

Moanataiari School Principal's Newsletter – Term 4, 2024

Kia ora koutou,

As we begin Term 4, I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our whānau, students, and staff. This is set to be a busy term with many key events and activities. Please take note of the important dates below, but remember that some may be subject to change. Keep an eye on regular updates through our school communication channels, i.e., Facebook (Moanataiari school), Instagram (moanataiarischool), Skool Loop (<https://moana.school.nz/download-school-app>) digital school sign and weekly newsletters.

Key Events for Term 4 | Ngā Takahanga Matua o te Wāhanga 4

Week 1: 14th - 18th October (Wiki 1: 14 - 18 Whiringa-ā-nuku)

- **Joanne away** – Monday & Tuesday, 14th - 15th October.
- **Thrive (Room Six)** – Wednesday, 16th October.
- **Touch Rugby Starts** – Thursday, 17th October.
- **School Assembly** – Friday, 18th October.

Week 2: 21st - 25th October (Wiki 2: 21 - 25 Whiringa-ā-nuku)

- **BoT Meeting** – Hui a te Poari: Monday, 21st October.
- **Year 7 and 8 Immunisations** – Wednesday, 23rd October.
- **Overnight Experience (Room 3)** – Wednesday, 23rd October.
- **School Beginners Evening** – Thursday, 24th October.
- **NZ Shakeout Drill** – Thursday, 24th October.
- **Teacher-Only Day (TOD)** – Friday, 25th October, with Waitakaruru, focusing on the *Mitey* wellbeing programme.

Week 3: 28th October - 1st November (Wiki 3: 28 - 1 Whiringa-ā-rangi)

- **Labour Day** – Monday, 28th October (School Closed).
- **Kāhui Ako Teacher-Only Day** – Tuesday, 29th October, for staff training on 2025 curriculum changes.
- **Whakatupu Tētēkura Full-Day Activity** – Wednesday, 30th October.
- **Year 8 Leavers Dinner Meeting (Room 9)**: Thursday, 31st October at 5.30pm.
- **School Athletics** – Friday, 1st November.
- **Halloween Disco** – Friday, 1st November.
- **PTA Bingo Night** – Saturday, 2nd November. A fun event for our school community – come along and support!

Week 4: 4th - 8th November (Wiki 4: 4 - 8 Whiringa-ā-rangi)

- **PTA Meeting** – Wednesday, 6th November.
- **Basketball visit (Y6-8 Boys visit) St Francis** – Thursday, 7 November

- **Super Smash Cricket (Years 5-8)** – Friday, 8th November.

Week 5: 11th - 15th November (Wiki 5: 11 - 15 Whiringa-ā-rangi)

- **Interschool Athletics** – Tuesday, 12th November.
- **Room 5 Trip to Karangahake Gorge** – Wednesday, 13th November.
- **Junior Athletics** – Friday, 15th November.
- **Hauraki Maori Festival (visit)** – Friday, 15th November.

Week 6: 18th - 22nd November (Wiki 6: 18 - 22 Whiringa-ā-rangi)

- **Mid-Term Cohort Entry** – Monday, 18th November.
- **Thames High School Orientation Day** – Wednesday, 20th November, 8:45 am. Meet in front of the Wharenui.
- **Te Karaka Camp (Room 5)** – Wednesday, 20th - Friday, 22nd November at Kauaeranga Forest.
- **School Assembly** – Friday, 22nd November.

Week 7: 25th - 29th November (Wiki 7: 25 - 29 Whiringa-ā-rangi)

- **Super Smash Cricket** – Tuesday, 26th November.
- **Junior Trip to Kelly Tarlton's** – Wednesday, 27th November.
- **Thames Valley Athletics** – Wednesday, 27th November.
- **School Assembly** – Friday, 29th November.

