

# Adventure School Newsletter

No 6 – 1 May 2025



IMPORTANT DATES		
Thursday 1 May	Team Newsletters Shared	
Monday 5 May	BoT meeting. All welcome!	
Wednesday 7 May	Puppet Show - Years 0-1	
Wednesday 14 May	Yr 7/8 Rugby 7's tournament	
	PINK SHIRT DAY	
Friday 16 May	2pm: Assembly (Rms 3 & 27)	
	4-5.30: PTNi Colour Run	
Sunday 25 May	PTNi Working Bee (10-12)	
Juliuay 25 May	(School Gardens)	

#### **Featuring**

- ■MOE Attendance Tracking
- ■MOE Consultation: Draft Relationships & Sexuality Education
- ■Principal's Awhi Awards
- Reminders: Parking, Sport' Hoodies
- ■Term 2 Staff
- Upcoming Events
- ■New Parking Signs Feedback link
- **■**Sport Spot
- **Standing Together for Our Support Staff**



Kia ora, Namaste, Talofa, Guten Tag, Gidday, Vannakkam, ni Hao, Bula, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Mālo ni, Hola, Goeie Dag, Bonjour, Καλημέρα, Sat Shri Akal, Shalom, npuβet, Assalaam alaikum, Hello!

Welcome to our new students-

KŌWHAI: Jonty Clark, Yilan Alexander, Soraiya Pio-Sei

It's great to have you join our Adventure whānau!

Kia ora e te whānau

A very warm welcome back! We're excited to launch into Term 2 feeling refreshed and ready to grow our learning together. Over the break, our teams have been busy planning exciting opportunities to engage and inspire our tamariki. You can find more details in the syndicate newsletters, which are also being sent out today.

#### A Huge Thank You!

As teachers, we are always encouraging our students to notice and respond - to recognise when someone needs help or when a problem needs solving. It's a value we model as teachers as well as in the school community.

Last term, two wonderful sets of parents noticed that some areas around the school were looking a little shabby and kindly offered to waterblast and refresh them. Their initiative and hard work have made such a difference, and we are incredibly grateful for their generosity and community spirit. Karyn, Dan and Theva, thank you for helping to keep our very big school looking its best!

#### **New Staff**

We're excited to welcome two fabulous new staff members to our team for Term 2. Becca Allen will be joining the Kōwhai Team as the release teacher in Room 11 on Thursdays from Week 4, and Georgia Nairne is joining our wonderful Teacher Aide team. We're thrilled to have them on board!

### **Ministry of Education Attendance Tracking**



### **Attendance Matters – Supporting Every Day at School**

As we head into Term 2, we are closely tracking attendance and lateness in line with Ministry of Education requirements. This information is now uploaded to the Ministry daily.

Regular attendance is vital for every child's learning, wellbeing, and sense of belonging. When tamariki are at school regularly, they're more likely to feel connected, keep up with their learning, and build strong relationships with teachers and friends.

Please support your child's success by ensuring they arrive on time and have regular attendance.

### What are the expectations?

The Ministry of Education has set a national attendance goal of 90% or higher for all students. That means attending school for at least 9 out of every 10 days, or no more than 5 days away per term. Falling below this can have a real impact on learning progress and confidence.

### Why does it matter?

Even missing just one day every two weeks adds up to a month of learning lost each year. Over time, this can affect literacy, maths, friendships, and how confident students feel in class. Consistent attendance builds habits for success—both now and in the future.

### What if my child needs to be away?

We understand that sometimes absences are unavoidable due to illness or family circumstances. If your child is going to be away, please notify the school office through the HERO app to let us know the reason.

### **Family Holidays During the Term**

Family holidays during the school term are considered **unjustified** absences under Ministry of Education guidelines.

If you are planning time away during the school term, **contact needs to be made in writing with the Principal in advance.** (principal@adventure.school.nz)

### **Need support?**

If you're facing challenges with getting your child(ren) to school and on time, we're here to help – please just reach out.

Let's work together to build great attendance habits and set our tamariki up for success!

#### **Term One Attendance**

Here is a snapshot of our Term One Attendance.

### Term 1 Summary

How many students regularly attended school this term?

