

# Newsletter



## From the Principal

Kia ora Whānau

We are coming to the end of another year. This year has flown by so quickly.

I want to thank all the amazing staff that we have here with the incredible work they have done to teach and support our tamariki. We can not say thank you enough.

This year we are saying goodbye to some incredible teachers who are taking on new journeys in their lives. Lizzie Kiriona, Wendy Bishell and Maria Jenkins. We wish them well on their new exciting journey and they will always stay in our hearts as being Taitoko Whanau. They will be dearly missed.

We would like to welcome three new teachers to our Taitoko Whanau, Shaun Blake who will be the Senior Team Leader, Tai Winterburn who will be in year 6/7, and Kaya Broughton as our New Entrants Teacher. Our new teachers are introducing themselves further in our newsletter go check them out! Rachel King will be working in our year 7/8 class.

Our students will get to meet their new teacher for next year on the 6th of December. They will get some time to spend with them.

I would like to say Congratulations to Whaea Emma who is our new Deputy Principal for Taitoko School starting in 2025.

We have some more exciting news to share. We have a new van for Taitoko School. 2025 will have two vans back up and running again!

Our term finishes on the 16th of December at 12 noon. There will be no vans running on this day.

Thank you to all our Whanau for supporting the Taitoko Community. We will see you at our End Of Year Assemblies.

Ngā Mihi  
Renée Taipari

PH: 06 368 7658  
Email: [office@taitoko.school.nz](mailto:office@taitoko.school.nz)  
[www.taitoko.school.nz](http://www.taitoko.school.nz)



# Newsletter

## Term 3 PB4L Winners

*Congratulations to our Term 3 PB4L who enjoyed some icecream with Ms Taipari.*



well done!



### 2024 Term Dates:

**Term 1:** Wednesday 31 Jan - Friday 12 April

**Term 2:** Monday 29 April - Friday 5 July

**Term 3:** Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September

**Term 4:** Monday 14 October - Monday 16 December - 12:00pm

### 2025 Term Dates:

**Term 1:** Monday 3 Feb - Friday 11 April

**Term 2:** Monday 28 April - Friday 27 June

**Term 3:** Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September

**Term 4:** Monday 6 October - Thursday 18 December (tbc)

## What's Happening in Term 4

- **29 November** - School Gala (3.30pm - 4.30pm)
- **3 December** - Fill the Bus - Dress up day
- **3 December** - BOT Meeting 3.45pm
- **5 December** - Junior School Trip to Chipmunks
- **12 December** - Year 8 Graduation Dinner
- **13 December** - Final Assemblies:
  - 12pm - Juniors (WM1, WM2 & RM 2)
  - 2pm - Rest of the School
- **16 December** - Last Day of School - Finish at 12.00pm

Please remember to notify the school if your child is going to be absent.

You can do this by phoning the school office on 368 7658, or by clicking on the 'Report Absence' tab on the Taitoko School Website or Skool App.

PH: 06 368 7658

Email: [office@taitoko.school.nz](mailto:office@taitoko.school.nz)  
[www.taitoko.school.nz](http://www.taitoko.school.nz)



# Newsletter

## Middle School - Makahika Trip

Last term, Rooms 3, 4, 5 & 8 had a trip to the Makahika Outdoor Pursuit Centre. The weather turned out amazing for the students, staff and parent helpers.

The students participated in rope climbing, learnt how to start fires and how to work together. What an amazing day it turned out to be.



# Newsletter

## JANDAL JAM

Our talented Pasifika group wowed us with an incredible performance at the Junior Jandal Jam!

It was a beautiful showcase of Pacific Island culture and talent, filled with Pasifika pride and energy. Months of practice and dedication and we couldn't be prouder of our students.

A huge thank you to the Pasifika students from Waiopahu College who supported us along the way. Fa'afetai tele lava for your guidance and collaboration.

*Fa'afetai tele lava, malo aupito, vinaka vaka levu!*



# Newsletter

## Enviroschools



Exciting things have been happening at School... a new garden shed has been donated by Quinn Roofing. We are so grateful for their donation. Our tamariki now have a special place to put all their gardening tools that is easily accessible, ready for all their gardening needs.

We have new compost bins that are being built by our tamariki. These new resources are just the beginning of our new learning journey as being an Enviroschool...our tamariki are learning about being a kaitiaki for our school environment....we look forward to seeing what happens next.



**QUINN**  
ROOFING DIRECT  
*Way to go!*

*Way to go!*

TALK TO US  
**0800 784 628**  
(Dial 1 for Roofing)



# Newsletter

## FOOTSTEPS

The Footsteps programme combines technology and fitness sessions, led by a professional coach, to enhance students' activity levels and participation in sports. Last term saw our students enjoy the programme again.



