

# Mt Cook School Pānui

TERM 1 WEEK 7  
♦  
20th March 2025



**Dobar dahn, Nabad, Ciao, Ni hao, Namaste, Valttukkal, Abhinandan, Subhakansalu, Grītigaza, Talofa, Bonjour, Хаіретісімдата, Grüß, Zdravím, Приветствия, Sawasdee, Konnichiwa, Pozdrowenia, Selamlar, Guten Tag, 안녕하세요, Salaam Aleikum, Marhaba, Nay Hoh, Ayubowan, Xin Chào, Kia Orana, Shalom,**

## Kia ora whānau,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your whānau well. As we move further into the school year, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible efforts of our students, staff, and families in making our school a vibrant place of learning and growth.

## Celebrating Student Success

It has been wonderful to see our students achieving great things both inside and outside the classroom. From academic accomplishments to sporting achievements and cultural performances, we are proud of each and every one of them. A special congratulations to our kapa haka group, who will be performing at the Pukeahu Play festival this weekend!

## Upcoming Events

We have some exciting events coming up, including some classes visiting Mātiu / Somes Island, a Ki o Rahi Festival for Year 5 to 8 and hockey at school. Keep an eye out for notices with more details.

## Supporting Wellbeing

As a school, we continue to prioritise the wellbeing of our students. If your child needs any additional support—whether academic, emotional, or social—please do not hesitate to reach out. Our dedicated staff are always here to help.

## Help Us Build a New Playground!

We are working hard to create an exciting new playground for our tamariki! We've gathered student feedback on what they would love to see and are also seeking professional advice to ensure the best design. If you have experience writing grants, connections with organisations that provide funding, or the time to support our playground fundraising efforts, we would love your help! Please contact the school to get involved.

Thank you for your support!

Enjoy this fortnight's pānui!

Adrienne McAllister





## Connecting with our Community

### Visit from Japanese Students

Last week we had a wonderful visit from the students of Shibuya Makuhari school in Japan.

They spent time in Tuatara class introducing them to Origami, Fuku-warai (a game like pin the tail on the donkey) and Ohajiki (marbles).

Tuatara students shared waiata and a haka with their visitors and were treated to some wonderful singing in return.

The visit from the students of Shibuya Makuhari is an annual tradition that we really look forward to at Mt Cook School.

We are grateful for this ongoing connection between our schools. This year's group of young people were so friendly and encouraging during their visit.

ありがとう  
Arigatō





## Diana Wood

It is with great sadness we share the news that our former ESOL teacher, Diana, passed away earlier this month.

Diana was a much loved teacher and colleague who worked at Mt Cook School for 22 years. She was a dedicated kaiako and strong advocate for her ESOL students, many of whom continued to visit her for years after they left Mt Cook School.

Diana loved language, she was a skilled knitter and weaver, a wonderful cook and a lover of books and music. She generously and regularly shared her skills and passions with the wider school community. After her retirement, Diana continued to volunteer at school supporting our younger students as they learned to read. She will be greatly missed.

Messages for Diana's whānau can be left at the school office.  
Moe mai rā e Diana.





## Belonging and Manaakitanga

We have lots of wonderful performing arts opportunities available at kura this year. It is fantastic to see so many tamariki signing up to be part of these groups.

### Dance Crew

Our 2025 Mt Cook Dance Crews have kicked off for the year.

Last year, Myah took our first ever dance crew to the Lower Hutt dance competition where we placed second. Thanks to our amazing teacher, the crew has grown this year, and we now have two groups of 25 each; one for Year 3 to 5 and another for Year 6 to 8.

### Choir

Anne has been gathering the names of students interested in joining a school choir who will perform at Artsplash later in the year. So far she has had 50 tamariki signed up and practices will start soon.

Mīharo!

### Kapa Haka Performance Rōpu

Our Kapa Haka Performance Rōpu for 2025 has been formed and they are already looking and sounding amazing. It is wonderful to have tamariki who were part of this rōpu last year stepping into leadership roles. The first performance of the year for this group is happening this coming weekend at the Pukeahu Play Festival.





## Kākāpō Poetry & Portraits

Remember the time when you laid flat on the patterned mattress, holding the long slim black gun in your sweaty palms? Remember that exact moment when you got all six bullseyes in a row? The sound that the slick miniature bullet made once it hit the flimsy piece of paper while one eye was shut tight?

