



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA

Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata

Newsletter – Friday, 30 January 2026

Kia ora e te whānau

Welcome to the start of the 2026 school year. We have had a wonderful first week back, which began with many of you connecting with your child's whānau teacher on Monday and Tuesday. These connections are essential, as they strengthen the partnership between home and school to support your child's learning and wellbeing. Thank you for taking the time to engage with us.

Our opening pōwhiri for new students, held on Wednesday, was a special and significant occasion. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting and welcoming our new students and their whānau into our kura and we hope they felt the warmth and manaakitanga of our school community.

Our school whakatauākī, "**Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata – People reaching their full potential,**" challenges each of us to strive toward our highest aspirations. It reminds us that success involves stepping beyond what is comfortable, developing strength of character and contributing positively to others. *Taupaenui o te tangata* speaks to a higher standard—a horizon we collectively work toward—encouraging us to set meaningful goals, persevere through challenges and grow into the best versions of ourselves.

Our 2025 NCEA results reflect the dedication and determination of our students, with **71% achieving Level 1, 90% achieving Level 2 and 89% achieving Level 3**. These outstanding results demonstrate our commitment to "*Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata*" by supporting every student to rise, strive and reach their full potential. They are a testament to the hard work of our students, the guidance of their teachers and the strong belief within our community that excellence is possible for all. As a school and as a community, we should be extremely proud—our Level 2 and Level 3 results are the highest pass rates this community has ever achieved.

To conclude our first week, it was fitting that we celebrated our Merit and Excellence endorsement students and appointed our Awa student leaders. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this special assembly. It was wonderful to come together as a community and acknowledge the achievements of our students.

2025 was an exceptional year for our school and the challenge now is to continue raising the bar. Thank you for your ongoing support. With home and school, working together, our students continue to achieve remarkable things.

Ngā mihi nui
Rachel Williams
Tumuaki



Level 1 NCEA Excellence Course Endorsement

Suzanna Corrigan
Samara Stewart
Hunter Stephens
Michael Stables
Raine Diaz

Level 1 NCEA Merit Course Endorsement

Nazeer Rye
Eden Harvie
Zevaya Prestidge
Haily Hortillosa
Liam Neil
Zoe Waller
Anthea Sharrock
Jack Clarke
Paityn Willemson
Kristan Isaac
Ashlyn Graham
Peyton Scott
Cohen Soothill
Jemma Gibbs
Lachlan Pick
Lucy Roberts

Level 2 NCEA Excellence Course Endorsement

Taiharuru Ratima
Lauren Kalin
Theo Soothill
Erina Frearson
Eva Morellon
Carly Meynell
Adam Stables
Sean Nanayakkara

Level 2 NCEA Merit Course Endorsement

Lakein Woods
Nazeer Rye
Miley Davidson
Noah Broughton
Afeef Ridzuan
Cooper White
Brooklyn Lake
Kairo Garrett
Delila Tun
Divan Denton
Izabella McMahon

Level 3 NCEA Excellence Course Endorsement

Carlitos Morellon Anderson
Bethany Gyde
Julia Scott
Arnica Magno

Level 3 NCEA Merit Course Endorsement

Niamh Clancy
Elizabeth Cudby
Ayla Bond
Jaida Rei
Akshay C Santhosh
Kathlene Camacho
Charlotte Denton
Cassidy Hughes

Year 10 Maths Advanced Students

Level 1 NCEA Merit Subject Endorsement

Ryan Finey
Elijah Harris
Lochie Kalin
Zion Lawrence
Seth Schumacher
Abijah Suailua
Brooke Stokes
Charlee Stokes
Lachlan Wills
Eloise Sharrock
Ethan Finer
David Meyer
Tamamihata Edwards
Sarah Brotherson

Achieved Level 1 NCEA Mathematics

Kahurangi Davey
Mace Soothill
Logan Hunt
Jacob Cope
Priya Kerthi
Sakyia O'Keeffe
Anaswar Santhosh



The Public Health Nurse will be at school two days every week for any health needs. Clinic is confidential and free.

Danielle Peach - Mobile [027 239 0679](tel:0272390679) Email Danielle.Peach@tdhb.org.nz

Mary Poulouse - Mobile [027 517 3480](tel:0275173480) Email Mary.Poulouse@tdhb.org.nz

- **Health and Hauora (wellbeing checks)**
- **General health concerns**
- **Contraception**
- **Condoms and pregnancy tests**
- **STI checks and the morning after pill**
- **Vision and hearing**

For students to book an appointment, please visit reception at the Pastoral Hub or contact the Public Health Nurse.