Regular Attendance

**79%** 

Compared to 81% in Term 1, 2024

Irregular Absence 17%

Compared to 16% in Term 1, 2024

Moderate Absence 3%

Compared to 4% in Term 1, 2024

Chronic Absence 1%

Compared to 0% in Term 1, 2024

### What were the main reasons given for absence this term?

- 1. (M) Illness / Medical Absence 63%
- 2. (G) Holiday 22%
- 3. (J) Explained and Approved 8%
- 4. (E) Accepted (but unjustified) 7%

### How many students were on time to class?

**83%** of students were on time to class
Definition of lateness depends on school attendance policy.





#### **Overview for Parents and Caregivers**

Schools in New Zealand, like in many countries, teach relationships and sexuality education (RSE). It's really important that we get feedback on RSE from parents and communities, so that we can get this teaching and learning right for our young people.

RSE is part of the health and physical education learning area in The New Zealand Curriculum (2007). It aims to give children and young people the information they need to feel positive about themselves and equip them with the knowledge and confidence to make good choices. RSE includes learning about consent, puberty, healthy relationships and staying safe online. This part of the curriculum also supports mental, physical and emotional development.

Talking about RSE at home with your kids helps reinforce what they learn at school and deepens their understanding of themselves and others. Parents and caregivers may also want to have conversations with their children at home first before explicit teaching happens at school.

That's why it is so important that we get this part of the curriculum right. As we refresh the curriculum content for the teaching of RSE, your voice really matters.

#### What you need to know

The Ministry have developed a draft framework for RSE that outlines what topics could be taught at each year of schooling. The focus is on making sure the content is age-appropriate, evidence-informed, and clear about what is covered in RSE at each age, from Year 0 through to Year 13. It is important that you know what is being taught and when, so you can have open conversations with your school and your child prior to this learning taking place.

Schools still need to talk to parents about their health education plans, and you can choose to take your child out of any part of sexuality education.

#### **Giving your feedback**

You will have until 9 May 2025 to provide your feedback using this form: https://education.surveymonkey.com/r/3LWYQWV

You'll be asked three key questions covering age appropriateness of the content, if you think any topics are missing, and if you think any topics need to be removed.

As you look at the framework, you may like to consider the following questions:

- » How do you talk about relationships and sexuality in your family, culture, and community?
- » What role do you think schools, families, and communities should play in teaching children about relationships and sexuality?
- » What do children need to know about themselves, others, their communities and the modern world to keep them healthy and safe?
- » What are the ages and stages to have conversations about key topics such as consent, digital safety, reproduction, puberty, and sexual health?

The summary table on the next page, outlines the key topics covered in each year level. For more detailed content, have a look at the full framework for consultation at the bottom of this document.

### **Overview Table for Parents and Caregivers**

(Please note: you can choose to take your child out of any part of sexuality education.)

