



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA

Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata

Newsletter – Friday, 13 February 2026

Kia ora e te whānau

Our students are looking very smart in their school uniforms and we are grateful for the support you have provided to make this possible. We understand that the beginning of the year can be a significant financial challenge with the cost of uniforms, stationery and digital devices. We sincerely appreciate the efforts you make to ensure your child is well-prepared and ready for learning.

At Te Paepae o Aotea, our school values of **Aotea, Taupaenui and Paepae** underpin everything we do. *Aotea* reflects courage, resilience and the willingness to take positive risks in learning. *Taupaenui* represents striving for excellence, showing determination and taking pride in one's achievements. *Paepae* reminds us of the importance of being courageous and adventurous with our learning. These values guide our behaviour, shape our school culture and support every student to grow not only academically, but as confident, connected and caring members of our school and wider community.

Our **Huakina Mai initiative** will be running again this year. Students can earn points for consistently demonstrating our school values; Aotea, Taupaenui and Paepae during class. Please encourage your child to strive to collect points and to monitor their progress. Students can earn up to **12 points per day** and **60 points per week**. The Huakina Mai rewards range from soft drinks and chocolate bars to school uniform items, vouchers and even AirPods. Students may choose to spend their points regularly or save for one of the higher-value items.

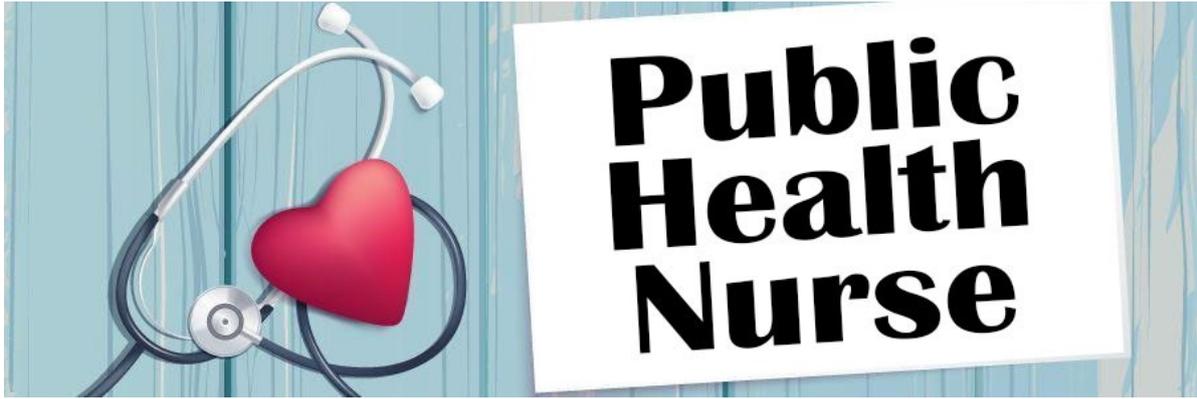
Most of our Year 9–13 students are bringing their learning devices and are successfully connecting to the school Wi-Fi. If your child is experiencing any difficulties connecting, they are welcome to come to the office **before school, Monday to Wednesday**, where our technician will be available to provide support. We also ask that students ensure their device is fully charged before arriving at school each day.

Next Friday we will be holding our **whole-school Athletics Day**. We warmly invite you to join us to support and celebrate our students as they participate and give each event their very best effort. Our house groups have been bringing fantastic energy with their chants and we look forward to another exciting, competitive and memorable day on the school calendar.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa for your ongoing support.

Ngā mihi nui
Rachel Williams
Tumuaki





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>

Updating Student Contact Details

If your contact details or your child's emergency contact information has changed, please notify the school office administration team with the updated details. Thank you.



NZU

TE PAEPAE O AOTEA UNIFORM DESIGN



All school uniform items are purchased through

WEARING IS BELIEVING
NZ 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





HEAD ACADEMIC LEADER

Adam Stables



Kia ora koutou

I hope you've all settled into your classes and routines well. Over the next few weeks the Academic Council will be sharing opportunities for students to get involved and challenge themselves with an activity currently being planned for Week 6. Final details are still being confirmed, so please keep an eye on the daily notices for updates and sign-ups.

