



# 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 Willemsen  
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

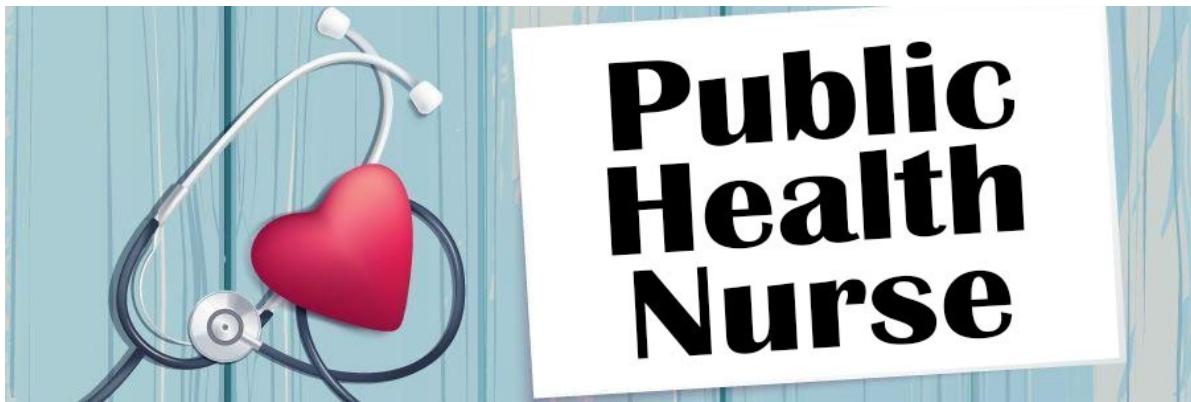
## Year 10 Maths Advanced Students

### 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  
Tamamihia 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](mailto:Danielle.Peach@tdhb.org.nz)

Mary Poulose - Mobile [027 517 3480](tel:0275173480) Email [Mary.Poulose@tdhb.org.nz](mailto:Mary.Poulose@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://tepaepaoaotea.schooldocs.co.nz>

## SchoolDocs login details

Username      tepaepaoaotea  
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>



## TE PAEPAE O AOTEA

UNIFORM DESIGN



All school uniform items are purchased through



*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.

Taupaeui 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 Taupaeui 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  
Sumaiyah 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  
Tate Dransfield



Community  
Bianca Riddick-Ngaia



Cultural  
Krishiv Lal



Sports  
Mylie Griffin

### SENIOR LEADERS



Academic  
Samara Stewart



Community  
Zoe Waller



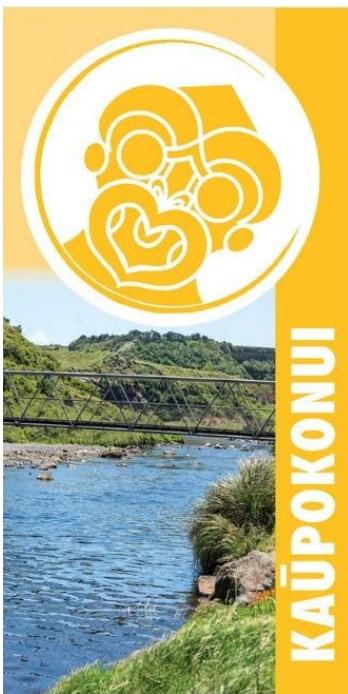
Cultural  
Izzy McMahon



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





# SPORTS Talk

## 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@tepaepaoaotea.school.nz](mailto:vicki.roberts@tepaepaoaotea.school.nz)

## 2026 Upcoming Sporting Events

### Te Paepae o Aotea Events

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

### TSSSA Events

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

# UPCOMING *dates*



TERM 1 - 2026

**FEB** **6**

**WAITANGI DAY**  
NO SCHOOL

**FEB** **25**

**TSSSA ROGAINE**  
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.tepaepaeaoatea.school.nz](http://www.tepaepaeaoatea.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 our 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™ The Health Food Company**  
**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](https://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 vents sells prior.

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

Click here to register

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



**TSSSA 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

**TSSSA**  
TE RÖPŪ HÄKINAKINA O NGĀ KURA TUARUA O TARANAKI