



HOROTIU SCHOOL

Te Kura o Horotiu

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www.horotiu.school.nz



SAVE THE DATES!

2026 Term Dates:

Term 2: Monday 20 April - Friday 3 July
Term 3: Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September
Term 4: Monday 12 October - Monday 14 December

Term 2 - No School Days

Monday 27th April - ANZAC Day Observed
Friday 29th May - Teacher Only Day
Monday 1st June - King's Birthday

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

Friday 24th April - ANZAC Service (1:30 start)
Friday 1st May - Maanuka
Friday 15th May - Tiitoki (Pink Shirt Day)
Thursday 28th May - Kawakawa 5
Friday 12th June - Koromiko Tahī

Powhiri - Wear School Shirt first day back

Monday 20th April

Year 7 and 8 Technology

Tuesday 21st - Friday 24th April

Parent Interviews

Tuesday 28th April 1-6 PM
Wednesday 29th 2:45-6PM

School Photos Day

Friday 1st May

Junior Football Tournament Year 1-4

Friday 15th May

Year 7 and 8 Leadership Day

Wednesday 27th May

Arts Celebration Week

Tuesday 2nd - Friday 5th June
Strike Drumming Performance - Tuesday 2nd

Year 5-6 Winter Sports Tournament - Horotiu

Friday 12th June

Friday 19th June - **Tough Guy and Gal**
Friday 26th June - **Ki o Rahi Tournament**

Matariki Celebration - Final week of Term 2

Wednesday 1st July - Awa Planting Day
Thursday 2nd July - Hautapu Ceremony

Panui/ Newsletter: March 2026

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

Kia ora e te whaanau,

It has been another full and rewarding term at Horotiu School. Aakonga have been engaged in a range of Education Outside the Classroom experiences, making the most of our local awa, roto, maunga and swimming pools. We also welcomed the Education Review Office for a recent visit, where they acknowledged the great work happening across our kura and encouraged us to continue to monitor and celebrate student success.

Teachers have been diligently preparing school reports for tamariki. These are "where your child is now" documents, designed to continue the learning conversation between home and school. This year, alongside ongoing national curriculum changes, we are honing in even more on student learning and progress. The new report template, along with the one-page overview shared, is intended to give clarity about where the government direction is heading and how we, as a school, are responding to support progress for every learner.

While there is change at a national level, what remains constant is the culture of Horotiu School. We are proud to be the heart of our community – a semi-rural kura grounded in strong relationships, local curriculum connections, and a commitment to working together for success.

You will have the opportunity to meet kanohi ki te kanohi at our upcoming parent/caregiver hui (Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th April), where we can continue the koorero about your child's learning.

As usual we will be having a powhiri on the first day back - Monday 20th April so students can wear their school shirts to welcome newbies to school. ANZAC Day falls within the first week back too, we will be holding our school ANZAC commemoration on Friday 24th April at 1:30pm – all are welcome to join us.

Ngaa mihi nui, Jo

What We’ve Been Up To:

Horotiu School - Parent / Whaanau / Community Survey 2026

We value whaanau thoughts and feedback about what we do at Horotiu School and how we do it. In order to reflect on and to improve our practices we ask that you complete this survey by Monday 20th July, 2026. Use the QR code here to have your say.

As an incentive we will be offering three prizes (\$50 grocery voucher, \$50 warehouse voucher, \$50 petrol voucher) that all participants who complete the survey will go in the draw to win. Also, those caregivers who mention their child/ren's house will also get a house point.



Welcome to Mrs Swain

We warmly welcome Mrs Swain to Horotiu School. Mrs Swain joins our team bringing a wealth of experience and a passion for supporting aakonga to thrive. We are excited to have her as part of our kura and know she will be a fantastic addition to our learning community. Mrs Swain will be working with the New Entrant and Year 1 students and opening a new space (Harakeke 1) after Kings Birthday weekend as our New Entrant numbers increase.



Honey Harvest 2026

Our hive has delivered its first harvest! The honey is currently being tested and processed, and will soon be jarred and ready for sale – watch this space.

This milestone marks our first year of production, with aakonga actively involved in the journey. Through this kaupapa, they have been learning about the importance of bees as pollinators and the role they play in sustaining our environment and food systems.



Library

Congratulations to these people who were successful in their applications as Librarians for 2026: Jasper Stewart, Malekai Greene-Brunton, Mason Glidden, Ava-Veronica Clarke Hari-Hari, Julie Ritchie, Willow Ritchie, Izzy Cossar, Ryan Edgecombe, Natalie Jones-Brock, Hannah Beere, Zoey Kelsall, Rayan McRoberts-Bawa, Demi Graham, Jade Doust, Danika Brits

Tiitoki Outdoor Education Day

Our new Entrants had a trip to Pukemokemoke bush reserve and all managed to summit the mountain. I think they were more excited about getting a ride in our lovely school van!



School Gala Success

What a day! Our school gala raised about \$20,000 – an incredible result. But the real success was seeing our community come together. From kapa haka to pony rides, bouncy castles to bargain hunting, it was a day full of connection, laughter, and just the right amount of sugar-fuelled energy.

A big thank you to our amazing sponsors – we simply couldn't do this without you. Jump over to our Horotiu School Gala Facebook page to see more photos and winners of our raffles.

A special shout out to Kauri, our top contributors. To celebrate, all students enjoyed a free sausage on Tuesday, with Kauri earning the ultimate prize – ice cream sundaes!

Thank you for supporting the Horotiu School Gala 2026!

We appreciate all our sponsors, supporters and helpers who generously gave donations, goods, services and time to support our school.

