



2024 Start Date & School Terms

Term 1: Tuesday 30 January to 13 April
 Term 2: Monday 29 April to Friday 5 July

Coming up:

Mon 12 Feb Junior reading evening R2 3.15pm
 Wed 14 Feb Red & pink mufti day 🍌🍌🍌
 Fri 16 Feb Whakatau at 1.30pm
 Mon 19 Feb BoT meeting 5.30pm
 Fri 23 Feb Junior swimming sports
 Fri 23 Feb Seniors careers expo

Kia ora tātou

Our students are well settled back into the school routine now, and we have another very busy week ahead.

We need to raise money for an alarmed lock box for the AED which has been very kindly donated to us, and will be holding a mufti day this Wednesday, along with sausage and juicie sales.

Everyone is invited to join us in welcoming our new staff and families at our Whakatau this Friday at 1.30pm.

David Brock, Principal – Tumuaki

Reading in the Junior School Parent/Caregiver Evening Tonight at 3.15pm in Room 2

All parents/caregivers of junior students (Rooms 1, 2, 3) are welcome to come along to Room 2 tonight, 12th February at 3.15pm, to find out:

- * What reading looks like
- * What reading homework is like
- * Homework expectations



Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle



Dress up in **red** or **pink** this **Wednesday 14th February** to help us raise funds for an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) alarmed lockbox.

\$2 sausages and \$1 juicies will be for sale at lunch break. *Place orders at the kitchen window on Wednesday before 9am.*



Plus, guess the number of jaffas in the jar at 50c per guess.

Whakatau

Friday 16th February at 1.30pm

Everyone is invited to join us **this Friday at 1.30pm** for our Whakatau to formally welcome our new staff, students and families to our school.

We would very much appreciate a plate of food from our existing families to go towards an afternoon tea for our new families. Food can be left in our school kitchen before 12 noon. *Many thanks.*



101 Kuranui Street, Thames * Phone 07 868 6504 * Email: office@moana.school.nz

Moanataiari School Bank Account: ANZ Thames 01 0455 0108122 01

Junior School Swimming Demo

Our junior swimming demonstration will be held on Friday 23rd February starting at 2.10pm.



Te rerenga korero:

Whakamaua tō putae

Put on your hat

Tangohia tō putae

Take off your hat

Sun Hats

During Terms 1 and 4 children must wear uniform navy blue sunhats when outside the classroom. Children not wearing sunhats will play under the shade sail.



Moanataiari After-School Care

Our after-school care service will continue to run from our school kitchen and Room 4 library. The service is structured with homework supervision and assistance as well as fun activities with our very experienced and qualified teacher aide, Donna Weir. Bookings can be made through our school office (868 6504) or by contacting Donna directly on 027 547 9407. Casual or regular bookings cost \$7.00 per hour per child.



Kick Start Breakfast Club

We are looking for a volunteer to run our Kick Start breakfast club each school morning between 8.30am and 9.15am. Food is provided. If you are able to assist please contact the office on 868 6504.



Hockey Big Day Out

Many thanks to those people who have offered help for this event. More information will follow shortly.



Community Notices

Music Lessons with Jessica from Garden Music at Moanataiari School!

Guitar, Bass, Ukulele and Drums.

Instruments and resources provided.

Contact Jessica at gardenmusicaotearoa@gmail.com for more information."

EK JOT

Sikh Heritage School

Ages 4 to 16 years - 5 to 6pm every Monday
Starts 12th February at Moanataiari School

What we learn:

- * Punjabi language
- * Heritage and philosophy
- * Gurbani Santhya
- * Gatka, Kirtan
- * Turban tying
- * Bhangra

Enrol now with Jaspreet Kaur on 021 0295 2879 or Tajinder Kaur on 022 183 5515.

Organised by Thames Indian Community.

Reading in the Junior School 2024 (Rooms 1,2 and 3)

Reading in class has changed, and this is what you need to know:

1. Reading is still taught in groups.
2. Skills of decoding - segmenting and blending; handwriting, letter sounds, and letter names; making words and writing words as well as sight/heart words are taught throughout the week for the book they read that week.
3. It takes a week to read one whole book. We only read a few pages each day in the book - as the skills are taught.
4. The students are taught the skills to enable them to read the book, not leaving them to 'guess'.

