

# Initial Information Newsletter for 2022

Everything you need to know to help you settle easily into our 2022 School Year.

## **Kia ora koutou.**

Firstly, a warm welcome to our new staff, students and families, we hope you have a very happy and successful time at our school. At present we have 22 new students enrolled for the beginning of 2022.

## **Teachers**

As we have lost a lot of senior students with our last two large Year 6 cohorts leaving us, we will be starting 2022 with no new staff members. We are, however very pleased to be welcoming back Mrs Vicky Foden, who will be taking on her Teacher Aide role once again, after being away learning te Reo Maaori in 2021.

## **Staff Farewells:**

We are sad to be losing three of our valued team members this year:

**Gillian Joe**, who has been a Teacher Aide at our school since 2014, has decided to continue her journey with her very special friend Olive, and move on with the Year 6 cohort to Berkley Normal Middle School. This is the very dedication that has endeared Gillian to us. We will miss having her kind smile and gentle nature, supporting our students and teachers at TMCS but look forward to seeing her when we mix within our Kahui Ako.

**Tim Ross** is moving down to Queenstown to be closer to family and has won a position at Queenstown Primary School. Tim has been with us for almost two years and will graduate as a Fully Registered Teacher next month. Tim has been a great member of our staff and has helped keep numbers up in the men's corner in the staff room! He is a very able teacher, whose maturity and skills far exceed his experience. I know he will go far in his chosen new career. Tim is also looking forward to all the bike trails and outdoor pursuits he will be able to get involved in. We wish you and your family happiness in this new phase of your life.

**Jennie Jarvis**. We are very sad to be losing one of our valued long term relievers Jennie, to Hillcrest Normal Primary School. We have been lucky enough to have Jennie on our team in a full-time position for almost two years. With numbers lower in 2022 and job uncertainty, Jennie looked at one job and was picked up within hours. Hillcrest's gain is our loss. Jennie has a wonderful way with children and has fitted our vision, nurturing and supporting our tamariki so

well. This is not goodbye though, as she is in our School's Kahui Ako and we are lucky that Jennie's son will be staying with us, so Jennie and her family will still be a part of our school community.

**We thank you all for your hard work and dedication and how you have nurtured and supported our students. We wish you all the very best in your new situations.**

### **Our School Structure and Organisation 2022**

Below you can see the school structure and staffing for 2022. Each year our structure looks slightly different, depending on Ministry funding for staff and student cohort numbers. This year we will again, be having three clear Syndicates with Maungatautari having Year 5 & 6 classes, Pirongia taking the Year 3 & 4 students and Taupiri will be taking the Year 0-2 classes. Within these three Syndicates, the internal structures will look a little different this year.

In **Maungatautari Syndicate**, we will be having four base classes, with about 30 students in each. However each day between 8.45 -11.45am, the students will work in five different learning groups, with the addition of Mrs Mandy Searancke, supporting the literacy and numeracy programmes.

**Pirongia Syndicate** will look the same, with five classes of Year 3 & 4 students and cross grouping for Mathematics.

In 2022 our Junior **Taupiri Syndicate** is going to be made up in a slightly different way, to provide a greater diversity that we feel will better cater for our Year 0-2 students. We will be starting the year with two Year 1 classes, two Year 1 & 2 composite classes and two Year 2 classes. By having our six initial classes structured like this, we are able to divide our students up into 4 different teaching groups, for both our Year 1 and Year 2 students. This is to provide the best learning environments possible for all six classes. Students have been selected for each class due to their individual needs, talents, social connections and special areas of support or extension identified.

The Junior team will be based around the Learning Worm and the new learning spaces of Horopito 20 and Horoeka 21, can be used by all classes in the school and may be able to fit some Syndicates in for assemblies, etc. Later in the year, these spaces may temporarily house the Admin Team, as our office development building project kicks into action.

