TAMAHERE

MODEL COUNTRY SCHOOL

Phone: (07) 856 9238

Website: https://tamahere.school.nz/ Email: reception@tamahere.school.nz



Nurturing Our Future - Growing Together Kia atawhai aa mua - Kia tipu ngatahi

Wiki/ Week 6 Happenings:

Internet Safety! As you may have seen in the media, schools are increasingly having to improve their safety networks to keep students safe when using devices at school. The challenge is new apps and AI, which are making accessing sites much easier, even within secure systems. Last week, we met with Linewise, one of our safety providers, to improve our systems once again. To most of us, our firewalls block all guestionable and gaming sites.

Sadly, however, a parent this week has informed us of students/aakonga who are using VPN and apps to access gaming sites such as Roblox. Some of our aakonga are becoming addicted to these games as they are designed to achieve. Some families are finding devices being used in the middle of the night to game and visit sites. Are you aware of what your child is doing and where they are going online? Roblox is R13, but accounts can easily be set up.

We have been checking the online history of our aakonga, and many have been trying to access gaming sites again and again during school and home time, but mostly they have been blocked due to our software. **ALERT!** Some children have learnt how to get around the firewalls with the use of their own Gmail accounts, VPNs and Apps. We have spoken to our senior students about their signed agreements and requirements, and are tightening our processes yet again. We are gutted that our safety systems, which we pay a lot of money for, are not foolproof. Our providers are saying that with AI they may be unable to block everything we want with Bring Your Own Devices. We are so sorry!

- Does your child have numerous accounts?
- Are they accessing gaming sites and social media platforms?
- Do you know their history and where they have been?
- Please have some conversations with your children and make sure they are not getting dragged into addictive games and dangerous platforms.

We are teaching internet safety, but children are curious and don't always think of consequences. They have no fear of exploring on their devices when adults can be a lot more cautious.

Computers have transformed how teachers teach and provide an important tool for learning. However, there are also dangers. As a school, we will be looking more closely at our use of IT and how we manage and monitor student access. Our IT experts are working on tightening our safety nets. Once again, we apologise for the gaps in safety and thank the parents who have alerted us to

this problem.

We are truly sorry, as we believed the Government and the extra paid safety providers we use, had created an impenetrable and safe platform for our aakonga. We will be working with them to make our systems as safe as possible.

Next term, we have John Parsons, an ex-police officer who has become a well known internet safety advocate for children, coming to our school to spend time with our aakonga. We will also be hosting a parent information night on Thursday, 26th March in the TCC. Please save this date in your diaries.





Do you know who this child is? We want to keep him safe!

Over recent weeks, we have had a number of teenagers coming onto our site and messing about doing silly stuff. One of their pastimes has been to put class doormats and outside chairs on the roofs of classrooms and sit around on them, causing poor Mr Wickens to have to climb up and sort everything out after the weekends silliness. Today, we will be meeting with a few of the teenagers concerned who were clearly identified by our cameras. Our main concern now though, is the copycat actions of a much younger boy who has been at school and seen these teenagers play on the roofs. We are concerned for his safety. His smaller stature means he is, at times, dangling when trying to do what the bigger boys have achieved. There is a big drop with concrete and poles below. We do not want a tragedy to happen. Who is this child? We need to keep him safe. Please let us know if you think you may know who he is, or let his family know. We are very concerned that a nasty accident could easily happen, and there are no adults showing on the cameras when he and a friend with long dark hair have been here.



Swimming Pool - Safety

We have also had teenagers on skate boards come into the swimming pool area. Another significant worry for drowning. Sadly our pool cover has been ripped again, and the Police have been informed. Last time this cost the school \$6,000 to repair, which is precious money we don't have to waste. If you are around school and see anyone in areas they shouldn't be, please see if you can identify the offenders by taking photos or car registrations for us to follow up, as that could be very helpful. If you know who these boys are, we would be keen to know. They are not wanted for the ripping of the cover - just safety reasons. Thank you.





Whaanau Bird Drawing Competition

Dear Parents and Whaanau,

The school councillors and enviro team are creating an area in the Kowhai 4 space. We have four po's (posts) that we are dedicating to our four whaanau birds, Takahe, Kotuku, Hoiho and Kakapo. We are asking if your child/ren would like to design a realistic version of any whaanau bird of their choice. If they would like to enter their whaanau bird of choice, it could end up on one of our four posts. To enter, they will need to hand in their design to the office by Wednesday 19th November 2025 before or during lunch.

If you have any questions please contact Miss Parker.