Reading homework has changed, and this is what you need to know:

1. Students now have a small list of sounds and letter names to practice daily, along with words to sound out and read (segment and blend) and words they should learn to read (sight/heart words).
2. QR codes (scanned with a phone camera, which takes you to a digital copy) **may** be sent home by individual class teachers to be used at the caregiver's discretion. These should only be used at the end of a week once all learning for the book has been taught. **This is additional and not a 'must do'**.
3. Daily texts are not sent home however some classes may get other readers sent home.

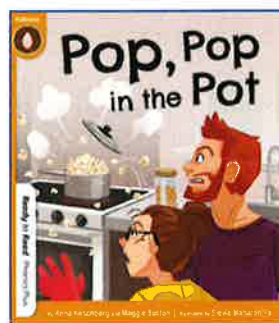
An example of the homework sheet and QR Code.



Focus sounds:
Vv Jj Ll
High Utility words
his, he, needs,
licks, him



Kākano - Book 1
Focus Sounds:
Mm Dd Pp Tt
Nn Aa Oo Ee
Decodable Words:
tap mat pot
Dad Ted on pet
mad Nat
Words you could help with:
a no her Mum is
Book:
Tap, Tap.



l e c f u b g r h



Homework should not take more than five minutes for reading. There may be other activities given further up to enhance Literacy and Numeracy skills.

We hope this has been helpful.

Kind regards,
Kirsty Bain, Pam Kruger, and Laura Pooley

January 2024 Garden Newsletter

Welcome back to the school garden everyone,

Summer has been reasonably kind to our garden this year. We have had sunshine and rain, our plants have mostly stayed alive and the weeds have not taken over too much!

Here are some pictures to compare January 2023 and this year.



January 2023



January 2024



January 2023



January 2024

We definitely have a lot of work to do. While the garden is dry it is a perfect time to begin gathering and storing seeds from our plants. Then we will clear the garden beds and prepare them for planting our autumn crops.



Te Ngahere is looking very healthy, many of the trees have new growth. There are plenty of weeds to pull out and some mulch to put down to keep it growing well.



Our Trees for Survival plants are growing beautifully too.



We are getting some delicious crops of fruit this summer. The Heritage White Peach growing by the Moanataiari St gate has a great crop. I cut up the peaches and put them in the freezer for us cook with later on.



I saved some of the peach stones so that we can try growing some more peach trees. We also have some grapes ripening on our vine, the grapes are ready to eat when they feel a bit soft and the colour has changed from bright green to a paler yellow-green.



The apple tree in the room 4 garden has a crop that will be good to cook with.



Our Māra Hauora has been growing for just over a year now. It is doing very well, the plants have made it through the summer. We will put some more mulch around the plants to keep them growing. Mulch keeps the moisture in so the plants don't dry out, it maintains even soil temperature, and blocks out sunlight to stop the weeds from growing.



Now that school is back we need to get our Moana Composters project up and running again. We need to encourage school families to sign up again. Families take home the containers to fill with food scraps, then they drop the full container back to school and pick up a clean empty one. Our job here at school is to empty the food scraps into the big compost bins and wash out the containers.





One of our projects this year is to transform this first aid shed into a Pātaka Kai. Pātaka Kai means storehouse or pantry in te reo Māori. It is a place where people can leave food for other people to take for free. We plan to involve our whole community in this project.

Another project that we are working on this year is our outdoor learning area. It will be in the garden behind our new library space, somewhere around where the boat and swings are. It will look something like the structures in these pictures:



Which design do you think would be the best for our school?



We have many little garden areas around the school that are waiting for us to come and look after them. We have a lot to do out there in the garden this term, I can't wait to get stuck in!



Look at what a great job Ms Trenwith's class have done already, wow! Next they will add some compost and aerate the soil so it is ready for planting.

Start thinking about what you would like to grow in your class gardens when they are ready for planting.

Here is a website to have a look at, it will show you what is good to plant for this season

[Planting Calendar](#)

See you all in the garden, Claire

How to Save Tomato Seed

By Kath Irvine



Be fussy about the seed you save, choosing tomatoes that are

- pest and disease resilient
- vigorous, unfussy growers
- delicious!