	Healthy Relationships	Healthy Relationships	My Body
Year	Relationships	Safety and Consent	My Body
Years 0-1 (age 5-6	Family structures     Making friends     Understanding feelings     Asking for help	Seeking and refusing permission     Responding safely to adults     Personal space     Digital devices     Safe and unsafe secrets	Body parts (e.g. genitals)  Body similarities and differences  Asking questions and talking to trusted adults
Year 2 (age 6-7)	Respect     Solving problems     Respecting difference     Asking for help	<ul> <li>Responding to bullying</li> <li>Consent (e.g. saying "yes" or "no" to a request)</li> <li>Safe and unsafe secrets</li> <li>Sharing positions and personal space</li> </ul>	Stages of growing up     Body changes and body positivity     Asking questions and talking t o     trusted adults
Year 3 (age 7-8)	Positive family relationships     Playing fairly     Understanding and respecting difference     Navigating feelings	Standing up for self and peers     Identifying unsafe situations, both in person and online	<ul> <li>Taking care of bodies</li> <li>Stages of growing up</li> <li>Learning and development</li> <li>Asking questions about their bodies</li> </ul>
Year 4 (age 8-9)	Role models     Communicating in relationships     Bullying behaviour and situations     (e.g. online)     Positive behaviour and interactions     Gender stereotypes	Peer pressure Bullying is unacceptable Consent (e.g. respectfully accepting when people refuse consent) Supporting inclusion	Naming body parts and functions     Body similarities and differences     Inclusion and individuality     Body positivity and confidence     Seeking help from trusted adults
Year 5 (age 9-10)	Different family structures     (e.g. cultural and religious variations)     Roles and responsibilities in different relationships     Causes for conflict     Resolving conflict	Online safety (e.g. image sharing and inappropriate pressure)  Managing peer pressure (e.g. strategies)  Respectful language and inclusive behaviour	Introduction to puberty     Emotional and physical changes     Supporting and respecting changes     Seeking help from trusted adults
Year 6 (age 10-11)	Leadership roles and group dynamics     Understanding different perspectives	Critical thinking and online content     Strategies for safe online and offline interactions     Respecting others' interests and preferences	Hygiene during puberty     Male and female anatomy     Menstruation and pubertal change     Respecting peers during puberty     Asking questions of trusted adults
Year 7 (age 11-12)	Relationships change over time (e.g., birth, death, separation)     Positive relationships     Stereotypes (e.g. impact on relationships)     Seeking advice and help	Online risks, content sharing and social media Harassment and bullying Consent in various contexts and relationships Identifying harmful behaviours, online content, or situations and seeking support	Cultural views on bodies and bodily functions Reproductive system changes during puberty Conception basics (e.g. sperm fertilising egg) Bodily privacy and respect
Year 8 (age 12-13)	Sexual attraction and orientation Healthy sexual activity Personal safety in relationships Trustworthy information sources (e.g. online and in person)	Online risks, content sharing and social media Legal age of consent Harmful sexual behaviours and consequences (e.g. online and in person) Judging when relationships are unsafe and seeking help	Reproductive system development  Physical and emotional changes during puberty  Menstrual variations (e.g. when to seek medical attention)  Reproductive systems (e.g. fertilisation)







### Principal's Awhi Awards

Congratulations to these fantastic Adventurers who were presented with a Principal's Awhi Award for naturally showing the values within the Adventure Way Traits at our last school assembly.





Grace Collins, Wian Erasmus, Mireya Roche, Cayleigh Belling, Riley Johnco, Jack Griffiths, Emily Glynan, Katelyn Mulhern, Lavinia Scobie, Sophie Williams (absent)

### in the Spotlight

## congratulations to





Well done to Erich for being chosen as player of the year for the Porirua City Junior Cricket Club for the 2024/2025 season.

Erich was also awarded the best athlete for the 7–9-year-old boys, representing Mana Athletics club at the Wellington Junior Championships.







We would love to celebrate and acknowledge special or personal achievements, so please do share these with us. (Email <a href="mailto:principal@adventure.school.nz">principal@adventure.school.nz</a>)

Ngā mihi nui Tania Cox Principal – Tumuaki

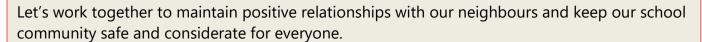
### **Some Start of Term Reminders**

### **Frustrating Parking Issues**

Towards the end of last term, I received several complaints from both parents and local residents about parking challenges, especially during pick-up time at the end of the day.

Please help us keep things safe and respectful by being mindful of where and how long you park. In particular, we ask that you avoid:

- Parking on yellow lines, especially near driveways
- Blocking or parking in driveways
- Staying longer than 2 minutes in designated 2-minute zones
- Parking in the bus stop area



Thanks for working with us on this!

### **Sports Hoodies (for sporting activities only)**

We love the pride our students show in their sports teams. However, just a reminder that sports team hoodies are not part of our formal school uniform and shouldn't be worn to school as everyday wear.



Of course, on days when you're representing the school in your sport, feel free to wear your team hoodie with pride! On all other days, we ask that students stick to our regular school uniform, which helps us maintain a sense of unity and belonging across the school.

Thanks for helping us keep things consistent and for showing your school spirit in all the right ways!



