

Kia ora all

The feedback from the teachers on the learning conferences that they have had so far has been so positive. It is such a great opportunity to meet together to see where your child is at and what their next steps in learning are. We look forward to seeing more of you on Monday night. If you still haven't made an appointment there are some left so please give Tanya a ring and book yourself in.

Tomorrow our Kapa Haka performance group make their way to Ōhoka for the annual Ruataniwha Kapa Haka Festival. We have over 80 tamariki in our group and it is an exciting day. I hope to see many of you there supporting our group. Thank you to Rochelle Standen for her organisation of the children for this event.

**We still have tickets available so
please eMail Tanya to secure
your tickets now to this
showcase of student creativity!!**



WANTED: TEACHER AIDE FOR TERM 4

We are on the hunt for a teacher aide for Term 4 working Monday - Thursday from 9-2ish.

The position is to work with both individuals and groups in the middle and senior school. The person we are looking for would preferably have previous experience but training can be provided for the right person. To find out more or to express interest, please eMail Linda on: principal@ashleyrasahuri.school.nz

Board of Trustees Update

As some of you may know we Karen Daly in Tēina is on sick leave at the moment. Last week we found out that she will be away until January 2026. This means that we have been working to fill this position for the remainder of the year. Mrs Krysta Taylor and Mrs Lorna Fitzgerald, who have been working in Tēina for the last few weeks will continue to fill this position for Karen.

We are also starting a new class for the influx of Year 0 students we have and this class will run in Pīata. Krysta and Lorna were going to be taking this class but with plans changing the Board have worked hard to fill the new teaching position in Pīata. They have employed Whaea Caitlin in this role four days a week and Mrs Kayley Dunn for the Fridays. We are excited to have them both on board in this role. With the many changes around the school we have employed Georgia Dunn on a casual basis to cover Deputy Principal release for Juanita on a Tuesday and also some classroom release time. So, as you can tell we have a lot of changes in the mix but are looking forward to a great term.

Board Of Trustees Elections

Please take time to follow the link you were eMailed to have your vote. We have four candidates for three positions.

WATSON, Nic



I'm excited to put myself forward for a position on the school board because I'm passionate about education and the role schools play in shaping not only academic success but also the wellbeing and development of our tamariki. For the past five years, I've worked as a learning assistant, specialising in supporting children with additional needs. This role has deepened my understanding of inclusive education and how vital it is that every child feels seen, valued, and supported. I've witnessed the incredible difference that strong, individualised support can make, and I'm committed to ensuring our school continues to foster an environment where all learners can thrive. Before working in education, I held senior management roles, where I developed practical skills in leadership, communication, and decision-making. These experiences have shaped how I approach challenges with care, clarity, and a willingness to listen. I believe these are important qualities to bring to board discussions, especially when making decisions that affect our students, staff, and whānau. As a parent of two children currently attending the school, I'm personally invested in the future of our school. I believe in the strength of our community, parents, caregivers, teachers, and wider whānau all working together to create a place where children feel safe, encouraged, and inspired. Over the years, I've seen how important it is to nurture those relationships, and I would bring a strong community voice to the board table. I believe school is more than just a place of learning, it's a hub for connection, support, and belonging. I'm committed to building on that foundation and helping to ensure all families feel welcomed, heard, and involved in the life of the school. If elected, I will bring integrity, commitment, and a collaborative spirit to my role. I'm ready to listen, to contribute thoughtfully, and to support the ongoing growth and success of our school in a way that reflects the values and needs of our whole community. Thank you for considering my nomination.