Left to their own device, tomatoes eventually drop to the ground where they rot and ferment, cleaning up seed borne disease in the process.

There are 3 main ways to save tomato seed.

- Ferment it first, then rinse and dry it.
- The plain old wash and dry.
- Squeeze the seed straight onto paper towels to dry.

Pick a big, healthy tomato from strong plant. Cut it in half and squeeze the seeds and pulp into a labelled jar. Be sure to get the big fat seeds in the middle!



Add water until the pulp and seeds are just covered and give it a good stir. Add water until the pulp and seeds are just covered and give it a good stir. Rest the lid on (don't do it up) so gas can escape.

Sit the jar in a warm place like the top of your fridge or a windowsill and give it a daily shake up. In 2 – 5 days time (depending on how warm it is) your seedy brew will be bubbly/ foamy and smell tangy – it's ready to clean.

Tip it all into a sieve, rinsing with water and rubbing with your fingers until all the goo has gone then tip onto a teatowel and pat dry.

Lay on a plate (still with the label if you are saving more than one variety) and every now and then shuffle the seed about to stop it sticking together.

When it's bone dry (in a week or two) store in a clean, dry labelled jar.



Grow Your Own Peach Tree

By Kath Irvine



Wait until the stones have dried out because they're easier to crack. Use a hammer and a gentle hand, lay the stone on it's side and tap along the join until it cracks apart. Inside is the kernel (looks like an almond).



Pot this into free draining potting mix. Sprinkle some leaf litter on top.

Leave the pot outside to keep it as close to what it would be like if the peach fell from the tree as possible. They need to get cold but not too wet.

In a few months they'll start to shoot.

When they out stretch their pot move into a larger pot. If the seedling tree is nice and robust (30cm-ish), plant it out the following winter.



GIVE CRICKET A GO!



SUPER SMASH HUB

**60 MINUTES
\$30 FOR 6 WEEKS
YR 1-4 / YR 5-8**



←
SCAN TO REGISTER NOW!

CATCH! STRIKE! THROW!

TOWN	LOCATION	DAY	AGE	START & END	TIME
Whangamata	Whangamata Area School	Wed	Year 1-4	14-Feb 20-Mar	3.15pm
Waihi	Waihi College	Wed	Year 1-4	14-Feb 20-Mar	4pm
Te Aroha	Te Aroha College	Thu	Year 1-4	15-Feb 21-Mar	4.30pm
Thames	Rhodes Park	Fri	Year 1-4	16-Feb 22-Mar	4pm
Ngatea	Hugh Hayward Domain	Mon	Year 1-4	12-Feb 18-Mar	4pm
Otorohanga	Otorohanga South School	Thu	Year 1-4	15-Feb 21-Mar	3.30pm
Morrinsville	Morrinsville Rec Ground	Fri	Year 1-4	16-Feb 22-Mar	4pm
Te Kuiti	Te Kuiti Domain	Tue	Year 1-4	13-Feb 19-Mar	4.30pm
Te Awamutu	Albert Park	Fri	Year 1-4	16-Feb 22-Mar	4.30pm
Tokoroa	David Foote Park	Wed	Year 1-4	14-Feb 20-Mar	4pm
Tokoroa	David Foote Park	Wed	Year 5-8	14-Feb 20-Mar	5.15pm
Matamata	Pohlen Park	Thu	Year 1-4	15-Feb 21-Mar	4pm
Te Kauwhata	Te Kauwhata Domain	Tue	Year 1-4	13-Feb 19-Mar	4pm
Whitianga	Moewai Park	Thu	Year 1-4	15-Feb 21-Mar	3.30pm
Tairua	Tairua Rugby Sports Ground	Mon	Year 1-4	12-Feb 18-Mar	4pm

TELL YOUR FRIENDS SO THEY CAN REGISTER TOO!

REGISTER TODAY FOR OUR AWARD-WINNING SUPER SMASH HUBS!

Enjoy fun, fast-paced, game-based activities with friends.

Head to www.ndcricket.co.nz/play and choose your area. Find the hub you want and enter registration details

PLUS! Purchase your Northern Brave pack at registration for only \$50!



WANT TO TRY OUT SOME GAMES AT HOME? VISIT NDCRICKET.CO.NZ/COMMUNITY-VIDEOS FOR IDEAS!