That was camp.

Remember the exhilarating moment when everyone's eyes were on you, watching your every move, their gaze locked onto the tall stack of blue and red crates wobbling from side to side? The feeling of your sweat trickling from your forehead to the crook of your neck? The nervousness slowly fading away while the embarrassment came gushing back? The tower tumbled and your face growing red.

That was camp.

Remember when the large arrow gracefully slipped through the bow and went flying to the target sitting in front of you? Your grip tightening as the arrow charged and powered through the breeze? Remember the hot scorching sun shining down on you? The trust and perseverance you put into that single thin string that held the arrows?

That was camp.

Remember when the sun went down and then the bell rang as we all scurried to our hiding spots? The bright light from the torches flashing at us repeatedly. Quickly ducking and burying ourselves in the tall and thick grass when the torch forged at us, hoping they didn't see us?

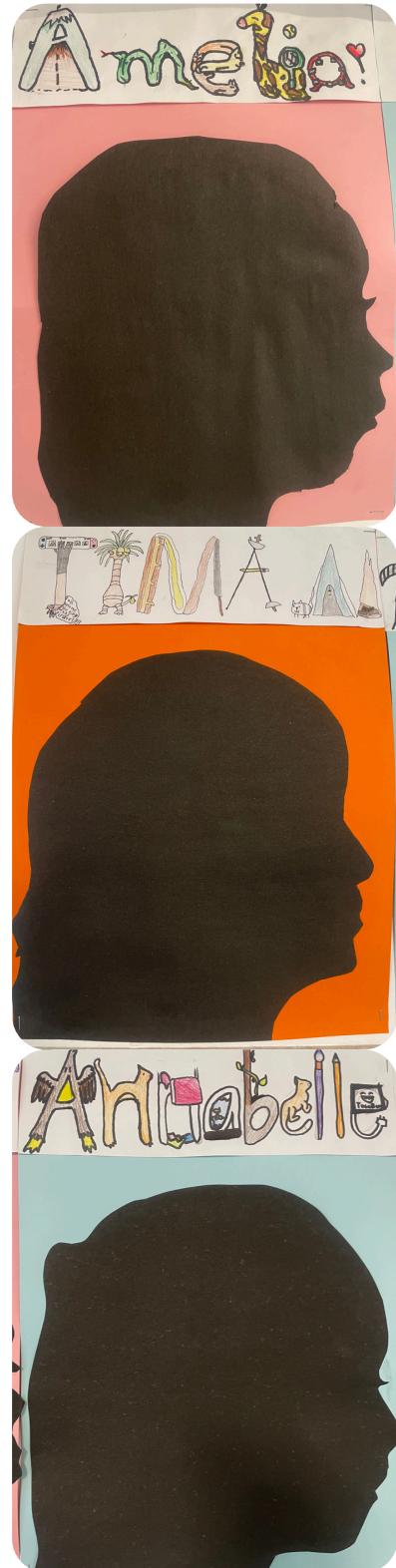
That was camp.

Remember the confidence course, except no one was actually confident and was just giggling in embarrassment? What about when you shrieked as the long wooden seesaw slowly lowered down? Everyone laughed at you but you also laughed!

Camp was worth all the memories that were made.  
Now..

*That was camp!*

By Anisha





## Cricket Tournament

Last week we went to the cricket tournament at McAllister Park. The teams were made up of Year 5, 6, 7 and 8s. It was a cloudy day with a bit of hot sun.

Each batter got six bowls, and everyone on the team got to bat at least twice. We all had an awesome and cheerful time. It was the first time playing cricket for some of us but others had played before.

We had fantastic bowlers, awesome batters, quick runners, accurate fielders, alert wicket keepers and a great time. When it was time to head back to school we were happy but exhausted.

by Edith and Pippi



## Our Values Waewae Kai Kapua, Mana Tamariki, Manaakitanga, Auahatanga

Manaakitanga champions for this fortnight are:  
Saaya, Liana, Iva, Maia, Gene, Baokun, Adilah,  
Psalms, Zara and Sebastian.

Waewae Kai Kapua champions for this fortnight  
are:  
Blake, Tristan, Sarah, Aarav, Simon and Yuki.

Mana Tamariki champions for this fortnight are:  
Delisha, Lisa, Devanshi, Phong, Eva, Phaedra,  
Louis, Scarlett, Kidsan and Toby B.