Maungatautari Syndicate 5 classes of Year 5 & 6				
Pukeatua Pod		Literacy & Numeracy support	Te Akatarere Pod	
Yr 5 & 6 Karaka 15	Yr 5 & 6 Manuka 16	Yr 5 & 6 Mahoe 17	Yr 5 & 6 Pukatea 14	Year 5 & 6 Miro 13
Mrs Jacqui Murphy-Curtis	Mrs Paula Dunton Syndicate Leader	Mrs Mandy Searancke	Mrs Bridget Hawthorn	Miss Brooklyn Dunn

*NB names from the two other peaks on Maungatautari Mountain - Pukeatua = 753m and Te Akatarere = 727m.*

Pirongia Syndicate - 5 classes of Year 3 & 4				
Yr 3 & 4 Nikau 1	Yr 3 & 4 Kauri 2	Yr 3 & 4 Kowhai 4	Yr 3 & 4 Matai 11	Yr 3 & 4 Tanekaha 12
Miss Nicola Spence	Mrs Leah Mills Syndicate Leader	Miss Laura Grant	Ms Ann Marie Copponi	Mr Brendan Stephenson

Taupiri Syndicate - seven classes to start the year - four classes of Year 1 & three classes of Year 2								
Year 1 Tawa 19	Year 1 Totara 10	Year 1&2 Titoki 6	Year 1&2 Rimu 7	Year 2 Pohutukawa 8	Year 2 Rata 9	Year 0 Puriri 5	Year 0 Harakeke 18 (Horopito 20)	Year 0 Horoeka 21 or (Horopito 20)
Mrs Jo Metcalf	Mrs Christy Paladin	Mrs Nanette Lister	Mrs Shelley Howse Syndicate Leader	Mrs Hayley Smit	Mrs Nicky Platje	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4

In 2022 we will continue to operate the cohort system for our New Entrants who will have an 8-week induction before attending school as a group. The legislation mandates a mid-year cohort as part of the enrolment process.

<b>Regular Classroom Release Teachers</b>	
Mrs Tamsin Bradding Mrs Paula Greaney Mrs Gillian Stantiall Mrs Sarah Singleton	Ms Kat Karadshi Mrs Belinda Kane Mrs Kerry Bennetts Mrs Gail Weston

<b>Leadership / Administration</b>	
Principal	Miss Waveney Parker
Deputy Principal & Special Needs Coordinator	Mrs Lee Boyd
Assistant Principal	Mrs Annette Howard
Admin Team Leader	Mrs Robyn Hedley
Administration Secretary	Mrs Lisa Laurence
Financial Secretary	Mrs Lisa Boyd
Office Wiz	Mrs Heather Wilson
Librarian	Mrs Theresa Kewish
Caretaker / Property Manager	Mr Allan Wickens
Assistant Caretaker	Mr John Ball

Teacher Aides	Before & After School Care
Mrs Rosemary Dexter	Miss Sarah Berghan
Mrs Vicki Foden	Miss Lauren Dexter
Mrs Christine Woolley	Miss Millie Baker
Mrs Emma Goord	Miss Georgia Devcich
Miss Courtney Cocks	Miss Lily Cawood
<b>Volunteers:</b>	Miss Adria Wither
Miss Mariette Poortman (Volunteer Teacher)	Miss Lucy Sidwell
Raewyn Koppens	Miss Sarah Peacock
	Mrs Jeannetta Brough

Music Tutors	
Mrs Gill Earwaker	Piano / Keyboard
Mrs Chris Young	Violin / Strings
Music House	Guitar, Ukulele and Drums
Mrs Kirsty Proctor	Vocal Tuition
Excite Music Academy	Guitar
Mrs Catherine Wallace	Flute, recorder, clarinet, sax and music theory lessons.

