



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA

Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata



Message from the Principal



Kia ora koutou

As the following two pages demonstrate, 2026 has been a wonderful year for Te Paepae o Aotea. We are proud of the opportunities that our staff and community provide for our students, and equally proud of the success our students have achieved across a wide range of activities. Our school whakataūki, “Kia eke atu ki Taupaenui o te tangata” “People reaching their full potential”, challenges us all to strive for excellence and to do everything to the very best of our ability.

In the classroom, our students have continued to go from strength to strength, with many of our junior students not only meeting but exceeding expectations in the progress they have made. Our senior students continue to be outstanding role models. Following the record success of our NCEA Level 2 and Level 3 results in 2025, which were the highest our community has ever achieved, our seniors are on track to surpass those benchmarks once again this year. A significant number of students are also working toward Merit and Excellence endorsements, thanks to the support of their teachers and the guidance of Jenni Brewer through the Marama Programme. Despite the challenges of winter illnesses, student attendance has remained strong, with more than 90 percent of our students attending school each day. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our families and wider community in helping to achieve this positive outcome.

Wherever you are in Hāwera, it is hard not to notice the large white tent above the Te Ramanui block. Property redevelopment work is now underway, with the replacement of the roof being completed in stages. Te Ramanui roof is expected to be finished by March next year. While this work is progressing, we are continuing to work closely with the Ministry of Education to finalise the next stages of the redevelopment of our entire school site.

Winter sports have now largely concluded for the year and it has been pleasing to see our students consistently demonstrating our school values of Aotea, Taupaenui and Paepae on and off the sports field. These values reflect the qualities we strive to develop in all students: Aotea represents pride in who we are and where we come from, Taupaenui encourages us to pursue excellence and reach our full potential, and Paepae reminds us of the importance of respect, service, and contributing positively to our community. Whether competing, supporting teammates or showing sportsmanship towards opponents, our students have represented these values with distinction.

On behalf of our staff and Board, thank you for your continued support of Te Paepae o Aotea. The success of our school is made possible through the strong partnership between our students, staff, whānau and wider community. We greatly value your encouragement, involvement and commitment and we look forward to working alongside you as we finish another successful year together.

Ngā mihi nui
Rachel Williams
Tumuaki/Principal



CANS FOR KIWI KIDS ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS RECEIVE 'FRIENDS OF LIONS' RECOGNITION

Our Environmental Leaders met with Denis Hurcomb from Lions to discuss our Kidney Cans initiative. Our students were presented with 'Friends of Lions' badges in recognition of their work raising funds for Kidney Kids New Zealand. Thanks to everyone who brings cans to school and puts their cans in our yellow bins. These small acts make a big impact in our community.



YEAR 9 TEAM WINS METHANEX MATHS QUIZ CHALLENGE

Congratulations to our Year 9 Methanex Maths Challenge team for taking out 1st Place in this year's competition. Well done to Ryder Hartley, Spencer Harris, Dylan Fagan and Joel Harris on this fantastic achievement.

The Methanex Maths Challenge brings together talented young mathematicians from across the region to test their problem-solving skills and teamwork.

Te Paepae o Aotea was proud to send teams from Years 7 to 10, with students achieving strong results across all year levels:

Year 7: 7th Place

Year 8: 5th Place and 9th Place

Year 9: 1st Place

Year 10: 7th Place

Congratulations to all students who represented Te Paepae o Aotea so well.



YEAR 7-8 TEAM WINS SCIENCE QUIZ AT TARANAKI FAIR

Te Paepae o Aotea students recently took part in the annual Elemental Group Science and Technology Fair, a regional event that has been running since 1983. The four-day competition provides students with opportunities to solve real-world problems through innovative scientific and technological projects.

Congratulations to our Year 7-8 Science team of Cullum Smyth, Harri Ballagh, Ryder Hartley, and Xavier Baylis, who represented Te Paepae o Aotea at the fair and achieved an outstanding result, taking out first place in the Science Quiz. Well done to the team on this wonderful achievement.

STUDENTS VISIT FOOD SHOW



Senior Hospitality students had the opportunity to travel to Wellington to attend The Food Show. Students enjoyed sampling a wide range of delicious produce, meeting artisan growers and cheesemakers and learning more about the food and hospitality industry.

