

2023

at Hataitai School

Produced and written by Holly Connor-Kebbell, Imogen Lauchlan and Kiriana Rawiri

Congratulations Hataitai School, we've finished 2023! A year of sausage sizzles, ice blocks, EOTC weeks, and fun learning! Keep reading to look back on some amazing fun and learning experiences!



Whole School Centenary Celebration

This year was the celebration of the school's centenary, though the school really turned 100 two years ago in 2021. Everyone was included in showing grandparents, parents, even ex-students (some from 50 years ago!) who are now grandparents themselves around the school and I know I learnt something from all of them! It was awesome to be meeting all these people, and it was really cool to hear about what they're doing now, as they started right where we all are now! There was a celebration in the hall, speeches to be made, work being shown, and a morning tea to end it all off!

Ngā Hau e Whā

Ngā Hau E Whā in Term 1 started with Sean's class thinking of their favourite things, activities, songs, colours, and anything else the students found special to them. Next they drew some awesome art, complete with descriptive writing to fill in a template of a shoe, then added some great colour!

Whole School - Beach Day

Do you remember the fun time at our annual beach day this year at Scorching Bay back in Term 1? It has definitely been a while since we have been out there! We had an awesome sandcastle competition, organised by some Ahi students, and there were some incredible designs. Another fun activity we were able to do on the day, was a sausage sizzle at the beach. This was the first time this has happened in a while, and was a great success! The queues were incredible and the sausages too.



All round, it was lovely weather, beautiful in the sea, and everyone had a great time.

Term 2

Ahi's Art:

Ahi have been lucky to have 3 teachers - Bronagh, Judith and Jenn. Bronagh has guided the students through building a marae model using cardboard, as well as learning about Māori history along the way. They all brought in shoe boxes from home and carefully constructed them into different shapes to pull together their marae. They all drew some carvings based on a Māori design called kowhaiwhai patterns. Working extremely hard throughout the term, they managed to finish their marae in time for Term 3.

Bronagh also taught them the skills of using pastels. On Mondays and Tuesdays, Ahi would rotate in groups and one of the sessions was art. Throughout the year, Bronagh taught different styles of art to try, including pastel and painting as well as many more. Bronagh also printed off some pictures for the students to replicate in their own creative way. As well as this, Ahi also started writing autobiographies, writing poems and stories about their life so far, to look back as an adult on their childhood, and remember.



Whole School Cross Country + Easter Raffle

Term 2 was a busy term filled with new opportunities. Cross country was definitely a big highlight. This year's cross country was run at Treasure Grove, getting ready for Eastern Zone qualification. We had students dressed in their house colour and sharing the school spirit. Unfortunately later in the day the weather turned grey but the races still kept up. Students also highlighted The Easter Raffle, which was also an exciting experience, with lots of edible goods to win!

Ngā Hau e Whā

Ngā Hau e Whā has achieved lots of great work in Term 2, including some awesome artwork, and class treaties. Across Kris's class, they made class treaties based on the Treaty of Waitangi, but instead of a country-wide treaty, it was within their class. The rules were lines like 'always have fun in class,' and 'always try your best.'!

Term 3



Ahi:

Ahi was successful in Term 3, representing Hataitai School at the NIWA Science fair, learning a lot along the way. Everyone in Ahi was working from the middle of Term 2, finishing in the middle of Term 3. Hours of researching, followed by presentation skills on a science poster board for the rest of the school, parents, and teachers to look at and learn from. Some projects then went through to the final at Victoria University to represent our school against others across Wellington City. The topics were interesting, ranging from whale protection, to wind power, water purity, and food waste!

Papatuanuku and the Junior Disco:

Papatuanuku along with the rest of the school had a blast at the school disco in term 3, dancing their hearts out! The disco was filled with laughing, singing and dancing. There were sausages and ice blocks to enjoy as it was luckily a sunny and warm day!

