

# KŌKAKO NEWS

ŌROPI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 2025 TERM 1 WEEK 2



**Welcome to 2025! It is great to be back into school term mode, catch up with everyone, and get to know new whānau. Starting the year with our Pōhiri with the whole school is a very important ceremony to start the year. Thankfully the weather cooperated so we had the whole school attend. It was a good reminder about 'our place' in Tauranga Moana, along with welcoming our new families to our community.**

As many of you will have noticed, the building works are in full swing. At this stage, everything is on schedule. The Kiwi & Piwakawaka blocks are on schedule for completion mid way through this term. We will keep you posted of any changes and when these classes will be moving back as soon as we are able.

We have made a few updates on our school website. As we continue our work on the implementation of the Revised English and Mathematics, we will create an updated Teaching & Learning Overview model that we used to have on the main page to reflect our curriculum, which also incorporates our revised values.

I would like to bring your attention to a meeting we intend to run for our parent community on **February 20th at, 2pm, and again at 5:15pm, about the following topics:**

- The Parent-Teacher-Association (PTA)
- The implementation of the Revised English and Mathematics Curriculum at Ōropi School.

The PTA is an important group of parents to have in our school that support us with fundraising events and other events over the course of the year. The one big event for the year where we need a team of parents is the Calf Club Day in October. We are also working towards fundraising for a permanent cover structure over our Turf Courts. This is a long term fundraiser. We will be able to outline other details about the purpose of the PTA and answer any questions at the meeting you are able to attend.

The reason we have two time slots available, is to ensure as many parents as possible can make it.





^ Lookout Hut



^ Waaka Whānau

## The Kōkako Sculpture

Unfortunately we have had to make the difficult decision to remove our beloved Kōkako Sculpture from near the front entrance of the school. It is not salvageable due to extensive rot throughout the structure. It had become a health and safety hazard in that if a child was to grab hold of a section, it would likely collapse and fall on them.

In 2011 we used to have a large 100 year old Norfolk Pine tree as you head towards the back field. During a severe storm, this tree collapsed onto the field. Luckily, it fell during the weekend. Being a significant tree, the community worked together. We had some of the timber milled and a part of the trunk taken away for the sculpture of the two Kōkako. The timber was untreated.

The milled timber was used to create the “Lookout Hut” you can see pictured here that is used by the children for their play time. The Kōkako Bird Sculpture was sculpted out of another remaining part of the trunk.

In our Strategic Plan for 2025, we have indicated we are doing some work around the school to reflect our local story. We are intending on repainting the nine totem poles we have in the school to reflect the important landmarks and aspects of our history. An essential component to this will be creating a replacement artwork or structure of our Kōkako Bird, our important logo, which symbolically reflects our Mission

***“Be all you can be  
- Whāia te mātauranga***



# The Senior School Shed Burglary

It has been a heartwarming start to the year when reflecting on the wonderful response we have had when notifying our community of the burglary.

Over the summer break, our school experienced a break-in, and a significant number of tools used by our students for their project-based learning were stolen. These tools are essential for allowing children to put their knowledge into practice, helping them create everything from birdhouses to go-karts, and much more.

In early January, we gained media attention, and our situation was shared across Facebook. Both these opportunities have highlighted the positive power of media and social media!

In the weeks that followed, we have been deeply moved by the outpouring of support from our community. The programme is going to be stronger for it!

We are also looking forward to the upcoming sausage sizzle to help fund better security. Additionally, we intend to improve security measures for the shed to help prevent future incidents and better safeguard our resources.

Thank you Oropi and Tauranga! We have bunnings coming up next week to deliver some brand new tools which we will share on facebook.

