you think would be great on our school Board.

School board members are active leaders in our school and play an important role in supporting leadership and ensuring effective teaching practices for all students through informed governance. School boards need to represent the diversity of their school communities. The school board elections are the opportunity to vote for candidates who will make a positive difference for our children’s education.

Start thinking now and we’ll forward out further information as the Election date nears.

Mad Cow Drumming and Guitar Lessons

These are up and running again this term. Lessons run in conjunction with the school term and in groups of two students for 20 minutes, on-site during the school day. Further information and registrations can be found by emailing madcowlessons@gmail.com



Fire Drill Practice

We recently ran a fire drill which went to plan with all students and staff making their way to our Emergency Meeting Area in a sensible and timely manner.

Well done one and all!

Celebrations:

Whoop! Whoop! Our Attendance Rates are Rising!

We are excited to see the increase in regular attendance of our students here at school. We are currently exceeding the Ministry of Education’s attendance goal and of course, want to also to have children here as often as possible. Keep up the good work parents, regular attendance makes such a difference for your children’s learning and social development.

Opening of our New Water Play Area

We were excited to open our new school water play area on Friday. This is an area that has multi-purposes. Whilst providing another area for students to play and problem-solve, it also provides the much needed water that our Memory Tree needs, particularly in the heat of summer. It was awesome to see the water flow as part of our blessing, and big kids and little kids alike playing in various parts of it. Although you can’t see it in photos, one of the best things about it was the conversation it created amongst students as they played together and came up with ways of trapping and releasing water.



Librarians 2025

Congratulations to these librarians who have been successful in their applications and will be our 2025 Librarians:

Eslet Aloua-Carter, Lily Ardell, Zoey Kelsall, Wikky Nathan-Barrett, Te Whiorangi Gray-King, Connor Fouhy, Liam Ardell, Harper Dornan, Scarlett Paurini, Georgia Starnes, Charlie Pullan, Jennifer-Maree Turner, Natalie Jones-Brock, Izzy Cossar, Nishi Kumar, Mikaere Selkirk and Ashton Griffin.

Meet the Teacher/Whaanau Picnic Day - A Huge Success!

Our Meet the Teacher/Whaanau Picnic Day that took place on Friday 7th February was a great day for all involved. It was great to see so many of our children in attendance that day and to be able to catch up with family in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. The weather was perfect for the opening our Water Play area and with Captain Castles’ bouncy castles, it made for an awesome day.



Health Updates:

Year 7 and Year 8 Immunisations

The Year 7 immunisation for Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough (Boostrix) will be undertaken during Term 1 as well as the Year 8 Immunisation for HPV (Human Papillomavirus) which can develop into cervical cancer. Consent forms will be sent home with every Year 7 and 8 student for their relevant immunisation. There is a provision on the form for your non-consent should you wish for that. Every form must be completed and returned to the school, regardless of whether your child has consent for the immunisation or doesn't.

As part of this programme, DVD video screening will be shown to our Year 7 & 8 students. If you do not want your child to view the DVDs, please let Whaea Alex or Whaea Antonia know so your child can be excused. - Kind regards, Barbara Phillips-Walters (Public Health Nurse).

Hearing and Vision Checks

Vision Hearing Technicians from Community and Southern Rural Health will be visiting our school on Thursday 27th March. The objective of the test is to identify previously undetected vision and hearing problems.

Which children are routinely checked?

- Children who have not completed vision and hearing checks as part of their B4 School Check
- Children absent from previous visit, require rescreens or follow up
- New Immigrants
- Year 7 student's vision only

If there is a genuine hearing concern, parents/caregivers or teachers may request a hearing check (please note parents must consent to this). If there is a concern regarding vision, parents/caregivers are encouraged to seek advice from an optometrist. A subsidy is available for families/whanau that have a Community Services card or High Use Health card.

What tests are carried out?

Ears

- Audiometry (hearing test)
- Tympanometry – middle ear function test (only carried out when hearing test is not within a normal range)

Eyes

Long distance vision tests – not a complete visual examination, but a simple screening test. All of these checks are non-invasive, safe and should cause no discomfort. The Vision Hearing Technician will notify parents/caregivers of all test results.

The Vision Hearing Technician will obtain personal details from the school ie; names, date of birth and contact parents/caregivers if needed. The service may share this information with other health professionals involved in the children's care. If any parents/caregivers do not want their child to be checked, or their child is currently under specialist care for their vision or hearing, they should let the school know.