This year, I will also be working closely with the Marama Programme to support senior students to reach their full potential academically. Taupaenui is about striving for excellence through consistent effort and that will be a key focus of our work. Our goal is to help students develop the habits and confidence to keep aiming higher. We're looking to create more chances for students to build strong study routines, set goals and feel supported to seek help early.

Back yourself to try something new, you never know what you're capable of until you try.

Ngā mihi, Adam Stables



HEAD CULTURAL LEADER

Taiharuru Ratima



Tēnā koutou

A massive congratulations to all those who were recognised at our first school assembly for their academic achievements over the past year – we're so proud of your efforts and the mana you bring to Te Paepae o Aotea. I also want to acknowledge everyone who demonstrated our school value of 'paepae' by having the courage to apply for formal leadership roles within our kura and those named as school leaders for 2026. Whether or not we take on formal leadership roles and wear a badge, there are everyday opportunities to demonstrate leadership inside and outside the classroom – leadership potential and skills are within all of us. With that in mind, if anyone is keen to work alongside our Cultural Team please let me know and we can find a role for you.

The Cultural Team have had two meetings so far and besides getting to know one another better we have begun planning a variety of lunchtime recreational activities (LRA) that we hope you'll all enjoy and will contribute to a positive school culture. After all, our major goal is to help maintain, enrich and build a positive culture within our kura.

Noho ora mai, Taiharuru Ratima



HEAD COMMUNITY LEADER

Lauren Kalin



Kia Ora

I hope everyone has had a smooth transition back into the school year. It's been awesome seeing everyone getting into the rhythm of this year. As we head into the term there are plenty of cool things to keep an eye out for, especially within the community space.

On Saturday, 28 March, we have Relay for Life - a chance for us to come together and support an important cause. Registrations are open online: search 'Te Paepae o Aotea' team on the Taranaki Relay section.

The Community Council will also be running next week's LRA which is.. Tug of War! Come along Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtime to earn awa points and have a bit of fun; more information will be in the school notices. Also, remember that wholeschool Athletics is coming up. Participation is mandatory and it's a great opportunity for everyone to get involved, support each other and come together as a school community.

Ngā mihi, Lauren Kalin



HEAD SPORTS LEADER

Theo Soothill



Kia Ora

As Head Sport Leader, it's been awesome to see the energy and pride students have been bringing to sport at Te Paepae o Aotea. One of our recent highlights was the LRA Manu competition where students showed huge confidence, courage and support for one another. The atmosphere was unreal and it was great to see so many people stepping up, backing themselves and celebrating each other's successes.

Looking ahead, we're excited for our Athletics Day next Friday. This is shaping up to be a massive day for our school. Alongside the track and field events, we'll also have Inter Awa Relays which always bring out strong teamwork and awa pride. So, make sure to represent and wear your awa colours. To top it off, we'll be running a mascot race, adding some fun and laughs to the day.

Make sure you get involved, support your awa and give it a go. Days like these are what school sport is all about.

Ngā mihi, Theo Soothill





LRA MANU COMPETITION



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ATHLETIC PRELIM EVENT 800M RACE





SPORTS Talk

Te Paepae o Aotea Sports Update - Sunshine, Smiles & Serious Good Vibes

What an epic week of sunshine, movement and pure good vibes across our kura. Our akonga have been out and about, getting active, having fun and making the most of every sunny moment.

The pool has been *the* place to be. From impressive manus, to dance routines and chill sessions on the donuts, the whole area has been buzzing. Students have been showing off style, creativity—and some seriously competitive Manu energy.

The volleyball net and basketball courts have been *chocka* all week with games, laughs and friendly competition. On the grass, touch and league have kept the fields pumping. It's awesome to see everyone out there giving it a go and staying active.

Sports Leaders Step Up

Our Sports Leaders ran their very first LRA (Lunchtime Recreational Activity) this week and with the mint weather, they kicked things off with a MANU COMPETITION.

What a turnout. So many students taking the leap (literally), the poolside packed with supporters and plenty of relaxed vibes on the pool donuts.

For a top-tier manu, you need

- ✦ Good height
- ✦ Clean entry
- ✦ Sharp snap
- ✦ POP!
- ✦ And of course... style

Huge shout-out to everyone who jumped in—and to our Sports Leaders for running an epic first event.

