



Newsletter

Wisdom begins with Wonder



Week 4 Term 2 2026

Monday 18 May

Principal Korero - Kaitiakitanga

Last week marked a pretty significant milestone, with David Attenborough celebrating his 100th birthday! Many of us grew up enthralled by him and his passion for the living world, and his desire to protect it for generations to come. Our Enviro Leaders decided that it was important to celebrate this as a school.

They presented to a special assembly before the whole school took part in planting a tōtara tree, saying a karakia, singing waiata, and placing a handful of soil each. A tōtara tree was chosen because it symbolises strength and nobility, acting as a metaphor for a leader.

Fittingly, this was followed up with some delicious mini birthday cakes prepared by Cleodie!!



This aligns perfectly with our focus on values at the moment. Each Monday morning, we hold a Values Assembly to unpack our values and set the tone for the week. In Term 2, we are exploring Citizenship - Tangata Whenuatanga.

Tangata Whenuatanga

is about place based education, cultural awareness and knowledge of the whenua. It is about affirming Māori learners and providing authentic contexts for learning. At Pukehou School we...

Know and recognise the importance of our **LOCAL STORIES** and **PLACES** (wahi tapu)

Are **CONNECTED** with Mana Whenua, pukehou Marae, and our wider community.

Are **KAITIAKI**, caring for our pukehou environment

value **TE TIRITI O WAITANGI**

Show good **CITIZENSHIP**

Respect **TIKANGA**

Incorporate **TE REO** (Kapa Haka, Karakia, waiata)



We have discussed the importance of being a kaitiaki or guardian for the environment, and the little things that we can do here at school. Pukehou School has a long history of environmental action, and it is still important to us. Our Enviro Team, with Ms M, are focused on making a difference!



We'd like to thank **Hawkes Bay Technologies** for their generous support, providing us with a fantastic interactive white board and display screen. We've already used it for meetings and it has added real value.



This week has been Support Staff Week. We are hugely blessed with some fantastic support staff who continually give 100% as they care and nurture our tamariki. Thank you, Jacqui, our Director of First Impressions. Thank you, Laura, our Teacher Aide extraordinaire. Thank you, Michelle, our propagator of positivity. Thank you, Viv, our passionate and caring groundsperson kaitiaki!

I would also like to recognise and thank Michaela for all her mahi as our cleaner and wish her well. Michaela has moved on to a new and exciting role, and we wish her well. At the same time, we welcome Michelle into the role as our cleaner. We thank you both.



We celebrated Support Staff Week with a small morning tea yesterday.

Pukehou Marae

Last week, we were privileged to be able to take our learning out of the classroom, revisiting the ataahua Pukehou Marae. While there, our tamariki sang waiata, told stories, and learnt new skills through traditional Māori games - tākaro and kēmu. It was hugely rewarding. Our tamariki love being there, and we all came away feeling grounded and connected, our wairua recharged. We value our relationship with Pukehou Marae and are grateful for the opportunity to spend time there.



Our termly policies for review are listed below. As always, we welcome feedback from our school community.

- Daily School Bus*
- School Swimming Pool*/ Swimming Off Site*
- Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)
- EOTC Governance Roles and Responsibilities
- EOTC Risk Assessment and Management

*Not all schools will have this policy

To complete a review:

1. Go to the SchoolDocs site for our school by clicking on this link:
<https://pukehou.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>
This will take you to *Current Review and review instructions*.
2. Enter the username (pukehou) and password (pukehou174).
3. The policies listed here are the key policies under review this term. Click on the policy you want to review.
4. Click the "Start your review" button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
5. Follow the prompts to submit your review.

Working Bee

A huge thanks to our families who turned out on Sunday for our Working Bee. I know everyone has busy lives, and appreciate your sacrifice and support. It was a productive day with gutters cleaned, a basketball hoop constructed, a shipping container organised, the Peace Path tidied (and more natives planted), the playground tidied, green waste disposed of, scrap and waste sorted, hall shelving constructed and equipment stored!!

So, thank you Maurice, Felice and Lance, Peter, Ben and Emma, JP, Byron and Michelle, Ian and Michelle, Franek, Caroline and Tinny, Mikayla and Boston. It was also rewarding to see our students here in force helping out too! And a special mention to our school team here; Arohanui Rachael, Fleur (and Layton), Laura, Viv, Jacqui, and Michelle.



Elsthorpe 5s Sports Tournament

On Friday, we travelled to Elsthorpe School for the 5's Sports Tournament. This great event is aimed at smaller rural schools. Students competed in teams of five, playing hockey, football, rippa rugby, and netball. It was a huge turn out, and congratulations to Tim and the team from Elsthorpe for hosting a fantastic event.

The focus is well and truly on children participating and having fun! It was a cold and chilly day which never warmed up, however, the tamariki were constantly on the move, throwing themselves into games with enthusiasm. We had a great crew of parent helpers on the day. Thanks Emma, Pixie, Sarah, Rosie, and Zane. And again, a huge thanks to Rachel from HB Bus Services. We loved travelling to the event together 😊

