

Āria Primary School



* Newsletter *

MONDAY 3RD AUGUST 2026 - TERM 3, WEEK 3

**Tēnā Koutou Katoa!
Welcome to Week 3**

PRINCIPAL NEWS

- * **Porridge...** We have production practices at the hall starting on Thursday this week and most days until our first performance on Wednesday 26th.

You will have noted that we have 3 performances this year to accommodate the numbers of school children wishing to attend. You have the choice of Wednesday and Thursday morning at 11.00am or Thursday evening at 7.00pm.

We will have a **shared supper** following the evening performance and a plate to share would be much appreciated please.

- * **Pua Rito Kapa Haka...** Most Room 1 and 3 students will be travelling to Te Kuiti tomorrow morning for the first of our four 2 hour Tuesday kapahaka sessions at the Les Munro Centre.
- * **ERO...** Our Education Review Office visit was cut short last Tuesday due to the ill health of our reviewer. Our second day is yet to be rescheduled and as we are busy with production this is most likely to be in week 6 or beyond.
- * **Choir Reminder...** our first practice is tomorrow 4.00pm - 5.00pm, I will contact the choir members directly on Messenger from now on.
- * **Board Meeting...** next Monday at 6.30pm in the staff room. All welcome.

**Have a great week, ngā mihi
Pam Voyce**



17 Barclay Road
RD 1 ĀRIA 3979

Phone: (07) 877-7857
Email: office@aria.school.nz
Website: www.aria.school.nz

Principal: Pam Voyce

DATES TO REMEMBER

Keep an eye out for important dates and events!

TERM 3

Board Meetings 2026
Monday 10th August 2026
Monday 14th September
at 6.30pm - all welcome

School Production
Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday 19th August
Morning : 11.00am

School Production
Thursday 20th August
Morning: 11.00am
Evening: 7.00pm

Daffodil Day
Friday 28th August

Music Festival
Thursday 24th September

Last Day of Term 3
Friday 25th September



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Āria Primary School

Invites **YOU** to their 2026 School Production

PARRIDGE



Book, Music & Lyrics By

CRAIG HAWES

DRESS REHEARSAL – MORNING SESSION

11.00AM

WEDNESDAY 19TH AUGUST 2026



PRODUCTION PERFORMANCES

MORNING SESSION

11.00AM

**THURSDAY 20TH
AUGUST 2026**

EVENING SESSION

7.00PM

**THURSDAY 20TH
AUGUST 2026**



**AT ĀRIA MULTICULTURAL HALL,
ĀRIA ROAD, ĀRIA**

MONDAY 3RD AUGUST 2026



Positively **PIOPIO**

The longest five years...

By Dan Tasker

As half a century of educating draw to a close, children remain at the heart of everything Aria School principal Pam Voyce does.

The 72-year-old will call time on her 54-year teaching career at the end of the year, 53 of which have been spent in Piopio and Aria.

Reflecting on her long-serving career, keeping children at the forefront remains Voyce's priority. "I did this for the kids – I don't do it for the parents, I don't do it for the community. I do it for the kids and it's always been kids first," Voyce said.

"(Current Piopio College principal) Ben Draper, bless him, I taught him at Piopio Primary as a 10-year-old and he wrote me a letter when he went on to Piopio College and thanked me for all these amazing things I had no idea I'd done. You get those little letters or thank yous that are just gold."

"Then I go into something at Piopio College and all these 6ft 3inch kids come up and give you a great big hug and that's all I need, is those kids that remember you and had good times with you," she said.

After finishing her training at teacher's college in Palmerston North in 1972, Voyce started

teaching in Hawke's Bay, before the Ministry of Education signposted her to a place called Piopio.

"That's how I came to be here. I didn't know where Piopio was, I had no idea at all. I was only going to be there five years, that's what I said I'd give them," she said.

Originally from Levin, Voyce started at Piopio Primary School in 1974 and on her return from an overseas trip, transferred to Aria School in 1977 around the same time she married farmer Peter Voyce.

In those days, classroom sizes were bigger at a time when life was "much easier than it is today", Voyce said.

