

Weekly Newsletter

7th November 2025



COMING UP

Week 6

Monday-Intermediate Principal Talk

Thursday- Zone Athletics

Week 7

Tuesday 18th- Marae Visit- Middle School

Week 8

Monday- Y6 visit to Intermediate

Tuesday- Weetbix Tryathlon

Thursday- Road Patrol Training

Friday-Lunch with the Principal -PTA disco

Week 9

Tuesday- Cricket challenge- Patumahoe

-Junior School Marae Visit

Friday- Rainbows End CARE day

Week 10

Monday-Prize Giving Practice- PIA

Tuesday- Prize Giving-PIA - Pohutukawa 9:30

Kauri- 1:30

Totara- 6pm

Wednesday-Meet the teacher Morning

-Volunteer Morning Tea

-Y6 Graduation 6pm

Thursday-Colour Run

Friday-School closes 12.00

Mr Williams' Message

Tēnā koutou e te whānau,

A big thank you to everyone who has already taken the time to complete our Board survey this week. We've had 98 responses so far, which is a great start, but we'd love to hear from everyone! The dream is to have input from all our school whānau, as every voice matters and helps guide the future direction of our kura. The survey asks for feedback on how we're progressing with our four strategic priorities this year, as well as the strengths and areas where we can continue to grow. All responses go into the draw to win a \$100 Pak'nSave voucher. So if you haven't already, please take a few minutes to share your thoughts!

The following is a link to this survey -

<https://forms.gle/9kAJmxDGJuKWoc5U8>

We are incredibly proud of all the students who represented Pukekohe Hill at the Central Group Athletics yesterday. Our team showed fantastic effort, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the day. It was great to see so many of our students achieving outstanding results and supporting one another with such pride. Ka mau te wehi. What an awesome effort from everyone involved!

As we approach the end of the year, there are always changes to our staffing as people move on to new opportunities or adventures. It is with sadness that we share that Mr Valter has announced his resignation. Mike has been a valued member of our teaching team as Year 3 & 4 Team Leader. Mike is known for his kind, calm manner and the positive relationships he builds with students. We thank him for all he has contributed to our school and wish him every success for the future. Pokeno School is lucky to have you join them.

Ngā mihi nui,



PRIZE GIVING 2025

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH
PIA HALL - WARD STREET

YEARS 0-2, 9:30AM

YEARS 3-4, 1:30PM

YEARS 5-6, 6PM

ALL STUDENTS ARE TO WEAR FULL UNIFORM

Calendar Art Orders:

Thanks to those who have ordered already, the PTA have managed to reopen until the 12th November for anyone who missed out in the first run!

SAVE THE DATE! PTA Disco!!!

Friday 28th November 6-7.30pm.

GROWERS FESTIVAL 2026



Pukekohe Hill School Growers Festival
Our annual Growers Festival will be held on
Thursday 19th February 2026.

This year's categories for items grown or made at home are:

- Pumpkins
- Designer Grass Heads
- Bird Houses
- Photography

We're also excited to introduce a new event – the Bloomarama! ✨

Please check out the festival pamphlet for all the details. A hard copy will be sent home this week with your oldest or only child, so please read it carefully. Important: Please read the INFORMATION FOR EXHIBIT CATERGORIES.

An order form for grass seeds will be made available next week.

KAURI HONESTY BADGES

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded badges for consistently displaying our RICH value of Honesty - Ngakaupono

Rhea Taaka Te Kaute, Benji Lim Liuu, Amariah Ali, Eileen Yin, Isha Bautista, Celeste Kondo, Connor Watson, Eli Holani, Harper Mccaffery, Eleanor Forch, Blake Speirs, Aanvi Reddy, Sarija Tuaiti, Cole Graham-Slee, Annabel Duffy, Thea Beverland, Riiti Uaati, Aaliyah Pittaway, Cassius Papuni, Cohen Rhodes, Shanti Hari, Harry Hall, Hazel Kaur, Cora Taaka Te Kaute, Micah Sands, Ariah Matthews, Aryan Kumar, Grace Spiers

COLOUR RUN

Fundraising sign up and more information coming out soon!!

We can't wait for another amazing, colourful afternoon on Dec 11! All fundraising will go towards refreshing and repaint our school pool!



