



Tīeke, Kōtare and Kāka

**Community news
Term 1 Week 3 2025**



Kia ora and welcome



Welcome to our first newsletter for 2025.

This edition is providing you with some information about how our Year 4-8 team will operate in 2025. We also have our hubs which comprise Year 4-6 (Tīeke and Kōtare) and Year 7 and 8 (Kākā).

We look forward to our learning partnership this year.

Being a CHAMP at Northland School

We would like to acknowledge the number of students who are already modeling being a CHAMP in 2025. No better example of this are the number of students wearing sun hats when outside.

Thank you for your support with the students at home in ensuring they understand why being a CHAMP is important.

Introducing our CHAMP Insignia

This bird was designed by a student in 2024. It is the Kiwi but with colours to represent our values. Notice the full brimmed hat to ensure sun safety.

You will see more of our CHAMP Kiwi as part of the school Positive Behaviour For Learning in 2024

Grant Henderson

Deputy Principal (Year 4-8)





Year 4-6 Hub: Tīeke and Kōtare



The Tīeke-Kōtare Team

There is one Tīeke class (Year 4) and two Kōtare classes (Year 5-6)

The Tīeke-Kōtare teaching team are:

- Alex Oliver: Tīeke
- Jane Finlayson: Kōtare 1
- Neil Sargisson: Kōtare 2
- Nathalie Lecaude: Kōtare (Mon-Wed)

We will have structured our groups with mixed ability using all three teachers enabling our groups to be smaller.

We are skill teaching and practicing those taught skills.

Year 4 to 6 Hub timetable

Weekly Overview Year 5-6 Kōtare			Timetable	Term 1, 2025	
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY 31/1	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8.50	Karakia, Roll, Hui	Karakia, Roll, Hui	Karakia, Roll, Hui	Karakia, Roll, Hui	Karakia, Roll, Hui
9am	fitness 10-15 mins	fitness 10-15 mins	fitness 10-15 mins	fitness 10-15 mins	fitness 10-15 mins
9.30	Basic Facts Maths	Basic Facts Maths	Basic Facts Maths	Basic Facts Maths - strand	<u>Problem solving</u> Maths - strand
10.30 11.15	<i>10:30 - 11:00 PLAY; 11:00 - 11:15 EAT</i>				
11.45	The Code	The Code	The Code	Syntax project	Syntax project
12.15	Writing Reading	Writing Reading	Writing Reading	Library Library	Reading Te Reo
12.50 1.40	<i>12:50 - 1:20 PLAY 1:20 - 1:40 EAT</i>				
1.30	Reading to .../Silent reading	Reading to .../Silent reading	Reading to .../Silent reading	Science	Reading to Finishing
1.45 	Te Reo NTJ/Mahi Rangahau	Arts Dance/Music - Alex/Rose Visual - Jane Drama - Nat	P.E		Kapa Haka
Notes					

Term 1 learning foci

English

- Code (spelling)
- Reading for information
- Report writing

Maths

- Basic facts
- Place value
- Patterns

Mahi Rangahau

- Treaty of Waitangi
- Cultures around the world
- Our culture

Art - collage self portraits

(if you have any old magazines
we would love these for our art)

Tieke and Kōtare: Maths

Currently we are revising and getting back into the swing of thinking mathematically.

Basic facts - we'll be assessing soon and I will share results and how you can support your child's learning - watch out on Hero Place value - lots of oral work, reading numbers etc
Revising add sub strategies and how to use Numicon to solve addition problems.

Writing

We are following our Helen Walls writing programme. We do sentence combining (using conjunctions and subordinating conjunctions) twice a week. Research evidence shows this is the single most effective method of developing better writing. We write a few times a week and write less, but better. Our daily message is 'say, write, read and check' every sentence before writing another. We aim for correct and well written sentences. We'll write longer texts once we have the skills to communicate ideas with clarity and accuracy.

Reading

We are reading lovely new decodable chapter books and completing tasks. I'm looking out to see that children are using their great segmenting and blending skills when needed to decode new words.

Dual Factor reading - I am reading Stig of the Dump by Clive King to the class. The text is projected on the large TV screen for the children to track.

We read words and sentences in The Code and children are enjoying borrowing books from our library. I'm delighted to see such keen readers.

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CHAMPS - Kōtare / Tīeke water fight!

Children in Years 4-6 are showing what amazing Champs they are. Students are highly motivated to be positively acknowledged and our marble jars are filling fast. They brainstormed a long list of fun activities, and voted for a water fight at the park which we plan to hold next Thursday 20 February - weather permitting.

Children may bring a water gun or reusable water balloons, that will get filled via buckets and jugs. NO plastic water balloons please The plan will be to start the water fight at approximately 2pm, with the children wearing what they have come to school in that day (minus any jumpers). If you want to send a towel feel free, however we will we aim to leave straight after the water fight so they can head home in their wet clothes. If they have after school care or another activity to go to please send in a spare set of clothes with your child.



Highlights for 2025

Pedal ready (for Kōtare only) - Term 1

Swimming - Term 2

Zoo sleepover in Term 4 for Tīeke

Kōtare camp in term 4 - 29-31 Oct at Forest Lakes

Leadership opportunities.

Exciting, varied learning programme - science, arts, P.E/sport fitness.

Zone sport opportunities

Year 7 and 8 Hub: Kākā



Teachers:

Kākā 7: Lyndsey

Kākā 5: Rachel

Across the team: Grant (Mon, Tues, Thurs)

Release in both classes: Rose

Kākā timetable

Week	Monday Grant 1&2	Tuesday Grant 1&2	Wednesday	Thursday Grant 1&2	Friday
8:50 - 9:00	Roll and class time	Roll and class time	Roll and class time	Roll and class time	Roll and class time
9:00 - 10:00 10:00 - 10.30	Maths	Maths	Te Reo Māori	Maths	Citizenship
	The Code	The Code	Maths	The Code	Maths
10:30-11:10	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea
11:10-12:40	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
	Writing	Writing	Writing Swimming from week 4	Writing	Writing
12.40-1:30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:30-2:00 2:00-3:00	Handwriting	Team Hui	Mahi Rangahau	Handwriting/Library	Handwriting/Library
	Art	Mahi Rangahau		Sport	Art/Kapa Haka

Learning in Term 1:

Writing:

We are just starting a unit focused on developing plot in narrative writing. Students will be given pre-written story starters, then guided through the process of writing a complete story that has a build up, problem/action, resolution and ending. We plan to use this structure to write our own narrative linked to what we're learning in Mahi Rangahau

Maths:

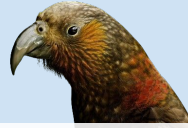
We are working our way through number knowledge and different skills relating to them (i.e. place value, rounding, estimating). We are currently in home classes, but plan to cross group as we get into basic facts and operations with numbers.

Reading:

The team is currently split into three different novels, A Boy Called Hope, Wonder and Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy. The aim of the programme is to introduce they types of questions and discussion that will be expected in Lit Circles next term. So far, the books are going well and our students are really engaged.

Mahi Rangahau:

Our inquiry is based around the constellations and early navigational journeys to New Zealand. We are starting our unit by looking at our own journey to New Zealand and then looking at how early navigators use the stars to help guide them and the stories they tell about the constellations.



Key Events Coming up:

Term 1:

- Wednesday 19th February
- Thursday 20th Feb: Space Place trip
- WZ cricket Tuesday 25th Feb
- WZ football Tuesday 1st Apr

Term 2:

- Camp - Week 2, Term 2
- Term 2 Tech starts

The first few weeks...

We have been busy getting to know each other in a variety of ways including 'paper bag' autobiographies, writing poems based on George Ella Lyon's 'Where I'm From' and creating self-portraits filled with the things that we love.



I Am From

By Marni

I am from books

From homemade lasagna and pesto pasta

I am from the cozy family home up the hill with

trees rustling in the dawn light

Busy, windy, the sounds of loud music

I am from acorns fallen from oak trees in the

forests filled with birdsong

I'm from family productions and ice cream parties

From Angela and Ryan

I'm from the book readers and sports players

From no you can't read that book because it is too

old for you and grab that dog!

I'm from the Dutch, Scots and Kiwis

Pavlovas and cinnamon rolls

From the delicious Christmas dinners my

Grandmother makes

The movies my Grandad takes us to see

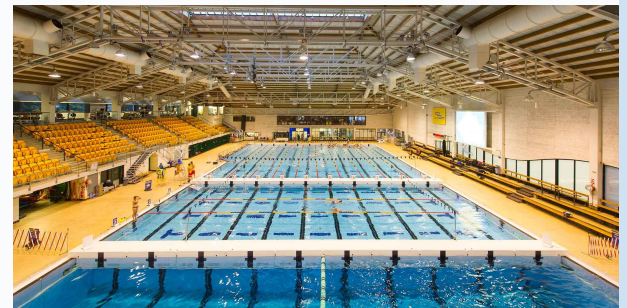
Photo albums on bookshelves reminding us of who

we really are



Swimming: Year 7 and 8 only this term.

- Swimming starts on Wednesday February 19th
- Lessons will be done at WRAC in Kilbirnie
- We expect all students to participate in swimming lessons unless emailed by a parent
- Students will be tested and put into groups
 - Learn to swim
 - Extension (Flippa ball, snorkelling, kayaking)
- All students will do water safety
- We will leave school around 11:50pm
- We will arrive back around 2:15pm



E waka eke noa- We are all in the same boat

Optional Homework (10 - 15 mins - 3 times a week)

- Basic facts - card and board games
- Reading with your child or silent reading
- Learning heart words
- Handwriting - ensuring your child is holding the pencil correctly and letter and number formation is correct.
- Incidental Learning - cooking, number discussion, discuss current events
- Life skills. Some examples - plan an evening menu, cook a meal, bake a cake, grow a plant from a seed, look after a pet (e.g. walking, feeding, grooming), help with grocery shopping

Any questions, concerns, or if you need to book a meeting with us, pop in after school or email us

Rachel - rachelp@northland.school.nz

Lyndsey - lyndseyb@northland.school.nz

Grant - granth@northland.school.nz

Reminders for the rest of the term:

Week 3- Good time Music Academy starts

Week 4- Kākā start swimming (Wednesday 19th of February)

Kākā trip to Space Place (Thursday 20th of February)

Week 5- Interzones Non-stop Cricket tournament for Year 5 to Year 8.

Week 6- Moving March starts today.

Learning conversations (Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th of March. Please book a time using HERO.)

Week 9- Pedal Ready for Year 5 to 8 begins.

Week 10- Western Zones Football

Pedal Ready finishes.

