



# WHĀNAU TŪI

TERM 1 2026 - NEWSLETTER

Kia ora koutou Whānau Tūi. A particularly warm welcome to anyone who is new to Whānau Tūi or our school. We hope your child is enjoying being back at school for 2026 and is settling into the rhythm of school life. As kaiako for Whānau Tūi we are grateful for the opportunity to work with such a supportive community. Te Hui Whakapiri was a fantastic start to the year as it allowed us to get to know you and your child better. Building relationships will continue to be the main focus of our classroom programs for these first few weeks. Relationships are a key foundation for learning to take place.

## THE TEAM

**Tūi A - Sarah Rickards**  
sarahr@tps.school.nz



**Tūi B - Marizanne Norman**  
Learning Leader  
marizannen@tps.school.nz



**Tūi C - Anneke van Eyndhoven**  
annekev@tps.school.nz



**Tūi D - Phoenix Ataria**  
phoenixa@tps.school.nz



**Tūi E - Kelly Sandrey**  
Learning Leader  
kellys@tps.school.nz



## CURRICULUM

### Maths

This term we are focusing on building a positive relationship with Maths which includes developing a growth mindset and learning that mistakes are apart of learning. We will also be focusing on Statistics as we get to know our new class mates and Place Value.

### Reading

Teachers will be setting up their reading programmes and you can expect readers coming home from week five. These need to come back to school each day in their bookbag, as we use them in class. Some learners may have choice in what they read each night such as graphic novels or chapter books. Your childs teacher will let you know. We encourage 15 mintues of reading each night.

### Writing

We are refreshing our knowledge of THINK,WRITE and CHECK. Teachers will be working with each child to identify an individual learning goal. Handwriting will continue to be taught daily with a focus on pencil grip and where letters start and finish. In spelling, teachers will be focusing on spelling patterns such as long vowels.

### Inquiry - Social Sciences/Aotearoa New Zealand Histories

**Ka mua, ka muri** – Walking Backwards into the Future  
Many journeys, many stories. This term, our tamariki are exploring how different cultures found their way to Aotearoa. Through stories, maps, conversations, and shared experiences, we are learning that every family carries its own history of movement and belonging. As we look to the past, we gain a deeper understanding of identity, connection, and the diverse cultures that make up our community. We look forward to celebrating the many journeys and stories that enrich our kura and would love to hear about your family's story too.

**Physical Education (P.E)** is focusing on small ball skills, throwing, catching and developing hand eye co-ordination along with body movement. **Water Skills for Life** is a key component. It helps to build confidence with regards to being in and around water. **This is compulsory.**

We're looking forward to a fantastic term of learning and growing together!

Ngā mihi nui,  
The Tui Team

## SCHOOL KEY DATES

**Week 7**  
16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> March - Culture Week

**Week 8**  
24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March - 1:1 Conferences  
27<sup>th</sup> March - TPS Tryathlon  
29<sup>th</sup> March - Shore to Shore

**Week 9**  
1<sup>st</sup> April - Last day of the term - Wednesday  
2<sup>nd</sup> April - Teacher Only Day - Thursday

**Term 2 Starts**  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April



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

# HOMELEARNING

## Reading & Spelling - 15+ mins daily

Some learners will bring home a reader. Others will be asked to read something of their own choice at home.

A notebook has been included in stationery so that you can record daily reading at home. Please record this each day in their notebook and sign.

A spelling pattern will be included in the notebook each week. Your teacher will advise you of the specific routine for your child's class.

# REMINDERS

- Please make sure your child has a book bag for readers and library books.
- **Hats** are compulsory in Term 1 and 4. It must be a brimmed hat and please name it.
- **Uniform** - Please clearly name all uniform items so that we can more easily return lost items to their owners.
- Please check **HERO** regularly for school notices.
- During school hours please contact the office for urgent messages. email [office@tps.school.nz](mailto:office@tps.school.nz)

## SAMPLE TIMETABLE & OVERVIEW

Here is a sample of a Tūi classroom's timetable.

Please note that responsive teacher practice means there could be changes to what a class timetable looks like on a week to week basis.

Each class may also adapt the timetable based on the needs of the learners

Reading, Writing and Mathematics is integrated into our Inquiry teaching. As a result the requirement to teach an hour minimum of Reading, Writing and Mathematics is deliberately planned for and met.

Sample Tūi Timetable					
	Rāhina	Rātu	Rāapa	Rāpare	Rāmere
	<b>Paepae - Start the day the Aotearoa way (karakia, waiata, pepeha, kupu)</b>				
9:10-9:50AM	Writing				Assembly/ Writing
10 - 11am	Fitness				
	Reading / Library Visit				
	11 - 11:30am - MORNING TEA				
11:30 - 1pm	Handwriting				
	Spelling				
	Mathematics				
	1 - 1:50pm - LUNCH				
1:50 - 2:45pm	Inquiry	Te Ao Māori with Kipa	Water Skills 4 Life	PE	Inquiry

Tūi Planning Overview				
Writing	- Setting routines - Focus of learners needs			
Reading	Reading routines and setting up groups. Reading is taught in collaborative groups this term based on learner's needs. Better Start Literacy Approach for some learners.			
Mathematics	Building positive relationship with Maths	Statistics	Number structure and operations	Measurement
Health & PE	Water Skills for Life and small ball skills			
Inquiry	Ka mua, ka muri - Walking Backwards into the Future - Many journeys, many stories.			
Spelling	Phonological teaching of spelling rules and patterns, understanding of word meanings and how we can change them to make new words			
Handwriting	Learning to form letters correctly/ sloping letters			
Te Ao Māori	Takapuna Primary School Tikanga, including Paepae. Te Reo kupu linked with Inquiry topic 1 hour with specialist Te Ao Māori teacher.			
The Arts	Weaving Our Stories: Discovering Creativity Through Fabric and Fiber			

TŪI

The purpose of this website is to share some online tools to use in class and at home.



PĀNUI  
READING

TUHITUHU  
WRITING

PĀNGARAU  
MATHEMATICS

## TŪI WEBSITE

<https://sites.google.com/tps.school.nz/tui2025/home>

This website is updated each term to include links for our Inquiry learning. You can also find resources for Reading, Writing and Mathematics.