<b>Board of Trustees</b>	
Jeremy Waters	Chairperson / Personnel / Property / Health & Safety
Owen Culliney	Personnel / Communication / Legal
Ian Potter	Personnel / Property / Health & Safety
Liz Donovan	Community / Sponsorship
David Palmer	Property
Jim Mercer	Finance / Sponsorship
Sharon Calvert	Personnel
Andrea Dunseath	Maori Representative, Community, Personnel, Legal.
Annette Howard	Staff Representative / Health & Safety

<b>PTA Leaders</b>	
Mike Calvert	Chairperson
Kristyn Thomas	Vice-Chairperson
Leah Shallcrass	Treasurer
Louise Mercer	Secretary
Julie Koekemoer/Lee Boyd	Pumpkin Night Coordinator
Howard & Shelley Baker	Golf Co-ordinator

## School Dates for 2022

TERM	START DATE	END DATE	SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
1	Wednesday 2nd February	Thursday 14th April	Waitangi Day (observed) - Monday 7th February A Teacher Only Day will be held on <b>Monday 14th March</b>  Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> April – Sunday 1st May (Includes Easter & ANZAC Day 25 <sup>th</sup> April)
2	Monday 2nd May	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Queens Birthday - Monday 6th June  Matariki - Friday 24th June  Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> July – Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> July
3	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday 30th September	Saturday 1st October – Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> October
4	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	No later than Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	We are expecting to finish on the 16th of December.

### Teacher Only Days

The Government gave all schools an extra eight Teacher Only Days above what we normally use in the employment negotiations two years ago. We have still got three of these days to use this year but will try to add them to weekends, to make it easier for you all.

## E-Learning Devices

Our **Maungatautari** Seniors will be using their Ipads and Chromebooks, as part of our Bring Your Own Devices (BYOD) programme. Our preference now is that students bring chromebooks and the school will provide the Ipads.

Year 3 & 4 students in **Pirongia**, may, if their parents feel they are ready for it, bring a chromebook to school to support their learning.

Our 2021 Year 3, 4 & 5 students were provided with a letter and further information on BYOD on the last day of term. If you did not receive this, please go to the website [www.tamahere.school.nz](http://www.tamahere.school.nz) - homepage and click on the link at the top saying - 'Our Learning'. Next click BYOD. In here you will find everything you need to know about BYOD.

## Stationery Packs for 2022

**Available online from today.**

**Ordering your stationery pack online:**

Go to: [www.myschool.co.nz/tamahere](http://www.myschool.co.nz/tamahere)

Follow the prompts to complete your order.

You must place your order **BEFORE 19th January 2022** to ensure delivery before school starts on Wednesday 2nd February 2022.

The school office does not hold a large amount of stationery, so we will not be able to supply packs directly for your child. Please note that if you do not know your child's class at this stage, please purchase a stationery pack for the year level appropriate.

### ***Tip:***

*Take advantage of the free delivery by "buddying up" with another family to ensure your order is over the minimum spend of \$46.00.*

*Our school receives rewards for all stationery purchases made through OfficeMax.*



## School Donations / Activity Fees and Other Costs in 2022

At Tamahere Model Country School there are two different donations/fees that help support learning. The school depends on School Donations to fund operations, facilities and learning to the high standard expected by our families. Many additional facilities and opportunities are only provided to students, due to the extra funding generously paid through the School Donations.

You may have heard that the government started to pay school donations of \$150 into many schools starting in 2020. Decile 10 schools have been left out of this option, as the Government knew it would disadvantage our schools and put us further behind.

### **Understanding the real need for School Donations:**

#### **The Big Picture and Government funding:**

- Tamahere Model Country School is considered a Decile 10 by the Ministry of Education and School Funding by the Government is determined by this decile rating, of which 10 is the highest.
- If we were a Decile 1, the school would receive approximately \$990,000 in Government funding per year.
- The reality is, as a Decile 10 School we receive approximately \$550,000 per year, around 50% less than a Decile 1 School.
- We have to try and make up the difference in this funding to be able to offer the facilities, teaching and support staff and resources that we all want our tamariki to enjoy and benefit from, in order to offer them the learning opportunities we want them to have.
- School Donations and various fundraising initiatives by our wonderful school community are the two main sources of funding to supplement what is provided by the Government.