"My first class at Piopio was 38 children, then I had 40 and then it went back to 36. You wouldn't find a class that big anywhere in New Zealand now; most of our classes are in the lower 20s now," Voyce said.

"The whole world has changed and the pressures on our parents and our kids these days. When we brought up our kids, all our mates were having kids. We had a great social life, it was easy peasy, there was no material things, it was all about being on the farm or fun and doing stuff together," she said.

She stepped back from teaching upon the arrival of her and Peter's

first child in 1980 and spent the next 11 years relief teaching while raising her four sons.

In 1991, Voyce returned to Piopio Primary as assistant principal for five years, then jumped the fence to Piopio College for a year before settling at Aria School under principal Shane Ngatai in 1997.

When Ngatai finished up, Voyce took the reins in 2000.

One of her great passions was in the sporting realm, where she was a key driver in organising weekly triathlons, gymnastics, which included overseas trips to the Netherlands, Japan and Australia, and most recently, the Waitomo Primary Schools orienteering competition she started in 1998.

She also introduced the annual science fair, the school production and school camps to Northland, Rotorua and Motutapu Island near Auckland.

"They offer experiences the kids won't do in their lifetimes; they won't go to an island or go to the treaty grounds. I've tried to do those things that are a bit different to what the average family does," Voyce said.

"I have had amazing staff and amazing beginning teachers. I don't know how many I must have had – at least a dozen beginning teachers in that time," Voyce said.



Pam Voyce

"That makes it easy because you're working with a great team of positive people who love kids. You can't go past that, and that's been like that for 30 years."

The Aria School board of trustees will appoint a new principal in the coming weeks, with Voyce to assist her successor with a smooth transition into 2027.

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How's your old dog coping with Winter?

Come in and talk to our staff about how you can improve the wellbeing and comfort of your older dogs this winter

VETS
King Country

A 53 Moa St • Piopio • P 07 877 8106
A 32 Taupiri St • Te Kūiti • P 07 878 8137

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85 Mangatoki Rd, Piopio

For all your cartage requirements

Call the team at **Progress Transport**
07 877 8058

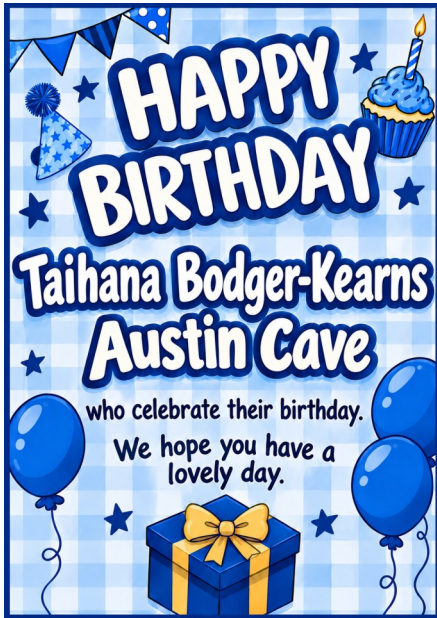
THE FERRET'S NEST

SHOP OPEN
Fri & Sat 10-4pm
53 Moa St, Piopio
027 422 2250

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Taihana Bodger-Kearns
Austin Cave

who celebrate their birthday.
We hope you have a lovely day.



FRIENDLY REMINDER

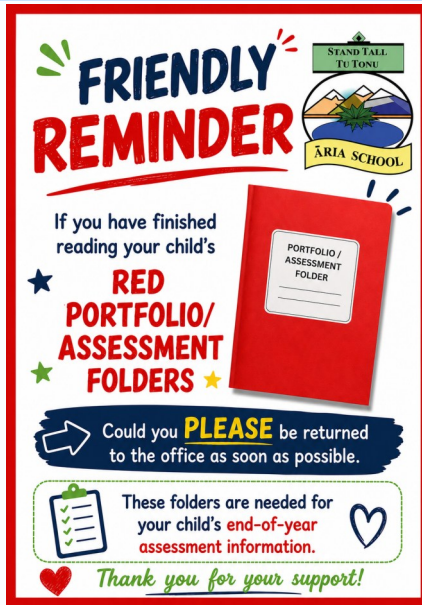
If you have finished reading your child's

RED PORTFOLIO/ASSESSMENT FOLDERS

Could you **PLEASE** be returned to the office as soon as possible.

