

PAPATŪĀNUKU

Years 1-3

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome to all our new and returning families. We hope you have all had a lovely summer break. We currently have three learning spaces for the Year 1-3 students. This year we welcome Kris Beattie to Papatūānuku (Year 1-3 Learning Team name).

Our teaching team consists of Michelle James, Team Leader and teaches in Remutaka, Year 2/3 class. Kelly Davies teaches in Aoraki, Year 1 class. Kris Beattie teaches in Raumatī, Year 2/3 class.



Principal: Jacinta Simpson



Office Manager: Melissa Young



Office: Annabel Legat



Our Support Staff: Mohammad Al-Rubayee, Claire Mortelier and Brenda Evans.



Librarian: Jeanette Spicer



Classroom Release Teacher: Bronagh Crook



Classroom Release Teacher: Rowan Youngblood

Important Dates:

Waitangi Day
Tuesday 6th February
School is Closed

Swimming Lessons
Year 1-2 Thursdays
Year 3 Wednesdays

School Picnic
Friday 9th February

Meet the Staff
Tuesday 13th February
6:30pm-8pm

Better Start Literacy information
evening
TBC

Learning Conferences
TBC

School Fair
Sunday 24th March

Easter Weekend
Friday 29th March, Monday 1st April,
Tuesday 2nd April
School is closed

Activities and Events

Swimming Lessons Year 1-2 Thursdays, starting 8/2 Year 3 Wednesdays, starting 7/2

Swimming lessons for Year 1 and Year 2 children will begin on Thursday 8th February and will run for the following 8 weeks at the Aquatic Centre in Kilbirnie. Year 3 children will begin on Wednesday 7th February and will also run for the following 8 weeks. This year we will be offering a supervised 'free swim' time. To help prepare your child, we ask that they are able to dress themselves, have a large swimming bag to put all their belongings in, and an extra bag for wet clothing. Please ensure all clothing is well named.

Session Times are:

Year 1 and Year 2 classes: 12:45pm-1:45pm

Year 3 classes: 9:30am-10:30am

We would really appreciate Parent Help each week. Please contact your child's teacher if you are able to assist during one or more of these lessons.

Remutaka: michelle.james@hataitai.school.nz

Aoraki: kelly.davies@hataitai.school.nz

Raumati: kris.beattie@hataitai.school.nz

Hataitai Beach School Picnic- Friday 9th February

Friends and whānau are welcome to join us for our annual school picnic. This year we have a change in venue, Hataitai Beach 9th of February. With our younger aged children we ask for as many parents as possible to join us to support the children at their first school beach day. Please ensure your child has suitable gear for the day, including a hat and clothing to protect your child from the sun and a packed lunch with a full water bottle. Sunblock will be provided but we ask that you lather your child up before school. We also ask that you teach your child to regularly sunblock themselves. If your child would like to take buckets or a spade, we ask that these are well named.

Please email your child's teacher now to:

- Confirm that you give permission for your child to attend the picnic
- Indicate if you will be attending
- Let us know if your child is not confident in ocean water
- Inform us of anything else you think we should know before we leave for Hataitai Beach.

Please Note: We will be walking to the beach, leaving school at approximately 9:30am and returning at 1:00pm. The rest of the school will return from 2:00pm onwards.

If you plan to leave the beach with your child please sign your child out with their homeclass teacher.

Meet the Staff- Tuesday 13th February, 6:30pm-8pm.

We will host a Whānau information hui, starting in the school hall at 6:30pm. Further details will follow shortly.

Better Start Literacy Whānau information evening

We will host a Whānau information evening, along side Amy Fleming (Better Start Literacy facilitator, with the University of Canterbury) in a few weeks time. This will be held at school, date and time to be confirmed. We will also look to provide a zoom option.

Learning Conferences -

This is an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to discuss successes and next steps with their learning. This will be run using a booking system and information will be emailed to all families prior to these dates.

School Fair - Sunday 24th March

Get ready for a day of fun, excitement and community spirit at our upcoming school fair! From games, delightful treats to creative stalls, there's something for everyone in the family. It's a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow parents, teachers and students while supporting our school's initiatives. Save the date!

