



# TE PAEPAE O AOTEA

*Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata*

## Newsletter – Friday, 27 February 2026

Kia ora e te whānau

What an amazing couple of weeks we have had at school.

Last week, we held our Athletics Day. Attendance was excellent, students participated enthusiastically, and several records were broken. We began the day with each awa performing their chant in the centre of the school green—a wonderful way to set the tone. Not even a brief spell of afternoon rain dampened spirits and it was fantastic to end the day with the 100m finals, accompanied by the whole school cheering on the runners.

This week, we continued the awa competition with Swimming Sports—always a highlight on our school calendar. It is great to see our students competing with pride and supporting one another across these events. Thank you to the community members who attended and assisted during the day; we genuinely appreciate the time you dedicate to supporting our students.

Last week, we were proud to become the first Relay for Life team in Taranaki to reach Dream Team status. Our students and staff have worked incredibly hard to raise the \$5,000 required, and we are now sitting in second place with a total of \$7,000. With the relay scheduled for 28 March, there is still time to donate to this very worthy cause.

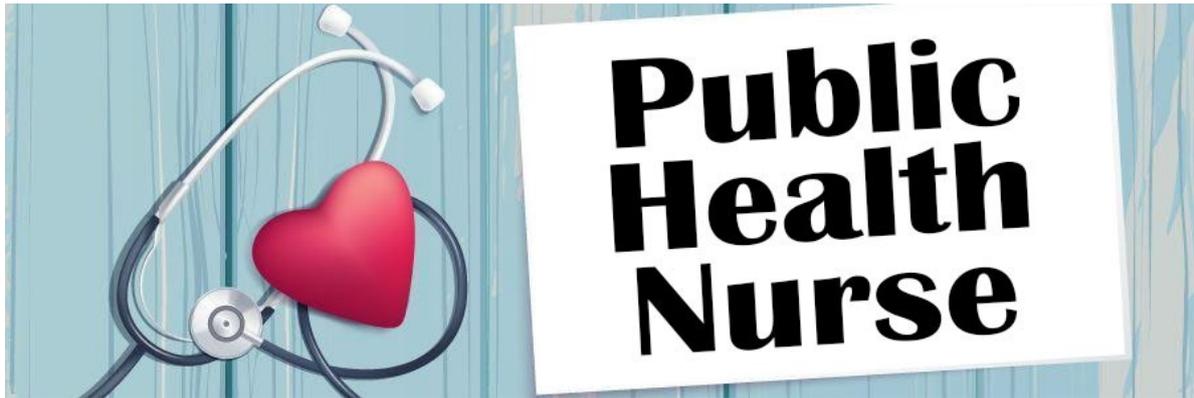
We are now exactly halfway through the term and our students have settled well into their learning. Our Year 7 and 8 students appear to be enjoying their revised timetable, which includes increased technology in the morning and literacy sessions in the afternoons.

Attendance is currently at 62% of students attending school more than 90% of the time. While this is an improvement on last year, we aim to maintain high attendance levels throughout the year. Evidence is very clear: students who attend school regularly achieve better outcomes—not only during their schooling, but also later in life. Please remember to contact us if your child will be absent or if you require support in any attendance-related matters.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of our school.

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

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

## **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

Click the link below to read all the details about our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) plan at Te Paepae o Aotea in 2026.

<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](http://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.





## HEAD ACADEMIC LEADER

Adam Stables



Kia ora koutou

Ka pai to everyone who took part in Athletics last Friday. It was awesome to see so many students getting involved across the school, whether you were competing, supporting your awa or helping things run smoothly. School events like this show the participation and pride we have as a school, and it's great to see students backing themselves and each other.

Looking ahead, we have our Escape Room LRA happening next week. Teams will work through a set of challenges under time pressure, with clues, puzzles, and problem-solving along the way. If you're keen to give it a go, sign up by contacting your awa's Academic Leader or myself. Numbers will be limited, so make sure to get in early.

