



Homai School Newsletter

TERM 1 WEEK 1 2023 No.1

Welcome
Back to
School!

Kia ora koutou, Malo e lelei, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Kia Orana, Bula Vinaka, Aweh, Kia orana, Namaste, Talofa lava and warm greetings to all our friends and whanau. A special warm welcome to all our new families joining us this year. We look forward to working alongside you and your child or children.



In 2023, we are encouraging visible learning using our class sites which will be live on our school website: www.homai.school.nz in the next couple of weeks. We are working towards our parents and students have more access to their learning. Parents and whanau are also encouraged

to email their child's class teacher if they have any questions or concerns. We look forward to strengthening our relationships with our parents and whanau.

Our staff for 2023:

Principal:	Mrs Christina Patea	principal@homai.school.nz
Lead Coach:	Mrs Ashnee Ganess	aganess@homai.school.nz
Lead Coach:	Mrs Nirvana Rao	nrao@homai.school.nz
Lead Coach:	Mrs Uputaua Muaiava	umuaiava@homai.school.nz
Awhi Coach & LSC:	Mrs Melisha Chand	mchand@homai.school.nz
Waka Coach:	Mr Te Awaiti Te Aho	tteaho@homai.school.nz
Waka Coach:	Mrs Anne Forsyth	aforsyth@homai.school.nz
Waka Coach:	Mrs Krystal Woodard	kwoodard@homai.school.nz
Principal's PA	Mrs Bronwyn Waring	office@homai.school.nz
Office Admin	Mrs Margaret Murray	office@homai.school.nz
Finance Admin	Mrs Gayle Coe	office@homai.school.nz
Room 1	Mr Johnny Wallace	jwallace@homai.school.nz
Room 2	Mrs Natasha Tully	ntully@homai.school.nz
Room 3	Mr Peter Forsyth	pforsyth@homai.school.nz
Room 4	Miss Tracey Broughton	tbroughton@homai.school.nz
Room 5	Mrs Nirvana Rao	nrao@homai.school.nz
	Mrs Ashnee Ganess	aganess@homai.school.nz
Room 8	Mrs Uputaua Muaiava	umuaiava@homai.school.nz
Room 9	Mrs Krystal Woodard	kwoodard@homai.school.nz
Room 10	Mrs Manju Hindurpersad	mhindurpersad@homai.school.nz
Room 11	Mrs Radhika Raj	rroj@homai.school.nz
Room 12	Mrs Anne Forsyth	aforsyth@homai.school.nz
Room 14	Mrs Jacinta Chinta	jchinta@homai.school.nz
	Mrs Ruth Chandar	rchandar@homai.school.nz
Room 15	Whaea Michaela	mtaranaki@homai.school.nz
Room 16	Whaea Hera	hminhinnick@homai.school.nz
Room 17	Whaea Alice	aaubreykirkwood@homai.school.nz
Room 18	Matua Te Wairaka	tmartin@homai.school.nz



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Our Student Support Teachers are:

**Whaea Angela, Whaea Donna, Whaea Helan, Whaea Karen, Whaea Karita, Whaea Levi
Whaea Mary Alice, Whaea Marryan, Matua Sione**

Other support staff we have are:

Whaea Heather our sewing teacher will be working in Room 7 with some of our Year 6 students every Thursday.

Mr Stephen Mouatt is our caretaker who works full time.

Mr Clayton Friend is our assistant caretaker who works part time.



School Hours:

School starts at 8.50am and finishes at 2.30pm everyday:

Block 1: 8.50am-10.30am

Break/Eating Time: 10.30am-11am

Block 2: 11am-12.30pm

Break/Eating Time: 12.30pm-1pm

Block 3: 1pm-2.30pm

HOMETIME: 2.30pm

Our school office is open from **8am - 3:30 pm** each day.

School gates will be open each morning for school drop offs. They will be locked again from 9am and stay locked till 2.45pm. Please ensure your child or children are at school on time each day so they do not miss any learning or messages.



Term Dates for 2023:

Term 1 - Tuesday 31 January - Thursday 6th April

Term 2 - Monday 24th April - Friday 30th June

Term 3 - Monday 17th July - Friday 22nd September

Term 4 - Monday 9th October - Friday 15th December

Each term finishes at 1.30pm on the last day of term and we finish at 12 noon on the last day of the year.



Ways to keep in Touch: There are many ways to keep in touch with what is happening at school and you can email your child's class teacher if you have any queries. Please remember if your email, phone number or address changes please contact the school office. Download our school website to get up to date information straight to your phone.

facebook



Follow us on Facebook. [Homai School | Auckland](#)

Our school office phone number is 09 266 8918.



Our school office email is office@homai.school.nz to contact our school administrator Whaea Margaret.



