



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA

Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata



Message from the Principal



Kia ora koutou

Our school whakatauākī, “Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata” – People reaching their full potential – challenges us to equip our students with the tools they need to achieve their aspirations in the areas they and their whānau value most. This guiding principle underpins everything we do at Te Paepae o Aotea, and we are proud to share the outstanding achievements of our students this term.

As a community, you can be proud of the young people who continue to excel academically, in sport, in the arts, and in cultural pursuits. The wide range of opportunities available to our students is made possible by our dedicated staff and the incredible support of community volunteers.

This term, we have also been visiting our feeder schools, and in Term 4 we will host transition visits for all students starting at Te Paepae o Aotea in 2026. Prospective students and their families are warmly invited to contact our school office to arrange a personalised tour of the school.

Term 4 also provides further opportunities to celebrate student success through our prizegiving ceremonies at the TSB Hub. Our Year 11–13 prizegiving will be held on 29 October at 6.30pm, Year 9–10 on 9 December at 9.30am, and Year 7–8 on 10 December at 9.30am. We welcome all members of the community to join us for these special events.

A key focus for us this year has been increasing the number of students attending school 90% or more of the time. We have worked closely with families to support this goal, and we are pleased to report a 20% increase in students meeting this attendance benchmark. We are deeply grateful to our whānau for their commitment and effort in this important area.

Our students continue to embody the core values of Te Paepae o Aotea: Aotea, Taupaenui, and Paepae. Aotea represents a caring and inclusive environment for all students, staff, whānau, and the wider community. Taupaenui reflects the pursuit of human potential, the value of knowledge, and the striving for excellence.

Paepae symbolises courage, adventure, strength, persistence, and the pursuit of knowledge within the learning environment.

These values are evident in the way our students engage with their learning, support one another, and contribute positively to our school culture.

Thank you for your continued support of our school and the young people in our community.

Ngā mihi nui

Rachel Williams

Tumuaki

AWA CAN DRIVE FOR FOODBANK



On Friday 29 August, our amazing Community Leaders rolled up to the Hawera Foodbank with a van full of canned goods collected through the Inter Awa Can Drive Competition. The donations were warmly received and will make a real difference. Huge shoutout to Pātea Awa for leading the charge with the highest number of cans donated.

PAE RANGATAHI



Our Senior Kapa Haka rōpū took to the stage on Sunday, 14 September at Pae Rangatahi in Whanganui, delivering an exceptional performance finishing 3rd place for Haka and fifth place overall.

EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENTS

Congratulations to the following students who have already gained 50+ credits at Excellence this year.

Level 1 Excellence

- Hunter Stephens
- Samara Stewart

Level 2 Excellence

- Lauren Kalin
- Taiharuru Ratima
- Evita Morellon
- Miley Davidson

Level 3 Excellence

- Carlitos Morellon-Anderson
- Julia Scott
- Bethany Gyde

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Manawātū/Whanganui Debating Championships

Lucy Crowley - Highly Commended Speaker

Ross Mathieson AFS NZL Alumni Scholarship

Miley Davidson selected to participate in the NZ AFS Intercultural programme in France

Taranaki Year 10 Yes Business Challenge

1st Place - Colour Theory - Charlee Stokes, Sarah Brotherson, Liam Coogan and Anise Borre

2nd Place - Eco Bricks: Mikayla Arnold, Andie French, Brooke Stokes, Lucian Harper and Wallis Gyde.

Standout Entrepreneur Award: Lucas Kempton

BCITO Building People Level 2-3

BCITO Gateway Level 2-3 - Finn Lewis

MITO StartUp Ignition Automotive Level 2

Josh Midgley

Year 7-8 Science & Technology Regional Quiz

4th Place - Ashley Finey, Alyssa Mills and Lewis Ritson

2025-2026 Nation SADD Leader

(Students Against Dangerous Driving)

Lauren Kalin - Year 12

Bluelight Empowering Youth

Twhaiti Brown - Overall Excellence and Peers' Choice Award

Outward Bound

Rory McLeod and Kateia Mills



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2025 MUSIC AWARDS

Halliwells Music Award

Winner: Carlitos Morellon Anderson

(Year 13, Piano)

Runner Up: Izzy Logan (Year 12, Drums)

Lynette Morris Vocal Scholarship

Winner: Miley Davidson (Year 12)

Runner Up: Tyrese Whakaruru (Year 12)