All funds raised (about \$20,000) will go directly to additional school resources that give our students that little bit extra in their learning, both in and out of the classroom.

Thank you one and all!



THANK YOU!



Understanding the **New Five Progress Descriptors**



Your child's learning progress at school will be described using these new progress descriptors:

1

Emerging



Students require support to meet curriculum expectations for their year level and/or goals as described in their personalised learning plan.

2

Developing



Students are making some progress towards curriculum expectations for their year level.

3

Consolidating



Students are meeting many curriculum expectations for their year level and are steadily strengthening their understanding across learning areas.

4

Proficient



Students are meeting curriculum expectations for their year level.

5

Exceeding



Students are exceeding curriculum expectations for their year level.

For Parents and Whānau

Here's how you can support your child's learning at home:



Recognise and celebrate where your child is on their learning journey.



Create a positive and encouraging learning environment at home.



Acknowledge progress and efforts, not just results.



Talk with your child's teachers about their progress and how to help.

Remember: Every child learns and progresses at their **own pace**.
Your encouragement and involvement make a **big difference!**



Journey Kids Holiday Programme

7TH APRIL - 10TH APRIL

WEEK 1

TUESDAY \$59.99



Easter Workshop & Golden Egg Hunt

Celebrate Easter with baking, crafts, and a magical egg hunt! Kids will bake and decorate cupcakes, search for the hidden golden eggs, create an Easter craft to take home, and enjoy a special visit from the Easter Bunny.



WEDNESDAY \$59.99

Bunny Burrow Builders & Easter Egg Raid

Hop into a day of Easter fun! Kids will race to collect eggs in a hilarious Bunny Burrow Raid game, create colourful string and nail art, make fluffy pom-pom bunny crafts, and roll tasty "bunny poop" bliss balls to enjoy.



OR **OUT DAY** \$139.99

GOLD Panning + Waihi GOLD centre

Kids will head to the Waihi GOLD centre before heading to the beautiful Karangahake Gorge to try gold panning and discover hidden treasures in the river.



THURSDAY \$59.99

Mermaid Mocktails & Ocean Explorers

Dive into an ocean adventure! Kids will mix colourful ocean-themed mocktails, create shell and pearl bracelets, build model boats to test on the water, and design beautiful sea-inspired artwork.



FRIDAY \$59.99

Junkyard Engineers & Jewellery Test Lab

Time to invent, build, and create! Kids will pull apart old gadgets to reuse parts, design balloon-powered cars, make real jewellery with proper attachments, and finish the day with a hilarious robot dance and freeze game

13TH APRIL - 17TH APRIL

WEEK 2

MONDAY \$59.99

Fuse Drumming & Zootopia

Feel the rhythm and join the adventure! Kids will take part in an energetic group drumming session, play Zootopia-themed dodgeball and scavenger hunts, and wind down with a fun movie and popcorn.



TUESDAY \$59.99

Yoga + Frozen Yogis

Kids will enjoy a fun yoga session, make delicious frozen yogurt fruit pots, create sparkly diamond art designs, and learn simple sewing skills to make their own project.

WEDNESDAY \$59.99

Trap Makers & Creature Encounters

Think like an inventor and a problem solver! Kids will work together in a Journey Kids escape room challenge, meet some amazing visiting animals, make fun edible mousetrap snacks, and design creative traps as a team.

THURSDAY \$59.99

Wild West & Gold Bandits

Saddle up for a Wild West adventure! Kids will bake classic ANZAC biscuits, pan for gold and hidden treasures, tackle a cowboy obstacle course, and create their own Wild West-style wanted poster.



OR **OUT DAY** \$139.99

EXTREME Edge

Kids will challenge themselves on exciting climbing walls with different levels of difficulty.



FRIDAY \$59.99

Animal Detectives & Treasure Raiders

Put on your detective hat and solve a wildlife mystery! Kids will follow clues to uncover which sneaky animal raided the hall overnight & test their survival skills with fun challenges.



To book please head to www.journeykids.co.nz & click **BOOK NOW** and select Horotiu SCHOOL before booking. We are WINZ registered and OSCAR SUBSIDY supported. Children must bring their own lunch and snacks.

Programme Run time: 7:30am - 5:30pm

Programme location: Horotiu School

Phone Number: 0272901211



Journey Kids: Premium Before & After School Care for your children

Journey Kids has one goal - extraordinary care! Our team are made up of former teachers, professionals in the childcare industry and most importantly, parents. We assist schools with our extensive curriculum knowledge and childcare experience culminating to deliver the most diverse service offerings to the children in our care.

We offer sports and sports clinics, engineering activities, wilderness skills, life skills, camps, the Arts, homework club, holiday programmes, science experiments, technology-based learning and more.

Contacts: For bookings and last minute bookings: bookings@journeykids.co.nz
For OSCAR subsidy applications and queries: OSCAR@journeykids.co.nz
For account and invoice queries: accounts@journeykids.co.nz
For general Enquiries: admin@journeykids.co.nz



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



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

Contact : Glenn Jackson
Phone: 0212020269

To book email us at:
madcowlessons@gmail.com



**NEW WORLD
Ngaruawahia**

**Thank you to our
Sponsors and
Supporters!**



HOROTIU SCHOOL GALA SPONSORS 2026

Please support these generous sponsors where you can!

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THANK
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THANK
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THANK
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Excite Waikato Museum

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Horotiu Hauora

THANK
YOU!

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Mad Cow Drumming

Ninja Valley

Unichem Pharmacy, Flagstaff

Jo Jo's Facepainting

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Waikato Post Ramming Ltd

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THANK
YOU!