Auahatanga champions for this fortnight are:  
Adona, Summer Jah, Olivia and Harley James.



## School Lunch Orders

School lunches can be ordered through  
[EZ Lunch](#)

We have the following options available:  
Tuesday: Sushi  
Thursday: Vietnamese  
Wednesday & Friday: Subway

## Late Arrivals

The bell rings to start the day at 9am. Please make sure your young person is at school by 8.55am at the latest  
If tamariki arrive after 9, they need to go and see Briar in the office before going to class so that they can be marked present.

## Reminders:

Please ensure that we have up to date information for your tamariki as we know from time to time things change.

Have you let us know about any new medical allergies or medical conditions?

Do we have your most up to date phone numbers or address?

Are there any custody changes that the school needs to be aware of?



## Communication

Important school information is sent out via HERO, our student management system. You will get notification of a new HERO message to the email address that we have on file for you.

If you need to update your email, please let Briar know ([office@mtcook.school.nz](mailto:office@mtcook.school.nz)).

We would like all families to set up their own HERO account. You will need to register using the email address that you have given to school.

You can also follow our Mt Cook School Facebook page for updates about what's happening at school.

## Parking:

Please, when picking up your tamariki remember NOT to park in Te Papa's driveway or illegally on Pukeahu Park.

This practice is extremely dangerous and frustrating for Te Papa staff who are trying to go about their business.

Many cars have been ticketed and due to the behaviours not changing this will continue so please don't park in these spaces.



# Mt COOK SCHOOL

2025 marks the 150th anniversary of Mt Cook School. This is a huge milestone and we are looking forward to celebrating throughout the year both through our learning programmes and with our wider community.

Our special celebration weekend will take place on the weekend of August 30th/ 31st 2025.

Mark the date in your calendars! It will be a time for students, whānau and staff from the present and the past to come together to share stories and memories ... and of course kai!

If you have memories, photos or contacts for past students or staff then please pass them on to Kate [kashby@mtcook.school.nz](mailto:kashby@mtcook.school.nz)

We will be updating the school Facebook page with stories and information as well as our 150th anniversary Instagram page @mtcook150. Follow along to keep updated.