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y4/5
Kawakawa Y5/6



Y7-8

Around the Hubs

Pohutukawa

What a great start we have made to the year in Pohutukawa. A lovely small class of five tamariki so far. We have been doing art, learning about bike safety, how to ride a bike and water play for maths.



Koromiko (Year 1-2)

We have had a busy start to the year in Koromiko!

The tamariki have been trying their best to learn the different groups they are in for learning, what our routines are, and looking after our classroom. They have been settling into school very well and we are seeing lots of active learners!

Some of our tamariki have been learning about devices and how to use these during learning time to supplement their learning. 8 of our kids were 'Diamond miners' this week for completing their goal of 20 activities at school and at home on StepsWeb. Ka pai to mahi!

So far we have been learning about Waitangi Day and our pepeha during Te Reo time, which the children will start sharing with the class during morning routine next week.



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y4/5
Kawakawa Y5/6



Y7-8



Harakeke (Year 3-4)

It is fantastic to see our tamariki back at school and settling into their routines with enthusiasm and focus. We were privileged to have a special blessing for our new water play feature at our kura. Our students are incredibly fortunate to have this wonderful space for exploration and learning.

A quick reminder that our EOTC (Education Outside of the Classroom) experience is happening in Week 4. We kindly ask whaanau to complete the form linked to ensure everything is in place for this exciting adventure. [EOTC Form](#)

Ngaa
Whaea Kiri and Whaea Mac

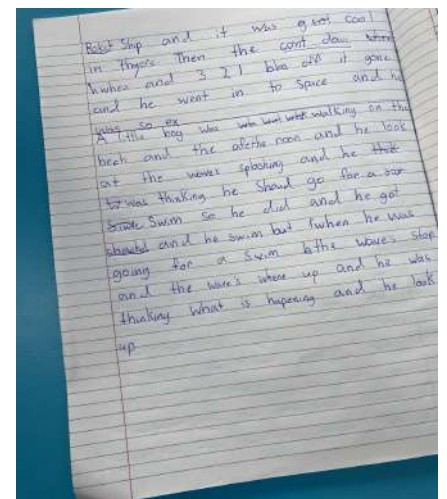
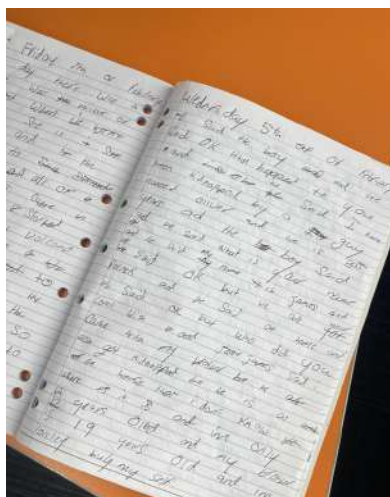


Kawakawa 4/5 (Year 4 & 5):



It has been a fantastic start to the year and we have jumped straight into learning our daily routines and getting stuck into our mahi. Our tamariki have really enjoyed doing 'Quick Writes' in the afternoon and having the opportunity to share their stories with the class if they wish.

It has been lovely seeing everyone coming back to school ready to learn and I am excited to do lots of learning and have fun over the rest of the term.



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y4/5
Kawakawa Y6



Y7-8



Kawakawa 5/6 (Year 5/6)

We are really enjoying the start of the year! Kawakawa 5/6 have all set up their Banquer bank accounts and have been earning money while learning about income, expenses, and, most recently, careers.

We are also training to become Peer Mediators, and I'm excited about the leadership that has already been demonstrated in this space. We look forward to supporting students in the playground as they navigate conflicts around the school.

Last week, we were thrilled to dive into the new Mathematics curriculum. Each of us received our own workbooks and worked in pairs using the new equipment. Below are some photos of us using place value equipment to help solve problems.



Maanuka (Year 7/8):

Maanuka tamariki and kaiako have had a settling start to 2025 while getting to know each other and establishing our normal classroom routines. We have started our Tech program of Sewing with Whaea Antonia, Printmaking with Ms Purdy, Cooking with Whaea Alex and Hard materials with Matua Gig.

Sewing: Tamariki are attempting to sew aprons. They have learned sewing skills such as using a fabric pattern as a template, pinning and cutting fabric straight. They have also been using sewing machines and learning how to sew straight with these.

