

## Welcome to the Tūi Tahī Team!

We are so excited to have you joining us in Tūi Tahī for 2021! We cannot wait to meet you all, and get stuck into what is sure to be, an amazing year. Our aim as your Kaiako, is to encourage, support and nurture your growth, to enable you to thrive in your learning journey here at Te Ao Mārama. We look forward to seeing you take risks, accept challenges and be your best self!

### Our Team is....



Whaea Ruby

Kia Ora Whānau,  
I grew up in Palmerston North and have lived in Hamilton for six years now. I am currently Engaged to my best friend and have just started renovating our first home. I love exploring Aotearoa and spending time with whānau and friends.

I am excited to meet you all and help you grow!



Whaea Nic

Tēnā Koutou!  
I grew up in the small farming town of Morrinsville and have lived in Hamilton for the past five years. I have two little boys, Kayden (3) and Khoen (1) who keep me on my toes! I am an active relaxer and enjoy getting outdoors, exploring nature, cooking, sewing and making crafts.

I can't wait to meet you all!



Whaea Buffy

Tēnā tātou katoa e te whānau! Tihei Mauriora! kua tae te tau hou 2021 ngā manaakitanga! Whaea Buffy here... Hoping you have all enjoyed the festive holiday season with whānau and friends at home or at the beach. I'm excited to be working with my new Team of kaiako! Most of all our tamariki, I can't wait to make new learning adventures with you all!

Ma te wā koutou!



Whaea Tracey

Happy New Year tamariki and whanau! After enjoying the summer break with my family, which includes three teenagers, I'm looking forward to spending time with our Te Ao Marama whanau. I've been swimming and boogie boarding at the beach, trying to catch "the big one" on a boat, hiking to a waterfall, having my first try on a jet ski, playing board games and reading two books! What have you been doing? I can't wait to hear about your adventures every Friday when I'm part of the Tui Tahī team!

The Tūi building is located upstairs above the Pūkeko Building. Tūi Tahī is the Learning community on the left hand side at the top of the stairs. We will be a group of Year 3 tamariki. Our lovely neighbours, Tū Rua, are located at the other end nearest to Kāhu and they are a group of Year 3 and 4 students. While we will largely remain 'down our end', there will be opportunities to collaborate and work together throughout the year!

## Whānau (Family) Photo



Our Whānau are vital to the success and well being of our tamariki. They play a huge role in supporting and growing tamariki as learners and people. We would love for you to either email your whānau teacher or bring in a photo of you with your Whānau. We will have a special place for you to put your photo to remind you how proud they are of you, how special you are and that you are loved.



## Useful Information....

### Who is my teacher?

You will have a Whānau Teacher but all of the teachers in your space are your teachers, and will take you for various parts of the programme. Buffy is in everyday as an inclusive learning assistant and Tracey is in for Nicole every Friday.

### What is Whānau Time?

When yourself, the other students and teachers come together as a group, at the start and the end of the day, to look after one another, build relationships, develop social emotional skills, share learning etc. We would love for Parents and caregivers to join us for Whānau Time from 8.40-8.55am and 2.15-2.30pm daily.

### What does break time look like?

At break time, we play first before eating. You will then eat with your team **after** break time altogether in the learning space. All food scraps or waste will go home in your lunchbox. This will help keep our environment free of rubbish and is helpful for mums and dads to see what you have or have not eaten. We have a snack at 9.45am in class time.

### What do I do if I have a question?

Feel free to talk to any of the teachers in your learning community.

### Student leadership opportunities:

### Where do I put my school bag?

Place your school bag on the hooks outside our learning space.

### How do I know about my child's learning?

We communicate this both face-to-face and via Hero. Your child will also receive learning stories via Hero and you will be sent an email notification when they are posted. Log in to Hero to view these. For other events, keep up-to-date via Hero and our Facebook page.

### Do I have homework?

No, we encourage you to play outside and spend time with your family :) We do send a reader home (on the days you read with a teacher) as well as sight words for more practice. You may use the same book more than once.

### Where can I go in the learning space?

Anywhere in our half of Tūi! Your teachers will talk to you about how to use the learning space. There will be quiet, busy and general zones and of course, the Makerspace where you could be involved in activities such as play dough, cooking, construction and art.

### Do we need parent help?

We encourage all of our learners (5 yrs to 10 yrs) to take up leadership opportunities at Te Ao Mārama. These roles will develop and change as our school grows.

We love to involve our whānau in our children's learning when we can! Feel free to see one of us if you would like to share or contribute during the year!

#### What do I need to bring to school each day?

- A lunch box packed with **enough** food for a snack, morning tea and lunch.
- Water bottle.
- Please keep a change of clothes for wet or messy play activities in your child's school bag (please name **all** clothing). A wet bag to put these in is a good idea.
- In Terms 1 & 4 you will need a hat and to wear sunblock to school. In the cooler months, please bring a warm jacket/raincoat.
- Your book bag.
- You will also need stationery when you start - see below.

#### How is the day structured?

8am - Children welcome on site (unsupervised)  
8:20 - Families & students welcome in learning spaces  
8:40 - Whānau Time  
8:55am - Block 1 (9.45am Snack Time)  
10:40 - Morning Tea Play  
11:10 - Block 2 (Morning tea eating time)  
12:30 - Lunch Play  
1:15 - Block 3 (Lunch eating time)  
2:15 - Whānau Time  
2:30 - Finish

### Stationery....

To make this easy for you, we have teamed up with OfficeMax MySchool to have our stationery requirements lists loaded on to [myschool.co.nz](http://myschool.co.nz).

We've found this is the easiest way for you to purchase your child's stationery. Once on the [OfficeMax site](http://OfficeMax site), select our school, click 'start' on view the Requirements list, select your child's class and follow the instructions on the website.

**Find: Tūi Tahi (Year 3) - Ruby or Nicole**

Buying through OfficeMax MySchool also earns rewards for our school which we can redeem for much needed educational supplies, equipment for our classrooms or for students in need.

OfficeMax MySchool make it easy for you as you can choose delivery to your home or workplace, and receive your order during the holidays, straight to your door.

*Note: There is a slightly reduced stationery pack for those who start in the second half of the year.*

### Further Information and Contact....

**Information:** For further information about our school, see our Facebook page or visit [www.teaomarama.school.nz](http://www.teaomarama.school.nz)

**Email:** Please feel free to come and see us in the Tūi Tahi Learning Community if you have any queries or just want to say hello! We are also able to be contacted via email as follows:

[ruby@teaomarama.school.nz](mailto:ruby@teaomarama.school.nz) [nicole@teaomarama.school.nz](mailto:nicole@teaomarama.school.nz)

*"Ko te manu e kai ana i te miro nōnā te ngahere, ko te manu e kai ana i te mātauranga nōnā te ao."  
The bird that eats the Miro berry owns the forest, the bird that feasts on knowledge owns the world.*