### **2025 STAFF**

Management			
Tania Cox Diane Pepperell Erica Leggett	Principal Deputy Principal Deputy Principal	- SENCO Yrs 1-8 - Rimu Team Leader	- Oversees Years 0-4 - Oversees Years 5-8

Kōwhai Syndicate (Yrs 1-2)			
Teacher	Yr	Rm	
Rebecca St Clair (Team Leader) Alice Tankersley (Becca Allen - Thursdays) (from T2 wk 4) Nadine Amorangi Tania Sibley Amanda-Lee Lemmon Cathy Murray	NE/Yr1 NE Yr1 Yr 1 Yr 2 Yr 2	10 11 9 8 13 15	

Nīkau Syndicate (Yrs 3-4)			
Teacher	Yr	Rm	
Toni Bennett (Team Leader)	3/4	1	
Richard McQueen	3/4	2	
Solé du Plessis	3/4	3	
Alesha Wilson	3/4	4	
Amy Churchill	3/4	5	

Totara Syndicate (Yrs 7-8)			
Teacher Yr Rm			
Mark Hughes (Team Leader) Jen Squire John Kelleher Shane Dalton	7/8 7/8 7/8 7/8	24 25 26 27	

Rimu Syndicate (Yrs 5-6)			
Teacher	Yr	Rm	
Erica Leggett (Team Leader) Keegan Martin Emma Harris Alisa Schilder Carla Nickson (Tues: Bianca van Berkel) Andrea Nichols	5/6 5/6 5/6 5/6 5/6	16 17 18 20 21	

Teacher Aides		
Andrea Matheson	Catherine Ballin	
Fiona Albiston	Joyce Goggin	
Jasmine Nichols	Taria Kie Tonga	
Georgia Nairne		

Part-time Teachers
Bianca Van Berkel (Release teacher: Tōtara Team Leader & Rm 20)
Natasha Carroll (Tōtara/Rimu teacher release)
Vanessa Clark (Kōwhai Team Leader & classroom teacher release)
Carly St Laurent (ORS Specialist Teacher/ ESoL Teacher)
Laura Treeby (ORS Specialist Teacher)
Tania Bourke (Nīkau Team Leader & classroom teacher Release)
Clare Spencer (Structured Literacy Support Teacher)
Becca Allen (Thursday Release Teacher - Rm 11)

Support Staff			
Jean Hutchinson Sharon Arrell Sharyn Woodmas	Business Manager Office Manager  Office Assistant		
Wilmeri Olivier	Library Assistant		
Mikaele Pule	Caretaker/Cleaner		
Faye Yee	Cleaner		

### Upcoming Events

### Whole School **Assemblies**

**WHEN:** 2pm - Friday 16 May

Featuring Buddy Classes: Rms 3 & 27

### You are very welcome to join us!

### 🏩 Pink Shirt Day – Friday, May 16th 😭





Kia ora Adventure School whānau,

On Friday, May 16th, we're celebrating **Pink Shirt Day!** Pink Shirt Day is when Aotearoa comes together to take a stand against bullying. Since 2012 the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand (MHFNZ) has been inspiring tangata to Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying! It's a special day to stand together and promote kindness, inclusion, and antibullying in our school and community. Let's show our support by turning Adventure School into a sea of pink!

We're encouraging all students to come dressed in their **brightest pink outfits**. Be bold and creative—pink skirts, wigs, hats, glasses, socks, or even pink face paint! Anything pink goes!

To support this important cause, we're asking for a gold coin donation, which will go directly towards organisations working to prevent bullying and promote mental wellbeing in schools across Aotearoa.

Pink Shirt Day is not just about the colour—it's about showing that we care about creating a safe, welcoming environment for everyone. Let's celebrate diversity, lift each other up, and have fun while making a difference.

When: Friday, May 16th

What to Wear: Anything pink!

**Donation:** Gold coin (optional but appreciated!)

Why: To celebrate kindness, stand against bullying, and create a positive school culture.

> Let's make this Pink Shirt Day one to remember! Together, we can make a difference. 🤎

Your 2025 Student Leaders,

Lars, Scarlett, Lennox, Lavinia, Aidan and Kayden

### From our PTNi

### Colour Run - New Date

We have a new date for the colour run that was postponed last term! It will now be on **Friday 16 May**, from 4pm with the run starting at 4:30pm. We've had to bring the start time a bit earlier as we now don't have daylight saving on our side  $\checkmark$  We look forward to seeing you there, fingers crossed the weather is better this time.