YEAR BOOK

Class Of

2025

Year 5 & 6 Students Only

\$10

Order on KINDO by
28th Nov

Poetry

Night - Stalker

By Charlie

The head-turner listens.

Its cat-call cries echo across the unknown valley.

Shiny eyes spy, like freshly polished gold, with the moon light glimmering on it.

Ghost-like pale face, like an unknown person hiding his real identity behind the mask, trying to avoid the light.

Razor sharp beak, like a dagger freshly made, soars through the sky at max speed, piercing the air as it flies past it.

Wood coloured wings unfold like wrapping paper on a christmas present, forcefully ripped open to expose the content.

Hooked talons seize through the cool misty breeze grabbing bugs and other birds.

Silent-yearner
Feathered-glider
Day-dozer

My family has Mana

By Sam Hall

My mother is as kind as a good friend.
She is helpful like a maid.
She is beautiful like a model.
My mother has mana

My father is as kind as a teacher.
He is hardworking like a servant.
He is strong like a bodybuilder.
My father has mana

My sister is as tiny as a teddy bear.
My sister is fast like a formula one car.
My sister is as bossy as a principal.
My sister has mana

My brother is as annoying as a buzzing fly.
He is fast like an athlete.
My brother is nice like a friend.
My brother has mana

I am as fast as a cheetah.
I am as nice as a mum.
I am as adventurous as William Pike.
I have mana.

Bio Poem

Wyatt

Happy, kind, smart,
Brother of Alma,
Who feels sorry for the homeless,
cats without shelter, and people who
don't have money,
Who needs my sister, my daddy and
my mum,
Who gives joy, smiles and happiness,
Who fears the dark, monsters and
sharp needles,
Who would like to be a famous rugby
person, to be rich and give all the
homeless people money,
Who lives in Pukekohe,
Soper

Genesis

Creative, kind and helpful
Sister of Lucas.
Who feels sorry for people who have no
home, no friends and people who have
broken bones,
Who needs more friends to play with,
more time at school so I can learn,
more art because it is fun,
Who gives gifts, happiness and love,
Who fears the dark, heights, and going
to a new class,
Who would like a pet dog, more
bracelets, more fun, and more school
days,
Who lives in Pukekohe
Monteza

Train

By Thomas H. Kitchin

Puffing along the metal tracks,
making the turbulence clickity clack.
The train conductor shouts "all
aboard!"
The train starts up; engines roar.
Passengers talk and babble and
rumour,
the driver laughs at some dry humour.
A whistle is perched at the top of the
engine,
pistons push faster than
comprehension.
Infants cry in their little buggies,
while geniuses work on their
complicated studies.
Steam blasts out of the hefty
chimney,
While the train journeys off to the big
immense Sydney

The Beach- My Happy Place

Written by Jaelynn-lee

The birds are trilling, chirping in the
Pohutukawa tree.
I see fish swimming in the majestic water.
The salty water is touching my soft smooth
hands.
I smell the sweet spiky grass.
I taste chips while I watch the sun going
down.
I think about Mana.

The Beach- My Happy Place

By Chloe

The hear the meandering sea dancing, the
majestic sea,
I see quivering water spitting at me.
Candy floss clouds shuffling across the
dazzling sky, a speckled sky.
I feel the pits of sand. It sticks to my feet like
slime.
The Pohutukawa blossoms, the sea sizzles.
I taste the salty sea.

The Beach- My Happy Place

By Lewis

The cry of the tui echoing on the harbour,
The turbulent wind soared through the
broad clouds
Nature's misty dunes at the break of dawn.
It was exhilarating and calming down at the
beeping harbour.
I see a meandering person heading down
towards the manuka trees.
The sky was a majestic blanket zooming
towards me, dancing.
I feel the grains of sand sift between the
salty water.

The Beach- My Happy Place

By Scott

I can hear the leaves shimmering as the
wind clashes like war.
I see the golden sun shining in the soft white
pom-poms above in the gliding sky.
I feel the soft shimmering air touching my
hand, then it goes through my veins.
I can smell the soft delicate air and taste
the salt of the warm soft sea.

PUKEKOHE HILL
SCHOOL
WHĀNAU EVENING
GROWERS FESTIVAL
2026



THURSDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

Pukekohe Hill School
Growers Festival & Whānau Evening
is about bringing our community
together, making connections, and
Growing Great People
Together.