Week 8: 2nd - 6th December (Wiki 8: 2 - 6 Hakihea)

- **Life Education Trust Programme** – Monday, 2nd to Friday, 6th December.
- **Helpers' Morning Tea** – Thursday, 5th December, to celebrate the contributions of our amazing volunteers throughout the year.
- **Year 8 Leavers Dinner** – Thursday, 5th December.
- **School Assembly** – Friday, 6th December.

Week 9: 9th - 13th December (Wiki 9: 9 - 13 Hakihea)

- **Prizegiving Ceremony** – Thursday, 12th December, at the Civic Centre.

Week 10: 16th - 18th December (Wiki 10: 16 - 18 Hakihea)

- **BoT Meeting** – Monday, 16th December.
- **PTA Mufti Day** – Wednesday, 18th December.
- **Last Day for Students** – Wednesday, 18th December, with an early finish at 1:00 p.m.

Regular Events | Ngā Huihuinga auau

- **Pulse** – Every Monday.

- **Technology at Thames High School (THS)** – Every Monday.
 - **Punjabi Class** – Mondays, 5:15 PM, Room 8.
 - **Music Sessions** – Ngā Wātaka Waiata with Jess on Mondays and Tuesdays in the Radio Room.
 - **Waiata and Kapahaka** – Every Tuesday at 1:30 PM.
 - **Whakatupu Tētēkura** (Nurturing the New Shoots) – Every Wednesday.
 - **School Breakfasts** – Available Mondays and Fridays; students must arrive by 8:30 AM.
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Teacher-Only Days | Ngā Rā Whakaako-Kore

This term includes two important *Teacher-Only Days*:

- **Friday, 25th October** – Focus on the *Mitey* programme in collaboration with Waitakaruru School.
- **Tuesday, 29th October** – Kāhui Ako TOD, introducing staff to the upcoming 2025 curriculum changes.

The first of these days is an initiative to improve the well-being of our students, which the John Kirwan Foundation is sponsoring. Mitey will work with us for three years, providing coaching and programme support. The second of these days is a Ministry of Education day, working with other Thames schools on what we expect to change in 2025. On these days, our teachers will have dedicated time to prepare for the new initiatives and continue their professional learning. Our school year has been extended to accommodate the change.

Board of Trustees bi-elections | Pōtitanga-ā-Tau Rua mō te Poari Kaitiaki

During this term, you can expect further communication from the Board of Trustees about a bi-election for new trustees. The bi-election is likely for three places and will proceed either in this term or early term one. The board will be seeking nominations.

School van | Waka kura

The school van will be running as usual for most of the term. However, the van **will likely not be available on the following dates** because of class trips or camps:

- **Wednesday, 13th November.** Room 5 Trip to Karangahake Gorge.
- **Wednesday, 20th to Friday, 22nd November.** Te Karaka Camp (Room 5).
- **Wednesday, 27th November.** Junior Trip to Kelly Tarltons.

SchoolDocs

SchoolDocs is our school policy platform. This term we are reviewing the following policies:

Term 4 review topics

- Finance and Asset Management Policy
- Managing Income and Expenditure
- Financial Conflicts of Interest
- School Donations and Student Activity Payments / Attendance Dues and Other Income
- Expenditure
- Asset Management and Protection
- Property Planning and Maintenance
- Prevention of Bribery, Corruption, Fraud, and Theft

If you wish to participate in the review, please go to the site at [<https://moanataiari.schools.co.nz>] (<https://moanataiari.schools.co.nz>) (no "www"). The username is "moanataiari" and the password is "kuranui". Your involvement is valuable in shaping our school policies.

Absences | Nga ngaronga

Please notify the school before 8:45 a.m. if your child is absent. You can do this by phoning the office (8686504) or via Skool Loop or Edge (from Google Play: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?gl=US&hl=en_NZ&id=io.musac.edge&pli=1). Edge is the best option because it marks the roll directly. Edge also allows you access to your child's reports. The school phone to text is 02102634461.

Please mark these dates in your calendars, and feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the events. I look forward to seeing you at many of the activities this term.

Ngā manaakitanga,

David Brock
Tumuaki (Principal)