### **Family Pies are Back!**

The delicious family pie fundraiser is back for another year! These pies are from Centa Bakery and are so handy to have some stashed away in the freezer for the coming winter months.

The pies come fresh and are being delivered to school on **Thursday 5 June** so need to be collected then too as we do not have the fridge space to store them.

You can place your order for them now via Kindo <a href="https://shop.kindo.co.nz/app/shop">https://shop.kindo.co.nz/app/shop</a>
Be sure to ask your family and friends if they would like to order some too (you'll just need to place the order for them and then collect on their behalf)



# **Standing Together for Our Support Staff**

At Adventure School, we're proud to support the call from NZEI Te Riu Roa for the Government to invest more in the people who help make our schools great places to learn and grow.

In every school or kura, there are amazing people who work alongside teachers and principals every day - our wonderful teacher aides and learning assistants, our friendly office staff, our dedicated librarian. These staff play a vital role in supporting our tamariki, yet the current funding system means they often face insecure jobs, and their work isn't always recognised the way it should be.

That's why our staff wore green today - to show our support and appreciation for these incredible colleagues. We know how important they are to the success of our kura, and we stand with them as they work toward fair pay and job security.



#### **IMPORTANT:** NEW PARKING SIGNS – FEEDBACK SURVEY

You will have noticed our brand-new parking safety signs as you have dropped your children off at school last term. The goal of this parking trial was to remind everyone about making good parking choices, and to increase the safety of our children.

Porirua City Council, who led and funded this initiative, has asked us to provide some feedback to assess how effectively the yellow 'THINK' School Parking Signs influence parking behaviour near our school, particularly during drop off and pick up times.

Please click on the link <u>here</u>, or click on the QR code, to participate in our quick, anonymous survey which closes at **5:30 pm Sunday 18 May 2025** 

### Sport Spot

#### **Netballers Enjoy a Positive Summer**

It's been a busy summer for both junior and senior netballers!

The school had three teams competing in the Mungavin Summer League, and the senior kids had winter pre-season training and trials!

#### Year 7 Sapphires place 4th

The Sapphires had a rewarding summer season placing 4th in Division A in the Mungavin Summer League.

The team had some close wins and losses, with the battles against Plimmerton School the standout games. Also, pushing the eventual champs (who went undefeated) in a 12-point loss was another highlight.

Pre-Christmas the Sapphires took the opportunity to try new positions and play with different team members as the big squad was rotated weekly.

Post Christmas it was an opportunity for the kids to play in their more favoured positions as they geared up for winter pre-season training and senior trials.

#### **Senior Pre Season**

The senior netballers have been pre-season training since early February in preparation for the 2025 winter season. The kids put in the mahi in the summer sun as they were pushed fitness wise and challenged with movement and agility drills, along with positional training.

The kids were lucky enough to have current Silver Fern and Pulse star Parris Mason, along with former Silver Fern and Tactix legend Jane Watson involved in the pre-season trainings. The kids progressed strongly over the summer, and it puts them in good stead for the upcoming winter season.



Parris Mason all smiles after a challenging pre-season session

**Steve Allerby** 



### **Event Calendar - Important Dates**



Please be aware some details may change.

TERM TWO		
	Monday 5 May	5.30: BoT Meeting (Staffroom) All welcome!
Week 2	Wednesday 7 May	Kōwhai Year O-1 Puppet Show
	Friday 9 May	Lucky Book Club Issue 3 closes
	Wednesday 14 May	Yr 7-8 Rugby 7's competition
Week 3	Friday 16 May	PINK Shirt Day
VVCCK 3		2pm: Assembly – Rooms 3 & 27
		4-5.30pm: Colour Run
	Tuesday 20 May	7pm: PTNi Meeting (Staffroom) All welcome!
	Wednesday 21 May	Tough Guy n' Gal Challenge
Week 4	Thursday 22 May	6.30-7.30pm: Whānau Māori Hui
	Friday 23 May	School Cross Country (am) pp 27 May
	Sunday 25 May	10am-12pm: PTNi Working Bee
Week 5	Wednesday 28 May	9am: New Entrant Open Morning
VVEEK 3	Friday 30 May	2pm: Strike Percussion Performance
	Monday 2 June	SCHOOL CLOSED: King's Birthday
Week 6	Tuesday 3 June	SCHOOL CLOSED: Teacher Curriculum Day
	Friday 6 June	Rimu Bake Sale
	Monday 9 June	5.30: BoT Meeting (Staffroom) All welcome!
	Wednesday 11 June	9am: New Entrant Open Morning
Week 7	Friday 13 June	2pm: Assembly – Rooms 21 & 15
		5–7pm: Matariki Disco
	Friday 13-Sunday 15 June	40 Hour Challenge
Week 8	Wednesday 18 June	Kōwhai Year 2 Puppet Show
VVCCKO	Friday 20 June	SCHOOL CLOSED: Matariki Public Holiday
	Monday 23 June	Matariki Breakfast (tbc)
Week 9	Friday 27 June	2pm: Assembly
		Last day of Term 2

