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Whāia te ara tika | Pursue the right path

Term 4 Week 5 Newsletter: Rāmere 7 o Whiringa-ā-rangi | Friday 7 November 2025

Tēnā koutou, Mālō 'e tau lava, Talofa lava, Kia orana, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Kamusta, Ayubowan, Bula, Salam.

Celebrating Whaea Janine

Whaea Janine Morron grew up at 17 Alamein Road, Panmure, and attended Tāmaki Primary School. She was the youngest sister of one of our former principals, the late Rhonda Kelly.

Janine joined our staff in 2018 as a Learning Assistant, and this year began studying through the University of Canterbury to further her learning in support of our tamariki. She worked closely with our youngest learners, helping them build confidence and skills in structured literacy, and was recently approved as a Limited Authority to Teach (LAT) for day relieving.



Our kura was honoured to take part in the celebration of her life, with Te Puna Wairua whānau leading a powerful haka at the request of Janine's family. We thank our School Board for allowing staff to attend and pay their respects, and we acknowledge the staff members, who remained at school to ensure our tamariki were safe and cared for on the day.

Whaea Janine will be remembered with love, gratitude and deep respect by our Tāmaki Primary School whānau. [Moe mai rā, Whaea Janine. Rest in love.](#)

Attendance Update

This term, we have had a slow start towards achieving our daily attendance goal of more than 94% schoolwide daily attendance. These last few days of the week have been very promising though, with consistent lifts, and even THREE CLASSES who achieved 100% attendance today! [Congratulations to Room 5, Penina o Tāmaki and Talamuka-'a-Tonga Year 4-8 for this outstanding achievement.](#) Every day at school matters, and regular attendance is one of the strongest predictors of success for our tamariki.

Rāhina	Rātū	Rāapa	Rāpare	Rāmere
Monday 20 October 86%	Tuesday 21 October 80%	Wednesday 22 October 76%	Thursday 23 October STRIKE DAY	Friday 24 October 78%
Monday 27 October LABOUR DAY	Tuesday 28 October 90%	Wednesday 29 October 92%	Thursday 30 October 90%	Friday 31 October 86%
Monday 3 November 79%	Tuesday 4 November 89%	Wednesday 5 November 90%	Thursday 6 November 93.4%	Friday 7 November 91%



We Need Your Support

We need every whānau's support to continue to lift attendance across the school. Please help by:

- Bringing children to school every day unless they are genuinely unwell
- Letting us know the reason for any absence — days off school for family birthdays are not justifiable absences, and children should be at school
- Remembering that daily attendance is far more important than wearing the correct uniform — if the uniform is an issue, send them to school anyway
- Encouraging positive morning routines at home so children arrive ready to learn

Together, we can get back on track toward our goal of more than 94%. **Whāia te ara tika – Pursue the right path, every day.**

Successful Lockdown Drill Practice

Today, Tāmaki Primary School successfully completed a [lockdown practice drill](#) as part of our ongoing commitment to keeping our tamariki, staff, and visitors safe.

This exercise was designed to help everyone understand what to do in the unlikely event of an emergency requiring a lockdown, such as an angry dog being in the school grounds during break time. During the drill, staff and students followed instructions calmly and confidently, and all students and classes were safely accounted for within minutes. Our internal school emergency communication systems worked well, and everyone responded with care and cooperation.



We want to reassure our whānau that this was only a practice, and there was no cause for concern at any time. These drills are an important part of our Health and Safety procedures and help ensure that our kura community knows exactly what to do should a real emergency ever occur. We thank our specialist trainer Tammy from Harrison Tew, for your support.

Ngā mihi nui to our students, staff, and visitors who participated today, and to our whānau for their continued support as we strengthen our safety systems at Tāmaki Primary School.

School Lunches and Healthy Eating at Tāmaki Primary School

At Tāmaki Primary School, we provide nutritious, hot lunches every day through the Ka Ora, Ka Ako | Healthy School Lunches programme. Each meal includes a balance of protein (beef, chicken or legumes), vegetables and carbohydrates and is designed to give students the energy and focus they need for learning.



While many of our tamariki enjoy these lunches, we have noticed that some students continue to bring food from outside of school. In one class I visited recently, nine children brought packed lunches. Two had healthy, well balanced lunches made at home. The remaining seven lunches included crinkly packet foods such as chips, rice crackers, high-sugar fruit juice jellies, fried snacks, and biscuits — with only one child with fruit. In another class I was supervising during eating time, six children had chemical cordial drinks from dairy lunch packs.

We recognise that families do their best, but we also want to remind everyone that our school policy encourages healthy eating. Promoting a healthy food and drink environment is vital for the wellbeing and hauora of our learners. Good nutrition supports brain development, concentration, behaviour, and energy levels, helping our children to learn and thrive.