# SPORTS

## TERM 4

### TWILIGHT SOCCER

Starts on Tuesday, 22 October and runs every Tuesday for 8 weeks

### INTER SCHOOL TOUCH RUGBY

Inter School competition against Levin North at lunch times

### SENSE RUGBY

Every Thursday

### INTER SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Years 4 to 8

Week 7

More info to come

**Breakfast Club**  
*Monday - Friday 8.15am - 8.45am*



# Newsletter

## Introducing our new Taitoko School Staff for 2025

### Kaya Broughton - New Entrant Teacher

Kia Ora whānau

Many of you will know and recognize me already, as I tutored Taitoko School Kapa Haka earlier this year while I was on maternity leave.

I am so thrilled to share that I will be joining the amazing teaching team here at Taitoko School. I am coming on board as a New Entrant teacher in 2025, taking over from our amazing Whaea Maria.

I know I've got some big boots to fill but I am passionate about teaching, committed to building and strengthening relationships with students and ready to create a positive learning environment which will incorporate Te Ao Māori me tikanga māori.

I am a local of Levin. My whānau are born and bred here, Ngati Raukawa and Muaūpoko. My tane Jeff Mua, our daughters

Taylor-Rhys (11),

Lana-Rose (8), and sons

Paikea (2) and Tairāwhiti

(9 months) all live here

with our dog, Blue. We

enjoy sports, fishing and

spending quality time

with all our whānau and

friends.

I look forward to starting

my new role in the new

year, seeing you all again

and meeting some new

faces.

Pai to rā, Whaea Kaya.



### Tai Winterburn - Year 6/7 Teacher

Kia Ora koutou, my name is Tai Winterburn, my students call me Whaea Tai.

I'm a mother of three grown children and have a dog and a cat.

Before earning my teaching degree, I spent several years working as a T.A., where my favourite part was supporting children with higher learning needs. I am deeply passionate about building strong, supportive relationships with the tamariki in my care and their close whanau circle. I believe this is best achieved by creating a stable, fun, and, above all, safe learning environment for my tamariki.

I'm truly excited to be joining the Taitoko school whanau and to see what we can accomplish together!



### Shaun Blakely

#### Year 7/8 Teacher

#### Senior School Team Leader



Tena koutou katoa, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Bula, Mauri, warm greetings, ko Shaun Blake ahau.

Hello, my name is Shaun Blake, the kids usually call me Matua Shaun.

I am currently teaching at Tawa Intermediate.

After 11 years or so, I am delighted to be returning Taitoko School. I will be rejoining the team as kaiako of a Year 7/8 class and syndicate leader of the senior school team from Term 1 2025.

I have a wide range of interests. My wife and I and our three kids live on the Kāpiti Coast! I cannot wait to see what is the same and all the fantastic changes that have taken place at Taitoko School.

Please say hello if you see me around the school and community!

PH: 06 368 7658

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

[www.taitoko.school.nz](http://www.taitoko.school.nz)



# Newsletter

## HEAD LICE

### Five tips to prevent head lice:

1. Comb and brush your hair everyday with your own comb or brush
2. Avoid sharing hats
3. Wear swimming caps at the pool and avoid sharing towels
4. Wear your long hair tied up
5. Let an adult check your hair and check the whole family weekly



### If you notice your child has head lice:

- Treat with wet combing or Dimethicone 4% lotion
- Notify school so that they can tell parents to check their children

See your Public Health Nurse or school office for resources and advice.

For more information:

[www.rph.org.nz/public-health-topics/early-childhood-centres/fact-sheets/head-lice.pdf](http://www.rph.org.nz/public-health-topics/early-childhood-centres/fact-sheets/head-lice.pdf)



## Fancy Dress Day

Tuesday 3rd December

Come dressed up in your favourite fancy dress. Instead of donating money bring either:

- Non-perishable food item for the LEVIN INTERCHURCH FOOD BANK
- New unwrapped gifts for children for BIRTHRIGHT

Help make Christmas special for those in need.

The bus arrives about 10am and we will have a parade with prizes for best dressed, best class and for the class that brings the most.

Health New Zealand  
Te Whatu Ora

PropertyBrokers

Horowhenua  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Please note that we have treatment and combs available at the office.

**POP-UP eats**  
Outdoor Movie Night

Join Pop Up Eats and Bluelight for a free outdoor movie at the Levin Domain

BOY BOY BOY

NOV 20  
Wednesday 20 November  
5pm - 8pm, Levin Domain

### Safety Around the School

#### STAFF CAR PARK

This is just a friendly reminder that the staff car park is only to be used for staff or anyone who needs to use the Disability Car Park.

Please do not park in the drive way as this is dangerous for our tamariki and anyone trying to access or leave the staff car park.

Thank you.

### Keeping It COOL

With our Skool Loop app! Download today to keep up to date with school information. Notices, newsletters, absentee notifications and much more.

Simple free download  
Scan the QR code or In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

ANDROID APP ON Google play  
Download on the App Store

SKOOL LOOP