Curriculum Celebration Week -TBC

The Ngā Wai (Year 4-6 Learning Team) will plan a week to celebrate a curriculum area of their choosing. This will involve the whole school and the community. Further details will follow.

Our School Values

MANA

RESPECT FOR OURSELVES

MANAAKI

RESPECT FOR OTHERS

AKO

RESPECT FOR LEARNING

Mana, Manaaki and Ako are our core values in all our learning throughout the year



Areas of Focus

- **Literacy:** We are thrilled to announce our partnership with the University of Canterbury- Better Start Literacy programme! designed specifically for classroom teachers, this programme aims to use literacy strategies that will have a positive ripple effect on your child's learning journey. The Better Start Literacy Approach is a structured approach to literacy instruction in the early years of schooling, to support children's early reading, writing and oral language success. It includes the systematic teaching of critical phonological awareness skills and letter sound knowledge skills through fun, games-based activities, activities making explicit links to the reading and spelling context, and structured small group reading sessions using the new Ready to Read - Phonics Plus early readers series. In addition, the approach includes explicit teaching in vocabulary skills and in building children's oral narrative and listening comprehension skills through quality children's story books. The Better Start Literacy Approach follows a structured phonics scope and sequence that is used in the class and small group reading teaching. Over the next few weeks your child will complete a series of assessments to ensure that we are able to target their learning. In the mean time, the children will bring home a choosing book or a shared reading book. A choosing book will be slightly lower than a levelled reader, this is so they are able to read it independently. These are also used to practise our fluency aiming to develop phrasing and attending to punctuation. A shared book is read with the whole class and with the support of the teacher. **A parent information evening will be held at school near the end of February.** Further information will follow in the up coming weeks.
- **The Reading Journal** encourages positive reading attitudes, parental involvement and promotes communication between home and school. We ask that you record the reader for the day and write a comment or draw a small picture about the book. Year 2 and Year 3 children are encouraged to do this themselves.
- **Writing** is an important part of the literacy programme as it helps support the development of their reading. The children will be writing daily with an emphasis on story telling. If you have any wonderful stories to tell feel free to share them with your child so they can draw on them when writing.
- **Te Reo Māori:** through the sharing of pūrākau (stories) the children are exposed to origin stories, customs and the language. The children will be given opportunities to practise greetings and basic sentences in te reo Māori.
- **Fridays:** Each Friday the children will come together and have the opportunity to work in tuakana/teina groups. The mixed-age groupings provide a unique opportunity for peer learning and mentoring. Younger students benefit from the guidance and support of older peers, while older students reinforce their knowledge by sharing it with younger learners. This collaborative approach fosters a sense of responsibility, empathy, and camaraderie among our children, creating a vibrant and inclusive learning team. These workshops will cover Science, Hand-Eye and Aotearoa Nz Histories.
- **Science:** In science this term we will be exploring the world of plants. Designed to spark curiosity and love of learning, these workshops will introduce the students to the wonders of botany. From exploring the life cycles of plants to understanding how they grow and adapt.
- **Hand-Eye:** Unlocking the power of precision through a range of differentiated activities that foster the development of coordination, fine motor skills, and dexterity. We aim to cultivate not just skills but a sense of accomplishment, promoting confidence and independence.
- **Aotearoa NZ Histories:** We are taking a journey through Aotearoa's histories in collaboration with Kura Ahurea. This unique partnership brings together the expertise of mana whenua, Te Ātiawa ki Te Whanganui a Tara/Taranaki Whānui. Students will delve into the stories, fostering an understanding and appreciation for our shared history.

Email

michelle.james@hataitai.school.nz

amanda.smith@hataitai.school.nz

kelly.davies@hataitai.school.nz

Meeting with Teachers: If at any time you have any concerns, questions, information and/or positive feedback to share, please contact your home class teacher as your first port of call.

Emails are generally checked between 3:30 - 5:30pm. Due to the nature of our profession we are often unable to respond to emails within the same day. We endeavour to respond as soon as possible.

Please ensure that your child knows their after school care arrangements before they arrive at school as teachers are not able to check emails regarding updates during the day. Any last minute changes must go through the office.

If your child needs to be picked up during school hours please let your child's teacher as well as the school office know.