Ngā mihi nui  
Andrew King

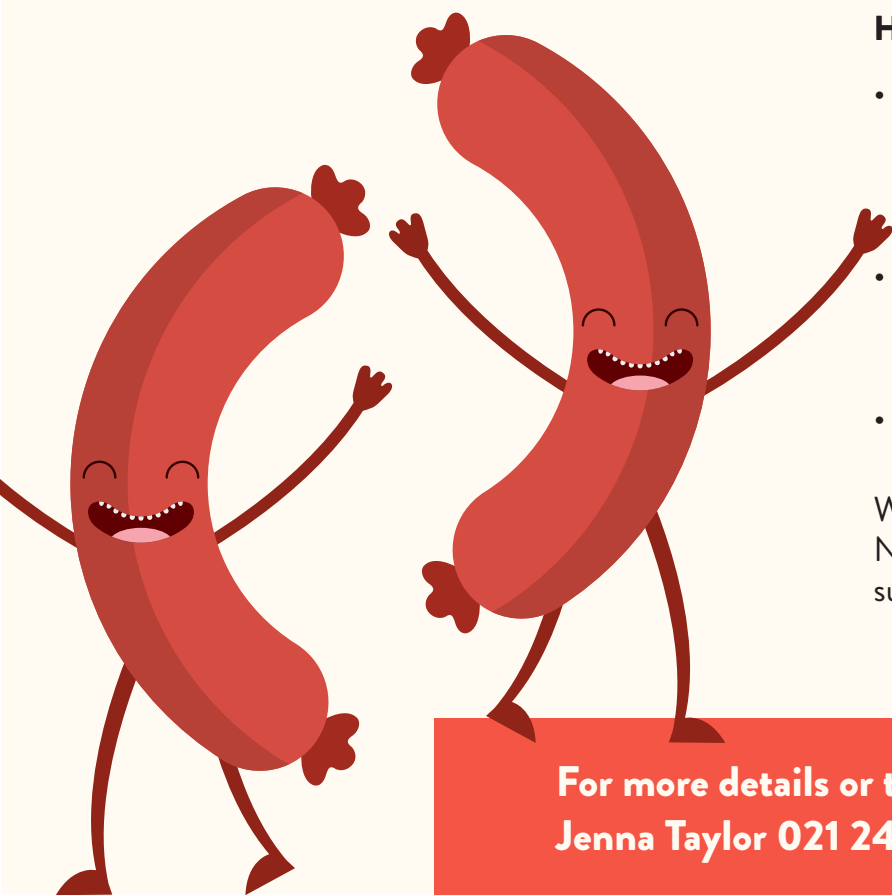
## Get Fired Up for a Good Cause – Shed Sausage Sizzle!

**We're holding a sausage sizzle at Mitre10 in Gate Pa on Sunday, 23rd February, from 8:00 AM to raise funds for our senior shed.** With Mitre10 providing the BBQ and gas, we just need your help to make it a success!

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Volunteer for a shift: We're looking for parents to help out on the day. It would be fantastic if students could join in and help out where they can too!
- Bring chopped onions: If you're able to, please bring a bag of onions chopped beforehand.
- Spread the word and grab a sausage!

We're aiming to run out, but if we do, New World Gate Pa has kindly offered to supply more sausages.



**For more details or to sign up, please get in touch with Jenna Taylor 021 246 2033 - [jenna.taylor@honda.co.nz](mailto:jenna.taylor@honda.co.nz)**



Our road patrolers are doing an amazing job helping the Ōropi school community cross the road safely before and after school. They are on duty from 8.30am - 8.50am in the mornings and 2.40 - 2.55pm in the afternoons. **Please ensure you use the crossing when they are on duty.** Children remind your parents to use it even when they have dropped you off or are on the way to pick you up as it is good role modelling. Thanks!



As our international programme continues to grow in 2025, we are actively seeking families in our community that would be willing to host **international students**.

The first group of **Hong Kong** students will be visiting Ōropi School **from July 7th to 18th** and our groups from **China** will be in **August**.

Host families would provide accommodation (separate bedroom, shared facilities) for 1-2 students, transportation to/from Ōropi School as well as 3 meals per day. **A weekly homestay allowance of \$400 per student is paid to host families as recognition of the time, cost and effort involved.**

Hosting overseas students provides an opportunity for families to build cultural awareness, language exchange, establish international connections and to develop Ōropi students' global citizenship.

**Expressions of interest or queries, please email [nick@oropi.school.nz](mailto:nick@oropi.school.nz)**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Week 3	17	18 Tech Kōrimako-Lewis →	19 Beach Education - Kōtare Mr Lee and Tūi Jordan	20	21 Beach Education - Kōrimako Mr Lewis and Mrs P	22	23
		Beach Education - Kōtare Mrs T and Mr Cowman					
Week 4	24 Tech Kōrimako-Lewis →	25	26 Beach Education - Pūkeko Sarah P and Pūkeko Jess	27 Leadership Camp →	28	1	2
	Beach Education - Tūi Sarah K and Tūi Dowson			Beach Education - Ruru, Kea, Kiwi Sarah, Kiwi Anna			
Week 5	3	4	5 Swimming Sports - Memorial Pools	6	7	8	9
Week 6	10 Year 5/6 Camp - Ōkātaina →	11	12 Teacher Only Day - Kāhui Ako. School closed	13 Year 7/8 Top School	14 Year 5/6 Top School	15	16
Week 7	17	18	19	20 West Cluster Swimming	21	22	23

**TERM 1:** Number of weeks: 10 **Term start and end dates:** Tuesday, 4th February – Friday, 11th April

**School holiday starts:** Saturday, 12th April **Important Dates:** Wednesday, 12th March – Teacher-only day (school closed)