Keep an eye on school notices & socials so you don't miss the next LRA.

ATHLETICS DAY – Friday, 20 March

Whole school athletics is coming next Friday at the Hub Track. Get ready to rep your Awa colours, earn valuable Awa points and bring the hype.



What's happening:

- Awa Chant Competition to kick off the day
- Awa Mascot 60m Dash (always a crowd favourite)
- Track events
- Field events
- Fun stations
- The grand finale: **The Mighty Awa Relays**

It's going to be an awesome day of competition, connection and colour.

Athletic RECORD BREAKERS

A massive *ka mau te wehi* to these incredible students who smashed Te Paepae o Aotea Athletics Records. These are seriously impressive times — your hard work, determination and speed deserve to be celebrated.

800m Records

- **Junior Girls:** *Tayla Sturgeon* — **2:26.44**
- **Junior Boys:** *Lachlan Wills* — **2:09.90**
- **Intermediate Girls:** *Mikayla Arnold* — **2:36.04**
- **Senior Girls:** *Maddison Sturgeon* — **2:44.26**

1500m Records

- **Junior Girls:** *Tayla Sturgeon* — **5:28.62**
- **Junior Boys:** *Lachlan Wills* — **4:36.00**
- **Senior Girls:** *Maddison Sturgeon* — **5:48.42**

Your achievements set the bar high for Te Paepae o Aotea athletes, now and in the future. Amazing mahi.

TSSSA Beach Volleyball

This Sunday (weather depending), 34 of our students will hit Ngamotu Beach for TSSSA Beach Volleyball—both competitive pairs and social 4's. They'll take on schools from across Taranaki and if the weather behaves, it's shaping up to be a top day out.

TSSSA Rogaine – Our Biggest Event

With 130 students registered, Rogaine continues to be our most popular TSSSA event.

Teams will navigate the Lake Mangamahoe area—walking, running, exploring—collecting markers worth different points over 3 hours.

BUT... return late and the points start disappearing.
It makes for an exciting, strategic and super fun evening.

TSSSA Surfing

Year 9 Ollie Shaw will be representing Te Paepae o Aotea at the TSSSA Surfing event at Fitzroy Beach next week, whenever the swell is. Ollie placed 2nd last year in the Year 8 section, so we're stoked to see what he can do this year. Go hard, Ollie.

Rippa Rugby

Starts next Thursday from **4–6pm at the Hub**.

We're pumped to have:

- 8 Year 7/8 teams
- 5 Secondary teams

Such an awesome turnout—ka mau te wehi.

Yr 7/8 shirts will be handed out next week. Please make sure your \$10 fees are paid.

Winter Sports Sign-Ups

Get ready—sign-ups for winter codes are coming soon.

Keep an eye on school socials and notices.

Sports include:

- Netball
- Football
- Rugby
- Basketball
- Hockey

Coaches, Managers & Helpers Wanted

We LOVE our parent and community support.

If you're keen to coach, manage or lend a hand with a winter sport team, please contact Vicki:

 vicki.roberts@tepaepaeoatea.school.nz

 Sports Office

Positive Vibes Always

At Te Paepae o Aotea, we uphold the Positive Vibes values through TSSSA and Sport Taranaki. When we're out representing our kura, we show:

- Respect
- Sportsmanship
- Good attitude
- Positive sideline behaviour

We uplift our players, officials, spectators—and each other.

Celebrate Success With Us

Got something awesome you've achieved in sport?
Let us know. We want to celebrate student success across our kura.

We have so many talented rangatahi—don't be shy to share your achievements.

Keep Being Amazing - Keep up the great mahi, everyone.

“We RISE by LIFTING others.” LSKD

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
Friday, 27 February	TPOA Swimming Sports (Whole School)

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 | **20**

TPOA ATHLETICS DAY

Whole School Event

FEB | **25**

TSSSA ROGAINE

Year 9-13 students

FEB | **26**

PHOTOLIFE Individual Photos
Catch Up Day - 9 March 2026

FEB | **27**

TPOA SWIMMING SPORTS

Whole School Event

MAR | **9**

TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY

NO SCHOOL

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

www.tepaepaeoatea.school.nz