These folders are needed for your child's end-of-year assessment information.

Thank you for your support!



2026 SCHOOL CANTEEN

Available Mondays & Fridays

Juicies (Lemonade, Tropical & Wildberry)	\$2.00
Mince & Cheese or Bacon & Egg Pies	\$3.50
Round Mince Savoury	\$1.00
Mince & Cheese Pie (Gluten Free)	\$6.00
Moosie (Blue Moon, Chocolate, Lime or Strawberry)	\$2.00
Noodles Cups (beef or chicken)	\$2.50
Sausage Roll	\$2.50

Thank you for supporting Aria School!



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

ISSUE #5 2026

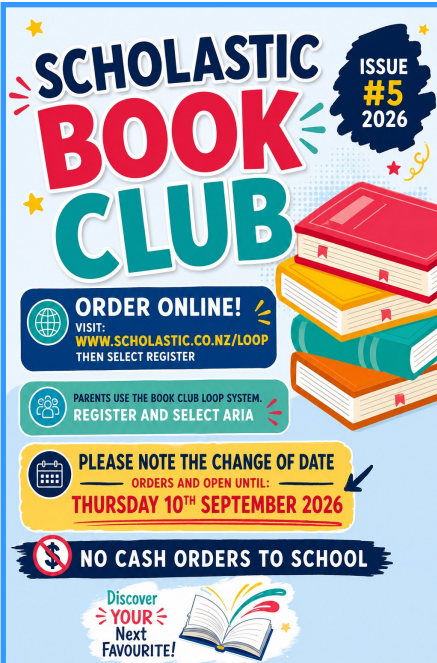
ORDER ONLINE!
VISIT: WWW.SCHOLASTIC.CO.NZ/LOOP
THEN SELECT REGISTER

PARENTS USE THE BOOK CLUB LOOP SYSTEM.
REGISTER AND SELECT ARIA

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE
ORDERS AND OPEN UNTIL:
THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2026

NO CASH ORDERS TO SCHOOL

Discover **YOUR** Next FAVOURITE!



PHOTOLIFE Photos

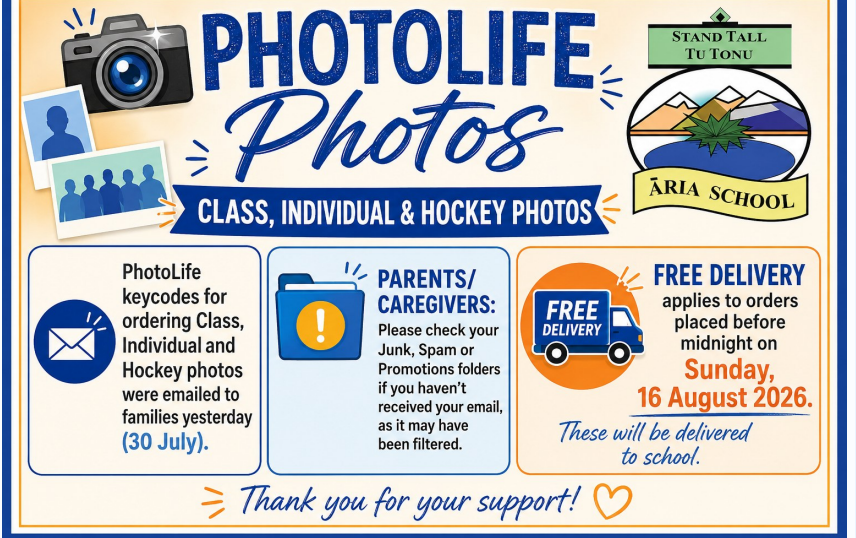
CLASS, INDIVIDUAL & HOCKEY PHOTOS

PhotoLife keycodes for ordering Class, Individual and Hockey photos were emailed to families yesterday (30 July).