# GARDEN TO TABLE

GROW, HARVEST, PREPARE, SHARE

It was good to get started on our garden-to-table sessions again. The garden is full of delicious summer produce and we can't wait to get it harvested and made into yummy meals. Our first classes for the year were Kōrimako Pendergrast and Pūkeko Sarah and the garden groups got stuck in their tasks straight away. They dug out potatoes and put them out to dry in the sunshine before we store them for later use. Wheelbarrows of compost went into garden beds to get them ready for winter vegetables. We started sowing seeds today as well; Broccoli, cauliflower, kale, spring onions, beetroot and red cabbage. Leek went into the ground and one group harvested a container full of dried peas which we kept on their vines for drying. They will give us a lot more snow peas in the future.



The kitchen group made a delicious pasta dish using eggplant, capsicum, courgette and basil, a tomato and cucumber salad and carrot and orange mini cakes.



# 26th Annual TAURANGA MULTICULTURAL Festival



**SAT, 22ND MARCH, 2025 - 10AM-5PM**

Historic Village, 17th Ave West

- Entertainment • Food • Craft • Art exhibition
- Discovery Tents • Children's activities
- Parade of Nations @ 12 noon

**GOLD  
COIN  
ENTRY**



"Te Moana Nui o te Kanorau - The Great Ocean of Diversity"

**Postponement Date:  
29TH MARCH 2025**

Sponsored by:



Ministry for  
Ethnic  
Communities  
Te Tari Mātawaka

Supported by:



Welcoming  
Communities  
TE WHAKAROA KI NEGA HAPORI



## Apata™ HAVE A GO TRY-ATHLON

Hosted by Pahoia School

Saturday  
1st March  
9am  
Omokoroa  
Domain

Early Bird  
Registration  
\$30

All 5-13 year olds  
welcome

\*Early bird registration closes Wed  
26th Feb.  
Registration on the day \$40



Event Day Fun:  
Epic raffles,  
awesome prizes,  
delicious  
food & drinks!

Registration  
Includes:  
Event t-shirt  
Participation medal  
Chance to win a kids'  
mountain bike!



Register NOW

[www.pahoia.school.nz/tryathlon](http://www.pahoia.school.nz/tryathlon)



August 30 - September 5 2025  
**LOCK IT IN!**

Event Information Booklet  
Released Late-Feb 2025  
**2025 Registrations  
Open 14 March 2025**

For more information visit  
[www.nzaimsgames.co.nz](http://www.nzaimsgames.co.nz)

*Here to help ☺*

*Kei konei mātou hei puna āwhina mōu*

# It's easy to ask for help

Get free wellbeing support when you need it

*No judgements, no barriers*



Youth support

Mental health support

Financial/Budgeting

Employment support

Food support

and more...

[www.heretohelpu.nz](http://www.heretohelpu.nz) | 0800 568 273



Growing Through Grief will be running the Seasons for Growth programme at Ōropi School in 2025.

Seasons for Growth is a small-group programme that supports children dealing with change, loss, or grief. It helps them develop resilience, express their feelings, and learn coping strategies in a safe and supportive environment. If your child has experienced separation, divorce, the loss of a loved one, or other significant changes, this programme may be beneficial.

The sessions will run at school, during school time by trained facilitators who are police vetted. The programme will run for 8 weeks for one hour each session.

If you are interested in your child attending, Please fill out an online referral form ASAP on the Growing Through Grief website: <https://acw.org.nz/seasons-for-growth-enrolment-form-children-and-youth-programme-school-only/> or please ask at school for a paper enrolment form.

If you have any questions or would like more information about this programme - please contact Alaina Parkinson (SENCO) [alaina@oropi.school.nz](mailto:alaina@oropi.school.nz) or Tauranga Growing Through Grief Coordinators Tracey Maris: [tracey.maris@acw.org.nz](mailto:tracey.maris@acw.org.nz) or Myra Taikato: [myra.taikato@acw.org.nz](mailto:myra.taikato@acw.org.nz)

## Kindred Kids

# Let's Bake It!

## After school baking workshops

Step into our kitchen for weekly baking adventures where kids will master the art of creating delicious treats while learning essential culinary skills in a fun, encouraging environment!