Greta, Sophie, Chilli and Emily (Kowhai Development Team)



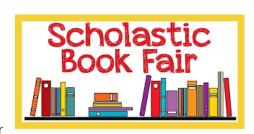






SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR THANK YOU!!!

A huge **THANK YOU** to all of those wonderful parents, grandparents and children who purchased books and gifts at our Scholastic Book Fair in the library last week. \$10,341.00 worth of books went into our students' homes for



them to read!!! PLUS this means around \$3,500 worth of books can be chosen for our school library next year. Absolutely amazing. Thank you, Tamahere!!

Upcoming Dates:

	TERM 4					
November / Whiringa-ā-rangi						
V	VEEK 7					
Raatuu /Tuesday 18th	★ PTA MEETING at 7.00pm					
Raapa /Wednesday 19th	★ Road Patrol Training Day					
Raapare /Thursday 20th	★ Year 6 Berkley Middle School Orientation Morning- 9.15 am to					
Kaapare / Hidisuay 20th	10.30am					
	WEEK 8					
Raatuu /Tuesday 25th	★ Dressing The Tree - Maungatautari Syndicate					
Radiua / Idesday 25th	★ Board Meeting at 7.00 pm					
Raapa /Wednesday 26th	★ Dressing The Tree - Pirongia Syndicate					
Raapare /Thursday 27th	★ Dressing The Tree - Taupiri Syndicate					
Raamere /Friday 28th	★ 2025 TMCS Golf Day					
Radillele / Filuay 20til	★ Road Patrol Fun Day					
	December / Hakihea					
	WEEK 9					
Raahina / Monday 1st	★ Thank You - Parents & Sponsors Morning Tea 10.30am					
Raapare /Thursday 4th	★ Year 6 Graduation					
Boomeye (Frider, Fth	★ SEH City Athletic Sports - Hillcrest High School					
Raamere /Friday 5th	★ Christmas Carols Evening at the Tamahere Piazza					
	WEEK 10					
Raapa /Wednesday 10th	★ PRIZE GIVING 10.30 am to 12.30 pm					
Raapare /Thursday 11th	★ TAUPIRI BIG DAY IN					
	★ MAUNGATAUTARI - BIG DAY OUT					
Raamere /Friday 12th	★ PIRONGIA - BIG DAY IN					
WEEK 11						
Raapa /Wednesday 17th	★ End of Term 4 - school day ends at 1.00pm					

DRESSING OF THE TREE

Kia ora Whaanau,

Every year we walk down to St Stephen's Church for a 'Dressing of the Tree' service, which has been a special tradition of Tamahere School for many years. The Syndicates will be attending in two sessions, across 3 days, due to the numbers of children, as follows:

Maungatautari Syndicate (Year 5 & 6) - Tuesday 25th November

- **Karaka 15**, **Manuka 16** and **Mahoe 17** will be leaving school at 8.40am for the 9.00am service.
- **Miro 13** and **Pukatea 14** will be leaving school at 10.40 am for the 11.00 am service.

Pirongia Syndicate (Year 3 & 4) - Wednesday 26th November

- **Tanekaha 12** and **Kawakawa 3** will be leaving school at 8.40 am for the 9.00 am service.
- **Nikau 1, Kauri 2, Nikau 1** and **Matai 11** will be leaving school at 10.40am for the 11:00 am service.



Taupiri Syndicate (Year 0, 1,& 2) - Thursday 27th November

- Rimu 7, Tawa 19 and Totara 10 will be leaving school at 8.40 am for the 9.00 am service.
- Horopito 20, Horoeka 21, Pohutukawa 8 and Rata 9 will be leaving school at 10.40 am for the 11.00 am service.

We will need at least 3-4 parent helpers per class. Please approach your classroom teacher if you are available to help - no preschoolers, please.

Your child will need to wear sensible walking shoes (no jandals please) as we are walking from school. Unfortunately, children who do not have suitable footwear will need to stay behind with a buddy class.

If you do not wish your child to attend a 'Dressing of the Tree' service, please let your classroom teacher know.

Nga mihi nui

TMCS Teachers

TMCS 2025 GOLF DAY - Friday 28th November



We are pleased to announce that we are once again holding a "Hole in One Competition", offering one golfer the chance to win \$40,000 on the day, and if struck TMCS receives \$10,000. Thanks go to **ZB Homes** and **United insurance** who are sponsoring this event.

We are still keen to gain further team entries. If you haven't yet entered a team but would like to get involved in this fun day, please contact Shaun Elliott on selliott@inghams.co.nz







The Tamahere Model Country School Christmas Concert is back for 2025! Thanks to Thomas Estates and Christie's International Real Estate's Sponsorship. More details to follow but **please** make sure you've got December 5 in your calendars for an evening of family entertainment.

