



# HOROTIU SCHOOL

Te Kura o Horotiu

Horotiu Bridge Road, RD8, Hamilton 3288  
(07) 829 9892

office@horotiu.school.nz  
www.horotiu.school.nz



## SAVE THE DATES!

### 2025 Term Dates:

Term 2: Monday 28 April - Friday 27 June

Term 3: Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September

Term 4: Monday 6 October - Friday 12 December

### Transition to School (New Entrants to Pohutukawa):

- Wednesday 21 May

### Year 7/8 Technology:

- Friday 23 May
- Friday 18 July

### Schoolwide Marae Visits:

- Thursday 29th May
- Friday 30th May

### Kings Birthday Public Holiday - No School

- Monday 2 June  
Enjoy the day with family and friends.

### Ngaruawahia High School Open Morning for Y7/8

#### Students:

- Wednesday 4 June

### Year 8 Winter Sports Exchange:

- Thursday 5 June

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

- Friday 6 June
- Friday 27 June

### Junior Tough Guy & Girl Event @ CYC, Ngaruawahia:

- Thursday 12 June  
(if registered, we'll meet you there)

### Year 7/8 Ki-o-Rahi Tournament @ Horotiu School:

- Friday 13 June

### Matariki Celebrations:

- Monday 16 June - Bucket Potatoes home for planting
- Tuesday 17 June - Awa Planting Day
- Wednesday 18th June - Hautapu Ceremony on our back field 6.30-7.30am

### Term 2 Teacher Only Day:

- Thursday 19 June  
(followed by Matariki public holiday)

### Matariki Public Holiday - No School

- Friday 20 June  
- Enjoy the day with whaanau!

### PB4L Reward Breakfast:

- Thursday 26 June

### Final day of Term 3:

- Friday 27 June (assembly in the afternoon)

## Panui/ Newsletter: May 2025

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

Kia ora e te whaanau,

It was awesome to see so many of you in school last week discussing school reports with teachers. If you haven't yet had a chance to connect with your child's teacher, please know they can make time to catch up over the next few weeks. This is a valuable opportunity to plan together for the remainder of the year and discuss how best to support your child's ongoing development and learning.

My additional role this year has provided me with the wonderful opportunity to visit other schools and observe the great things happening across our wider educational community. It has truly reinforced how special our kura is – the heart of our community, where our tamariki thrive. We hope our mothers (and others) thoroughly enjoyed the coffees and slices last Friday as part of our Mother's Day acknowledgement, a small token of our appreciation for all whaanau do.

Here is the link to our [community survey](#) which helps us to plan strategically for the next three years. Feedback from previous surveys has resulted in new and improved initiatives and ways of doing things at our school. Not all suggestions will come to life but we value and then take time to read and reflect on all answers. Also a link to our bi-annual [Health Education Consultation](#).

Finally, please ensure you have marked our local area's Teacher Only Day in your calendars for Thursday 19th June. This falls just before the Matariki long weekend, providing a wonderful four-day break for you to enjoy with your children.

We appreciate your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education.

Jo

## Celebrations & Notices:

### Congratulations and Farewells:

Whilst feeling very excited, we are also a little sad to say that Miss Britney Stirling will be leaving us at the end of Term 2.

If you didn't know already, Britney is a dedicated power lifter who has many achievements under her belt and she has accepted a fantastic role in the world of personal training. We are super proud of Britney and all that she has achieved in her time here, both in school and beyond. Britney will still remain on our list of relievers so we look forward to seeing her in school occasionally as well, so it's not 'farewell' but more, 'bye for now'.

We are also sad to farewell Miss Mikayla Callaghan who has an amazing opportunity to move with her partner and family overseas. Her partner, Quintony, has been offered a contract to play rugby in Hong Kong. Whaea Mac will take a years leave for this opportunity and will go halfway through Term 3.

We are currently in the process of planning who will work in the Kawakawa 4/5 and the Harakeke space and will let you know as soon as we can confirm details.



### Horotiu School's ANZAC Service & Ngaruawahia Civic Service:

Here are some glimpses of our school ANZAC service held under our Memory Tree last term. The service was student lead and they did a great job. A big thank you to Michael for returning again this year to play the bagpipes for us. This makes it a very special experience.

All our handmade wreaths were laid at the Ngaruawahia Cenotaph on ANZAC Day.





## Celebrations & Notices:

### Kids Lit Quiz

Last week, our brilliant bookworms, Wikky Barrett, Lily Ardell, Zoey Kelsall, and Eslet Aloua-Carter represented Horotiu in the annual Kids' Lit Quiz held at Berkley Intermediate.

They participated in ten challenging rounds with themes like: *Mythology, Newspapers, Statues, Urban Myths and Tricksters*. The competition put their knowledge to the test with questions like: *What was Maui's rope made of?*, *Who sank the boat in Pamela Allen's famous children's book?*, *What is the acronym for ADIDAS?* and *Who is the boy statue of (right)?* Ka pai to our Lit Quiz Team for your enthusiasm and effort!