20	<b>^-</b>	_	<b>—</b>	
	176	Term	I late	
ZU		ıcııı	valc	-5

**Term One:** Tuesday 4 February – Friday 11 April

School Closed: Monday 10 March – Maths Curriculum Day

**Term Two:** Monday 28 April – Friday 27 June

School Closed: Tuesday 3 June – Maths Curriculum Day

**Term Three:** Monday 14 July – Friday 19 September

**Term Four:** Monday 6 October – Wednesday 17 December

### School will be closed for the following Public Holidays-

Waitangi Day – Thursday 6 February

Easter - Friday 18 April - Tuesday 22 April (during holidays)

Anzac Day – Friday 25 April (during holidays)

King's Birthday - Monday 2 June

Matariki - Friday 20 June

Labour Day - Monday 27 October

### **Community Notices**

#### Ko Bu Kan Karate School

Traditional Okinawan Karate

Ko Bu Kan Karate School offers a welcoming and ego-free environment where individuals and families can train together, growing in both physical strength and deeper understanding of traditional Okinawan karate.

Our structured yet engaging approach blends discipline with fun, incorporating games, drills, and katas to make learning both effective and enjoyable. With a strong focus on real-world self-defence rather than



competition, we teach students not just how to defend themselves but also how to avoid conflict altogether. Our classes cater to all skill levels, ensuring that each student progresses at their own pace while benefiting from a supportive community. Beyond physical fitness and coordination, our training fosters confidence, leadership, and teamwork—essential life skills that extend far beyond the dojo.

Whitby Dojo: Anchor Church, 1 James Cook Drive School Term Thursdays: 6pm early class, 7 pm later class

Contact: Adam Lang, 021 499 587, adamlang@ryukyu.nz







#### Jump, Flip, Thrive!

Ready to flip, tumble, and soar? Bigair Gym is the ultimate destination for kids who want to learn cool skills, achieve and build unstoppable confidence! Whether it's cartwheels, flips, tramp tricks, or parkour, Bigair Gyms action packed classes combine fun, fitness, and focus, in a safe, supportive space.

#### Classes to Help Your Child Shine:

Crashmat Kids Sessions (walking-4 years) – Great for little ones to become familiar with the gym. Pocket Rockets Gym Classes (3-4 years) – Start building coordination and confidence early! Gravity Busters Gym Classes (5+ years) – Learn the fundamentals of gymnastics and tumbling. Team Extreme Gym Classes (Advanced) – Take your skills to the next level! Free Running (5+ years) – Parkour + flips = epic agility and body control. Trampoline (5+ years) – Boost spatial awareness and acrobatic abilities. Recreational Cheerleading (5+ years) – Strength, flexibility, performance—Cheer style! Tumbling (5+ years) – Learn walkovers, handsprings & aerials—perfect for Cheerleaders and Dancers wanting to boost flexibility and stage skills.

Hurry – **Book Online Now for Term 2 Before Spaces Run Out** at <a href="www.bigairgym.co.nz">www.bigairgym.co.nz</a>! Don't miss out on the chance to help your child grow, achieve, learn, and have fun at Bigair Gym! Contact us at: Bigair Gym Tawa: ph. 232 3508, e. office@bigairgym.co.nz at 10b Surrey Street, Tawa.