



Taitā Central School Newsletter

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.

Vision

"Te tu pakari tahi, te whakamana i nga ākonga katoa."
Standing strong together – enhancing the mana of all learners



Ako tahi Tātou, Tipu tahi Tātou
Together we Learn, Together we Grow

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!

27 November 2025

27 Nōema 2025

Principal: principal@taitacentral.school.nz

Number 19

Tekau ma Iwa

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

Term 4: Week 8

Wāhanga 4: Wiki 8

Office: admin@taitacentral.school.nz

Coming Events:

Fri 28th Nov – Staff Only Day – School closed

Sun 30 Nov – Working Bee 9:30am – 11:30am

Mon 1 Dec – EOTC week

Mon 1 Dec – BOT Meeting

Tue 2 Dec – Wainuiomata Pool Day – whole school

Fri 5 Dec – Athletics Fun Day – whole school

Tue 9 Dec – Kowhai Christmas Party

Wed 10 Dec – Road Patrollers Pool Party – Yr 5 & 6

Thur 11 Dec – End of Year Prizegiving Assembly

Fri 12 Dec – Last day of 2025 – 1.00pm Finish

To Action:

Important Dates to remember...

**Thu 11 Dec – End of Year Prizegiving Assembly
– 1:00pm at Walter Nash Centre**

Absence TXT Line: 022 351 2655 - Text child's first & last name, Ako/class, absence reason, sender's name

Kia ora e te whānau

Coloured sand recall – update

We have followed the guidelines from the Ministry of Education and WorkSafe to have the coloured sand removed for testing and our classrooms tested for the presence of asbestos contamination.

This situation is as follows.

1. Kowhai Block will open for instruction on Monday 24th November and all ākonga/students and staff will return to their normal classrooms.
2. We have received the results of the testing carried out by FibreSafe NZ, both samples of the coloured sand returned a negative result for asbestos.
3. Visual inspections indicated there was no visible sand in either classroom and cleaning with the appropriate materials has been completed.
4. Air monitoring was undertaken in all classrooms (Ako 1, Ako 3 & Ako 4). All air samples collected returned a result that is below the limit of detection.

After communicating with the Ministry of Education and WorkSafe regarding our school's test results we have been assured that the actions we have taken following the "Guidelines regarding the Updated information on coloured sand recall" have resulted in us being given the "greenlight" to open our Junior (Kowhai) Block as it is now safe to occupy.

Our staff and Board wish to pass on our thanks to all our parents, caregivers and whānau for your support and understanding while we were navigating this issue.

Attendance, Engagement, Achievement

Even at this stage of the year, it is important for your child/children to attend school everyday. Next week we have our EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) programme running with lots of exciting trips and events happening for classrooms and Blocks.

Congratulations to our ākonga who had 100% Attendance for Term 3:

Trinah, Niko, Mason, Kyle, Skyy, Elisefou, Faaeteete, Tepaula & Talia.

On Thursday 27th November we had an ice cream celebration with chocolate and Raspberry sauce, sprinkles and popping candy.

Term 3 students who were at school everyday making and enjoying their ice cream sundaes.




Kāhui Ako-revisioning 2026 and beyond

The Stokes Valley/Taitā Kāhui Ako will cease to exist after January 2026, due to the Government's shift in priorities and the decision to stop funding Kāhui Ako so they can put the money into the new New Zealand Curriculum Refresh and other initiative.

Our roopu are committed to continuing to work together to support the tamariki, families, whānau and Aiga within our 7 schools and early childcare centres. Our principal's and school leaders plan to gather together in Term 1 2026 to revision and reset our shared (Kāhui Ako) strategic and annual plans.

We are seeking community voice and so have prepared a survey to gather feedback from our school communities. Please take a few moments to follow this [link](#) and help guide us with our future direction. Feedback is due by week 3 Term 1 2026.

SCHOOL NEWS

	P	Perseverance / <i>Whakapau Kaha / Onosa'i</i> - give it a go and keep trying, even when it gets hard.
	O	Outstanding / <i>Kei runga noa atu! / Matua <u>silisili</u> ona lelei</i> - always being the best that you can be.
	W	Whakawhanaungatanga / <i>Te toa takitini / So'otaga</i> - we come together as one.
	E	Empathy / <i>Aroha - Ngākau aroha / Lagona Alofa</i> - trying to understand how others feel.
	R	Respect / <i>Kiritau - Whakamana -Whakaute / Fa'aaloalo</i> - treating others how you would like to be treated.

POWER Values - Our value focus for Week 5 & 6 across the school was **Whakawhanaungatanga / Te toa takitini / So'otaga** – we come together as one.

The New Zealand Falcon (Karearea) is our mascot for our values.

Term 4 Week 6 – Thank you to Pohutukawa Block and our hosts Matua Dylan, Nesta and Carlos and visuals Warren, Emperor and Fa'amago.

Congratulations to our Ako Award Winners:

Ako 1: Panapa & Simaima

Ako 3: Iriana, Ellie & Jeconiah

Ako 4: Marley, Laukau & Casey-Jean

Ako 7: Manawa, Mehi, Molly & Bryce

Ako Waru: Fa'amago & Indy

Ako Iwa: Kristina, Faaeteete, Cory, Genzyah-Reign, Noah & Nesta

Akomanga Māori: Chaze (A3) & Nia-Grace (A9)

Congratulations to our Principal Award Winners:

Week 3

Ako 1: Zion for showing outstanding excellence in writing. You have been trying really hard at writing time to write a sentence and for drawing beautiful pictures to match.