Paepae Award

Winner: Leo Fagan (Year 12 Vocal)

Year 9-10 Ben Thomas Panelbeating

Junior Music Awards

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL

Winner: Ryan Finey (Year 10, Piano)

Runner Up: Jill-Kate Paulino (Year 9, Vocal)

Waiata Reo

Winner: Tāne ma

Runner Up: Luana Afa Leota

Paepae Award

Winner: Tyrese Whakaruru - Waiata Reo performance

Aotea Award

Winner: Vanessa Hurunui -

(Year 7 Solo Vocal)



SPORTING ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Ivy Topping Trophy - Contribution & Service to Secondary School Netball

Jenni Brewer

Paddy Manu Jnr Sports Excellence Awards

Ayla Bond - Senior Sports Person of the Year

Brayden Hughes - Junior Sports Person of the Year & Overall Winner

North Island Cross Country

Tayla Sturgeon - U14 Girls 3rd Place

Lucy Crowley - U16 Girls 26th Place

NZ Cross Country Championships

Tayla Sturgeon - U14 Girls 3rd Place

National Artistic Roller Skating Championships

Ayla Bond - 1st Junior Figures; 1st Matanga Loops

Elizabeth Cudby - 2nd Junior Figures; 3rd

Matanga Loops; 1st Junior Free; Top Junior Cup

Jayda Weherua - 1st Cadet Figures

Nelly Rongonui - 2nd Espoir Figures

Taranaki Girls 1st XV Rugby

Nevaeh Ratahi, Shai-ann Kahui, Zeveya Prestidge,

Narna Thompson, Mea-Maria Laupama

Conrad Smith South Rugby 2025 Squad

Noah Cameron, Lachlan Cox, Brayden Davis,

Hudson Potts, Shayden Schumacher and Boston Symes

Ross Brown South Rugby 2025 Squad

Manawai Jones, Nivarna Kahui, Jackson Neil,

Lahny Poingdestre, Mace Pullen-Lyne,

Charlie Williamson, Kobi Napflin and

Hekaiaha Packer-Leatherby

Kendra Cocksedge South Rugby 2025 Squad

Nevaeh Ratahi, Keoni Ratahi, Millah Gray, Quinn

Gray, Jasmine Kunaiti, Liberty-Anne Mcleod,

Rita Whana, Zeveya Prestidge

Michaela Blyde South Rugby 2025 Squad

Cameron Campbell, Mahalia Hunaiti, Skyla

Rupapera, Lexi Woods, Alyssa Mills & Indie Potts

Taranaki Rugby U16 Girls 2025 Squad

Zeveya Prestidge and Nevaeh Ratahi

Croquet NZ North Island Secondary Schools

2025 Championship Winners

Jayda Sharp and Charlie Ainsworth



\$6427 RAISED FOR SHAVE FOR A CURE

On Wednesday, 27 August 2025, our Community Leader Julia Scott, alongside Kevin Barnard, hosted a Shave for a Cure event. Jayda Sharp - a student and three staff members Kevin Barnard, Jason Cressingham, and Tania Eldridge bravely shaved off their locks to raise funds for Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand.

Te Paepae o Aotea also held a Wacky Hair Day, inviting students to come to school sporting their wildest, most imaginative hairstyles. With a gold coin donation, students helped support children and adults facing cancer—turning creativity into compassion.

WINTER SPORTS

Year 7-8 Hawera Basketball Association

1st Place - TPOA Blur

2nd Place - TPOA Oasis

3rd Place - TPOA Panterra

Basketball Taranaki Senior Boys Development

TPOA Senior Boys Basketball - 2nd Place

Taranaki Steel Formers Year 9-10 Basketball

Classic 2025 Tournament

TPOA 9-10 Junior Basketball Team - 1st Place

Taranaki Secondary School Football Grade

TPOA 1st XI Boys Football - 1st Place

Taranaki Secondary Schools Hockey

Championship Grade

TPOA 1st XI Mixed Hockey Team - 2nd Place

Taranaki Verbrec Senior Boys Rugby

TPOA 1st XV Boys Rugby Team - 2nd Place

NZ Secondary Schools Squash Nationals

TPOA Winners of Division 3

Get-2-Go Regional Challenge

3rd Place - Mikayla Arnold, Tayla Sturgeon,

Brooke Stokes, Charlee Stokes, Ryan Finey,

Lachlan Wills, Logan Hunt and Tamamihia

Edwards