**Dates** Every Thursday from February 20th through until April 10th (no class March 27th)

**Time** 3.45 pm - 5.15 pm

**Cost** \$315 for Term 1 ( 7 exciting sessions!)  
Designed for young bakers aged 9-12yrs

**Venue** Welcome Bay Community Church,  
340 Welcome Bay Rd, Tauranga

**Limited numbers!**  
Register your interest today



[thekindredcollective.co](http://thekindredcollective.co)

+64 21 263 6337

[@kindredcollective\\_co](https://www.instagram.com/kindredcollective_co)

[hello@thekindredcollective.co](mailto:hello@thekindredcollective.co)



# NUTS & BOLTS 2025

## ADMINISTRATION

Office hours at 8.30am to 3.30pm

Email: [office@oropi.school.nz](mailto:office@oropi.school.nz)

Phone: (07) 543 1479

## ABSENCES

If your child is absent from school, please notify by HERO, email or phone to the school office

**by 9.00am** on the morning of the absence.

School office: (07) 543 1479

## HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Thank you to everyone who has been notifying the school in writing if your child is away during term time for more than three days. It is important that the office receives confirmation of this from a parent, including your child's date of return to school.

It is important to note that we are required by law to use Ministry standard attendance codes. Absence for holidays during term time is classified as unjustified.

## SICKNESS

In the unfortunate situation where a child vomits at school, we strongly recommend that the child is picked up from school at the parent's earliest convenience. We require the child to remain absent from school for 24-48 hours, depending on what the sickness is. If the cause of the sickness is because of a migraine, anxiety, or travel sickness, the school will respond to this on a case-by-case situation.

## BUS

If you are collecting your child from school, you must **notify the office before 2pm** to allow enough time for us to update bus lists. Failure to communicate this often slows down the release of buses in the afternoon.

## SIGN IN AND OUT

In case of an emergency, and for health and safety reasons, we need to know who is on the school grounds. Please report to the office if you are picking up your child early, arriving late, or if they have been at an appointment and have returned to school.

## UNIFORM ITEMS

We have uniform items that are available to purchase through our school office.

Sun hat \$20.00

Polo shirt \$35.00

Hoody \$65.00

Jacket \$60.00

## PARKING

For the safety of everyone, please cross the road at the road crossing by the bus turning bay.

Do not walk across the road on blind corner.

We encourage families to park at the Hall and walk up the path to school. Please use common sense and refrain from parking across the driveways of our neighbours.

**Please do not park in the staff car park.**



**SEND YOUR SNAPS!**

We encourage all sports teams to send in their images, results, or action shots from their activities to be featured in our next newsletter!  
**Please email: [hannah@oropi.school.nz](mailto:hannah@oropi.school.nz)**



Order online by 9am  
for delivery Thursday

# ezlunch MENU

Oropi School / Term 1 2025



2 Taurikura Dr  
Tauranga Crossing  
Tauranga 3171  
07-543 0547

## PLAIN PETITA PITA

Free Range Chicken Petita	\$6.00
Free Farmed Ham Petita	\$6.00
Roast Beef Petita	\$6.00
Falafel Petita	\$6.00
Garden Veggie Petita	\$5.50
Marmite Petita	\$5.50
Vegemite Petita	\$5.50

## WHOLEMEAL PETITA PITA

Wholemeal Free Range Chicken Petita	\$6.00
Wholemeal Free Farmed Ham Petita	\$6.00
Wholemeal Roast Beef Petita	\$6.00
Wholemeal Falafel Petita	\$6.00
Wholemeal Garden Veggie Petita	\$5.50
Wholemeal Marmite Petita	\$5.50
Wholemeal Vegemite Petita	\$5.50

## GLUTEN FREE PETITA PITA

GLUTEN FREE Free Range Chicken Petita	\$7.50
GLUTEN FREE Free Farmed Ham Petita	\$7.50
GLUTEN FREE Roast Beef Petita	\$7.50
GLUTEN FREE Pulled Pork Petita	\$7.50
GLUTEN FREE Garden Veggie Petita	\$7.00

## PETITA SALAD BOX

Free Range Chicken Petita Salad Box	\$7.00
Free Farmed Ham Petita Salad Box	\$7.00
Roast Beef Petita Salad Box	\$7.00
Pulled Pork Petita Salad Box	\$7.00
Falafel Petita Salad Box	\$7.00
Garden Veggie Petita Salad Box	\$6.50

## SIDES

Chocolate Chip Cookie	\$2.50
Brownie Chocolate Fudge	\$2.50
Brownie Chocolate Fudge GLUTEN FREE	\$2.80
Pita Chips with Aioli Dipping Sauce (large)	\$3.90

## DRINKS

Cool Ridge Water 750ml	\$4.00
Charlies 200ml Tropical Juice	\$2.00
Charlies 200ml Blackcurrant Juice	\$2.00
Charlies 200ml Apple and Orange Juice	\$2.00

Order online... [www.ezlunch.co.nz](http://www.ezlunch.co.nz)

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Need help? Visit [support.mykindo.co.nz](http://support.mykindo.co.nz) or call toll free 0800 EZLUNCH (09-869 5200) 8am-4pm Mon-Fri (except public holidays)