SLOAN, David



My name is David Sloan and I live in Ashley with my wife Megan and our two daughters, Neve and Bree. Neve is in Year 6 Ti Kouka, and Bree is in Year 4 Harakeke Tui. Originally from Greenock, Scotland, I've called New Zealand home for nearly 17 years. I work as a civil engineer, managing the delivery of infrastructure projects across New Zealand and the Cook Islands. My role has given me a solid foundation in structured decision-making, teamwork, and working alongside communities—skills I believe are valuable on a school board. I'm standing for the Ashley Rakahuri School Board of Trustees because I want to contribute to a happy, thriving school environment. I believe that collaboration is powerful and have been part of diverse teams where individual strengths come together to build strong delivery. I've also served on governance and steering groups, and I'm ready to draw on that experience to support our school's vision and progress. I passionately believe that all children should have the chance to learn, grow, and enjoy school in a safe and healthy space. I'm constantly learning myself, and I welcome the opportunity to develop my governance skills and contribute positively to the board. I'm always looking for ways to improve systems and communication, and I understand the value of bringing people along on a journey—especially when making decisions that affect our community. If elected, I'll bring a committed and positive attitude. I'll work with integrity, listen with empathy, challenge with respect and do my part to support the long-term goals of the school. I care deeply about the environment our tamariki grow up in and want to help maintain and build on the great work already happening. Outside of work, I love spending time with family and supporting Neve and Bree in their dancing, gymnastics, and swimming. I enjoy being outdoors—whether climbing hills, playing golf, or taking far too long on DIY projects! Sláinte mhath.

BERGS, Jessica



I could not be more impressed with the balanced environment that Ashley Rakahuri provides for our students to develop, succeed, feel safe and enjoy themselves in. I am standing for the Board of Trustees because I believe in making a contribution to continuing and progressing such an environment for all our ākonga. I have worked in education for the last 17 years and I am currently Deputy Principal at Te Matauru Primary School where I lead and would bring to you a wealth of knowledge and experience in strategic planning, curriculum design, assessment, Mathematics and Statistics, Education Outside the Classroom, and pastoral care. I have also been involved with and led a range of school projects including being on the foundation team who started up Te Matauru, transitioning to modern learning environments and back again, the development of school policies and procedures, initiating and leading international exchange programmes and community engagement initiatives. In order for our ākonga to be successful and realise their aspirations I would ensure that we continue to provide and deliver a quality education. I would ensure that our diverse and inclusive community continues to grow through providing support to the staff and ākonga in our school environment. I am committed to working with my fellow Board members to assist the principal and her senior management team in providing our ākonga with the best possible preparation as they continue their education journey. I have had the opportunity to interact with people from all walks of life, which has given me insight, understanding and appreciation of many nationalities, cultures and their beliefs. It has also confirmed for me that as parents and caregivers we all want an opportunity for our ākonga to do well and achieve to the fullest of their potential at school, whether that be academically and/or in other areas. My two youngest boys currently attend Ashley Rakahuri and receive endless support, care and opportunities to be their best. My oldest son in his final year of secondary school. As a team we love to be active in any way possible and enjoy adventuring together. Time together creates memories and memories last a lifetime. I would deem it a privilege to be a representative on the Board of Trustees at Ashley Rakahuri Kura. I believe I would bring a current perspective on education along with a passion for staff and ākonga to be their best.



My name is Mike Noad and I am a proud parent of Archer (Year 6, Ti Kōuka) and Georgia (Year 4, Harakeke Tui). I am standing for election to the Board of Trustees to contribute to the continued success and wellbeing of our school. Together with my wife Haley, we own and operate Tussock Creek Apparel and I work full time as Mechanical Team Leader at Daiken New Zealand.

My professional and business experience has equipped me with strong leadership, financial management and strategic planning skills and I am practical and solution focused and know how to cut through complexity and get things done. I understand the importance of clear communication, accountability and working collaboratively to achieve shared goals. Just as important, I am approachable, open-minded and someone who values input from others and will work hard to ensure every family feels heard and represented.

If elected, student wellbeing and achievement will come first, together with supporting our teachers and staff to deliver high quality education.

Payments Please

Please pay your invoices for after school sport and the wearable arts show tickets by Tuesday next week. We have many people who have ordered tickets, or put their child in a sports team that we need to ensure we get payment for.

Thank you to those of you who have already made your donation payment for school camp. We appreciate that it is a lot of money so if you wish to please set up automatic payments for this with Tanya.



A very belated welcome to our school to Mackenzie and Lilly, along with Jack and Ainsley. We hope you have many happy days in our kura.



WIG WEDNESDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE!