Expressions of Interest to Host International Students 2026

As part of our school's long-term vision to enrich cultural understanding and global engagement, we are currently in the process of applying for accreditation to welcome international students to our community in 2026.

If you are interested in hosting a student in the future, please register your interest here.
(Host families will be paid a weekly fee)

[EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO HOST INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS 2026](#)



School Policies

The school has a subscription with SchoolDocs to maintain, update and review our policies. SchoolDocs provide us with a comprehensive core set of policies that are well researched and follow the Ministry of Education National Administration Guidelines. The policies and procedures are tailored to our school and we supply specific information such as our charter together with procedures for behaviour management, reporting to parents, etc.

SchoolDocs update, modify or create policies in response to changes in legislation or Ministry guidelines, significant events, reviews/requests from schools and regular reviewing from the SchoolDocs team.

We invite you to visit the site at <https://tepaepaeoaotea.schooldocs.co.nz>

SchoolDocs login details

Username tepaepaeoaotea
Password excellence



Important Information BYOD 2026

As we prepare for the 2026 school year, here are some important updates about our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) plan at Te Paepae o Aotea. Click the link below to read all the details.

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:AP:ee2724bb-cb59-4254-ad5d-534d53a14ba3>

NZU

TE PAEPAE O AOTEA UNIFORM DESIGN



All school uniform items are purchased through

NZ WEARING IS BELIEVING **UNIFORMS**

tepaepaeoaotea.nzuniforms.com

The school office has a full uniform set available for sizing purposes only

Second Hand Uniforms

Do you have uniform items at home you're no longer using? Bring them in clean to the office—our pastoral team will pass them on to students who need them.

NZ UNIFORMS



ACADEMIC LEADER

Adam Stables



Kia ora koutou

My name is Adam Stables and I'm proud to be serving as Head Academic Leader at Te Paepae o Aotea this year. In this role, my focus is supporting students to get the most out of their learning and creating opportunities that encourage academic growth and confidence.

This year, I'll be working closely with the Academic Council and other student leaders to run events and initiatives that support learning both inside and outside the classroom. These will include academic competitions, study-focused activities and opportunities for students to challenge themselves and try something new. I'm also keen to make academic success feel accessible and achievable for everyone, regardless of where they're starting from.

Taupaenui is about striving for excellence and consistently giving your best effort. It encourages us to challenge ourselves, take pride in our progress and aim high both academically and outside the classroom. I encourage all students to get involved and make the most of the opportunities this year has to offer.

Ngā mihi, Adam Stables



CULTURAL LEADER

Taiharuru Ratima



Tēnā koutou

He uri ahau nō ngā iwi o Ngāruahine, Taranaki Iwi, Te Pakakohi, Tāngahoe, Ngāti Ruanui, Te Whakatōhea me Ngāti Awa. I'm excited to have the privilege of being Student Board Representative and Head Cultural Leader for 2026.

The role of Head Cultural Leader is about strengthening and maintaining a positive culture within our school that brings to life our school values of Taupaenui, Paepae and Aotea. I'm a believer in 'servant leadership', so I'll work hard for the betterment of our students and school community.

While four of us have been selected as head leaders, there are lots of students who have leadership skills in our kura and we want to uplift and encourage all to fulfil their potential. After all, this is embedded in our school whakatauki "Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata" (People reaching their full potential). If you have any questions or thoughts you want to share, please come and have a kōrero when you see me around our kura.

Noho ora mai, Taiharuru Ratima



COMMUNITY LEADER

Lauren Kalin



Kia Ora

My name is Lauren Kalin and I have the privilege of being Te Paepae o Aotea's Head Community Leader for 2026. I'm excited to embrace this opportunity and the many challenges and exciting things that come with it. I'd like to acknowledge and congratulate all our recently announced Awa leaders. I can't wait to work alongside you throughout the year.

As Community Leader, my goal is to create opportunities and events that bring people together, promote kindness and encourage everyone to feel valued and supported within our school. I'm already looking forward to working with the community council to plan initiatives such as fundraising events, fun activities and projects that allow us to give back both within and beyond our school.

I encourage everyone to get involved where they can; whether that's through events, volunteering or simply showing up for one another.

I'm really looking forward to the year ahead and everything we can achieve together. Bring on 2026.

Ngā mihi, Lauren Kalin



SPORTS LEADER

Theo Soothill



Kia Ora

My name is Theo Soothill and I am honoured to be Te Paepae o Aotea's 2026 Head Sport Leader.

I have a strong interest in sport and the benefits it has on our school community, such as building relationships and challenging ourselves beyond our comfort zones. One of my main aims for the year is to further increase participation in all sports and provide as many opportunities as possible for students to get involved, whether you're super competitive or just want to try something new.