#### **What that means for Tamahere Model Country School:**

- The Board of Trustees chooses to fund additional teacher time.
- The Board of Trustees chooses to match government-funded teacher aide time.
- The School owns a number of buildings over and above Ministry owned buildings, including the library and After School Care block, that we are responsible to maintain.
- The School is over 135 years old and the infrastructure continually needs replacing, maintenance is high and there are immense challenges to keep pace with exceptional growth in the role.
- Unfortunately, when operating funds are tight it's the additional-curricular spending that suffers.

### **Where does your School Donation go?**

Your School Donation is added to the School's budget to support our learning programmes. In the past year School Donations have allowed us to fund an additional teacher, provide additional teacher aides in classrooms, and maintain school buildings and grounds. As well, sports equipment, books, musical instruments and materials for artwork are all school items paid for by your School Donation.

### **The 2022 School Donations are:**

- \$240.00 per child for the school year

This is just \$60.00 per child per term (or pro-rata depending on enrolment date)

### **Activity Fees:**

Activity Fees are the second contribution and this covers specific costs related to cultural, academic and sporting activities that we undertake throughout the year, e.g. bus costs, visiting acts and entry fees.

The Activity Fee does not include camp costs or end of year trips. We have had to put our activity fees up by \$10 per Syndicate for 2022, due to increased prices in almost all areas.

This fee alleviates the need to constantly ask parents for small amounts of money during the year.

To ensure our students can enjoy the various activities throughout the year that extend and support their learning, we kindly request that all Activity Fees are paid by the end of Term 2 please:

\$55.00 - Taupiri Junior Syndicate

\$70.00 - Pirongia Middle Syndicate

\$80.00 - Maungatautari Senior Syndicate

(or Pro-rata depending on enrolment date)

### **Swimming Pool Levy**

The Swimming Pool Levy is \$20.00 per child per year. This money contributes to the ongoing maintenance of the pool facilities. The Vela Pool Complex, which opened in November 2017, allows us to offer increased swimming opportunities for our students, significantly above the level that was possible with the old ministry provided pool.

### **Seesaw**

Tamahere School uses Seesaw, a digital portfolio that gives your child a safe place to record what they're learning at school and share that with you. The cost for Seesaw is \$5 per student for the year, which covers the licence cost for the programme.

### **Cyber Safety**

#### **School Manager - Family Zone**

As a school, we have implemented a school and class management system called 'Family Zone' that provides our school and families with increased digital awareness, education and safety. This system has many benefits for both the school and our families. Teachers and parents have greater options to manage children's devices and the ability to set these up for safer learning and monitor this with increased ease and visibility. The beautiful feature of Family Zone is that parents also have the option to set security and management boundaries in their home with any device tool that connects to the internet (including phones, laptops, ipads, xbox, netflix..) to the level that a school can in their school environment. There are several options available to families, which can be found on the website link listed below.

<https://www.familyzone.com/nz/families>

### **School Bus Arrangements for 2022**

Next year our school bus operator is changing. Our new school bus operator is Go Bus. We are working closely with Go Bus and the Ministry of Education to ensure that the transition to our new school bus operator goes well. To make sure that the start of the school year goes as smoothly as possible, please familiarise yourself with the information below.

As always, please either stay with your children, while they are waiting for their school transport in the morning or keep in contact with them to make sure that they are picked up safely.

### **School Bus Routes and Timetable Information:**

*There are no changes to the current school bus routes or times, from the existing service. Please [click here](#) to view the bus routes and times.*

*If the bus arrives at school prior to 8.00am, your child is required to go to Before School Care. ( Please note - there is no charge for bus children to attend BSC.)*

### **Eligibility For School Transport Assistance:**

We often get questions about whether students qualify for school transport assistance i.e., a place on a school bus.

The Ministry of Education has three criteria that students must meet in order to qualify for school transport assistance. They are:

1. The student must attend their closest state or state-integrated school
2. The student must live more than a certain distance from the school:
  - o Years 1-8: at least 3.2 km
  - o Years 9-13: at least 4.8 km
3. There must be no suitable public transport options

The Ministry of Education has a handy [video](#) on their website, which helps explain the eligibility criteria for school transport assistance.