Ako 3: Brynn for being a focused and confident learner in Ako 3. You give everything a try and persevere with lots of effort. It has been wonderful to see your progress.

Ako 7: Cren for an amazing effort at swimming. You have tried so hard to listen to instructions, and to put them into action. Well done for showing perseverance and determination-you have made wonderful progress.

Ako Iwa: Miss Kelly for holding it down in whānau Pōhutukawa while Matua Dylan was globetrotting in the USA. We appreciate you stepping up and taking the lead. Ehara taku toa, he takitahi, he toa takitini.

Week 4

Ako 4: Tutahi for trying really hard with your school work. Keep up the great mahi.

Ako Waru: Eliana for looking out for Kowhai kids during break times especially on the new swings. They love hanging out with you and you're a great positive role model for them.

Special Nomination: Esha (A8) for always being willing everyday to help Mani with the school lunches and then with the dishes and wiping the tables down after Pohutukawa have eaten. You do this all before you go to play, Mani appreciates all your help and hard mahi Esha.

Week 5

Ako 1: Tusi for showing outstanding excellence in writing. You have been using your letter card at writing time and are also trying to sound out tricky words.

Ako 3: Kina for your continued kindness to others and your effort in class. You are a great role model for others. Thank you for all you do to make Kowhai a nice learning space.

Ako 7: Phoenix For showing whakawhanaungatanga towards others at floorball. Stepping up into your mana and doing the right thing. You can show your leadership Phoenix and when you do you are unstoppable Ka mau te wehi!

Ako Iwa: Katnisse for your incredible listening, improvement and dedication during your swimming lessons at the pool. You took the learning from the instructors and applied it to make yourself better! Ka mau te wehi

Week 6

Ako 4: Freja for an amazing effort at swimming. You can now put your head under the water and float on your tummy. Great job!

Ako Waru: Evatyn for awesome effort in swimming the last couple of weeks. You listened carefully and made great improvements. You were amazing!! Keep up to hard mahi, we all know you can do it.

Congratulations to our POWER in the Playground Winners:

Carlos (A7) Naayagi (A7) Suntroyden (A3) Indy (A8) Faith (A9) Phoenix (A7) Molly (A7) Jericho (A7) Jahziah (A8) Sitina (A8)

Congratulations to our 95-99% Attendance for Term 3:

Kowhai - Freja, Tia, Koval, Caleb, Brynn, Eva, Sujith & Jeconiah



Pohutukawa - Jericho, Manasoni, Eduard, Phoenix, Rhys, Nia-Grace, Izzy, Tyson, Layan, Aaru, Esha, Londoni, Evatyn & Emma

Mural Project – working with artist Amy Burrell

A group of Year 4, 5 & 6 ākonga have been working with local artist Amy Burrell during Term 4 to create a new piece of art work for our school. These ākonga/students helped to identify what was special about our kura/school and how we wanted to represent who we are.

On Monday and Tuesday this week our fabulous artists and painters - Londoni, Faith, Layan, Emma, Bella, Eliana, Fa'amago, Indy, Victoria, Nia-Grace, Nyla, Naayagi, and Halamehi helped Amy to paint the mural.





Study Centre Children's University Graduation

On Tuesday 10 November our Study centre ākonga attended their Children's University Graduation at Massey University Wellington Campus. A big shout out to Nada our Children's University coordinator for supporting, encouraging and monitoring the extra 30 to 40 hours learning our ākonga have engaged in during the year.



Taka Trust Bike Day

On Wednesday 19th Novemebr Matua Dylan and Conor took a group of 20 Year 5 & 6 ākonga/students to Avalon Park to participate in the first Taka Trust Bike Day.

Taka Trust Golf Day – Friday 21st November

Last Friday, Merehana and Matua Dylan took 19 tamariki down to the Shandon Golf Course to perform for the annual Taka Trust Golf tournament. Our tamariki did so well, there were many comments on how well they performed and their behaviour by showing our POWER Values.

This amazing trust provides our kura with many things; bikes, bike checks, bike trip to Avalon Park and buses for trips just to name a few. Ngā mihi to the Taka Trust for these opportunities that you give for our tamariki.



Te Reo Māori Phrase of the Week.

To increase the use of Te Reo Māori at Taitā Central School we are continuing our Te Reo Māori phrase of the week. All our Kaiako/teachers and Kaiawhina/Support staff are trying to make sure we use this phrase throughout the week. You may hear your tamariki using these phrases at home.

The phrase we have been using in Weeks 7 is ... **Kei hea taku...**? / *Where is my....?* and **Week 8** is...**Nā wai tēnei?** / *Who does this belong to?*

Whakatauki

Te piko o te māhuri, tērā te tupu o te rākau

The way in which
the young sapling
is nurtured (bent),
determines how
the tree will grow



Ngā mihi maioha - warm greetings
Whaea Shell / Michelle Picard and Taitā Central School Staff
Tel: 5677214

***Taitā Central School – Te Kura O Nga Hau E Wha
Ako tahi Tātou, Tipu tahi Tātou – Together we Learn, Together we Grow***