Throughout the year, there will be many sporting events and competitions available for students to represent our school. I encourage everyone to get amongst it and support one another. Sport is about giving it your best, working as a team and having fun and I hope to see this reflected throughout the school. Congratulations to all the student leaders. I look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Ngā mihi, Theo Soothill



2026 Leadership Roles



**HEAD
ACADEMIC
LEADER**
Adam Stables



**HEAD
COMMUNITY
LEADER**
Lauren Kalin



**HEAD
CULTURAL
LEADER**
Taiharuru Ratima



**HEAD
SPORTS
LEADER**
Theo Soothill



Pātea Awa Leaders

JUNIOR LEADERS



Academic
Libby Tate



Community
Ollie Shaw



Cultural
Ashley Finey



Sports
Shaun Schumacher



Academic
Lucy Crowley



Community
Sumciyah Singh



Cultural
Koria Aperahama



Sports
Olivia Bull

SENIOR LEADERS



Academic
Rory McLeod



Community
Delila Tun



Cultural
Lucy Roberts



Sports
Emmanuel Tshimanga



Academic
Hunter Stephens



Community
Anthea Sharrock



Cultural
Jahliyah Hori



Sports
Nevaeh Ratahi

Waingongoro Awa Leaders

JUNIOR LEADERS



Academic
Malinda Leng



Community
Tate Dransfield



Cultural
Shakira Bailey



Sports
Mila Stevens



Academic
Marcos Stables



Community
Bianca Riddick-Ngaia



Cultural
Krishiv Lal



Sports
Mylie Griffin

SENIOR LEADERS



Academic
Evita Morellon



Community
Tegan Hunt



Cultural
Russell Hockley



Sports
Maddison Sturgeon



Academic
Samara Stewart



Community
Zoe Waller



Cultural
Izzy McMahon



Sports
Afeef Ridzuan

Kaūpokonui Awa Leaders

JUNIOR LEADERS



Academic
Marcos Stables



Community
Bianca Riddick-Ngaia



Cultural
Krishiv Lal



Sports
Mylie Griffin

SENIOR LEADERS



Academic
Samara Stewart



Community
Zoe Waller



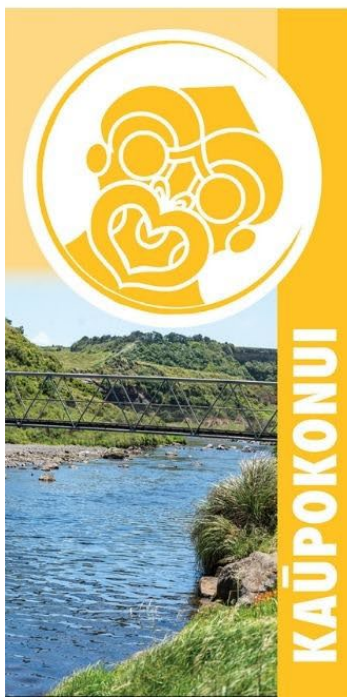
Cultural
Izzy McMahon



Sports
Afeef Ridzuan



On Wednesday, 28 January 2026, Te Paepae o Aotea staff, Board, iwi representatives, student Head Leaders and Year 8 students welcomed our new 2026 Year 7 students with a pōwhiri, marking the beginning of their new learning journey here at Te Paepae o Aotea.



On Thursday, 29 January 2026, Kaupokonui Senior Awa students travelled by bus to Waiokura Marae and the Kaupokonui Awa to learn about their river and what makes Kaupokonui Awa special. They enjoyed discovering the history of Waiokura and taking part in team-building activities.



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA





Sports Update — Let's Kick Off 2026 With a Bang

Kia ora e te whānau. How awesome is it to see everyone back, pumped and ready for another fun-filled, memory-making year here at kura?

A HUGE mihi and warm welcome to all our new students — we can't wait to see you out there representing our kura with pride across the community and the province.

What's On in Term 1?

Buckle up — Term 1 is packed! We've got school events, TSSSA action and heaps happening for our Year 7/8 tamariki.

To stay in the loop (and make sure you don't miss registrations), here are your must-dos:

- **Listen carefully to the morning notices**
- **Check our social media** — Facebook & SchoolApp
- **Keep an eye on the Sports Office Window**

Want to sign up for something? You can:

- Register via links on social media
- Talk to your whānau teacher
- Pop in and see Vicki in the Sports Office during interval or lunch

ATHLETICS — Friday 20 February @ Hicks Park

Get excited — our whole school Athletics Day (Year 7–13) is on the way. Rock up in your whānau colours and bring the hype. More info on event timings is coming soon.

Want to help out? Parent support is always welcome — flick Vicki a message if you're keen.