With assessments coming up, be kind to yourself. Remember that grades don't define you, focus on progress, good habits, and reaching out when you need help.

Ngā mihi, Adam Stables



## HEAD CULTURAL LEADER

Taiharuru Ratima



Tēnā koutou katoa

It was great seeing everyone in their vibrant awa colours going hard on their awa chants (congrats to Kaūpokonui), creating a real sense of whanaungatanga at Athletics Day. It wasn't only about showcasing students' athletic abilities, but also strengthening our kura culture, giving everyone the opportunity to step outside their comfort zone and grow.

This week's LRA was Karaoke - PFA 1 was full of students eager to participate. It was great to see the whole audience encouraging and supporting one another, cheering, clapping and singing along. This is the embodiment of Aotea – creating a safe and supportive environment in our kura, and Paepae – taking a chance and stepping outside our comfort zone. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the kaupapa. A big mihi to the Kaūpokonui and Waingongoro cultural leaders for their leadership in the planning and mahi that went into the karaoke kaupapa. Karaoke was a winner for school culture – students taking leadership, supporting one-another and building confidence.

Keep an eye out for next week's LRA and come along to have fun, tautoko and earn points for your awa.

Noho ora mai, Taiharuru Ratima



## HEAD COMMUNITY LEADER

Lauren Kalin



Kia Ora

There's plenty happening in the community space currently, with more in the works. Keep an eye on the school app and our social media pages to stay up to date with announcements and opportunities to get involved in our exciting events coming up. Last week's LRA Tug of War was a great success with over 150 students competing over the two days. After lots of tough fought matches, Tangahoe placed first, Kaupokonui second, followed by Patea and Waingongoro.

A big focus for us now is Kura Kai. We're working to fill our freezer and support those in our school community who may need it. Look out for more information on the school app and socials or email me to find out how you can contribute and the kind of donations we're looking for. Every little bit helps.

Relay for Life is coming up soon. It's always a special opportunity for us to come together to support an important cause. If you're keen to be involved, registrations are open online; search "Te Paepae o Aotea" team in the Taranaki Relay section. Whether you're a student, staff or community member; we'd love for you to join us.

Ngā mihi, Lauren Kalin



## HEAD SPORTS LEADER

Theo Soothill



Kia ora whānau

The past fortnight has been full of energy within the Sport Committee, with strong inter awa spirit shining through across all events. Last Friday's Athletics Day was a huge success with students proudly representing their awa colours. The chants were electric and a special mention goes to Kaūpokonui, who stood loud and proud to take out first place in the chant competition.

It was awesome to see everyone getting involved. Events like the gumboot throw, tug of war and egg and spoon race were crowd favourites and the 100 metre finals delivered thrilling photo finishes with the grandstand cheering on their peers.

This Friday we look ahead to Swimming Sports and excitement is already building. After such a strong Athletics Day we're ready for another great event, including a chant rematch. Bring the energy, wear your awa colours with pride and let's make it another day to remember.

Ngā mihi, Theo Soothill





## STUDENT SUCCESS IN CRAFT SECTION

At the Egmont A&P show over the weekend Te Paepae o Aotea had several students enter items into the Leisure, Treasure and Pleasure Competition. The students created items in Craft Camp during Activity week at the end of last year. The students all placed and received certificates, which was amazing.

- Shinaed Williamson  
2nd Place - Hand Embroidery  
2nd Place - Any Craft  
3rd Place - Any Craft
- Natalia McGuire  
3rd Place - Hand Embroidery
- Damian Potroz-Northcott  
3rd Place - Any item Created from Thread




**TE PAEPAE O AOTEA**  
Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata

**A&P SHOW RESULTS**

Congratulations to Nevaeh Ratahi and Curtis Wanihi, who have received Outward Bound Scholarships to attend a 21-day course from 3-23 March 2026.