INFORMATION FOR
EXHIBIT CATEGORIES

Growers Festival Student Categories

There are 4 exciting categories to enter:

1. 🎃 Pumpkins
2. 🌿 Designer Grass Heads
3. 🏠 Bird Houses
4. 📷 Photography

✓ Children can enter more than one category, but only **once** per category.

✓ Entries will be displayed and judged in teams: Pohutukawa (Yr 0-2), Kauri (Yr 3-4), and Totara (Yr 5-6).

✓ Each item must clearly show the student's name and room number for judging.

✓ Projects must be created by students, with adult help only when necessary. For example, when using sharp objects.

**Bring items before school on the morning of the Growers Festival and take home during the evening.



Bloomarama Challenge

We're excited to announce a special competition for the whānau of our tamariki - The Bloomarama! This event is open to parents, grandparents, and caregivers. Bring in your best bloom from your garden to share and celebrate.

Judging Criteria

- Form/Shape - The flower's structure should be true to its species, symmetrical, and well-proportioned.
- Colour - Bright, clear, and even colour; intensity and vibrancy are valued.
- Presentation - How well the bloom is displayed, including container or support.

1 PUMPKINS

- We hope your pumpkins are growing well and you're getting excited for our Growers Festival in February 2026! 🌿

Pumpkin Festival Reminders! 🎃

- The pumpkin has to be grown and cared for by YOU - it's your special project!
- You can enter any type of pumpkin - giant ones, tiny ones, wobbly ones, or super cool shapes!
- 🌟 Big or small, every pumpkin is awesome - we can't wait to see what you grow for the festival in February 2026!

Judges will be looking for:

- Pumpkin is firm
- There are no scars
- Or soft spots

Prize for the BIGGEST Pumpkin

For more information:

<https://tuigarden.co.nz/how-to-guide/pumpkin-growing-guide/>



2 DESIGNER GRASS HEAD

Whether you make a person, monster, or animal, grass heads are great fun to grow!

You will need:

- Grass seed
- Potting mix
- Old nylon stocking
- Jars, upcycled container or other items to serve as a reservoir for their bodies
- Upcycled or natural materials for decorating



Idea: 🌿 Create Your Grass Head

Plant seeds 3 WEEKS before the Growers Festival for best results.

1. Put 2 tablespoons of grass seed in the toe of a stocking.
2. Fill with Soil
3. Add soil to make a tennis ball-sized head. Keep seeds near the top.
4. Tie & Set Up
5. Tie a knot under the soil ball. Place the stocking in an upcycled container with the tail in water - it will soak up moisture.
6. Decorate
7. Add a face using natural or recycled materials.
8. Grow & Trim
9. Keep soil moist. Watch the "hair" grow and give it a haircut when needed!

You can use your own grass seed or request some from school. A google form will be sent out term 4.

Judges will be looking for:

- Most creative design
- Use of natural and upcycled materials



3 BIRD HOUSE

🏠 Idea: Create a Simple Bird House

Materials

Adult supervision required

- 1 milk or juice carton
- Rope, cord, ribbon, or wire
- Acrylic paint
- Paint brushes
- Decorations recycled from household materials, crafts, or nature
- Craft or hot glue



Steps

1. Cut a large hole in the center of one side of the carton, starting several inches from the bottom.
2. Beneath this large hole, cut a small hole to poke a stick through. This will provide a perch for dining birds.
3. Cut two small holes on either side of the top of the carton to thread the rope or wire through.
4. Paint and decorate your feeder. Want to make your backyard birds a cottage? An apartment building? Use your imagination!
5. Fill with birdseed.

🔍 Want a challenge? Search online for more creative or advanced Bird House designs!



The Bird House must be made from natural/upcycled materials.

Judges will be looking for:

- Most creative
- Use of natural/upcycled materials

4 PHOTOGRAPHY THEME
TRANSPORT

📷 Photography Competition Theme! 🚗

🚗 This year's theme is Transport - old or new!

Roads - Photos where a road or driveway is leading somewhere.

OR

Mechanical - Getting close on engines, car parts, vehicle workshops, etc.