### Junior Football Tournament



On Friday 16th of May, 4 teams of players from Koromiko and Harakeke participated in our “Cluster Schools” football tournament at Bremworth Park. The each played 4 15 minute games in a round robin format. It was a beautiful day to be outside enjoying physical exercise and developing team skills. It was also a great opportunity to use our new school vans. Lucky!

### Hive of Activity: School Beehive

*Did you know that a healthy beehive can be home to around 50,000 bees?*

Things are certainly buzzing with excitement here at Horotiu! The amazing Enviro Leaders recently hopped into our new beekeeping suits and had a close peek at our very own school beehive. They carefully inspected the thousands of busy bees at work and even helped to remove a honey frame.

The lucky tamariki in Pohutukawa class were able to sample the delicious honey straight from our hive. It was a fascinating experience, showing them exactly where that wonderful honey on their toast comes from!



## Looking Ahead:

### School Photos: Save the Date!

School photos are set down for Week 3, Term 3 - Tuesday 29 July. More information will come home closer to the time.

### Year 7/8 Students: Transition to High School and Open Days:

Not only is transition from pre-school to primary school and from hub to hub extremely important, but so too is the transition from being in a full primary school to attending a high school. Maanuka Hub is already working with the Year 8s to ensure they will flourish at their chosen school as a Year 9 in 2026.

On Wednesday 4 June, Maanuka students and teachers will be attending at Open Day at Ngaruawahia High School. This is a valuable opportunity for all Years 7 & 8 students to gain an insight to High School regardless of which school they intend to go to.

Parents, please look to support your Year 8 child successfully to high school by finding out when the Open Days are for your chosen school(s). These are starting to pop up now for some schools. If you're not sure when they are, contact your school of choice to ask.

### Matariki Celebrations:

There will be lots of learning and activities taking place at school in the lead up to this as we welcome in the Maaori new year and all that it means to us. As we do each year, we will be sending home seed potatoes with all students who are encouraged to plant and nurture them (we can see how many we grew on Ag Day in Term 3), planting along the Waikato River (just down the cycleway) and engaging with activities and events that celebrate all that Matariki brings.

Our very special Hautapu Ceremony will be at 6.30-7.30am on Wednesday 18th June. The Hautapu Ceremony is optional and students either need to return home afterwards until 8.30am or be booked into Before School Care with Kelly Club. Dress warm for the cold morning. A hangi will also be laid on this day and be available with a sausage sizzle at 12.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

A reminder that there is no school on Thursday 19th June as we hold our Teacher Only Day, nor on Friday 20th June as we as a nation, mark the importance of Matariki as a special and public holiday.



## News and Celebrations:

### Maths Curriculum Implementation at Horotiu

Over the past year, there has been a great deal of public attention on how mathematics is taught in New Zealand classrooms. However, here at our school, we've been working for much longer to foster a more positive attitude towards maths among our pupils.

Thanks to additional government funding, we were able to invest in the *Maths — No Problem!* resource, which has become a valuable tool for our teachers. This resource helps guide the scope and sequence of our maths curriculum, supports lesson planning, and suggests targeted materials to reinforce key concepts. It also supports students through the use of ‘think alouds’ and engaging, structured workbooks. We realise the true power of talking through how to attack or break down different problems, where the students are working together to solve these.

So far this year, pupils across the school have explored Place Value, Addition and Subtraction, and are now improving their understanding of Multiplication and Division. In Year 1, they have been working on an in depth knowledge of early maths concepts, laying a solid foundation. It's been especially rewarding to see not only improved results, but also an increase in student enthusiasm and their ability to articulate their thought processes using maths vocabulary.

At recent parent-teacher interviews, many caregivers shared how much their children are enjoying maths — a fantastic reflection of the positive impact of our work. It's exciting to see, watch this space!



## Home and School Learning Support:

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

In our busy lives, it's easy to get caught up in the digital world. Let's remember the power of connection and conversation, especially with our tamariki. This week, I encourage you to take a little extra time to put down the devices and chat with your children about their school day or other events in their life.

Instead of asking: *"How was school?"*, try sparking discussions with open-ended questions like:

- *"What was the most interesting thing you learned today, and why did it stand out to you?"*
- *"Can you tell me about a time you helped someone or someone helped you today?"*
- *"If you could change one thing about your day, what would it be and why?"*
- *"What made you laugh or smile today?"*
- *"What questions are you still thinking about from your lessons?"*

Taking just a few minutes to truly listen and engage with tamariki and their experiences can make a world of difference. It can foster stronger relationships and show them that their thoughts and feelings matter. Let's power down to power up our conversations!



## Around the Hubs

### Pohutukawa

Pohutukawa have been doing a lot of education outside the classroom while the weather is still good. We went for a bike ride with Matua Gig along our beautiful awa to Mangaharakeke and learnt about the Pou and the kumara pit down there and also practised our biking skills. This week we joined Kawakawa and Matua Gig to make fires and cook marshmallows. The tamariki enjoyed gathering tinder and kindling to make the fires and did some good writing afterwards.