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Meet the Kaiako/Whanau BBQ/Picnic Evening:

Next week on **Thursday 16th February at 5.00pm-7.00pm** we will be having a meet the teacher evening. This will be a great opportunity to meet your child's teacher and it is a great way to make some fresh connections between home and school and get the term/year off to a positive start. This is a relaxed meeting for the whanau of each class to meet their teacher/s and ask any questions about the year ahead. Save this date in your diaries: **Thursday 16th February 5:00pm to 7:00pm.**

We will have **FREE:**

- Bouncy Castles
- Face painting
- Sausage Sizzles
- Ice Blocks
- Drinks
- Mini Donuts
- Swimming pool open for whanau swim:
 - Session 1: 5.00pm-5.30pm
 - Session 2: 5.30pm-6.00pm
 - Session 3: 6.00pm-6.30pm

We will also have some stations set up with: local sports clubs for your child to register their interest, learn how to play piano/instrument lesson sign up, local kindy, skids program, other organisations in the community that can provide some support for you and your whanau.

Format of the Evening:

5.00pm - 6.00pm:

Families on rotation meeting their child's teacher under gazebo on Junior field. Teachers share the class programme, routines, expectations and a bit about themselves. Whanau have an opportunity to ask questions and complete 'Getting to know my child survey'

6.00pm - 7.00pm:

Picnic on the Junior field and relax and have some of the FREE food offered and you can also enjoy some of the music and bring your own picnic. This is an opportunity to mix and mingle with other families as well as staff. Please bring your own picnic rug/ drinks/plates/cutlery etc. so you can take your own dishes home at the end. This is an alcohol free event so please respect this.

6.30pm-7.00pm: School staff and Board of Trustees will introduce themselves and we will have our hamper draws for all the classes.



Welcome!

This site contains

Homai School's

Policies and Procedures

along with useful checklists and forms.

School Policies and Procedures: All our policies and procedures are available for all our whanau to view through our school website. Click on the link on our website and put in the following information: **Username:** Homai **Password:** homai

Complaints and concerns: We have a complaints policy which you can view on our school docs website. If you have any concerns please see your child's class teacher first and if you need to discuss your concern further please contact the school office or principal.



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BUILDING CONSTRUCTION



The construction of our NEW school building has been interrupted due to the weather. We still have lots of trucks coming in and out of our school carpark. PLEASE do not walk on the carpark road as this is dangerous for our students, please use the footpath to walk in and out of the school grounds.



We ask that you drop your children or child off in the morning and you will be allowed to come into the school carpark if we don't have lots of trucks. At the end of the day please park on the road and walk into the school to pick up your child. Please ensure your child comes to school on time and is also picked up by 2.30pm each day. Safety is paramount and we have had too many cars coming into our school grounds and this has made it very unsafe for our children walking in and out of the school gates. **PLEASE SLOW DOWN and BE MINDFUL OF OUR CHILDREN.**



School Lunch: All our students have lunch provided for them by the Ministry of Education for free. If your child has special dietary needs and the office is not aware of it, please contact the office and let us know.

Manurewa High School provides our students with lunches and we are super grateful. This is our menu for next week: (Monday 13th Feb - Friday 17th Feb)

Monday: Pulled Pork, Tuesday: Sous vide chicken Wednesday: Pulled lamb, Thursday: Chicken caesar salad, Friday: Beef Rogan josh wrap.



School Hats: The sun is getting hotter and hotter each day in summer. At Homai School students have to play under the shade when they forget to bring their hat to school. School hats can be purchased at the school office or uniform shop. Please make sure your child has a school hat to wear at school. We **recommend** they leave their school hat at school and have a muffin hat to wear to and from school. All students going on school trips must wear a school hat. All students who want to play in a sports team will also need to have a hat on.



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School Student Stationery: ALL students receive **FREE** stationery packs. Thank you to our Board of Trustees who continues to fund this for all our students.

THE UNIFORM SHOPPE
THE SMART CHOICE

School Uniforms: School uniforms can be purchased from The Uniform Shoppe in Manukau at 1 Ronwood Ave.



Term 1 Swimming: This term we have swimming as part of our Physical Education Curriculum. It is a compulsory part of the curriculum and we encourage all our tamariki to come to school every day with their togs and towel. At Homai School our teachers will be teaching swimming lessons for our students. Your child's classroom teacher will inform whanau of when their class swimming lesson will be. ALL students will need to bring their togs and towels to school. If your child

does not have togs, they may wear shorts and a tight fitting tshirt than a loose fitting one. Please remember to name all your child's togs, tshirts, underwear, towels. It is surprising how much clothing is left behind at the end of the day.



After school programmes for our students are offered by sKids. Palwinder, Marryann and their team do an amazing job with our tamariki. You may even qualify for an OSCAR subsidy through WINZ. If you would like to enrol your child with sKids please go online and complete the forms. <https://www.skids.co.nz/book-with-us/>

Breakfast Club: Our breakfast club is FREE and is based in the school hall and starts from 8.15am-8.45am with the amazing Whaea Helan. ALL students are encouraged to come to breakfast club to get a great start to their day and eat with their mates!