Cooking: Tamariki are learning about safe food preparation including knife skills and food hygiene as well as developing an understanding of different cooking techniques (kitchen verbs).

Hard Materials: We have been exploring Ngaakau Kaitiaki, Kotahitanga, Manaakitanga and Maaoritanga through the waka of mahi raakau (wood working). Students have worked hard to keep themselves and others safe and to thrive and build their understanding together. They have along the way created some amazing clocks, treat dispensers, couch arm coasters and our year 8's have started their graduation hoe.

Visual Design - Printmaking: Students have been exploring a variety of printmaking techniques from lino/block printing to screenprinting to digital prints and sublimation techniques. As an outcome, students have designed and completed art prints, personalised keyrings, pencil cases and jars.



Are your Contact Details Up-to-Date?

If you have changed your contact details please take a couple of minutes to let us know via email office@horotiu.school.nz or via text on 027 829 9010.

Home and School Learning Support:

Mrs Foster - Learning Support Coordinator (LSC) & Better Start Literacy Approach Facilitator

It has been wonderful to reconnect with students and their whaanau after a long summer holiday. This year, my role is changing slightly as I will be supporting both students and teachers with BSLA (Better Start Literacy Approach) and the new English Curriculum - Years 0-6.

As part of my mahi, I will work with small groups of students in Koromiko, Harakeke and Kawakawa spaces. This term, twenty four students will receive extra reading sessions four times a week as part of our plan to boost reading confidence and skills in word reading and spelling.

My Learning Support Coordinator role continues as usual. The Ministry of Education estimates that around one in five children will need learning support at some point during their schooling. This might be because of disability, learning difficulties, physical, mental or behaviour issues. At Horotiu, your child’s classroom teacher refers students for additional learning support. Together, we use the strengths and knowledge of everyone in the team to access resources, targeted support and services. Learning support is most effective when provided at the right time and tailored to the strengths, needs and aspirations of learners and their whaanau - all part of striving together for success.

I’m looking forward to the rest of this term and to 2025.
Maa te waa - See you soon.



A Few Pics from our First Few Weeks:



Are your Contact Details Up-to-Date?

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HOROTIU SCHOOL GALA

**SUNDAY
6TH APRIL 2025**

9am - 1pm

- QUICK FIRE RAFFLES •
- RIDES • SILENT AUCTIONS •
- MYSTERY ENVELOPES • GAMES •
- KAPA HAKA • ENTERTAINMENT •
- SAUSAGE SIZZLE & KAI •
- STALLS • RIDES •
- AND MORE! •



**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

Kelly Club:

Before- and After-School Care

We understand how hard it is to juggle the workday schedule, and find safe, fun, high-quality care for your children. Kelly Club is a place where kids have heaps of fun, and feel they are at a home away from home.

Kelly Club's high-quality programmes are carefully designed in conjunction with the Horotiu School and community to provide the service that best suits your children. The friendly staff are passionate about working with children. They are provided with training on child protection, behaviour management techniques, first aid, art and craft, sport and cooking activities. Kelly Club offers set activities each day including crafts, cooking and sports over the week during our after school care.

OSCAR Subsidies

Kelly Club is an OSCAR approved provider and complies with all of MSD's childcare requirements. Qualifying families can therefore receive WINZ subsidies towards their fees. Click on the Kellyclub link below for more information.

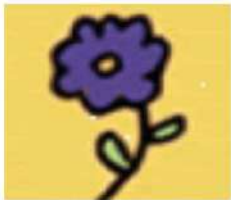
TO BOOK: <https://kellyclub.co.nz/horotiu>

Phone: 07 8399017

Email: horotiu@kellyclub.co.nz

Facebook: @KellyClubHorotiu

Looking for a Playcentre?



Did you know on the Horotiu School site we also have Horotiu Playcentre? They provide early childhood education sessions where the caregivers are the first educators with the playcentre philosophy of child initiated play. Watch you child develop and gain great life skills and friendship, through positive guidance. We also provide free adult education, whanau cooperative and above all fun.

Birth - School Age

Multiple Sessions throughout the week
9.00 am - 12 noon

3 FREE Visits, under 2's FREE
Spaces Available Now!

For more information
Horotiu Playcentre Facebook Page
Email: horotiu@playcentre.org.nz



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