Nevaeh and Curtis will be tested mentally, physically and socially in an effort to build leadership skills and become more confident.

Other students from around the Taranaki region will be joining them for the 21 day experience.

Thank you to Outward Bound Trust of New Zealand for this opportunity.



NEVAEH RATAHI



CURTIS WANIHI

**OUTWARD BOUND**

## REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

YEAR 9-10 | YEAR 11-13 | WOMEN'S

Te Paepae o Aotea congratulates Emma Wasley on her outstanding cricket representation for the 2025-2026 season.

Supported a South Island (Marlborough) team at the Year 11/13 Central Districts tournament in Whanganui

- Played 3 games
- Top scorer in 2 games

Played in the Year 9/10 Central Districts tournament in Palmerston North

- Awarded MVP for Taranaki for both batting and bowling

Represented Woodleigh Women's team (New Plymouth)

- In the last round-robin match: top scorer and best bowling figures: 3/10 off 4 overs
- Competition included players who are Taranaki and Central Districts reps

Competed in January Hawke's Bay 30-over tournament with the Mangorei Pink Panthers (New Plymouth)

- Most total runs for the team
- Scores included 50 and 51 not out
- Averaged just over 40 runs per game

Upcoming school season:

Taranaki Women's Team Selection:

Recently invited to represent the Taranaki Women's team



Emma Wasley



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**25/26 TETKOC-RC**



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# ATHLETIC RECORDS

Congratulations to all our students who set new Te Paepae o Aotea Athletics records

- 800M**  
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**  
Junior Girls  
Tayla Sturgeon 5.28.62  
Junior Boys  
Lachlan Wills 4.36.00  
Senior Girls  
Maddison Sturgeon 5.48.42
- 3000M**  
Intermediate Boys  
Lachlan Wills 10.06.44
- LONG JUMP**  
Year 7-8 Girls  
Skyla Penny 4.07m  
Junior Girls  
Tayla Sturgeon 4.67m
- TRIPLE JUMP**  
Junior Girls  
Tayla Sturgeon 9.07m  
Intermediate Girls  
Mikayla Arnold 8.72m
- SHOT PUT**  
Junior Girls  
Emma Wasley 8.24m  
Intermediate Boys  
Cyrus Van Der Werff 9.38m



## Relay For Life TARANAKI

Saturday, 28 March 2026

10am-10pm

TET Stadium & Events Centre INGLEWOOD

Te Paepae o Aotea school vans will be available to help get students to the event

Register under

**TE PAEPAE O AOTEA**



Click the link to register or make a donate

[Te Paepae o Aotea RELAY FOR LIFE](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS

"Te Paepae o Aotea"

The first registered Taranaki Team to reach

**"Dream Team"**

for

Relay For Life 2026

What team is going to be the next Dream Team???

Let's get that Fundraising happening!!!!



Taranaki.relayforlife.org.nz

**STUDENT SUCCESS**





# SPORTS Talk

## Athletics Day

What an incredible day we had last Friday. A huge thank you to all the amazing helpers who made Athletics Day such a success - our event recorders, timekeepers and the many whānau and parents who came along to cheer on our rangatahi. Your support made all the difference. The day was packed with energy, excitement and plenty of friendly competition. It was fantastic to see so much participation and house spirit on display.

## Winter Sports

Winter sports are just around the corner. Keep an eye on school notices and our social media pages for all sign-up information and updates. We're looking forward to another strong season of participation and pride.

## TSSSA

We had a huge contingent of 110 rangatahi heading out to compete in Rogaine - an amazing turnout. They navigated the wilderness, working as teams, putting their endurance and strategy skills to the test. All competitors had an awesome adventure.

We have an exciting few weeks of TSSSA ahead with tennis, outdoor bowls and croquet coming up. It's great to see strong team numbers across all events. Best of luck to everyone competing - represent with pride and give it your all.

