



WHITIKAHU SCHOOL

Tūwhitia te hopo, mairangatia te angitū!
Feel the fear and do it anyway!

Dates To Remember

Kaahu Pango Formal
Thursday 11th December

Prizegiving
Friday, 12th December
(See details below)

Year 8 Dinner
Monday 15th December

Term 4 Ends
Wednesday 17th December

Term 1 2026 Start Date
Tuesday 3rd February

School Swimming Pool

We would love to open our pool to the community this Summer! In order for this to happen, we urgently require a few more volunteers to help with pool water testing and safety monitoring. If you can spare some time, please contact the school office.

Principal's Message

Tēnā koutou katoa, and welcome to this week's message.

I was thrilled to visit Camp Epworth overnight and witness first hand the incredible growth in our Senior students. I saw genuine grit and resilience as they tackled kayaking, raft building, the water slide and archery.

A massive thank you to Ms Te Pou, the parent helpers and whānau who gave their time and support to ensure this important learning opportunity was a success for our students.

The Piirere and Koohangā Fun Day lived up to its name! Our youngest students had a wonderful time racing along the bouncy castle obstacle course; a perfect example of positive, collaborative fun.

With the hotter weather, and following recent news around sun safety in schools, please help us keep our tamariki safe in the sun. We ask that all students wear a rash shirt in the pool during swimming sessions. We also recommend students avoid wearing singlet tops to school as they offer poor sun protection. Please ensure water bottles are packed every day. Students are encouraged to leave their hats at school and to wear them when outdoors.

To celebrate our students' achievements and the positive spirit of our school, we warmly invite all whānau and community members to our annual Prize Giving on Friday, December 12th. We look forward to seeing you there! Please see further details at the end of this newsletter.

Kia pai ō rā whakatā
Have a great weekend

Rebecca Foster





Around the School



Koohanga

Our Nest ~ Years 0-3

We have had an exciting, action packed Week 8. Starting with the Firewise visit on Tuesday. The Whitikahu fire brigade team provided an unforgettable experience for the students. We had class lessons in the morning and a smoke drill in the multipurpose room. The students even explored the firetruck and had a go with the hose. A massive thank you to the Whitikahu Team for making this happen. On Wednesday we had our Funday, which consisted of 3 swims in the pool. Time exploring the huge 25m, 11 obstacle bouncy castle course. We had Dominos pizza for lunch, kindly provided by our PTA. Thank you to Mark Jacobs for doing the order, picking it up and delivering it to us. Our Funday finished with a movie, ice cream sundaes and candy floss. With the scorching hot days we are currently having, the students are enjoying every opportunity to get in the pool, so we will try to swim every afternoon till the end of the year.



Piirere

Our Fledglings ~ Years 4-5

Lots of exciting things happening in Piirere this week. We wrapped up our Fire Wise unit with a visit from the Whitikahu Fire Brigade. A highlight for the students was the smoke room, it truly showed the importance of "Get down, get low, get out fast". "I crawled through a room with smoke and it made me feel nervous"- Hunter Ward. They also loved being able to hold and squirt the fire hose. "We got to spray the hose on the wall and it was super fun"- Addi Gasnier. A big thank you to the people that gave up their time for this truly valuable experience for our students.

We have been enjoying being back in the pool the last couple of weeks. Students are encouraged to bring their togs everyday so we can maximise our pool sessions.

I am so proud of the Piirere students stepping up this week and being amazing role models and leaders around the school with the seniors away at camp. They have especially enjoyed taking over the lunchtime duties.





Around the School



Kaahu Pango

Our Senior Hub ~ Years 6 – 8

What a week it has been! Monday the students were filled with excitement and anticipation preparing to go on camp at Epworth in Maungatautari. A huge thank you to all our adult helpers for taking time out of your busy schedules to be with Kaahu Pango at Camp Epworth.



Quotes from the students:

Liam - "Have fun while it lasts"

Michael - "Even if you get hurt when you're having fun you forget you're hurt and carry on"

Hunter - "You would be scared of something but once you do it you'd want to do it a million times again"

Harper - "Ahahaha!"

Ella - "Kayaking was the best"

Hannah.H - "Try it once and you won't regret it"

Callum - "Do everything you can even if you smash your toe on a tree root"

Leah - "Try your best, give everything a go, you won't regret it"

Sophia - "Don't be afraid to take a gigantic leap out of your comfort zone. Fear lasts minutes but memories last a life time."



Extra Opportunities...

AgriKidsNZ 2026 registrations are now open!

Next year's competition will take place at Te Teko Racecourse on March 28th. The competition is open to primary school students between the ages of 8-13 (*age as of February 1, 2026*).

For more details and to register, please click [HERE](#)



Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon, 2025!

Get ready to swim, bike, and run! The Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon is coming to St Peter's Cambridge on Sunday, December 7th, 2025.

This exciting event is open to all children aged 6 to 15 years (*age as of the event day*).

Don't miss out on the fun! Click [HERE](#) for full details and to enter today.



CAMP
2025



Camp Epworth

A huge thank you to all our adult helpers for taking time out of your busy schedules to be with Kaahu Pango at Camp Epworth.





FUN DAY
2025



Fun Day

Koohanga and Piirere students took over the school on Wednesday with lots of fun activities. We made the most of the swimming pool on a hot day- having three swims! It was fabulous to see students really push themselves and persevere to complete the bouncy obstacle course! A big thank you to all those that contributed to make this day possible, we really appreciate it!





2025

Prize-giving

Friday 12th December

9:30AM

Whitikahu Hall

Following the prize-giving ceremony, we invite all families to join us for a shared morning tea.

Please bring a plate of food to share.