- Each child may enter **one** print for our school competition.
- We have an exciting opportunity to also enter photos into the Pukekohe A&P Show!
- If your child would like a chance to enter the A&P show too, please send in two photos (they can be the same or different, but must fit the Transport theme).
- A selection of photos will be chosen to represent our school at the Pukekohe show.
- 📅 **Deadline: 16th February 2026** - please have all photos in by then.
- Photo size: 6x8 inches (15x20cm).
- Write your child's **first and last name, DOB and room number** on the **BACK** of the photo.
- Photos can be submitted from Week 1, 2026 Please give entries to your child's teacher or to Mrs Willis in Room 23.

Judges will be looking for:

- Most creative
- Use of light
- Camera angle



Athletics Finals Results

Girls	60m	100m
Rooms (Yr0-1)	1st-Arniya Mistry 2nd- Skylar Ewe-Gardner 3rd-Evie Root	1st-Naia Moala-Liava'a 2nd-Arniya Mistry 3rd-Skylar Ewe-Gardner
Rooms (yr2)	1st-Indie Cawthorn 2nd-Riann Kingi-Mihaere 3rd-Jaelyn-Lee Ming	1st-Jaelyn-Lee Ming 2nd-Indie Cawthorn 3rd-Riann Kingi-Mihaere
Year 3	1st-Emma O'Brien 2nd-Sofia Cawthorn 3rd-Hilda Niutupuivaha	1st-Emma O'Brien 2nd-Sofia Cawthorn 3rd-Hilda Niutupuivaha
Year 4	1st-Aaliyah Pittaway 2nd-Elaine Jianhong Huang 3rd-Mereana Kingi-Hicks	1st-Aaliyah Pittaway 2nd-Mereana Kingi-Hicks 3rd-Aaliyah Pittaway
Year 5	1st-Rose Niutupuivaha 2nd- Jordyn Sakisi 3rd-Charlotte Beech	1st-Jordyn Sakisi 2nd-Charlotte Beech 3rd-Rose Niutupuivaha
Year 6	1st-Kyra Mauri 2nd- Brooke-Lynn Vaipulu 3rd-Remi Phillips	1st-Kyra Mauri 2nd- Brooke-Lynn Vaipulu 3rd-Remi Phillips

Boys	60m	100m
Rooms (Yr0-1)	1st-Ryder Wood-Rogers 2nd-Tiaki Martin 3rd-Hadley Redmond	1st-Ryder Wood-Rogers 2nd-David Tupai 3rd-Hadley Redmond
Rooms (yr2)	1st-Ruhandre Rabe 2nd-Jack Porter 3rd-Toa Kahui-Taha	1st-Ruhandre Rabe 2nd-Keerat Singh 3rd-Isaac Pidakala
Year 3	1st-Victor Souza 2nd-Shay Poutama 3rd-Calais Tautari	1st-Victor Souza 2nd-Shay Poutama 3rd-AJ Taylor
Year 4	1st-Kobe Wilkinson 2nd-Lucas Andrews 3rd- Harry Hall	1st-Kobe Wilkinson 2nd-Lucas Andrews 3rd-Mason Wantenaar
Year 5	1st-Alex Kameli 2nd-Hudson Hari 3rd-Finnlay Poutama	1st-Alex Kameli 2nd-Hudson Hari 3rd-Archie Shackleton
Year 6	1st-Sefo Niutupuivaha 2nd-Kyro Tonga 3rd-Jonathon Paki	1st-Sefo Niutupuivaha 2nd-Kyro Tonga 3rd-Taychin Surasak

<u>Year 3 & 4 400m Finals</u>	400
Girls	1st-Emma O'Brien 2nd-Neveia Taylor- Korewha 3rd-Aaliyah Pittaway
Boys	1st-Kobe Wilkinson 2nd-Victor Souza 3rd- Josiah McDowell

Year 5 & 6 running events	200	400	800	1500
Girls	1st-Kyra Mauri 2nd- Brooke-Lynn Vaipulu 3rd-Remi Phillips	1st-Remi Phillips 2nd-Kyra Mauri 3rd-Brooke-Lynn Vaipulu	1st- Remi Phillips 2nd- Paise Speedy 3rd- Ashleigh O'Brien	1st- Remi Phillips 2nd- Paise Speedy 3rd- Holly Jackman
Boys	1st-Sefo Niutupuivaha 2nd-Alex Kameli 3rd-Nathan Smith	1st-Sefo Niutupuivaha 2nd-Harvey Lammas 3rd-Tommy Kitchin	1st- Harvey Lammas 2nd- Quinn Hollingsworth 3rd- Jacob Pidakala	1st- Tommy Kitchin 2nd- Harvey Lammas 3rd- Jacob Pidakala

