

T2 KĀHU NEWS

T2 LEARNING

Alongside our normal literacy and numeracy programmes, we will have a focus on technology in Term 2. This is inspired by our latest story "The Wheel that Jack Built".



STAFF UPDATES

This term Kāhu Tahī adds Abby Russell to the space as Whaea Ruby heads off on parental leave. Welcome, Abby!



OUR TEAM



TAHI

Nikki Arnold
Ananiah House
Abby Russell

RUA

Alana Cramond
Lucy Poole (Rush)
Kasey Young

Inclusive Learning Assistants:
AJ Reeves, Debbie Messer

To email your child's whānau teacher, follow this format
firstname@teaomarama.school.nz



KEY DATES

Term 2



Date	What's On
Mon 20 April	First Day of Term 2 - Pōwhiri welcome for new families
Mon 27th April	Anzac Day observed / SCHOOL CLOSED
5th & 6th May	Hui-ā-whānau (Student/Parent/Teacher meetings)
Fri 8th May	Te Ao Mārama Has Talent Finals
11th May	Speak Up Friend Show - Yr3-6
Fri 15 May	Pink Shirt Day (Kindness/anti-bullying) / Wā Ngākau (Assembly)
Fri 29th May	Staff Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED
Mon 1st June	King's Birthday Public Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
Fri 3rd July	Last Day of Term 2 / Wā Ngākau (Assembly)



FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Devices:** if your child brings a device from home, please support them in ensuring it is charged and brought to school daily!
- Attendance:** Our school is aiming for a high percentage of attendance every term. While sickness can be unavoidable, casual absences can be disruptive to your child's learning and understanding of new concepts. Every day counts!
- Eating times:** At school we have snack time, morning tea and also lunchtime. Please ensure your child has enough food to fuel them for the day.
- Hui-a-whānau:** These are coming up in the first half of term 2. Please keep an eye on the school Facebook page and newsletters for more information. This is a great chance to meet with your child's teacher and discuss how they have started the 2026 school year.

We are looking forward to sharing another fun and busy term of learning with your tamariki!

MAKING CONTACT



If you have contacted your child's teacher by email, please allow a grace period of 24 hours for a reply as we have limited time to check emails during the school day. If you are emailing in regards to school pick up or a change in your child's day, it is best to contact the office directly.

We want to ensure all tamariki at Te Ao Mārama attend regularly, supporting their right to access education and reach their full potential.

Our school has a target of 80+% of our students attending regularly (90% or higher) each term.

Our goal aligns with the government's national target: 80% of students attend more than 90% of the time by 2030. This means that tamariki should be absent for no more than one day a fortnight to ensure that they can have continued success at school.

Parents have legal obligations to ensure their children attend school (Education and Training Act, s244).



We expect parents to notify the school as soon as possible if their child is going to be late or absent, arrange appointments or trips outside of school hours or during school holidays where possible, work with us to manage attendance concerns.

The Stepped Attendance Response (STAR) sets expectations for school, student, parent/guardian, Ministry of Education and broader system responses to student absence. The STAR also outlines actions at various absence thresholds. This plan outlines our proactive and responsive strategies to improve and sustain student attendance.



Roles and Responsibilities

Parents/Guardians	School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return student to regular attendance Contact school to discuss reasons for absence and impact on learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the 20+ absence group on HERO Formal notification to parents with letter about "concerning" attendance Phone call to discuss reasons for absence Regularly develop a plan tailored to the student and whānau situation Engage external agencies as appropriate (e.g. Attendance Service, Oranga Tamariki, public health nurse) Review and monitor progress regularly (weekly check-ins)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure student attends every day they are able Reinforce good attendance habits Follow school attendance management plan and procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor attendance as part of normal practice using SMS system (HERO) Communicate with whānau about the importance of attendance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return student to regular attendance Participate in meetings with school to discuss reasons for absence and to collaborate on a support plan Implement strategies at home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the 30+ absence group on HERO Escalated formal notification to parents with letter about "very concerning" attendance Hold face to face meetings to discuss reasons for absence, and review, implement and monitor personalised Attendance Plan Request support form Attendance Service or other agencies Review and monitor progress regularly (weekly check-ins)

Ministry of Education

Attendance Service

- Work with chronically absent and non-enrolled students and their families to identify and address barriers to attendance. This includes:
 - addressing changes to be made,
 - addressing some unmet basic needs impacting on attendance, and
 - referring students to other services as necessary
- Collaborate with schools so that:
 - they remain engaged as plans are developed and implemented, and; they can continue to support their child's attendance at school,
 - and the additional Attendance Service support is withdrawn

Regional and National teams

- Facilitate involvement of other agencies
- Support schools to access other education pathways for a student where appropriate
- Consider system-wide initiatives for high-risk attendance
- Replicate regional support resources to where most needed/effective
- Undertake ministry-led prosecution when considered appropriate if supports are offered and not taken up, when requested by schools