

# Whānau Kererū Newsletter

Term 1, 2026 · [www.tps.school.nz](http://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 1 of 2026. It was lovely to meet with so many families during Te hui Whakapiri and take this opportunity to reconnect with you and your child. We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all our families who are new to TPS. We are looking forward to a wonderful year for all our Kererū learners.

### **English & Maths**

In Writing, Kererū learners will be explicitly taught how to build strong, clear sentences using sentence combining to turn simple ideas into more detailed and effective writing. We will then explore how to apply these skills to writing in a range of different contexts, including to inform, entertain and persuade. Through shared examples and guided practice, students will learn to make thoughtful choices about how they structure and present their ideas for different audiences. Our reading instruction will focus on exposing our learners to rich vocabulary and learning about the world around them through more sophisticated texts which the whole class will access. Handwriting and Spelling will also be explicitly taught as part of the English curriculum.

In Maths this term, we will begin by establishing positive relationships with maths, encouraging a growth mindset, teamwork, and perseverance as students solve real-world problems together. We will then move into statistical investigations, where learners will collect, interpret, and present data in clear and meaningful ways.

Later in the term, students will be introduced to number structure and the four operations, building a strong foundation for accurate and confident calculation. We will finish with a focus on measurement, specifically exploring length and mass through practical, hands-on activities.

### **Physical Education**

Our focus this term is on water skills and small ball skills. Water Skills for Life lessons 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, with an initial focus on Te Tiriti o Waitangi. 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**

In Inquiry, Kererū learners will be exploring how and why people migrate to Aotearoa, both in the past and present. The children will reflect on their own family history, and the journeys of their ancestors, before learning more about historic voyages to NZ.

Ngā mihi,

Kererū teachers

### T1 TEAM KEY DATES:

- 9th, 10th and March: EOTC (different classes will attend on different days; see Hero closer to the time for more information)
- 11th March: Whānau meeting about Puberty Talks
- 24th and 25th March: Parent Conferences

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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

A new parent portal has recently been launched, which provides more detail about the curriculum and how to provide support at home. 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	P.E.- WSFL	Maths	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	Maths	Visual Arts	Inquiry: Migration Studies	PE	Te Ao Maori

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 1 Planning Overview

Writing	Writing to Persuade	Writing to Entertain	Writing to Inform	
Reading	Explicit instruction using year-level texts, with revision of core comprehension strategies such as summarising and inferring. Encouraging children to develop a positive relationship with reading through regular opportunities to engage with a range of texts, including library visits and whole-class read-alouds.			
Mathematics	Setting up for Success	Statistical Investigation and Literacy	Number: Number Structure and Operations	Measurement - length and mass
Health & P.E.	Water Skills for Life Small ball skills - throwing and catching Year 6 Puberty Talks			
Inquiry	The connections between people An inquiry into how people, cultures, and ideas connect over time			
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](mailto: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.