### **Responsibility Of Caregivers:**

To ensure a safe environment for bus loading and unloading, caregivers should:

- not park in bus bays
- adhere to the speed limit (20 km/h while passing a stationary school bus on either side of the road)
- try to eliminate the need for children to cross the road
- ensure that children get to and from the bus stop safely
- teach children to not run across the road

Please note: if you currently have a private arrangement with your bus operator, you will need to contact your new bus operator ([Lynda.McInroe@gobus.co.nz](mailto:Lynda.McInroe@gobus.co.nz) ) to confirm that your arrangement will continue in 2022.

### School Transport Queries:

The Bus Controller for our bus routes is Hillcrest High School. Unfortunately, we are unable to share the Bus Controllers contact details at this time, as Hillcrest High is yet to appoint someone into this vacant role. This information will be shared with our school community, once it is confirmed.

### Vela School Pool News

As outlined in previous newsletters and communications, Tamahere Vela School Pool will not be open for concession swimming this summer season, due to unpredictable COVID circumstances. We thank you for your support and understanding with this. Swimming lessons with Hamilton Aquatics will be available for all abilities in Term 1 2022. Please see below for further information.

### Hamilton Aquatics Swim School for 2022 held at Tamahere School Vela Pool



## FREE ASSESSMENTS

**STARTS - Tuesday 1 February**

**LOCATION** - Tamahere Vela Pool

**LESSONS** - Tues | Wed | Thurs

**TIME** - From 4 pm

**Duration** - 9 weeks

**AGE** - 4+

**LEVELS** - 1 - 5

**COST** - \$145

lts@hamiltonaquatics.nz  
www.hamiltonaquatics.nz



### **Before/After School Care**

For the beginning of 2022, the hourly rate will continue to be \$7 per child for After School Care. After School Care goes through to 5.45pm daily. We have a \$10 per session charge for Before School Care. This is a 7.00am until 8.00am service. Capped rates will continue to be used to keep overall costs at reasonable levels for our families.

### **Automatic Payments**

You may wish to set up an Automatic Payment to spread the School Donations and Fees across the school year. Payments can be made to the account below (please note your child's name in the reference field):

**Tamahere School**  
**12-3152-0070140-00**

**Please note you will be notified/invoiced early in Term 1 for the School Donation, Activity Fee, Pool Levy and Seesaw subscription.**

### **Did you know you can apply for a tax rebate from the Inland Revenue Department for your voluntary school donations?**

You may be able to get a rebate of up to one-third of the voluntary school donations you have paid if you:

- have earned taxable income
- lived in New Zealand at any time over the tax year
- are an individual (not a company or partnership for tax purposes), and
- have paid voluntary donations to a state or state-integrated school

Please contact Lisa Boyd in the School Office to make payments, set up automatic payments and for information on how to apply for tax deductions.

## Fundraising achievements

Huge thanks go to our PTA and their dynamic fundraising teams who have again had to battle lockdowns and COVID restrictions but have run such successful and happy events such as: Pumpkin Night, Golden Ticket Ball and Golf Day, which have all raised significant funds towards our new playgrounds. The Junior extension is expected to be erected during these holidays and the senior activity net is on order. After having to be postponed, the Sir Graham Henry event is now planned for Friday 25th February. Thank you to everyone involved in coordinating, leading, organising and supporting these great events.

## Property

The Ministry is completing the upgrade of our School Sewerage System over the holidays. You will see an area of the field will be dug up, for sizable drainage pipes to be installed and linked with the treatment station. There seem to be delays in many areas at the moment, so our final tidying off around the new classrooms with concrete and our entrance way, may not happen until we are back together again in 2022. The administration block development, changing the old staff room and general configuration to achieve a bigger sickbay, some much-needed meeting rooms and giving our office ladies more space will also now have to happen later in 2022.