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Important Dates for Term 1: There are many extra activities that happen over the term and some activities are regular throughout the year. Here are a few to remember:

Newsletters: These come out to the eldest and only in hard copy each fortnight in Weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9.

Whole School Assemblies: These also happen fortnightly during the same weeks as the newsletters come out. All whanau are invited to attend any of these assemblies.

Frozen Fridays: We will be starting this next week every Friday ice blocks will be on sale from the school staffroom window. These will be \$1 an iceblock.

Wellbeing Wednesdays: All staff and students are expected to be off site by 3pm each fortnight Wednesday. This is an opportunity for our staff to work on their wellbeing. There are a few staff members who will remain onsite until the last child is picked up. Please do not be late picking up your children.

Cultural/Diversity Group: These will take place across the school every Thursday from 1.15pm-2.15pm. If you would like to come into school and tutor a group, please contact the school office or child's teacher. We would love any support from our whanau.

Date	Activity
Tuesday 7 Feb	Term One re-start
Friday 10 Feb	Whole School powhiri
Thurs 16th Feb	Meet the kaiako/whanau evening 5pm-7pm
Fri 24th Feb	Whole School Assembly
Mon 27 Feb	School closes @ 12.30pm Teachers @ Paid Union mtg
Fri 10th March	Whole School Assembly
Tues 14th March	SLC - Goal Setting Sessions with whanau 8am-7pm (Students work from home)
Wed 15th March	SLC - Goal setting sessions with whanau - 2.45pm-5pm
Fri 24th March	Whole School Assembly
Thurs 30th March	Whole School Cultural/Diversity Festival Evening 5pm-7pm
Thursday 6 Apr	Last Day of Term - 2pm finish



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Sports Coaching: Last year our students did an amazing job on the sports field. This year we would like to ask if any parents or whanau would be interested in coaching sports for our tamariki this year, please contact the school office or email Whaea Tracey who is our sports coordinator. We appreciate all the support we can get to give our

students lots of opportunities.

Counties Manukau Teachers United Paid Union Meeting 2 *NZSL Interpreters Available



Teachers Paid Union Meeting

School will close on **Monday 27th February at 12.30pm as all our teachers need to attend the paid union meeting.** All students will need to be picked up at 12.30pm. We will have a small amount of staff onsite who will be able to supervise children who are unable to be picked up till 2.30pm. Thank you for supporting our teachers.



Student Learning Conferences

Student Learning Conferences

We will be having student led conferences on **Tuesday 14th March from 8am-7pm and Wednesday 15th March from 2.45pm-5pm.** This is an opportunity for whanau and the child to set some learning goals for the year and we will re-evaluate our progress with these goals in Term 3.

On Tuesday 14th March school all students will work from home but school will be open for parents to come in and meet with the classroom teacher. More details will follow in the next few weeks.

STUDENT LEADERS APPLICATIONS: Next week Mrs Rao will be meeting with all our Year 6 students to give them an opportunity to apply for Student Leadership positions which will include Head Boy and Head Girl. This will open on Monday 13th February and close on Monday 27th February. Announcement for successful applicants will be at the school assembly on Friday 3rd March starting at 9.30am.



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Property Update: During the school holidays we have re-painted our whole school. We still need to complete painting for the roofs on the hall and also on Block 1 but we have to wait for the Ministry of Education to let us know first if we will be getting new roofs or if we have to paint our old roofs. We have painted our doors blue, yellow and orange so this matches some of the colours of our new school building being built on the field.



New Building: Due to weather, the area that was supposed to be for the concrete was filled up with water like a swimming pool and this has delayed construction works. With the weather not looking good again this weekend we hope that this doesn't do too much damage again.

Staffroom refurbishment - Our staffroom has been refurbished for our teachers, visitors and whanau to enjoy. We have also refurbished the outside with new fence and concrete for staff to enjoy and indoor/outdoor flow. I hope the staff get to enjoy this area once we get some good stable sunshine.

We are in the process of updating our 10Yr Property Plan with Watershed company and one of our priorities will be to upgrade Rooms 1-5 and upgrade our childrens toilets in this block as well. We will continue to keep you informed of various property projects.



Talofa lava and Kia Ora Koutou e te whanau. What an interesting start to 2023 we have had in Auckland. Thank you for your patience as we had to start a week later than anticipated. However, it doesn't mean we have to make up for those days at the end of the year. Let's hope the weather will start getting better with sunnier days and hope we don't get affected too much by the storm this weekend. Our students have returned back to school

ready to learn, thank you parents for all your support in getting your child ready for school. Please remember to have your child wear a hat to school every day and attendance to school everyday is very important. Ensuring your child gets 8 hours sleep every night is very important for them so they are able to stay focused and enjoy their day at school. We have started the year positively with a lot of new enrolments. We have opened a Junior and Senior Samoan class which we will have the official opening during Samoan Language week in Term 2. We start the year with our theme of learning which is **"Wayfinding/Navigating our way"**. Looking forward to an exciting year of fun learning with our students.

Fa'afetai lava, Arohanui
Christina Patea
(Principal)