Whole School Artsplash

The school participated in Artsplash, and lots of students said they loved the experience! Working hard, achieving lots. There were students in Visual Art, Dance-splash, Choir, Tournament of Mines (a brain challenging adventure), as well as an Year 7-8 only section, World of Wearable Arts led by Ahi teachers Bronagh and Jenn! This is a school version of the professional W.O.W. Students worked in groups to create a masterpiece for one of their group members to wear and showcase at the Michael Fowler centre. There were six groups involved in the Wearable Arts, with costumes of a huge range, from a Kowhai tree based one, a reflection based design, a COVID-19 inspired one and a costume depicting the passage of time!





Ngā Wai + Ahi - Mathswell

Nga Wai as well as Ahi, selected teams who competed and represented Hataitai School at a math competition called Mathswell in Term 3, held at Victoria University. The teams worked together for weeks leading up to the day then went up against other schools in the Wellington Region. Run by the Wellington Maths Association, the idea of Mathswell is to share the love of math, and challenge the students to their fullest. The competition is split in two sections, the problem solving, and the multi-choice. There were 26-30 questions in each round, and collaboratively, each team worked on the questions. Well done to everyone who participated in the competition, the people's names are listed below!

Year 5/6

Miro
Ethan
Neil
Julian
Ieuan
Henry
Louisa
Celeste
Sean
Luke
Jack
Sarah

Year 7/8

Alistair
Karl
Edie
Ursula
Akira
Reuben
Mary
Remy
Josh
Kiriana
Hugo
Ethan

Term 4



Papatūānuku + Ngā Hau e Whā -Junior Athletics

Years 1-4 competed in their own athletic competition at school, led by teachers and Year 4 leaders, which gives those Year 4's a great opportunity to learn about being a leader which will help them going forward into the senior school for Year 5 next year. It was a lovely day for it, and the races were run across the middle pitch turf receiving certificates at the sports assembly for girl and boy first, second and third place in each age group winners which was very exciting! Congratulations everyone!



Year 8's

The Year 8's are departing the school at the end of the year going on to various colleges for their next education adventure! Preparing for end of year assemblies, awards and speeches has definitely kept everyone busy!



Senior Annual Speech Competition

Years 4-8 have worked exceptionally hard for the school's annual speech competitions. From Week 6, the speeches were being presented left and right! Ahi presented in Week 6, followed by Ngā Wai in Week 7 with their class and then semi-final rounds, until it was time for the 6 students from each year group to advance to the final competition in Week 8 on Thursday. Jacinta, our Principal, was joined with two other teachers at the judging table. The topics were incredible, ranging from hunger, to the perfect world, mental health, vegetarianism, racism, and so many more from each student's passion!

The top three winners from each year group are listed below, congratulations!

Year 5

1st - Milena Jordan
2nd - Neil Chen
3rd - Arya Ravji

Year 7

1st - Sebastian Batchelar
2nd - Emily Stevenson
3rd - Caitlin Wells

Year 6

1st - Hannah Sharma
2nd - Gabrielle Warren
3rd - Ryan McKenzie

Year 8

2023 YEAR 8 SPEECH CUP
WINNER - Reuben Ririnui
2nd - Alistair Brown
3rd - Holly Connor-Kebbell

Whole School - Life Education

Harold, the giraffe mascot of Life Education Trust came for a visit in Term 3.

Everyone was led in classes to their mobile van classroom, and started teaching us about how we need to keep safe in the world and valuable life lessons in a fun environment!



The Year 3 and 4's were learning about resilience in one of their sessions, Ahi was learning about online safety, and overall it was a great learning experience for everyone!

Ahi Kapa Haka festival

Ahi worked so hard, training every day for weeks, for the Kapa Haka festival at the Akau Tangi sports center in Week 4 earlier this term. It is respectful to learn and practice Kapa Haka together in Ahi to support each other and to uphold the culture of te ao māori. It also helps learn and protect knowledge about Māori culture and traditions. We have worked on our haka for our school, written by a parent in the school community a few years ago who helped everyone hugely in Ahi in past years. We presented two of our waiata we regularly sing at school 'Tiaho Mai Ra', and 'Te Ahu o Te Reo Māori e'. We were at the festival for the day, watching other school Kapa Haka groups from around the city perform for their school which was a really great experience to see everyone share the love of Kapa Haka, and acknowledge Māori culture.

Merry Christmas everyone!

What a great year at Hataitai School!

