

17 September 2025

Week 10 Term 3

Newsletter 14



Coming Up...

Wed 17 Aug	- Te Kākano (Years 1-3) speech finals - New board takes office
17-19 Aug	Last swim lessons for Kākano / Māhuri
Fri 19 Sept	- Sausage sizzle \$2 - Term 3 ends 3pm
5-11 October	Macawa ni Vosa VakaViti – Fijian Language Week
Mon 6 Oct	Term 4 starts
Wed 8 Oct	Drama Club to Aurora Centre, BHS
Tues 14 Oct	- HPV vaccination for registered Yr 8's - PTA meeting 7.30pm
Fri 17 Oct	- BHS entrance testing catch-up - Russley opening ceremony 10.00am
Wed 22 Oct	Te Kākano classes to Antarctic Centre



SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Parent Board Election Results

Holmes, Nicola	124
Peters, Ashton	104
Firestone, Isaac	87
Wang, Alan (Huijian)	54
Thennarasu, Sakthi Harish	53
Saleh, Mofreh	20

The following candidates were duly elected:

Holmes, Nicola
Peters, Ashton
Firestone, Isaac

School Staff Board Election Results

The following candidate was duly elected:

Barr, Rhiannon

Signed
Schooled Ltd
Returning Officer

TE WIKI O
TE REO MĀORI

14-20 o Hepetema 2025

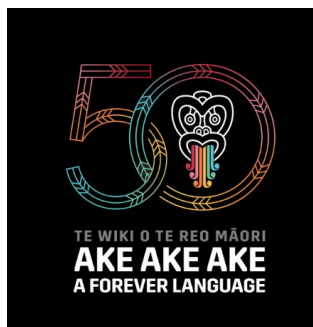


TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI
AKE AKE AKE
MŌ AKE TONU TE REO

Principal's Message

Tēnā koutou katoa. Nau mai hoki mai ki te kura Te Parito Kōwhai Russley School. We are now in the last week of school for Term 3, and looking forward to summer around the corner.

This week, Aotearoa New Zealand acknowledges Māori Language Week. Nga mihi nui mo te whakanui i te 50 tau o te wiki o te reo Māori. Congratulations on celebrating 50 years of Māori Language Week.



The theme for 2025 is "Ake ake ake – A forever language", encouraging all New Zealanders to embrace te reo Māori and incorporate it into daily life, work, and community. Language is identity, and hopefully you've been able to join the movement to support our 'forever language' *Kia māhō-rahora te reo – let's make it seen, let's make it heard.*

Board Elections

I congratulate the new board taking office today. Two existing members, Ashton Peters and Nicola Holmes, who stood for re-election were reappointed, along with new member Isaac Firestone, and staff representative Rhiannon Barr. Thank you to others who put themselves forward but were not elected this time. Your contribution ensures that school elections are a truly democratic process.

Teacher strike- advanced notice

I have been advised that NZEI members (our teaching staff) are planning to strike over the collective bargaining claims on October 23, Thursday of Week 3, next term. If the planned strike continues, the school will not open on that day. Should this situation change, I will update you accordingly.

PTA Quiz night

Congratulations and thanks to the PTA for a successful Quiz Night and raffle, and to sponsors for their donations. We had a full hall on Sunday as the PTA's first community quiz was run. A really cool event that brought together parents, students, and friends to celebrate whakawhānau. Thank you also to the student leaders who had a significant role in running the event on the day.

Strum, Strike, Blow 2025

Thank you to all the students who contributed to another successful Strum, Strike, Blow event, held at Wolfbrook Arena. This event enables students of all musical abilities to come together and sound amazing! Thank you again to Ms Lennon for all her hard work in coordinating our students' participation in this event.

2026 planning

If your child is in Years 0-7 and is not returning to Te Parito Kōwhai Russley in 2026, please let the office know. Email reception@russley.school.nz

Ngā mihi nui

Greg Lewis
Tumuaki
principal@russley.school.nz

Kōwhai Awards

Focus: Auahatanga

Te Kākano (Years 0-3)

Manu Lara-Fricker, Phoebe Oliver, Nina Penniall, Natu Desta, William Greenall, Hope Pearman, Te Koha Ryan, Clark Aliwate, Pepper Carmismith, Hins Chen, Meera Chouhan, Joyce Wang, Henco Jansen van Rensburg, Rjay Weaver

Te Māhuri (Years 4-6)

Divisha Kharola, Dylan Pomeroy, Ruby Yellowlees, Claire Beedie, Violet Cobb, Caprie Milosi, Shane Obrien, Mason Cox, Alexandru Maxted, Max Chiang, Senadi Gedara, Joseph Lim

Te Kōhure (Years 7-8)

Mia O'Halloran, Hayden Reed, Maggie Foley, Mahir Ali Hussein Ahmed, Beau James Fihaki, Lucas Braggins, William Thompson, Didi Obrien

Te Tohu Kōwhai Winners

Te Kākano — Zahria Sila
Te Māhuri — Isabelle McEwan
Te Kōhure — Zoe Wilson

Camp 2026

All Russley children in Years 5-8 next year will go to camp in term 1. Teams Kōhure and Māhuri will both be going to camp for two nights from 25–27 March. Year 5/6 to Woodend, and Year 7/8 to Hanmer.



Teachers estimate that camp will cost \$260 per child. The full amount must be paid prior to departure.

Families that find the cost a challenge may wish to set up a direct credit of \$5–10 per week. Small deposits, starting now, would put families in a good position to have paid the bulk of the cost by the time camp comes around.

Science in Action—Rockets and Flight

This term, students have been learning about rockets and flight. As part of this inquiry, students have been working on science skills — making observations, asking questions and building on ideas. Students have been able to use evidence to critique and improve their rocket designs to increase the distance they can fly. Have a look at some of the science in action.