PARENTS/CAREGIVERS:
Please check your Junk, Spam or Promotions folders if you haven't received your email, as it may have been filtered.

FREE DELIVERY
applies to orders placed before midnight on **Sunday, 16 August 2026.**
These will be delivered to school.

Thank you for your support!



WANTED DONATED CALVES

ARIA SCHOOL IS ON THE LOOK OUT FOR DONATED CALVES FOR OUR SCHOOL STOCK SCHEME.

CALVES MUST BE WEANED AT **100KG** OR OVER

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OR **ASHLEIGH FOREMAN**
027 391 3648

Thank you for supporting our tamariki and helping our school thrive!



SUMMER SPORTS 2026

PIOPIO YOUTH SPORTS COMMITTEE

NOW OPEN!

MINIBALL (TERM 3)
AGE: 6 Years old and older
GAMES: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays.
LOCATION: Gallagher Centre / Te Kūiti Stadium (TBC).
BEGINS: Late August/Early September.
INFO: One game per week (24 mins). Coaches/Parents decide training.

TOUCH RUGBY (TERM 4)
DAY: Mondays (Starting ~3:45pm).
AGES: Year 3/4 and Older.
LOCATION: Te Kūiti High School
DURATION: Round-robin, 5 games (inc. finals).
INFO: Organised & refereed by Nano Te Whare/TKHS Students.

NOW OPEN!
GET ACTIVE. JOIN A TEAM. PLAY ONE OR BOTH!
Any issues, contact: PYSC@ppp.school.nz
NEED: Coaches, Referees, Scorers! Let us know!
facebook.com/PYSC



ARIA SCHOOL T-SHIRTS & HOODIES FOR SALE!

GREAT QUALITY SHOW YOUR SCHOOL PRIDE!

Cost per T-Shirt: **\$30.00**
Cost per Hoodie: **\$45.00**

PAYMENT IS REQUIRED BEFORE ITEMS CAN BE SENT HOME!

SCHOOL BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER: 03-0449-0105523-00
ARIA SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES




Friends of Aria Community Incorporated

AGM and Meeting

 **Wednesday 19th August**
7.30 pm

 **Aria School**
17 Barclay Road, Aria

 If you require information or any apologies please send to

The Secretary
email:
friendsofariacommunityinc@gmail.com

All Welcome!



DISCOVER YOUR Story

EXPLORE YOUR PAST.
CONNECT WITH YOUR FUTURE.

TE KUITI GENEALOGY GROUP

Every family has a story. Let's find yours.

- RESEARCH YOUR FAMILY HISTORY
- ACCESS RESOURCES & RECORDS
- GET HELP & SHARE KNOWLEDGE
- PRESERVE YOUR HERITAGE FOR GENERATIONS

ALL WELCOME - BEGINNERS & EXPERIENCED RESEARCHERS!
COME ALONG • LEARN • DISCOVER • CONNECT

 **WE MEET**
1ST WEDNESDAY 3-7PM
3RD SUNDAY 10-3PM

 **REAR OF TE KUITI MUSEUM**
RORA STREET
TE KUITI

YOUR PAST. OUR COMMUNITY.
Stronger Together.

FIND OUT MORE
✉ tekuiti@genealogy.org.nz
☎ 021 214 7198





Piopio RFC proudly presents

JUNIOR & SENIOR RUGBY PIOPIO RFC NETBALL PRIZEGIVING

 **SATURDAY**
22ND AUGUST
4:30 PM

Join us to celebrate the 2026 season at the Piopio Rugby Club. Food and nibbles will be provided. All players, whānau, and supporters are welcome! Let's wrap up the season together. See you there!

For any inquiries regarding Piopio RFC, please contact Pete Hurley at 021 117 2973

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY VOTE

Register your interest to work at the 2026 General Election.

We want people from local communities to work in voting places and help people vote.

For more information about the roles available, and to register your interest in working at this important event, visit work.elections.nz today.

work.elections.nz



 **ELECTORAL COMMISSION**
TE KAITIAKI TAKE Kōwhiri