



• Taitā Central School Pānui • Term 3 Week 2 – 30th July 2026 •

Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Kia Orana, Bula Vinaka, Malo e lelei, Malo ni, Fakatalofa atu, Namaste, Mingalaba, Kumusta, Marhaba, Sawatdee, Xin chào, Choum, Reap, Sour, Assalamu alaikum, Hello, Greetings!



Vision

"Te tu pakari tahi, te whakamana i nga ākonga katoa."

Standing strong together – enhancing the mana of all learners

Mission

Ako tahi Tātou, Tipu tahi Tātou

Together we Learn, Together we Grow

New Enrolments – Nau mai, haere mai ki to kura o Ngā Hau e Whā, ngā mihi maioha - A warm welcome to our Taitā Central School community:

Ako 4 – Asinate

Ako 1 – August

Ako 3 - Edicee

Coming Up

Saturday 01 August – Contractors working on site (**School Grounds Closed**)

Monday 03 August – Cook Island Language Week

Tuesday 04 August – Year 6 visit to Avalon Intermediate – 9:30am – 1:30pm

Tuesday 04 August – Pōhutukawa trip to Walter Nash – 1:30pm – 2:45pm

Monday 17 August – Reports come home

Tuesday 18 August – Parent/Teacher Interviews 3:15pm – 7:15pm

Wednesday 19 August Parent/Teacher Interviews 3:12pm – 7:15pm

School Attendance

The governments monitoring of attendance through the Everyday Matters Termly reports confirms that we continue to raise our level of attendance in Term 2 from 41% in 2022, 44% in 2023, 48% in 2024, 48% in 2025 and now 51% in 2026.

We also have 80% of our tamariki arriving at school over 90% of the time.



Term 2 Summary

How many students regularly attended school this term?

Regular Attendance

51%

Compared to 48% in Term 2, 2025

Irregular Absence 28%

Compared to 25% in Term 2, 2025

Moderate Absence 10%

Compared to 9% in Term 2, 2025

Chronic Absence 10%

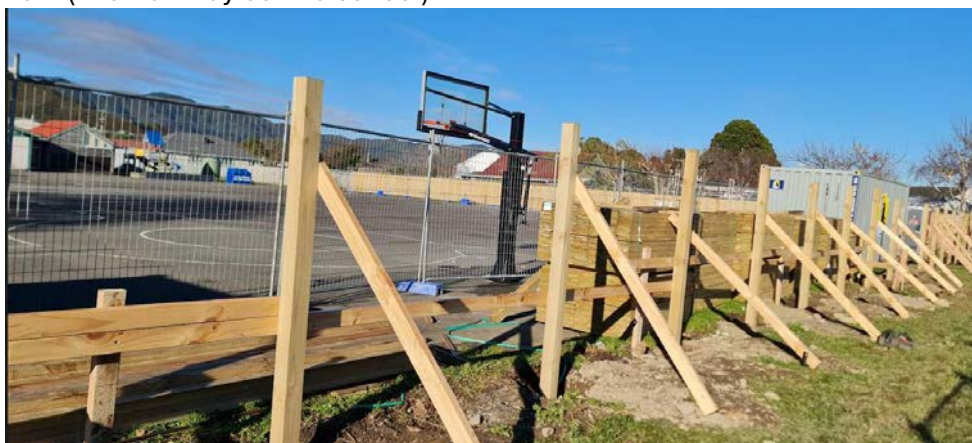
Compared to 18% in Term 2, 2025

School Fencing Replacement Project

The contractors Sole Landscapes have been working hard over the holiday break and have completed the fence on our southern boundary with our neighbours in Seller's grove. The new fence is looking great.



The contractors have now moved on to working on the area around our back gate and have started the framing for the fence along our boundary with Taine Park (The walkway behind school).



Our school Grounds will be CLOSED to our community this weekend while contractors are working on site.

On **Saturday 01 August** we have a concrete pumping truck pouring concrete to secure the posts for our new fence.

We will also be having our drains, sewers and sumps cleaned on this date and need to have the grounds closed to ensure everyone's safety.

Term 3 Mihi Whakatau

On Monday 20th July we held our Term 3 Mihi Whakatau to welcome our new staff and ākonga. We welcomed Elim Liko (who started as a teacher aide in Pōhutukawa Whānau late in Term 2) Matua Chris George Ako 1 Teacher and Kaea Te Moananui teacher aide in Pōhutukawa Whānau who started this term.