## Call for Coaches

We're putting out a big call to any whānau or parents interested in coaching one of our sports teams — particularly netball and basketball. Your time and support can make a real difference for our rangatahi. If this sounds like you, please contact [vicki.roberts@tepaepaeoaotea.school.nz](mailto:vicki.roberts@tepaepaeoaotea.school.nz) or phone the school office and ask to speak with Vicki.

## Swimming Sports

Today, we head to the Hawera Aquatic Centre for our whole-school Swimming Sports. Events begin at 9:45am. There will be a mix of competitive and fun events throughout the day. Our rangatahi gave it their all in the pool.

## Rippa Rugby

We currently have 13 teams entered in Rippa Rugby, played on Thursdays at The Hub — an outstanding level of participation. We've already seen some fantastic results and great sportsmanship on display.



It's also been awesome to see our students stepping up to help coach our school teams, showing real leadership and commitment. If you're interested in supporting our rangatahi and encouraging our student coaches, we'd love to see you come along and get involved. Your support makes a real difference.

## LRA

Our school leaders have been doing an outstanding job organising a variety of exciting events to keep students engaged and connected within our school environment. So far, we've enjoyed tug-of-war, a manu competition and karaoke — all filled with enthusiasm and house spirit. Up next, our academic team will be hosting Escape Rooms. Get ready to put your problem-solving skills to the test.

## Attendance and Payment Reminder

Just a friendly reminder that students wishing to participate in sporting events this year must maintain at least 70% attendance and ensure payments are made on time. Failure to meet these requirements may result in missing out on events. Let's stay organised and make the most of every opportunity available this year!

## Taranaki Masters Women Secure Finals Spot

Te Paepae o Aotea wishes our Tumuaki, Rachel Williams, and the Taranaki Masters Women 40+ Hockey Team all the very best for their finals match against Auckland Blue on Saturday, 28 February.

**“If you want to be somebody and you want to go somewhere, you better wake up and pay attention” – Sister Act**

For all sports queries, please contact Vicki Roberts, Sports Coordinator, via email, [vicki.roberts@tepaepaeoaotea.school.nz](mailto:vicki.roberts@tepaepaeoaotea.school.nz)

## 2026 Upcoming Sporting Events

### TSSSA Events

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



# 2026 TE PAEPAE O AOTEA ATHLETICS DAY







Kura Kai builds our local community of volunteers who give their time, money, and resources to cook nutritious family meals to help keep our freezer well stocked

# Whānau Cooking for Whānau



## How can you help?

- Donate food
- Donate funds
- Donate a meal

Donations can be dropped off at the Te Paepae o Aotea School Office.  
For any inquiries, please contact:

Lauren Kalin - Head Community Leader  
Lauren.Kalin@tepaepaeoatea.school.nz

## REQUIREMENTS

- FOIL ROASTING TRAYS WITH LIDS ONLY to be used (no plastic or foil trays without lids)
- They must have the thick cardboard lids that are secured tightly on top.
- Tray size – The large family size (approx a 4 person serve) is ideal but if you can't find these trays feel free to use the medium size.
- Labeling requirements – each meal MUST be labeled clearly with the following information. It must be clearly seen and read.
- Name of Meal.
- Full ingredients list.
- Date cooked.
- Date Frozen.
- Volunteer # or name/initials .
- Any special reheating instructions.



**TE PAEPAE O AOTEA**

*Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata*

# UPCOMING *dates*



TERM 1 - 2026

MAR

3

## TSSSA TENNIS

Social & Competitive Grades

MAR

5

## TSSSA OUTDOOR BOWLS

New Plymouth

MAR

5

**PHOTOLIFE** Individual Photos  
Catch-up Day

MAR

9

**TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY**  
NO SCHOOL

MAR

12

**TSSSA CROQUET**  
+ All Abilities

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

[www.tepaepaeoatea.school.nz](http://www.tepaepaeoatea.school.nz)