### Koromiko

Koromiko tamariki have enjoyed some cool opportunities away from school this term! A small number went out to the Velodrome in Cambridge to test out some new bikes, and had a great time speeding around! We have been doing biking for Physical Education every Friday, and it has been cool to see the children gaining confidence on bikes.

More of our tamariki took part in a football tournament held at Bremworth Park, playing many different schools. Our 2 teams had a mix of wins and losses, but showed lots of resilience, perseverance, and great sportsmanship. There were lots of smiles and support from tamariki and whaanau on the day, we are very proud of them!



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y4/5  
Kawakawa Y5/6



Y7-8





## Harakeke (Year 3-4)

Harakeke have had a super busy start to the term. Some of our highlights have been learning the importance of being specific when doing procedural writing, how natural disasters occurs and how to prepare for them and the different parts of a wharenuī. Our focus for Physical Education has been large ball skills. We had some of our students represent Harakeke in a Football tournament.



## Kawakawa 4/5 (Year 4 & 5):

We have been doing lots of learning both in the classroom and beyond. Our tamariki have specifically enjoyed learning how to play Ki-o-Rahi. We have also been learning about fire safety and how to cook kai outdoors. This week we started our own fires and toasted marshmallows, whilst learning how to stay safe around fires.



Reception Y0



Y1-2



Y3-4



Kawakawa Y4/5  
Kawakawa Y6



Y7-8



## Kawakawa 5/6 (Year 5/6)



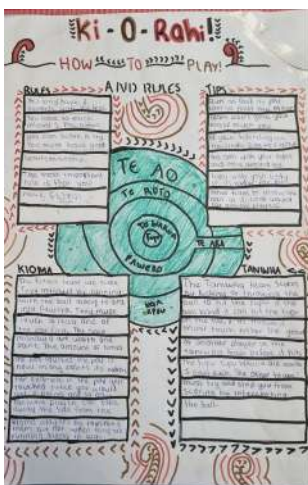
We are currently working on different winter sports during PE. We have learned skills in soccer for two weeks, we are currently practising netball skills, and next week we begin touch. Lots of fun and learning to be had in Kawakawa 5/6..



## Maanuka (Year 7/8):

Firstly, ngaa mihi nui to all the parents who took the time to meet with us during Parent/Teacher interviews, it was the best turn out yet and so valuable for you tamariki and their learning.

This term is off to a great start, tamariki have been fully engaged in Technology, showing focus, creativity, and teamwork across all areas. In PE and reading, we've been exploring the traditional Māori game of Ki o Rahi, learning the story behind the traditional Maaori game and developing our skills through fun, fast-paced games. It's been awesome to see everyone giving it a go and embracing both the cultural and physical aspects of the sport.



## 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](mailto:office@horotiu.school.nz) or via text on 027 829 9010.



## Kelly Club:

### Before- and After-School Care

We believe in giving kids opportunities to do the things they love and enjoy in a supportive and encouraging environment. We provide quality childcare in safe and fun surroundings for kids out of school.

Every week at Kelly Club we have activities based on a different theme with a different type of activity each day (Cooking, Arts & Crafts, Games, Sport, or Discovery). We vary our activities day-to-day to keep kids engaged, give them opportunities to try new things, and develop a range of skills. We encourage kids to participate, while providing options for playing fun games, quiet play and creativity

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:horotiu@playcentre.org.nz)



## Thank you to our Sponsors and Supporters:

**groundcare**  
hydroseeding — lawn + turf

• HYDROSEEDING • EROSION CONTROL • TURF MANAGEMENT  
• LAWN PREPARATION • IRRIGATION • LANDSCAPING

MINI LOADER, HARLEY RAKE, TRENCHING, HOLE DRILLING

[www.groundcare.co.nz](http://www.groundcare.co.nz)

☎ Nadia Green

☎ 027 297 2888 ☎ [office@groundcare.co.nz](mailto:office@groundcare.co.nz)

**groundcare**  
hydroseeding — lawn + turf



Be  
Respectful



Be a  
Positive  
Role-Model



**Horotiu School**  
**NEWSLETTER**

Allowing and empowering children to develop who they are now  
and inspiring them to be the best they can be.

**MAD COW**  
**MUSIC TUITION**



**Drum, Guitar and Piano**  
**Lessons Available**

Contact : Glenn Jackson

Phone: 0212020269

To book email us at:

[madcowlessons@gmail.com](mailto:madcowlessons@gmail.com)



**NEW WORLD**  
Ngaruawahia



Come and Visit us at ChocolateWorks - Horotiu's very own  
**CHOCOLATE FACTORY SHOP**  
Just an 8 minute drive North of The Spa in Horotiu

**WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT AT CHOCOLATEWORKS**

- Chocolate Almonds, Shavings and Bites
- Todd Products
- Fruity Sweets
- Wish Chocolate
- Specialty Chocolate for Gifting and Christmas
- Truffle Lollies
- And much more!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

ChocolateWorks Ltd, 110 Main Street, Horotiu, 3208  
0609 444 444  
Shop Hours 10am to 4pm weekdays