Performers wanted! Are you a choir, singer, band or other act wanting to perform? Please email your details and a brief description of your intended performance to tamaherechristmas@gmail.com. Please note: This event has very limited rehearsal and sound-check time and as such, is not suitable for 'first-time' performers in the way Pumpkin Night is.

Adults - do you like singing carols? If there is enough interest, we would like to put together a group of adults to lead us in some Christmas favourites. No experience required, just enthusiasm. If you are interested, please email tamaherechristmas@gmail.com.



Final PTA Meeting for 2025

Our final meeting for the year will be at The Boundary on Tuesday, 18th November, with a 7.00 pm start. Everyone from the school community is welcome. Bring your ideas and your constructive feedback!



SWIM CAPS

We are looking forward to the children being able to start swimming next week. **All swimmers must wear swim caps at the Vela Pool Complex.** We have 2 styles available to purchase through the school office - caps printed with the whaanau name are \$14.00 each or \$12.00 without (please note we only have blue or green teamline caps in stock), or they are welcome to use their own swim caps.

You can either send the cash to the office with your child/ren, pay by Eftpos at the office or you can elect to make payment by internet banking. If you would like to pay by internet banking, please make the appropriate payment into the Tamahere Model Country School bank account, and send the proof of payment to reception@tamahere.school.nz. We will then arrange to deliver the swim caps to their classrooms.





PUMPKIN NIGHT 2026

Pumpkin Night is a much loved, fun filled annual event for the entire Tamahere Community. Focused on bringing the community together and providing entertainment for everyone, it is also a major fundraiser for TMCS. Pumpkin Night features lots of food and drink options, plus fun activities, pumpkin-based competitions and wonderful live entertainment.

If you are wanting to grow a giant pumpkin for the event, please pop into the office to pick up your GIANT PUMPKIN SEEDS, if you'd like to try growing the biggest pumpkin. We are not sending seeds home to every family this year - you or your children are very welcome to pop in and pick some up.



Our 2026 Pumpkin Night date will be announced shortly, along with more information.

LAST MINUTE Calendar Art Orders OPEN NOW - DON'T MISS OUT!!!

This is a reminder that we're currently taking orders for Calendar Art. The first order is already in production. If you missed out placing your order before the close off, we have opened up a late order link, closing on **Monday 24th November at**



11.59pm. These make unique Christmas gifts for family and friends and are perfect for posting overseas.

Follow these instructions to place your order online:

1/. Go to www.kidsartworks.com

2/. Use the Entrance Code: K*.... (add in your entrance code from your welcome letter e.g. "KZ3452")*

3/. Enter your child's room & name

Payment can be made over the website via credit card or account2account.

This 2nd and final order is open until 11.59pm on Monday 24th November 2025.



City Cluster T-ball

Wow! Another incredible day for some Tee Ball action. 24 students represented our school at the City Cluster Tee ball competition last Thursday. A lot of lunchtime training was put in preparing our students for some tough competition. Six competitive games were played by our two teams over the hot day. It came down to the final games to decide the winner. With our teams giving it their all and leaving it all out on the field. Once again the students showed incredible sportsmanship and teamwork, while showcasing our school vision to a high standard. A huge congratulations to all our competitors and a massive thank you to our parent helpers!

Results: Tamahere Kings 1st place overall

Tamahere Jaguars 3rd place overall















PB4L - Positive Behaviour for Learning

Students of Week 5I am reliable and trustworthy.

Positive	
Behavi	OU r arning
Jor Le	arriirig

Kia Kotahi 'Together as One'

We learn and work together, supporting, and caring for each other.

NIKAU 1	Oliver T	MIRO 13	James L
KAURI 2	George A	PUKATEA 14	Zara G
KAWAKAWA 3	Heidi R	KARAKA 15	Dylan H
TITOKI 6	Alfie P	MANUKA 16	Grace J

RIMU 7	Jamie C	MAHOE 17	Sehaj S
POHUTUKAWA 8	Charlie A	TAWA 19	Aurora R
TOTARA 10	Brooke S	HOROPITO 20	Luka U
MATAI 11		HOROEKA 21	Ava W
TANEKAHA 12	Isla A		



Pirongia & Maungatautari Athletics Day PHOTO GALLERIES

As promised in last week's Newsletter, please click here to check out the <u>2025 Pirongia and Maungatautari Athletics Photo Gallery</u>. Enjoy!



Samosa Fundraiser – Support Our STEAM Room!

We're excited to launch our **Surti Samosas Fundraiser** to raise money for the next stage of our **STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) room** — completing the concrete/cobble floor and installing benches.