SWIMMING SPORTS — Compulsory for All Students

This year, EVERYONE is in the pool. We've got:

- **Champion events**
- **Non-champ fun events**

More details will be shared soon — watch this space!

SIGN-UPS NEEDED NOW

Get your name down for these epic Term 1 sports and events. You DO NOT want to miss out — spots fill up fast.

We need registrations for:

- Year 7/8 Rippa Rugby
- Year 9–13 Rippa Rugby
- TSSSA Beach Volleyball
- TSSSA Rogaine

👉 Register online, OR pop in and see Vicki for all the details.

If you're even *thinking* about giving something a go — sign up! You might just discover your new favourite sport.

Important Whānau Reminder

If your child wants to participate in a sport or event that has a fee, payment must now be made in full before they can attend or play. Thank you for your support with this.

2026 is our year to get active, get involved and make memories that last forever. Let's do this.

For all sports queries, please contact Vicki Roberts, Sports Coordinator, via email, vicki.roberts@tepaepaeoaotea.school.nz

2026 Upcoming Sporting Events

Te Paepae o Aotea Events

Thursday, 19 February	After school Rippa Rugby
Friday, 20 February	TPOA Athletics (Whole School) Hicks Park, Athletic Track

TSSSA Events

Sunday, 15 February	Beach Volleyball
16-20 February	Surfing
Wednesday, 25 February	Rogaine
Tuesday, 3 March	Tennis
Thursday, 5 March	Outdoor Bowls + All Ability
Thursday, 12 March	Golf Croquet + All Ability
Sunday, 15 March	Championship Golf
Tuesday, 17 March	Athletics
Tuesday, 24 March	All Ability Swimming
Tuesday, 31 March	Student Coach Day Student Leaders Day

UPCOMING

dates



TERM 1 - 2026

FEB

6

WAITANGI DAY

NO SCHOOL

FEB

25

TSSSA ROGAIINE

Year 9-13 students

FEB

26

PHOTOLIFE

Individual Photos

MAR

5

PHOTOLIFE

Individual Photo Catch-up Day

MAR

9

TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY

NO SCHOOL

For more upcoming dates check out our calendar on the school website

www.tepaepaeoaotea.school.nz



YEAR 7-8 GIRLS & BOYS

RIPPA RUGBY TOURNAMENT

Thursday Afternoons
Starting Thursday, 19 February 2026
 Held at the TSB Hub - Hāwera

Register by 6 February 2026 via the link on our social media platforms, Whānau Teacher or see Vicki in the Sports Office at interval or lunchtime.



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA



YEAR 9-13 STUDENTS
Interested in Playing

RIPPA RUGBY

Thursday Afternoons
Starting Thursday, 19 February 2026
 4pm-6pm at the TSB Hub Fields

- Mixed or Genders | Years 9-13
- Min number of players per team is 9
- Limited amount of teams to register
- \$10 per person to play (Must be paid before playing)

Entries close - Friday, 6 February 2026
See Vicki for more information



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA

Click here to register

[Year 7-8 Girls & Boys Rippa Rugby Registrations](#)



Sanitarium™
Weet-Bix
KIDS TRYathlon

GIVE IT A TRY!

NEW PLYMOUTH
WEDNESDAY
25TH MARCH 2026
NGAMOTU BEACH RESERVE

Register under **TE PAEPAE O AOTEA** for our school to win prizes!

ENTER NOW AT TRY.WEETBIX.CO.NZ
ENTRY IS OPEN TO ALL 6-15 YEARS

EVENT	EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT	STANDARD DISCOUNT
• Individual TRYathlon 7 – 15 years 200m Swim 8km Cycle 2 laps	\$57.50	\$64.50
• Senior Team of Two - 10 – 15 years 200m Swim 8km Cycle 2 laps	\$57.50	\$64.50

Entry fees vary based on when you enter. Early entry and multiple event discounts are available. On the day entries are available unless the event sells prior.

Parents are responsible to enter and transport/supervise their child for the event.

Click here to register

<https://tryathlon.co.nz/>



TSSOA ROGAINE

YEAR 9-13 STUDENTS ONLY
Wednesday,
25 February 2026
 After school
 Buses leave - 3.45pm
 Buses return - 10pm approx

Yr 9 - Junior: Boys | Girls | Mixed
 Yr 11 - Intermediate: Boys | Girls | Mixed
 Yr 12-13 - Senior: Boys | Girls | Mixed
 Max number of 5 per team

\$35 fee - Needs to be paid BEFORE attending

Register your team interest NOW
with Vicki in the Sports Office

TSSOA

TE RŌPŪ HĀKINAKINA O NGĀ KURA TUARUA O TARANAKI