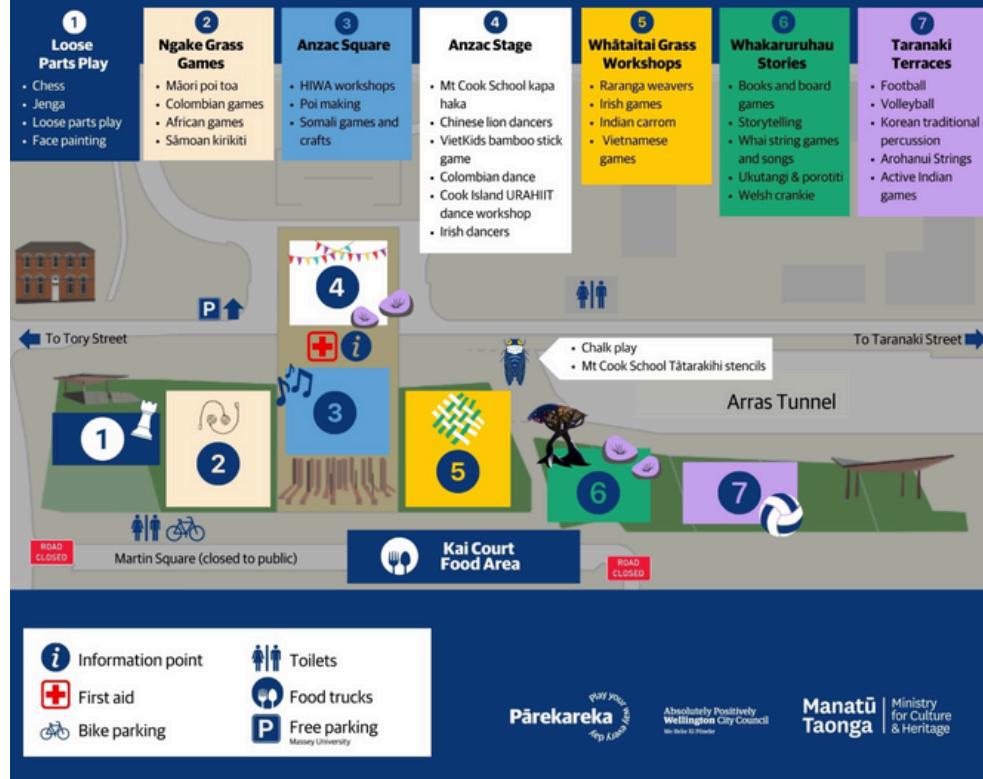
# Pukeahu Play Festival 2025

**Saturday, 22 March, 12pm–4pm**

Pukeahu National War Memorial Park

Nau mai tamariki and whānau! Let's celebrate Wellington's cultural diversity through the power of play, in the heart of Pōneke.

# Festival Map



# Play Festival Programme

	Anzac Stage	Whakaruruahu (UK Memorial)	Taranaki Terraces	Whātaitai Grass Workshops	Anzac Square	Ngake Grass Physical Games
12:00pm		Event opening, Mihi Whakatau, mana whenua Taranaki Whānui, all welcome.				
12:30pm	Mt Cook Kapa Haka	Tākaro & Tales Books and Board Games	Interactive games and play, all day in these spaces			
12:45pm			Football	Te Motu Kairangi Raranga	Ngā Taonga Tākaro & Waiata	Māori Poi Toa
1:00pm	Chinese Lion Dance	Welsh Crannie Storytime Books and Board Games	Volleyball	Irish Activities	Poi Making	Colombian Games
1:15pm			Active Indian Games	Indian Board Game	Somali Games and Craft	African Games
1:30pm		VietKids NZ Books and Board Games				
1:45pm			Arohanui Strings	Korean Traditional Percussion Play	Vietnamese Games	Chalk Art
2:00pm		Books and Board Games				
2:15pm	Colombian Dance					Samoan Kirikiti
2:30pm		Inano Dance URAHIIIT Workshop Books and Board Games				
2:45pm						
3:00pm		Books and Board Games				
3:15pm						
3:30pm	Gregan Irish Dancers	Books and Board Games				
3:45pm						

# Community Notices

**INNER CITY ART STUDIO**  
**School Holiday Art Workshops**  
**For kids that love art**

**A Day of Clay Beginners Hand Building**  
1 day beginners clay course, April, 14th 9am-3pm  
**A Day of Clay 2 Beginners Clay** April 16th, 9 am - 3 pm.  
Ages 8 -14 Cost \$130 materials included

**Sculpted Animal Dish** - Students Learn Sculpting methods  
turning 2D images of an animal into a fabulous 3D ceramic animal Bowl  
1 day course, April 15th, Ages 10- 15 years old,  
9am - 4pm, Cost \$150 materials inc



**Dreamscape Diaramas** Create your own world in 3D,  
Painting and sculpting in mixed materials, 1 day course  
April 17th, 9am-4pm, Ages 8-14, costs \$135 incl materials



**French Cafe and Art Scene** - Drawing and inking like the masters  
1 day course, April 22nd, 9am - 3pm. Ages 8 -14  
Cost \$90 materials and a hot chocolate included



**Animal Botanical**  
Painting an animal into a botanical scene the studio  
will be filled with flowers to observe and draw on large paper  
1 day course, April 23rd 9am - 4pm, Ages 8- 14  
Cost \$90 materials Included

**Clay Creatures** - Scientifically study an insect and recreate it in clay  
1 day course, April 24th 9am - 3pm.  
Ages 11-15 Cost \$90 materials included



All bookings and enquiries  
[www.innercityartstudio.com](http://www.innercityartstudio.com), [Innercityartstudio@gmail.com](mailto:Innercityartstudio@gmail.com),  
FB:@ InnercityArtStudio Insta@Innercityartstudio Ph: 0226407506  
Paintings and sculpture on this poster made by kids ( the turtle and clay was made by the tutor)



# Creative Writing Workshop

**Get creative at Katherine Mansfield House & Garden!**

Are you a 10-14-year-old who loves writing? Find inspiration and learn new tools for getting creative at our April School Holidays creative writing workshop.

Morning session: 14 April, 9.30am to 12.30pm  
Afternoon session: 14 April, 1.30pm to 4.30pm

Or make a day of it and register for both! \$25 per session, includes snacks, writing materials and a qualified tutor.

Find out more and register at  
[www.katherinemansfield.com](http://www.katherinemansfield.com)