We encourage whānau to make use of the free, healthy lunches available at school and to send only nutritious items from home when needed. Together, we can build positive habits and ensure our tamariki are well-fuelled for learning and play.

Class Photos – Thursday 13 November (please note the new date)

Next Thursday 13 November, we will be having our annual class and group (Kapahaka, Student Leaders, School Board) photos. This is always a special day for our students and whānau, capturing memories of the 2025 school year.

Please ensure your child comes to school looking their best, and ready to smile. School uniforms should be worn with pride, and hair should be neat.

We encourage everyone to arrive on time, as classes will be photographed in a set order throughout the morning. Let's make it a great photo day and show our Tāmaki pride in every smile!



Panui - It's Party Time!

Kanikani mai! Tukua te waiata kia rere! This Wednesday 12 November, Te Puna Wairua are hosting two fundraising parties to be held in our beautiful school hall. Come and join the fun with your friends and enjoy the music and dancing!

Junior's K-Pop Party - Lunchtime, 1-1.30pm
\$2 covers entry and an iceblock!

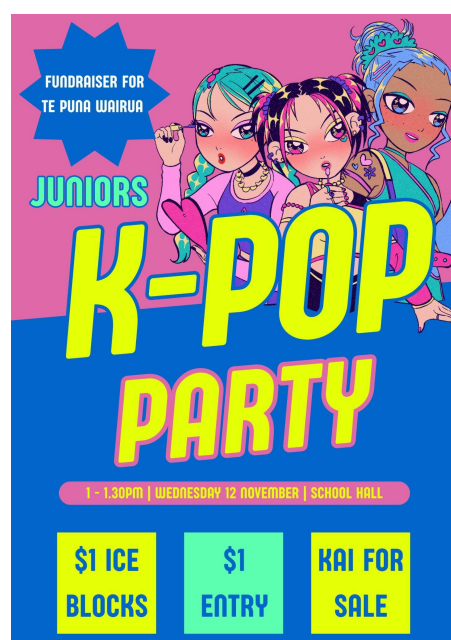
Light Disco - After school, 3.15pm-4.30pm (see the back page)
\$3 covers entry and an iceblock!

Students are encouraged to go all out in their best kakahu (bring them to school in your school bag, and put them on for the disco) and dress up!

Putea raised from these parties will go towards Te Puna Wairua's upcoming camping trip to Whaingaroa/Raglan in December 😊

Important info:

- Payment for entry free and ice blocks will be collected on Wednesday morning in class
- No eating in the hall - only ice blocks and kai from the party are allowed inside



Sun Safety and Keeping Cool at School

The warm weather has well and truly arrived, and our classrooms are feeling it too! With temperatures rising, it is important that all students come to school prepared for the Auckland summer heat.



Please ensure your child **wears a sunhat every day** when outdoors. Sunhats are essential for keeping tamariki protected from harmful UV rays during break times and outdoor activities. We sell the school sunhat for only \$12 at the school office. It is attractive and covers your child's neck and face. Any sunhat will do though, it does not have to be the school hat.

We also ask that every child brings a **reusable water bottle** to school each day. Staying hydrated is vital for concentration and energy, especially in these warmer conditions. Our school has plenty of good Panmure water available for students to top up their bottles throughout the day.



Because of the hot weather and already warm classroom temperatures, **school jumpers and jackets are not needed at this time**. Please keep these items at home to help students stay comfortable and cool during learning time.

Thank you for your support in keeping our tamariki sun safe, hydrated, and ready to learn.



Upcoming Events

Athletics Houses Day: Do you know that Friday 14 November is Houses Day? Wear your house colours and compete in our fun athletics day run, jump and throw events. Our parents and whānau are welcome to come and join us for this day of fun.

Penina o Tamaki One Year Milestone Celebration: Our date and time is Friday 21 November from 9:30-12:30 pm. Come and celebrate this milestone of Gagana Samoa, Aiga and A'oga with us.

School Board Hui: Our School Board will meet on Wednesday 10 December 2025 at 8:00 am in the Boardroom. Board meetings are open to the public. If you would like to attend, please contact our Presiding Member at pfakalata@tamakiprimary.school.nz.

New Enrolments: Do you know a child who will start school between now and the end of the year? Or whānau who are interested in Rumaki Reo, Tongan Bilingual, or Samoan Bilingual education for 2026? We also welcome new enrolments in English Medium. Please encourage families to visit the office to pre-enrol. All are welcome at Tāmaki Primary.

Ngā mihi nui for your support.

Carol Leota
Tumuaki | Principal