Primary Schools' Winter Tournament

Russley's Year 7/8 hockey, netball and football teams qualified for this year's Primary Winter Tournament. The event is designed to provide opportunities for years 5-8 students to come together and participate alongside their peers from across the region in a variety of winter sports. Teams compete for their school within their zone. Congratulations to these teams on their achievements over the winter sport season.

Year 7/8 Netball



Poetry Competition

A senior group of Russley Writers took up the challenge to write poems for the international Given Words Poetry Competition. Poems had to include the words *justice*, *endure*, *pair*, *lightfast*, *hold*.

It was exciting to send the poems to Spain, where Given Words director Charles Olsen is based. Against stiff competition in the Under 16 category, it was great to have a line from one of our writers quoted by one of the judges.

Lamenting that the competition can't publish all the poems received, judge Sophia Wilson highlighted some "gorgeous lines from poems that did not make it in this time" such as: *'justice slips off of me like a stick of butter'* (Daisy Forster, 12)."

Read more [Given Words announcements & judges' comments](#) here.

Judges selected two poems by the Russley Writers' Club to be published on the Given Words website. Congratulations to Ila Rutherford and Jharred Jacinto. [Selected poems in the Under 16 Category published.](#)

Read more Russley entries on the Writers' Club blog: <https://russleywritersclub.blogspot.com/2025/09/lightfast-pair-hold-justice-endure.html>.

ezLunch

Lunch orders available Monday to Friday. Register online: www.mykindo.co.nz.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Keeping Ourselves Safe

Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme (Years 0 - 8)

As part of the health curriculum, all classes will take part in a personal safety programme, Keeping Ourselves Safe, in term 4. KOS is a comprehensive child protection programme in which students at all levels learn and apply a range of safety skills that they can use when interacting with others.

Keeping Ourselves Safe has three overall aims:

- to develop and strengthen children's skills to keep themselves safe with other people;
- to support and encourage children to get help from caring adults;
- to make teachers and parents more aware of the need and ways to keep children safe from other adults and children.

Children will learn:

- to work out when their safety is at risk, for example walking home alone in the dark;
- how to keep safe when they meet and mix with other people;
- that it is important to make and follow personal, family and school safety rules;
- who and how to ask for help if they, or someone they know, is being abused;
- to go on asking for help until someone does something to stop the abuse.

Children will know:

- that abuse is never okay;
- that abuse is never their fault.

We encourage parents to support their child by talking with them about what they are learning at school. This will help reinforce the messages the school is giving, and help your child to use their new skills with confidence. Before the programme begins, we ask parents to have a look at the information in this [Keeping Ourselves Safe presentation](#) as an overview of what the programme covers. If you would like more information, [here is an overview of the lessons](#).

If you have any questions about the programme, please email the leader in charge of your child's team.



Community Notices

NOW IN ROOM 4

OSCAR & MSD Approved WINZ Subsidies.



BUSY BUMBLES
Before & After School Care

Award Winning
Before & After School Care

<https://www.busbumbles.co.nz/Our-Locations/Russley/>

Karate At Russley

Thursday evenings. Junior and senior sessions. Phone Hayden 021 412212 or email hayden@takecontrol.co.nz

Badjelly the Witch on Stage

Knickers knickers knickers! Badjelly the Witch is back and she's hungry for some boy-girl soup! Will Tim and Rose save their cow Lucy from her evil clutches, or will they become Badjelly's next meal?! Luminaires presents Spike Milligan's classic story as a stage play on 1-5 October. Recommended for ages 4+. Book at <https://events.humanitix.com/badjelly>

Avonhead-Russley Scouts
Mondays, 4.30-5.30pm.
Ph Morgan 343 4364.

Awatea Athletics Club

Welcoming registrations for the 2025-26 summer season. Based at Te Kahu Park in Wigram and also train at Ngā Puna Wai Sports Hub. Our club is proud to be one of Christchurch's largest and fastest-growing athletics clubs, offering a supportive and fun environment for tamariki and rangatahi aged 5+, with a focus on participation, skill development and enjoyment. Season starts Term 4. Register at www.awateaathletics.nz Contact us by email at info@awateaathletics.nz

Holiday Dental Care

The Community Dental Service will be closed for the holidays. The nearest dental clinic open for emergencies during this period will be at 2 Hei Hei Rd, Hornby. If your child is experiencing dental pain/discomfort, call **0800 846 983** or email: commndental@cdhb.health.nz and one of our clinicians will contact you to make an appointment.

Badminton Holiday Prog.

For those who are undecided on how to entertain the kids during the holidays, join us at Badminton Academy's Term 3 holiday camp that's designed for players of all ages and levels. Professional coaching team led by Badminton Canterbury coaches and supported by national champions who bring proven expertise and passion to the game. For more information and to sign up, please click on <https://forms.gle/Zo1EqRzyH53B6j4M7>. Enrolment closes Mon 22 Sept.

Ice & Sky EXPLORERS' DAY

Saturday 11 October, 10am - 3pm
Air Force Museum of New Zealand, Wigram

FREE



Ōtautahi Christchurch

Riccarton Community Church

Free Kids Holiday Programme Years 1-6

Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd of October
10am - 12:30 pm
44 Elizabeth Street



Contact us: Christy
Phone 03 348 5507
Email: cpj@rcc.co.nz



Get ready for Term 4 — sunhats for sale at the office



Sizes: Sml 54cm, Med 58cm, Lrg 61cm

Made from 100% cotton twill.

Fade resistant, light and comfortable, elastic sweatband and name tag inside.

No cash sales; eftPos & Paywave available

\$12