Wig Wednesday is on Wednesday September 10th. The sausages are \$2.50 each and there will be a donation required for non-uniform day, all money will be donated to the children's cancer foundation. Please order on lunchline by Monday the 8th of September.



REACH ASSEMBLY FOCUS FOR THE WEEK

This Week's Focus

LISTENING WELL

With swimming for the next two weeks and speeches happening soon too, being able to listen well is really important.

Listen to the video (on the next slide) and take note of the 3 top tips for how to listening well.

Why Listening Matters

Learn Better: Listening closely helps you know what to do in class, follow steps, and enjoy learning—even the tricky bits.

Be a Kind Friend: When you listen to classmates, it shows you care. That makes others feel good and brings the class together.

Think and Speak Clearly: Listening helps you understand well so you can talk and share your ideas confidently.

Welcome to Listening to Families

Listening to Families videos provide answers to everyday questions about health and wellbeing challenges facing children and adolescents. The questions the videos answer are real - they come directly from families. The answers are provided by trusted specialists.

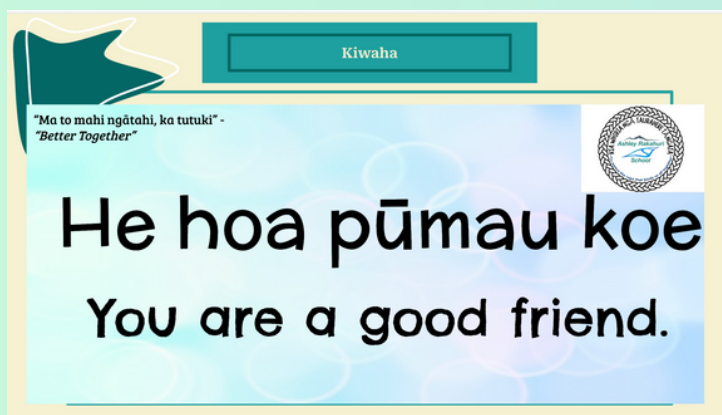
Follow this link to the website that has a range of videos and now also Spotify podcasts that can help with wellbeing and health challenges with families.

<https://www.listeningtofamilies.co.nz/>

KARAKIA TĪMATANGA

Matua te tihi
Matua te kaha
Matua te āio
Matua te mana
Whiua te hā kino
Tokia te hā ora
Ki ruka, ki raro
Ki waho, ki roto
Hui e, tāiki e

Connect to strength
Connect to energy
Connect to peace
Connect to mana
Strip away the negative
Instill the positive
From above, from below
From outside and from within
United and connected



Each week we have a new kiwaha (saying) that we practice as a way to build up our reo. This is introduced on a Monday at assembly.

Our karakia for this term - this is how we start our day and also any assemblies. This was chosen this time by our Kaitātaki and Mrs Standen.

Dates For Your Diary!

- 29th August Daffodil Day Non Uniform Day
- 5th September 'Take the Floor' Speech Finals - Year 5-8 9am start
- 5th September Ruataniwha Kapa Haka Performance
- 10th September Quad School Speech Finals
- 10th September Wig Wednesday and sausage sizzle**
- 12th September Ashley Rakahuri Wearable Arts Show
- 16th -18th September Koru Games Year 7 and 8
- 19th September -End of Term 3
- 6th October -Start of Term 4
- 23rd October Whole School Athletics at Loburn Domain
- 27th October -Labour Day
- 29th October Tri School Athletics at Loburn Domain
- 10-12th November -Year 5 and 6 camp to Woodend
- 11th November Rakahuri Zone Athletics
- 13th November -Teacher Only Day
- 14th November -Show Day Holiday
- 26th November Canterbury Athletics
- 30th November Tūhono Kapa Haka Performance
- 2nd-5th December -Year 7 and 8 camp to Living Springs
- 9th December Whole School Prize giving at Baptist Church Hall
- 10th December Year 8 Leavers Dinner at RSA
- 15th December - End of School Year
- 29th January 2026 - Whānau Hui
- 30th January - School Open for Instruction
- 6th February Waitangi Day Holiday
- 9th February Teacher Only Day - MOE Maths PLD

PLEASE NOTE: ALL DATES ARE NOW ON A GOOGLE CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE