

Whānau Kererū Newsletter

Term 4, 2026 · www.tps.school.nz · (09) 489 6339

The Team



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SCHOOL KEY DATES:

Please check the
TPS calendar [here](#)
for updates.

Kia ora,

We are very excited to begin Term 4 of 2026. This year has flown by! We hope all our students and families had a restful and enjoyable break. We have a very exciting term planned and many things for students to look forward to. We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our families who are new to TPS.

English & Maths

In Writing this term we will be concentrating on writing narratives while continuing to develop skills in other genres and core writing skills. Our Reading instruction is centred on exposing our learners to rich vocabulary, different genres and exploring novels. Handwriting and Spelling continue to be explicitly taught.

In Maths, Kererū learners will continue to have instruction in Number Structure and Rational Numbers. In addition, we will explore spatial reasoning in Geometry, along with area, perimeter and volume.

Physical Education

Our initial target this term is on learning and developing athletics skills in preparation for our whole school Athletics Carnival on Tuesday 10th November at Onewa Domain. In addition, classes will have weekly Water Skills for Life lessons. These lessons support children to feel safe in the water by teaching life-saving strategies. These are a compulsory part of the Physical Education curriculum so children must bring their togs on their class swimming day.

Te Ao Māori

This continues to be integrated through regular classroom programmes, including through our morning Paepae routine. In addition, your child will also be taught by our specialist teacher, Kipa Rangiheuea, for one hour a week of dedicated te ao Māori time.

Inquiry - the Science behind Cooking

This term, our Inquiry learning will explore the science behind cooking. Students will investigate how everyday ingredients change when they are heated, mixed, or combined. They will learn to identify changes that can be reversed, such as melting chocolate, and changes that create something new, such as cooking an egg. Through hands-on experiments, students will make predictions, observe results, and explain their findings. They will also investigate what causes apples to turn brown and explore how ingredients work together in a simple recipe. These activities will encourage curiosity, careful observation, and scientific thinking as students discover the science behind everyday cooking.

Puberty Talks

Nest will deliver puberty talks for our Year 5 students on 12 November.

Camp (Week 4, Term 4)

Year 5 and 6 students will attend camp at Camp Carey, Henderson from 4 - 6 November. At the start of term, we will be focussing on teamwork, effective collaboration and building resilience, all of which will support our students to have an excellent time at camp.

Year 6 Graduation Celebrations

This is an annual event and will take place for all Year 6 students on Tuesday 8 December. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate each student's journey through primary school.

Further information about Camp and Graduation will be shared via Hero. Please check these communications regularly for updates.

Ngā mihi,
Kererū teachers

T4 TEAM KEY DATES:

- 4th - 6th November: Camp Carey
- 10th November: Athletics Carnival
- 12th November: Year 5 Puberty Talks
- 8th December: Year 6 Graduation Ceremony and Dance

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Home Learning

Reading - 30+ mins daily

Some learners may bring home a reader from school. Others will be asked to read something of their own choice at home. If you would like to know how to support your child further with home reading, please get in touch with their guardian teacher. Finding books that your child enjoys reading can be a challenge. [Click here to explore Auckland Libraries books lists to engage children in reading.](#)

Maths

One way you can support your child's maths learning is by helping them to practise basic facts at home. Please reach out to your child's guardian class teacher if you would like ideas for how to support your child with this.

Parent Portal

If you would like to further support your child at home, we recommend using the Ministry's Parent Portal.

To see the year 5 curriculum on the parent portal, click [here](#).

To see the year 6 curriculum, click [here](#).

For maths at home, click [here](#).

Kererū Sample Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9 - 10	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Assembly/Inquiry
10 - 10:55	Maths	P.E - WSFL	Maths	Maths	Maths
Morning tea					
11:30 am - 1 pm	Handwriting Spelling Writing Library	Handwriting Spelling Writing	Handwriting Spelling Writing	Handwriting Spelling Writing	Handwriting Spelling Reading
Lunch					
1:50 - 3 pm	Inquiry	Maths	Arts/Inquiry	Te Ao Māori	P.E - Athletics

A sample of a Kererū classroom's timetable for the week. Please note that responsive teacher practice means there could be changes to what a class timetable looks like on a week to week basis.

Kererū Term 4 Planning Overview

Writing	Writing to persuade	Writing to inform	Writing to explain
Reading	Whole Class Shared Reading, reading groups and independent reading - teaching in response to learner needs		
Mathematics	Number Structure and Rational Numbers		
Mathematics - Strand	Geometry: Spatial Reasoning	Measurement: Area, Perimeter and Volume	
Health & P.E.	Athletics Skills: long jump, high jump, discus, hurdles and sprint Water Skills for Life Wellbeing - resilience and navigating changes		
Inquiry	Cooking is Science Investigating how the properties of materials and the changes they undergo help us understand what happens when we prepare and cook food.		
Spelling	Phonological awareness, spelling patterns and rules, word meanings, using prefixes and suffixes to make new words.		
Handwriting	Daily practise of, including an introduction to cursive.		

REMINDERS:

- **Hats are compulsory** this term. Hats must have a brim - no caps. Learners without a hat will have to stay under the designated shade area at break times.
- We encourage the children to bring a drink bottle filled with **water** everyday.
- Uniform reminder: Please clearly name all uniform items so that we can easily return lost items to their owners.
- Learners can be at school from **8:30am**.
- Please check HERO regularly for school communications and important notices.
- Any urgent messages during the day should be sent to the school office - office@tps.school.nz, as teachers are not checking emails during school time.

If you have any questions, please email or pop in and see us.
We encourage you to be proactive and make a time with us if you would like to know more about how your child is going at school.