Chris has shared an introductory message for Ako 1 and our school community.

Tēnā Koe, malo e leilei, Bula,

My name is Chris George, and I am the new kaiako in Ako 1! I live locally and love the Taitā Community. I have a long and extensive history within education.

I love supporting tamariki to go from great to greater. I count it a great privilege to be part of your child's learning journey. I have a son, Bennie. He is 11 and lives with his mama in the Manawatu.

I look forward to meeting each of you, Ako 1 Whānau look out for a morning tea invite! Feel free to pop in before & after school and if you see me around Taitā please say 'hi'



Study Centre Children's University Discovery Day

Last Thursday 23rd July, Nada took our Study Centre ākonga to the Massey University Discovery Day. This Discovery Day is an opportunity for our ākonga to join the other tamariki in the Wellington Children's University programme in experiencing University lectures in a variety of subject areas. Our ākonga participated in a Conservation Station activity with Te Māra a Tāne Zealandia learning about how to be a Kaitiaki of our environment, next they participated in a Communications Lecture about how to speak with confidence and ask for things like an increase in their pocket money. I hope not too many parents, caregivers, Whānau were asked about increasing the pocket money they pay their tamaiti! Our third lecture was about Food Innovation with the College of Science. Our ākonga were asked to create a new Pop Corn flavour and then design the packaging for it. Lastly, they created a Matariki Tukutuku.



Common Ground / Me Tipu Ngātahi - A visit to Walter Nash Park

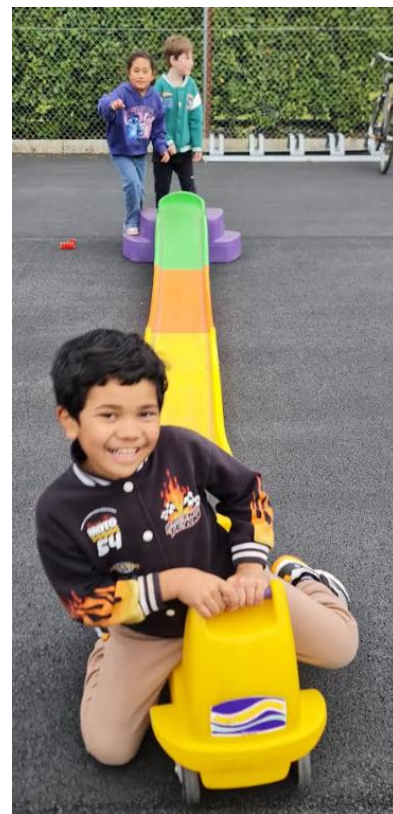
At its heart Common Ground is about building our community - connecting, playing, learning, belonging and growing wellbeing.

See the attached Common Ground 2026 flyer included with this email.

On Tuesday some of our staff went to visit Walter Nash Park and talk with Whaea Sue. She shared the story of the redevelopment of Walter Nash Park and the opportunities for our school and community to connect, contribute to and engage with our local community and work together to nurture our tamariki.

On Wednesday afternoon Matua Chris took Ako 1 to visit the park for the **Wednesday weekly play day in the park which runs from 12pm to 4.30pm** during term time and is open to all ages. Miss Kelly and a group of senior ākonga from Ako 8 & 9 went down with Ako 1 to support them in a Tuakana/Teina role.

Miss Kelly also organised the purchasing of essential food and personal items, which our tamariki were able to put into the Pātaka Kai for anyone in our community to use, which is at the Reynolds street entrance to Walter Nash Park.





Te Reo Māori Phrase of the Week.

You may hear your tamariki using these phrases at home. We are revisiting some familiar phrases and trying to extend our responses to the question – How are you?

The phrase for Week 1 was, *He aha te kupu Māori mō...i? / What is the Māori word for...?*

The phrase for week 2 is: *What is this? (an object close to the person speaking)*



A message from our Board of Trustees

Over the last couple of terms, our teachers and teacher aides have been getting together with the Ministry advisors and other local schools to swap ideas and learn about the new curriculum and planning. We've come away with heaps of awesome, hands-on activities and fresh strategies that we're already using in the classroom every day with our tamariki!