A real highlight was meeting celebrity chefs Colin and Manu from MKR (My Kitchen Rules) and watching them in action as they cooked up a storm. It was a fantastic experience for our students and a wonderful opportunity to see the industry in action, discover new products and be inspired by some of the talented people working within it.





2027 Enrolments

NOW OPEN

Enrol via the QR code or visit:
www.tepaepaeoatea.school.nz







TE PAEPAE O AOTEA 2026 MUSIC AWARDS

Waiata Reo- Rōpū
Winner: Senior Rōpū 1 singing “Matua Te Tapu”
Runners Up: Year 11 Taha Rōpū singing:
Kua rere o te manu o te rewa

Waiata Reo- Solo/Duet
Winner: Kahleaha Walker and Jahliyah Hori singing
“Ko te reo o manu”; Runner Up: Mahalia Kunaiti

Ben Thomas Junior Music Award
1st Place: Shakira Bailey (Year 9 Vocal/Piano)
singing “Stay”
2nd Place: Libby Tate (Year 9 Vocal/Guitar)
singing “The Only Exception”

Junior Aotea Award
Awarded to a student who showed the most creative
and individual performance.
Winner: Phoebe Williamson

Junior Paepae Award
Awarded to a student who has shown courage and
given it a go.
Winner: Ashley Finey

Halliwells Senior Instrumental Award
Winner: Izzy Logan (Drums Year 13) playing
“Don’t Worry about a thing”;
Runners Up: Oliver Bone (Guitar Year 13) playing
“Diminished to B”

Lynette Morris Vocal Scholarship
Winner: Te Kingi Morehu Hanikawhe (Year 13)
singing “Laughing on the Outside”
Runner Up: Tyrese Whakaruru (Year 13) singing
“Mum”

Senior Aotea Award
Awarded to a student who showed the most creative
and individual performance.
Winner: Jack Clarke

Paepae Award
Awarded to a student who has shown courage and
given it a go.
Winner: Eloise Sharrock



STUDENTS SHINE AT TARANAKI RIPPA RUGBY FINALS

Te Paepae o Aotea is celebrating the success of its Year 7-8 Rippa Rugby teams following outstanding performances at both the South Taranaki Rippa Rugby competition and the Taranaki Rippa Rugby Finals Day.

The school’s TPOA 2 Fresh girls’ team delivered an impressive performance to claim victory in the girls’ final at the South Taranaki Rippa Rugby competition, defeating SJS Maroon to take home the South Taranaki title.

Building on that success, Te Paepae o Aotea was proudly represented by Year 7-8 students at the Taranaki Rippa Rugby Finals Day held at Stadium Taranaki. Competing against some of the region’s best teams, the students showcased excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the day.

The TPOA 2 Fresh girls’ team continued their strong form, finishing as runners-up in the girls’ final, while the TPOA Side Steppers boys’ team enjoyed a successful tournament, narrowly missing out on a place in the finals.



8A NETBALL TEAM WINS B GRADE FINAL AT AIMS GAMES

History has been made at Te Paepae o Aotea. Our 8A Netball team proudly became the first-ever team from our kura to represent the school at the AIMS Games, held in Tauranga from 5-11 September 2026.

The tournament has been an eye-opening and unforgettable experience for this young group. For many players, this week has been filled with firsts, creating opportunities for significant personal growth both on and off the court,

building lifelong friendships and memories along the way. Placed in a very tough grading pool, the team faced strong opposition from schools across New Zealand. After narrowly missing out on A Grade qualification, 8A showed incredible resilience to battle their way into the B Grade Final against Taupō Intermediate School, winning 17-12. Playing 10 games in six days is an enormous achievement, and we couldn’t be prouder of what this group has accomplished.