How it works:

- **\$28 per pack** of 10 delicious, generously sized samosas (each approx. 110 g "just shy of a pie!").
- \$12 from every pack goes directly toward our school fundraising goal!
- Choose from five mouth-watering flavours:
 - Vegetable (vegan)
 - **₽** Lamb
 - Butter Chicken
 - Spiced Chicken
 - Butter Paneer

All samosas are **made to order**, **Halal certified**, and come **chilled and fresh** (not frozen). They'll keep for **16 days** in the fridge or **up to 12 months** in the freezer — perfect for quick lunches or dinners.

Ordering:

All orders and payments are made easily online via our <u>fundraising webpage</u>. Scan the QR code now!





Payments can be made securely by credit or debit card.

Key Dates:

- Order period: 23rd October 23rd November
- Collection: Thursday 4th December, 2:00 3:30 pm (same-day collection only)

Your generous support will help us take the next big step toward a vibrant new STEAM learning space for our tamariki.

Tamahere Community Centre AGM - Tuesday 25th November at 6.45pm

Our **Annual General Meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday 25th November at 6.45pm** in the Tamahere Community Centre. We would love as many people as possible to attend. You do not need to be on the committee or have intentions of going on - it is a great opportunity to hear how the year has progressed and intentions for the future.

There is absolutely no pressure to join the committee but we would welcome any one who is keen to join. We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind Regards,
TCC Committee



LIBRARY NEWS

What's happening in our school library for the rest of the term

Week 6 Normal week

Week 7 Normal week

Week 8 ALL school library books to be returned by the end of this week for

stocktake

Week 9 LIBRARY CLOSED FOR ANNUAL STOCKTAKE

Week 10 SUMMER HOLIDAY ISSUING

Tuesday Lunchtime Librarians shared end of year lunch

Week 11 SUMMER HOLIDAY ISSUING - All year 2,3,4, and 5 students may issue up to 15 books for the

school holidays. To do this they must have: a signed form, a bag and to have no lost or

overdue library books. Forms will be coming out soon.

Why is it so important for your children to continue reading during the summer holidays? Click the link below and find out

Research on the summer slide and summer reading



Sanitarium Weet-Bix KidsTRYathlon - Sunday 7th December 2025

Have you registered for the Sanitarium Weet-Bix TRYathlon on Sunday 7th December?

This year the Weet Bix tryathlon will again be held at St Peters School in Cambridge. Included is a link to register your child for this event, as part of the Tamahere School team. This is a safe, fun event for all children aged 7 years and over.

RYTIME!

Registration link

Last Hamilton Sarapu Cup for 2025 - THIS WEEKEND!

When: Sunday, 16 November 2025

Venue: Performing Arts Centre, Berkley Middle School

<u>Time:</u> 1:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Cost: \$33 per entry if prepaid

<u>Format</u>: Pawns, Knights, Bishops and Rooks Divisions - Four 7 round Swiss tournaments with a time control of 15 minutes for each player. Each game lasts 30 minutes maximum.

READ MORE REGISTER NOW

See the how to enter an individual event tutorial.

KIDS CLUB INFORMATION:

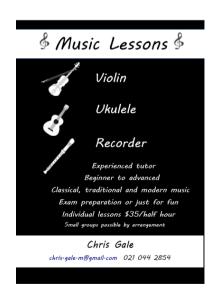
Children at our school can get involved in our Kids Clubs activities. Please contact the providers directly if you would like to find out more or register your child.













Community Notices





- IOW TO ORDER:
 Create an Account It's quick and easyl
 Add Your Kids Include their
 names and classroom details.
 Select 'Hot Lunch Box' Choose

- Ready to Order? Jump online now & secure a delicious end of week treat! www.yourlunchbox.co.nz





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Our Service:

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- **⊗** Edging
- **Garden Maintenance**
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Division 1: Regular Length Course Division 2: Shortened Course Division 3: 3 Person Team Ambrose (4-6 Holes)

A DRAW will be emailed out Monday, 10th November

Please complete and return entry form OR we also have the option to register players online.

CONTACT STEPHEN SANDFORD EMAIL: stephen@waikatogolf.co.nz MOBILE: 021 208 9656



St Stephen's Tamahere

Christmas Festival

Shop and Café

Monday 1st - Saturday 20th December 10am to 4pm (closed Sundays)



Carols in the church

1 to 5 December 10:30am & 1:30pm 8 to 12 December 10:30am only Programme available at www.ChristmasFestival.r

Twilight Market

Saturday 6 December 4pm to 8pm

