



Te Pākihi o Maru

Together growing hearts and minds

Friday 19th September 2025

Term 3 - Week 10

Kia ora koutou,

We have come to the end of another fabulous term at Te Pākihi! Ka mihi nui koutou mo to tautoko tonu i tatou kura (thank you all for your continued support of our school!).

Otago Polyfest

We are all so very proud of our tamariki that performed at Polyfest this year. We had 44 tamariki take the bus to Dunedin to perform in our Kapa Haka group, our Pasifika group or both. The confidence and stage presence that they had was commented on by many people. This is such an amazing opportunity for our tamariki to be able to perform to such a large crowd.



Board Members

Our Board elections were held this term. Our school trustees are:

Presiding Member - Peter Middlemiss

Trustees - Nikita McRae, Shannon Halalele, Ross Palethorpe, Nathan Arras, Stacey Honeywill (Tumuaki)

Staff Representative - Jamaya Fisilau

The role of the board is an important one in supporting the strategic direction of the school and providing strategic governance.

Next term we will be holding a whānau evening to gather input for our new strategic direction. Our board will be supporting this evening and we look forward to seeing many of you here to contribute to the new strategic direction of our wonderful kura.

What's coming up!

Monday 6th October
Start of Term 4

Friday 17th October
School Athletics

Thursday 23rd October
School closed - Strike Action

Monday 27th October
School closed - Labour Day

Thursday 30th October
School Photos

Monday 3rd November
North Otago Athletics
BOT hui 5pm

Monday 10 November
Whānau hui - 2026 Strategic Plan

Friday 7th November
Senior Mini Fair

25th - 27th November
Year 6 camp

Monday 1st December
BOT hui 5pm

Thursday 11th December
Year 6 dinner

Monday 15th December
End of year assembly

Kaiako, Support Staff and Tumuaki Strike Action - Thursday October 23rd

You may have heard and seen in the news that educators across Aotearoa are taking part in a **historic national strike on Thursday 23rd October**. For the first time, tumuaki, kaiako, support staff and Ministry of Education specialists are standing together to call for better support in schools, fair pay and the resources our tamariki need to thrive.

It is important to note that these claims are not just about money. Tumuaki, Kaiako and Support Staff are all frustrated at the way the Government undervalues the complexity of their roles.

In education, this means making sure tamariki have the support of a kaiāwhina (teacher aide) in every classroom, valuing educators fairly and upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi in education. These things alone would go a long way to relieving pressure on the education system, and on our role as educators. We are asking for support to do our jobs and an acknowledgement from the Government that their decisions to rush through curriculum changes are making our jobs unsustainable.

We understand that this may cause disruption, and we thank you for your understanding and support. The decision to take this action is not made lightly, but it reflects the seriousness of the challenges facing education, and the urgent need for change.

Calendar of Events

Please take note of the important dates included in this pānui. We also have important dates on our school website calendar for you to keep track of.

Term Break

I wish you all a happy and safe term break and we look forward to seeing you back in Term 4.



*Ko mihi
Stacey
Tumuaki*