



ISSUE 8 | FRIDAY 22 MAY 2026

WELCOME TO OUR

Pānui

Principal's Message

Kia ora parents and whānau

It has been a real pleasure to be on the sidelines at winter sports for the last two Saturdays. I've watched the Suburban FORCE netball team and the Suburban children who are in the Kaikoura Rugby Club Ripper Rugby teams; it's clear that our Suburban kids are enjoying getting out and taking part!



Last week we had our 100% attendance morning tea of hot chocolate and sausage rolls. Congratulations to Emma, Brooke, Charlotte H, Charlotte L, Emily, Kaia, Ned and Alice for attending every day in Term 1!

Congratulations to all of our cross-country runners who ran the course on Schroder's farm on Wednesday. It is an amazing course and I know of many schools who are envious of our hills, mud and tracks. Not all schools have access to such an amazing track to run on! A special thank you to Barry and Justine Schroder for allowing us to use their farm for our cross-country. They are amazing supporters of our school.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

	Boys	Girls
5 years	Luca Ben Louie	Lucas Emily Esther
6 years	Rowan Elia Parker	Charlotte H Noah
7 years	George Mels	Billy Maddy Ruby
8 years ☐	Hunter	Klara Addison MacKenzie
9 years	Mosē Trent Luka	Harper
10 years	Otis Maverick Oscar	Frankie-Rose

We also celebrated Support Staff Week last week. We simply couldn't do without our support staff who keep our school ticking over quietly behind the scenes. Lloyd and Helen keep our grounds and school looking clean, tidy and well presented, Annie keeps the administration under control and is the first friendly face our visitors see in the office, and our teaching assistants: Debbie, Ree, Tieasha, Calais and Abby all support our teachers in the classroom to do the best job they can do. I'd also like to acknowledge our volunteers who act in support staff roles: Madeline and Theresa. We couldn't do without any of you and we value your work in our school. Thank you to you all.

At last week's assembly, I presented our first 20 Tixie certificates to three of our students. Congratulations to Frankie-Rose, Karona and Billy for receiving 20 Tixies so far this year. There is a Suburban Wall of Fame outside Annie's office, where the students have their photo displayed next to the 20 or 40 Tixie certificate. Make sure you take a look. I know that we have several students nearing the 20 Tixie stage which is recognition of children showing our Fyffe FORCE values and I'm confident that we will have students at the 40 Tixie mark early in Term 3, if not before.

Congratulations to Harper, Ned and Noah for winning the FORCE Subway voucher for Friendship at assembly last week. Our Fyffe FORCE value for this fortnight is O for Organisation.

Attendance

Weekly Attendance Tracker - Week 3 - Term 2			
Whole School	Piwakawaka	Titi	Toroa
91.05%	85.88%	94.44%	92.27%
Congratulations to Titi and Toroa for having more than 90% attendance for Term 2, Week 3.			

Weekly Attendance Tracker - Week 4 - Term 2			
Whole School	Piwakawaka	Titi	Toroa
90.88%	87.06%	91.67%	93.18%
Congratulations to Titi and Toroa for having more than 90% attendance for Term 2, Week 4.			

Update regarding 2026 changes to curriculum and reporting. Over the past year, the New Zealand educational landscape has undergone significant shifts due to national directives regarding the NZ curriculum, particularly in English and Mathematics as well as Te Marautanga. Alongside these curriculum changes, the Minister of Education has introduced new requirements for how we must assess your tamaiti's progress.

While much of this national framework is still being finalised, I want to share what we know so far. It is a unique challenge for school leaders and the Ministry of Education when significant changes affecting our classrooms are first signaled via 6 pm news press conferences; however, we are committed to keeping you as informed as the current flow of information allows.

WHAT IS CHANGING?

Year-by-Year Learning: In the new curriculum, learning is set out in a fixed year-by-year format, with specific requirements for achievement at each year level. This is a significant philosophical shift from our previous model which acknowledged that children progress at different rates from different starting points.

New Progress Descriptors: The Ministry has replaced broad curriculum bands with five specific progress stages: Emerging, Developing, Consolidating, Proficient, and Exceeding. These are the specific terms we are now directed to use to assess your child's journey. Since we are required to assess using these terms we have chosen to use them within our reporting.

Increased expectations for achievement: The new curriculum significantly raises the expectations for achievement at each age. The Minister has lifted the floor, meaning the milestones for being "Proficient" or at the expected level are higher than previously.

For example, in Year 2 mathematics/pāngarau, students are now expected to:

Fluently solve addition and subtraction problems within 100 (previously, the focus was often on mastery within 20, moving toward 100 by Year 3);

Recall basic addition and subtraction facts to 20 with automaticity (e.g., $8 + 7 = 15$ or $14 - 6 = 8$ without counting on fingers).