Areas of Focus

Numeracy: Through hands-on activities, group discussions, and problem-solving challenges, students will apply their mathematical skills to explore number through story. They will analyse data, solve equations, and engage in critical thinking as they unravel mathematical concepts.

Kura Ahurea: We are excited to be partnering with Kura Ahurea. Kura Ahurea introduces a Te Ātiawa ki Te Whanganui a Tara/Taranaki Whānui (mana whenua/Local iwi) perspective on local history, tikanga, and kawa. Integrating Te Reo Māori, local historical narratives, and hands-on support from local iwi.

Rowan and Bronagh will cover teachers classroom release time (CRT) across the school. When the children are working with them they will cover the below areas.

Visual Arts: With Bronagh Crook

Kia ora, this year I have the privilege of providing an art programme across all class levels. I will be providing opportunities for the students to explore and discuss a range of artists' works, with the prospect of developing skills that will enable them to express their ideas through a range of mediums, incorporating a range of styles.

This term we will be focusing on creating self-portraits using a range of skills and processes. In Papatūānuku, the children will be encouraged to explore drawing and creating shapes from different perspectives to help in their composition of a self-portrait. Over the course of the term they will produce a number of portraits using different mediums e.g. crayon/dye, pastels, paint.

If you have any resources or skills that would help in the delivery of this programme please drop by and see me. I am working on Mondays and Wednesdays.
bronagh.crook@hataitai.school.nz

Literacy Studies: With Rowan Youngblood

Kia ora koutou, My name is Rowan Youngblood and I am excited to be returning to Hataitai School in 2024! I have been teaching at Hataitai since 2012. I really value our wonderful school community as well as the kind and collaborative staff environment. This year I will be working every Monday and Wednesday, doing the release for our classroom teachers. Classes will be spending half a day with me doing a range of literacy activities which will complement their classroom programmes. This will include teaching of vocabulary, retell, summarising, storytelling and comprehension skills. I will be based in the classroom space next to the staffroom, please feel free to pop in and say hi! I have three wonderful children, who are 9, 6 and 2. In my spare time I love to read, do puzzles and get out into nature.
rowan.youngblood@hataitai.school.nz

Seesaw

Seesaw is the online platform we will use to share the children's work. login details will be available shortly.



Novels

This term, we're diving into the pages of an exciting novel together

Aoraki: Mr Penguin and the Lost Treasure
By Alex T. Smith

Raumati: The Smidgens
By David O'Connell

Remutaka: Charlie Tangaroa and the Creature from the Sea
by Tania Roxborough





Lost Property

The number of unclaimed items at the end of each term is astonishing. Therefore we no longer have a lost property area in the school. We encourage children to take care of their belongings. If items are named they will make it back to them. Unclaimed items will be donated to charities at regular intervals.

Picking up your child during school hours

Please inform your child's teacher in advance, when possible. You will need to contact the school office to arrange a pick up.
04-386 1510

Toys and Personal Belongings

From time to time some of our children bring toys to school such as beyblades, trading cards, figurines etc to play with during break times. We encourage the children in Papatūānuku (Year 1-3) **not to trade or give away** these things. These items are the child's responsibility to ensure they are looked after.

Self Managing Belongings

Before children start school it's important to allow your child to have plenty of practice with the following:

- Opening, closing and/or packing their bag, book bag, lunch box, water bottle
- Removing various sweatshirts and tops
- Putting on their jacket and using the zip
- Putting on their shoes (please only have laced shoes if your child can tie them)

Thank you for your support with this.

The **Hataitai School Parent Group (HSPG)** is a group of parents from our school who have volunteered successful fundraising efforts have done so much to add nice touches to life at Hataitai School over the years.

There's always room for more members so please get in touch with via fundraising@hataitai.school.nz If you'd like to get involved.

It is also a great way to meet families and be involved in the school community.

Road Safety

When picking up or dropping off your children

- Ensure your children get in and out of the car safely.
- Park safely, away from yellow lines, intersections and driveways.
- Drive slowly outside schools and be prepared for surprises.
- Never double park outside a school.

When crossing the road at pick up time

We have a team of senior students who have been trained by our local Police Constable on road safety. These students are posted at designated crossing areas and we ask that you follow their instructions when crossing the road.