Year 5 & 6 Field events	Long Jump	High Jump	Discus	Shot Put
Girls Y5	1st-Rose Niutupuivaha 2nd-Keyra Kapea-Ryder 3rd-Bianca Williams	1st-Taha Kahui 2nd-Emie Funnel 3rd-Olivia Hoeta	1st-Charlotte Beech 2nd-Taha Kahui 3rd-Rose Nuiupuivaha	1st-Charlotte Beech 2nd-Jordyn Sakisi 3rd-Olivia Silva-Pinheiro
Girls Y6	1st-Remi Phillips 2nd-Kyra Mauri 3rd-Ashleigh O'Brien	1st-Holly Jackman 2nd-Remi Phillips 3rd- Autumn Hodge	1st-Ashlee Hall 2nd-Kyra Mauri 3rd-Tessa Forch	1st-Brooke-Lynn Vaipulu 2nd-Kyra Mauri 3rd-Braxton Emery
Boys Y5	1st-Alex Kameli 2nd- Quinn Hollingsworth 3rd-Alvin Zhou	1st-Alex Kameli 2nd-Quinn Hollingsworth 3rd-Nathan Smith	1st-Alex Kameli 2nd-Austin Mead 3rd-Quinn Hollingsworth	1st-Austin Mead 2nd-John Vavia Tekotia 3rd-Noah Acton
Boys Y6	1st-Sefo Niutupuivaha 2nd-Spencer Brownie 3rd-TayChin Surasuk	1st-Sefo Niutupuivaha 2nd-Spencer Brownie 3rd=Taylor Budge &Blake Gordon	1st-Sefo Niutupuivaha 2nd-Zayvia King 3rd-Charlie Teixeira	1st-Sefo Niutupuivaha 2nd- Zayvia King 3rd-TK Ruakere



Enviro News

November Gardening - What to Do



November is a wonderful time in the garden. Small plants grow almost before our eyes, filling out into a luscious garden that's just on the edge of its full potential. You can almost feel the summer days ahead, with increasingly warm sunny blue-sky days and (for the most part) the cold turbulent weather behind us. But don't take your eyes off the weather forecast just yet...the odds of snow in November are much better than winning the lottery!

What to do this Month

- It's time to start giving the garden a regular liquid feed for thriving, productive plants that look their best all summer.
- As the weather warms up plants will begin to grow rapidly, but they won't be the only things flourishing in the warmth! Check often for pests and diseases and be prepared to spray if necessary.
- Start decorating for Christmas now, by planting out hanging baskets and containers for beautiful blooms to match your festive theme. Be sure to water daily and feed weekly, for lush healthy plants.



- Don't get caught out with thirsty plants. Be ready to increase deep watering as we approach summer.
- Keep on top of the weeds - remove them while they're small; don't allow them to get big enough to set seed. A good mulch will help suppress them, as well as locking moisture into the soil
- If a plant isn't doing so well, it's better to remove it (and replace it) now, rather than spend the season struggling to look after it, because it'll probably be a magnet for pests and disease.

More Information - www.yates.co.nz



You are invited to our Year 6 Leavers Evening

Wednesday 10th December
6-8.30pm

PUKEKOHE HILL SCHOOL HALL

ALL YEAR 6 STUDENTS AND THEIR WHANAU WELCOME

Smart casual dress

Please bring a small plate to share.



Did you know? Specsavers in Pukekohe do FREE vision tests for children under the age of 16yrs!

https://www.specsavers.co.nz/stores/pukekohe?srsltid=AfmBOoon488wA2gXLe5x6vosvubaAkr4cIk5oGqjWoysVtrblw_-T642itofbodytext



OPEN INVITATION
FREE
PUKEKOHE
GIVE BACK EVENT

FREE

Food, Clothing & Household Items

Come and enjoy a hot lunch with our community



Pukekohe
Intermediate School
entry on
Edinburgh Street

SUNDAY
30 NOVEMBER

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
*Car parking on
surrounding streets*

This is a FREE event
Bring your appetite, Whānau!!
We look forward to seeing you there

This day has been sponsored by a wonderful benefactor who would like to remain anonymous.