

NEWSLETTER

Week 9

UPCOMING EVENTS

Music Festival
Thursday
24 September

Last day term 3
Friday
25 September

First day term 4
Monday
12 October

Calf Club
Tuesday
20 October

Ki O Rahi
Friday
23 October

Labour Day
Monday
26 October

PIPIO

PRIMARY SCHOOL
PANUI #30 | 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

Kia ora e te whānau,

Ake, Ake, Ake - A Forever Language!

This week we have celebrated **Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori** by immersing ourselves in the language, which is one of our official languages. Each day, all classes have participated in a variety of learning activities, culminating in presentations at assembly this morning. Students have also created videos to showcase their learning, and I am really looking forward to viewing what they have made. Thank you to **Whaea Linda** for her guidance and support in our Te Reo Māori learning.

Today, 27 of our tamariki will be showcasing their talents at our annual **Piopio's Got Talent** event. I know the tamariki have been practising hard and are very excited about their performances. **Mr Southam** has been working diligently behind the scenes creating the staging that will help our performers showcase their talents. Thank you to him for all his mahi in bringing this event together. I would also like to thank the sponsors who have generously donated prizes for the participants.

On Wednesday, every student at Piopio Primary planted a potato in their very own bucket. Senior students worked alongside junior students to drill drainage holes, fill the buckets with soil kindly provided by **Aaron Bevege**, and plant their seed potatoes. Over the coming weeks, the tamariki will care for their potatoes and, hopefully, when harvest time arrives, a bucket full of potatoes will be heading home with them. Thank you to **Mrs Bailey** for developing this wonderful learning opportunity. The recent dahlia and tree fundraiser has helped make this possible.

This week I have been in **Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland)** attending the **International Confederation of Principals' Congress** alongside 1,300 principal colleagues from across Aotearoa New Zealand and around the world. Twenty-three countries are represented at the conference. Topics discussed have been wide-ranging and include artificial intelligence and its impact on education, the identity and wellbeing of our tamariki, and many other current educational issues. It has certainly provided an excellent opportunity to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing education today.

Next week is the final week of Term 3, and we are already beginning to think about creating crafts and preparing for our annual **MYSC Pet Day**, which will be held on **Tuesday 20 October (Week 2 of Term 4)**. I have been enjoying hearing about all the lambs and calves that our tamariki are rearing.

In the meantime, I am really looking forward to attending the **Music Festival in Te Kūiti** next week. I am sure all the practising and hard work will be well worth it.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ngā mihi nui
Sue Coyle
Principal



WHOLE SCHOOL POTATO GROWING PROJECT

The whole school recently learnt how to grow potatoes in buckets, with Room 6 leading and supporting each step of the process. We named our buckets, safely drilled four drainage holes, filled them one-third with soil, and chose our chitted potatoes. For some tamariki, using the drill was an exciting new experience, while others felt a little nervous!

Tamariki were curious about whether potatoes with more or longer chits would grow better. Once planted, the buckets were placed in class lines, ready for the growing to begin. During CRT, classes will help care for the potatoes and observe their growth. Many buckets have already been given special names! We finished with a beautiful whakatau: “Ka whāngaia, ka tupu, ka puāwai” — That which is nurtured will grow and blossom. A lovely reminder that when we invest our time, care and energy into something, it can thrive.

Now we wait, watch and wonder... watch this space! Our potatoes will be harvested in December, and the tamariki are already wondering who will grow the most potatoes or the heaviest potato!

When harvest time arrives, your child will take home their bucket and the potatoes they have grown, ready to enjoy as a yummy kai with whānau. 🌱🥔



The Legend of Taranaki

Room 6

The legend of Taranaki, retold by room 6

A long time ago, 5 mountains lived together in the middle of Te-Ika-a-Māui, the North Island of New Zealand. Their names were Taranaki, Tongariro, Ngāuruhoe, Ruapehu, and Pihanga. They were all friends and play-fought together.

Then, Taranaki and Tongariro both fell in love with the same mountain, Pihanga. Tongariro challenged Taranaki to a fight and said that whoever won the fight would be able to marry Pihanga. Pihanga didn't agree and said that she could choose who she would marry. But Tongariro and Taranaki didn't listen and fought anyway.

Their battle was intense and long. It lasted a whole day. Their throws got weaker and weaker until finally Tongariro gave one more punch, and Taranaki was defeated.

Taranaki sat down in tears, cried, and ran away. Taranaki's feet made a deep groove in the earth, and his tears filled it up, creating the Whanganui river.

Taranaki finally rested in the west, where he still stands today, hoping one day he will be able to return to Pihanga.



NOTICE BOARD

Please Txt/Email/phone the office by 2.45pm
if there is any changes to your child's
afterschool arrangements

P B 4 L Positive Behaviour Learning

Ariana
Khin

Briley
Grainger

Gaga
Sopheak

Eruta
Tale

Jane
Patterson

Weekly
Winners
Congratulations!



KING COUNTY YOUNG FARMERS PRESENTS

BARK UP!

**SATURDAY
26TH SEPT**

STARTS 6PM

VENUE: ARIA COSMOPOLITAN CLUB

1 DOG	2 DOGS	3 DOGS
\$15	\$25	\$30

BRING YOUR BEST CANINE COMPANIONS
AND SHOWCASE THEIR VOCAL TALENTS.

ENTER ON THE DAY

**RAFFLES
&
PRIZES
TO BE WON**

Half proceeds
going to -



Merehūia Young Stock Club

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR

- LAMB
- CALF
- GOAT

**ENTRY FORMS BY
WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER
IF YOU HAVE YET TO RECEIVE AN ENTRY
PACK, PLEASE REQUEST ONE FROM THE
OFFICE.**



TE KŪITI & COMBINED SCHOOLS

Music Festival

Thursday 24th September 2026
Les Munro Centre, Te Kūiti

Music Brings Us Together

MORNING PERFORMANCE Doors open 10.30am Seated by 10.55am Start at 11.00am	EVENING PERFORMANCE Doors open 6.30pm Seated by 6.55pm Start at 7.00pm
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Entry: \$5.00 adult / \$2.00 child
(12 years and under)

Participating Schools:
Centennial Park - Te Kura Rautau
Te Kūiti Primary
Waitomo Caves
Piopio Primary
St Joseph's
Pukenui
Aria

Music Brings Us Together