## Music & Kid's Clubs

We have a variety of music and other extracurricular opportunities available for 2022. Itinerant tutors visit our school offering lessons in guitar, ukulele, piano, drums, singing, violin to name just a few. Classes are also offered in Gym, French Lessons, Drama and Singing and a full list can be viewed on our website [www.tamahere.school.nz](http://www.tamahere.school.nz) - Go to Key Information → Kids Clubs).

If your child is continuing lessons or you wish to enquire about your child starting up with a tutor, please contact them directly using the list on our website. (As noted above).

## Camp Dates

- **Maungatautari Camp** for our Year 5 & 6 Students will be at Tui Ridge in 2022. The Camp will happen in Week 6 of Term 1 from **8th - 11th March**. For further information on the Senior camp please click [here](#).
- **Pirongia Camp** - for our Year 4's camp will be held at Camp Raglan from **25th-27th May 2022**.

**Police Vetting:** All parents wanting to be a parent helper on one of our camps need to be police vetted to be considered. Please pop into the Office with two forms of photo ID and sign a form. The cost to process this is \$10.00. This can take a few weeks to process so you need to be in early.

**My Vaccine Pass:** All parents wanting to be considered to be a camp parent in Term 1, will need to provide a copy of your 'My Vaccine Pass' to the school office, confirming you are double vaccinated. Your pass will have an expiry date 6 months after the date of issue. [Please click here to visit My Covid Record to request your pass](#) and then email this through to [rhedley@tamahere.school.nz](mailto:rhedley@tamahere.school.nz)

### New Entrant Cohort Entry

In 2022 we will continue to operate the cohort system for our New Entrants who will have an 8 week induction before starting school as part of a group. This structured support and entering as a group is providing a great platform of support for our newest learners entering our school.

Official Ministry Cohort Entry dates for our New Entrant families:

2022 School Dates	Start Date	*Cohort Mid Term Date	End Date
Term 1	Wednesday 2 February	Monday 14 March	Thursday 14 April
Term 2	Monday 2 May	Tuesday 7 June	Friday 8 July
Term 3	Monday 25 July	Monday 29 August	Friday 30 September
Term 4	Monday 17 October	Monday 21 November	No later than Friday 20 December

\*This date is the mid-point between the start of term and the start of the next term. Children will be able to start school in cohorts but only after they have turned 5. There will be 2 entry points per term, one on the first day of term, and one at a mid-point during a term. Only children over 5 will be able to start school on the first day of term, or at a mid-point during a term.



### School Uniform

We look forward to seeing all our students proudly wearing their correct school uniform in 2022. Please ensure that all uniform items are clearly named. If you do find that you need to purchase new items of uniform before the start of term, our school office will be open from 26th to 28th January, between 9.00am - 3.00pm.

Please remember that our TMCS wide brim or bucket hats are compulsory during Term 1. The school holidays are a great time to organise for children's names (first name and first letter of surname) to be embroidered on the back of their school hats. This costs only \$8.00 each! Not only is this an extremely competitive price, but the investment in purchasing only one hat and eliminating the need for several replacements, more than pays for itself. This is not just for brand new hat purchases but existing hats too!

To make an order please bring your child's hat to the school office with your \$8 payment (or order a new one for a total of \$28). This can take between 1-2 weeks, so please order as soon as possible.

### Holiday Office Hours

Our administration team will be starting their well earned break from Friday 17th December. The office will reopen on 26th January 2022 between 9.00am - 3.00pm. We invite families to purchase uniform items at this time and ask new families to finalise their enrolment details, if they have not already done so in this week (including providing all necessary documentation), prior to the first day of school on Wednesday 2nd February.

**We hope you all have a wonderful holiday  
and a very happy Christmas/ *Kirihimete***

*Te Harinui*

**Kia pai to hararei**  
*May your holiday be wonderful*

**Keep Safe!**

***We look forward to seeing you all on 2nd February 2022.***