STUDENT SUCCESS Arts/Cultural

DANCE
Academy of Dance Jazz Troupe - Qualifier for the NYPA PACANZ National Dance Competition
Alexa Ogle & Ava Te Purei

NZ Dance Made Inter School Competition
Emily Chittenden - 2nd Place - Solo;
Group Dance - National Qualifier
Willow Gibb - 2nd Place - Solo;
1st Place Duo (National Qualifier)

Alexa Ogle - Group Dance - National Qualifier
Libby Tate - 4th Place - Solo;
1st Place Duo (National Qualifier)

Isla Williamson - Group Dance - National Qualifier

LITERACY
New York Times Summer Writing Academy
Lauren Kalin

SPEECH & DRAMA
South Taranaki Race Unity Speech Awards
Evita Morellon - 1st Place

Lions Young Speechmakers Contest
Indyka-Azaria Hill - 3rd Place

Ngā Manu Kōrero
Whanganui/Taranaki Regional Competition
Indyka-Azaria Hill - 1st Place Impromptu Speech

Sports
ARTISTIC ROLLER SKATING
Nelly Rongonui
2026 NZ Artistic Roller Skating Championship -
2nd Place - Figures; 4th Place - Loops;
2nd Place - Freeskating; West/East Combined
Regional Artistic Skating Championship -
1st Place - Espoir Figures; 1st Place - Prelim Free Skating;
Central Area Championship - 1st Place - Tuatahi Freeskating;
1st Place - Espoir Figures; 2nd Place - Tuatahi Loops; 2026
Laurie Hastie Skating Cup - 2nd Place - Cadet Free Skating

Jayda Weherua
West/East Combined Regional Artistic Skating Champion-
ship - 1st Place - Cadet Figures;
1st Place - Cadet Free Skating; Central Area
Championship - 1st Place - Cadet Figures;
1st Place - Cadet Free Skating; 3rd Place - Matanga Loops;
2026 Laurie Hastie Skating Cup -
2nd Place - Cadet Free Skating

CROSS COUNTRY
2026 TSSSA Cross Country
Mikayla Arnold - Junior Girls - 3rd Place
Tayla Sturgeon - Junior Girls - 1st Place
Ryan Finey - Senior Boys - 2nd Place

New Zealand Cross Country Championships
Tayla Sturgeon - 2nd Place Junior Mixed Race;
U16 Girls - 7th Place

FOOTBALL
Central Food Taranaki U15 Plate Winners
Hāwera U15 Team: Kaleyden Colban-Herrick,
Sithil Edirisinghe, Matakanapa Edwards, Sizarne Kahui,
Tamamihia Edwards, Lochie Kalin, Pawan Lal, Jirra Lanting,
Nallah Lanting, Te Kori Ngahevu & Amani Temara

GOLF
Divan Denton
2026 Left-Handed National Golf Champion;
Shand Salver Team Lower North Island
Quadrangular Hawkes Bay Age Groups
U19 - 2nd Place; Taranaki Golf Age Group
Championship - 2nd Place

NETBALL
2026 New Zealand Men’s & Mixed Netball
Lakein Woods - 17 & Under Men’s Netball Squad

U20 Mens Netball Nationals
Tyson’s Taranaki U20 Mens Netball Team
CB Jemenez & Lakein Woods

NZ GRAPPLER
NZ Westcoast Challenge
Emma-May Bublitz - 2nd Place - Gi, 2nd Place - NoGi;
Dartagnan Harrison-Maraki - 2nd Place - Gi, 2nd Place - NoGi;
Brandon Ross - 1st Place - Gi;
Ollie Shaw - 3rd Place - Gi; 2nd Place - NoGi;
Poppy Willmott-Bradshaw - 3rd Place - Gi, 2nd Place - NoGi;
Alyssa Mills - 2nd Place - Gi - 2nd Place - NoGi;
Lucas Arnold - 2nd Place - Gi- 3rd Place - NoGi

Jiu Jitsu Championship New Zealand Open
Emma-May Bublitz - 2nd Place

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu North Island Championship
Emma-May Bublitz - 1st Place Juvenile Women’s
Featherweight Blue Belt Division

TOUCH | RUGBY | LEAGUE
Malaysia National Touch Competition
Afeef Ridzuan - 1st Place - Open Mixed Division

2026 Kendra Cocksedge South Team
Jasmine Kunaiti, Liberty-Anne Mcleod, Lexus Napflin, Skyla
Rupapera, Tayla Sturgeon, Emma Wasley, Rita Whana,
Lexi Woods & Keoni Ratahi (North Team)

Taranaki Sharks Kōtiro U14s
Caiyan Campbell, Carlyn Campbell, Katiee Edwards,
Alyssa Mills, Keoni Ratahi & Skyla Rupapera

Taranaki Sharks U14s Boys
Ryder Hartley, Jo’han Leef-Luke & Demetrious Makea

PEOPLE REACHING THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