Massive thank you to all the hard work all our teachers and teacher aides have been doing this year, it has been a lot to get our heads around but has had positive impacts on our tamariki.

Ngā mihi nui, Paige Kelly



Community News

We have received some key health information from Health New Zealand to share with our community.

There are a number of winter illness and other skin infections going around our community at present. One of them is Scabies.

Below is important information about a Minor Ailments Scheme which Pharmacies in our Lower Hutt community have joined.

Scabies

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Treating yourself and your whānau

How to apply scabies cream or lotion

- Treat everyone in the house at the same time before bed, even if not itchy.
- Apply permethrin cream or lotion over all your skin. If you can't get help applying cream to your back, talk to your healthcare provider about other treatment options.
- Use enough cream or lotion to cover skin fully. Ensure enough cream or lotion for everyone in the house, and for the repeat treatment in 7 days.
 - Each treatment for an adult-sized person needs one or two bottles if they are larger.
 - Children 5-12 years; half to one bottle.
 - Children 2-5 years; quarter of a bottle.
 - For a child under 2 years; less than a quarter of a bottle.

MINOR AILMENTS SCHEME, LOWER HUTT

We want to help people in the Hutt Valley to access healthcare for minor illnesses where and when they need it.

Pharmacists can help to support the health of your family; they can provide advice and treatment for common minor illnesses for all ages.

The service is to help people with minor illnesses to access healthcare at a pharmacy and is available for:

- Children under 14 years of age, and whānau members* (any age), with the same symptoms
- Community services card (CSC) holders
- Māori and pacific people

**For example, if the pharmacist gives your tamariki medicine for scabies and you, or brothers or sisters also have symptoms, they may give advice and medicine to all of you.*

The conditions that pharmacists can help you with include:

- Skin ailments (nits, eczema, scabies, fungal infections)
- Eye inflammation
- Dehydration (usually from vomiting and diarrhoea).

The participating pharmacy locations are:

- Taita Pharmacy
- Naenae Pharmacy
- Owles Pharmacy - Naenae
- Wainuiomata Pharmacy
- Clives Chemist



Whakatauaiki

Ki te kotahi kākaho, ka whati: ki te Kāpuia, e kore e whati.

When we stand alone, we are vulnerable; but together we are unbreakable.

Ngā mihi maioha - warm greetings
Whaea Shell and Taitā Central School Staff

Taitā Central School – Te Kura O Nga Hau E Wha

Phone: 04 567 7214

Office: admin@taitacentral.school.nz

Website: <https://www.taitacentral.school.nz/home>



COMMON GROUND 2026

At its heart Common Ground is about building our community - connecting, playing, learning, belonging and growing wellbeing.

Common Ground started with local residents of Pomare and Taita working together to lead the redevelopment of the Walter Nash Park site. Once the park was re-established as a safe, vibrant space, we started using the park as a common ground base. It is a space for connecting families and all the different people that make 'the village' who contribute to the nurturing of tamariki.

The park has become a place where families and organizations get active together, plan events and share knowledge, skills, culture, history, music and crafts. We are building a community of learning by combining old wisdom with new innovations and sharing resources and information.

Whānau wellbeing and restorative justice projects evolve alongside play and fun and we find solutions to local issues together.

Our Partners

Everyone is invited to be part of this project – older people, rangatahi, children, parents and caregivers, cultural and faith groups, businesses, artists, schools, community services.

In 2026 we are being funded by Nuku Ora's Tū Manawa investment and the Department of Internal Affairs. Wesley Community Action is our fundholder and our partnerships with Hutt City Council and local community groups remain essential to the mahi.

Our Kaupapa

How we do this work is really important. Manaakitanga and respect for all are our guiding principles. CollaborACTION, reciprocity, learning from doing, listening and strength-based practice are how we operate.

Nau mai Hāere mai – Come and join us!

Drop in to see us at Mokopuna– the little whale on the park courts. Or give Sue a call.

- During school terms we have a weekly play day in the park on a Wednesday from 12pm to 4.30pm – all ages.
- Free and easy access to gardening, sport and play equipment is available.
- We have a pātaka kai that is always open, where you give what you can and take what you need.
- Local groups who share our kaupapa are welcome to come and use the space.
- If you would like to contribute your ideas for community events and fun days- lets grow and imagine together.



Common Ground
Me Tipu Ngātahi



Walter Nash Park - Common Ground

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