Understand and work with fractions like thirds and quarters of a whole and of a set, a significant jump in abstract thinking for seven-year-olds.

Expectations for Year 4 Writing have shifted toward formalized structure much earlier than previously. An 8 or 9-year-old is now expected to:

Write multi-paragraph texts: Independently construct texts ensuring every paragraph contains a distinct topic sentence, supporting details, and a conclusion.

Master advanced mechanics: Consistently apply speech marks, possessive apostrophes (e.g., the dog's bowl), and correctly spell tricky homophones like their/there/they're.



Use complex linking language: Deliberately use transitional phrases (e.g., together with, this means that) to connect abstract opinions with concrete reasons.

Writing requires immense cognitive load. If your child is an imaginative storyteller still untangling homophones, the new framework may categorise them as "Developing." Please look past the label. We are dedicated to helping them meet these targets without stripping away their confidence or love for writing.

Standardised Assessment Tools: In line with national requirements, students in Years 3–8 must now be assessed twice yearly using one of 3 assessment tools. We are not trialling the new Smart Tool which has been given much media attention. At Suburban we are using Progressive Achievement Tests for Reading and Mathematics and eastTle for Writing. We are also using Phonics Checks/Hihira Weteoro for younger learners.

While we fulfill these obligations, our teachers will continue to use and value holistic evidence – classwork, observations, and kōrero – that we know truly capture a child's growth and progress.

Reporting

You will notice changes in your child's report at the end of Term 2. It is important to note that we are still awaiting clarity on how data feeds into these new formats. We are essentially navigating these new tools in real-time.

Our Teachers

This is a period of immense pressure for our kaiako as they absorb new curriculum content at pace; restructure established teaching programmes to fit new curriculum requirements and trial new assessment software and reporting formats simultaneously. This represents a vast amount of change in a very short window. I am incredibly proud of our team's dedication to our tamariki despite the challenges posed by the pace and delivery of these national changes.

We are making headway with our new reporting format that has been released by HERO. It is important for parents and whanau to be able to access your child's portal on HERO. The new reporting format is digital and in HERO and will be posted to your child's portal. If you are already on HERO, you do not need to do anything. You will continue to see your child's previous year's progress and goals until HERO makes the changeover in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions, come in and see me and I will try to answer them as best I can with the information I have.

Ngā mihi nui
Kylee Habgood

Date for your Diary

Term 2

Week 5

Tuesday 20 May – Board Meeting, 6 pm, Whare Ako

Wednesday 20 May – School Cross Country, Schroders Farm, 1 pm

Wednesday 20 May – Whale Run Committee Meeting, Whare Ako, 3:30 pm

Week 6

Friday 29 May – Piwakawaka Assembly

Week 7

Monday 1st June – Kings Birthday – School Closed

Friday 5th June – Newsletter

Week 8

Tuesday 9th June – Kaikōura High School Kapa Haka group visit

Friday 12th June – Toroa Assembly

Term 1 – Monday 2 February – Thursday 2 April

Public Holidays: Friday 6th February – Waitangi Day, Friday 3rd April – Good Friday

Term 2 – Monday 20th April to Friday 3 July

Public Holidays: Monday 27th April – ANZAC Day holiday, Monday 1st June – King's Birthday

Term 3 – Monday 20 July – Friday 25 September

Term 4 – Monday 12 October – Tuesday 15 December

Public Holidays: Monday 26 October – Labour Day, Monday 2nd November – Marlborough Anniversary Day

Enviro school

This week we harvested the pumpkins. The children will bring some home next week. We also had a dedicated group give the gardens a good weed and tidy up.

Office Admin



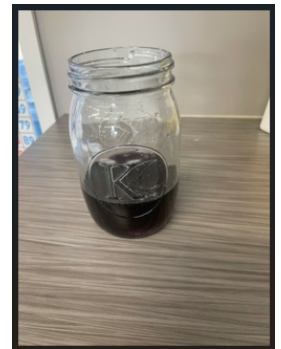
Piwakawaka

We have been writing factual stories about different animals. In the process we all learnt new information about the animals too. Here are some of our stories.

A boy rhino is called a bull. There are 5 different types of rhinos. Rhinos eat plants and grass. Ben	Foxes like to hunt in the night. They jump high to see their food. Foxes' homes are called a den. Foxes like to eat berries. Brooke
The polar bear has a thick fur coat. The polar bear has black skin. Emily	Giraffes live in Africa. It is hot. Giraffes are the tallest animals. Giraffes have purple tongues. Kaia

TITI

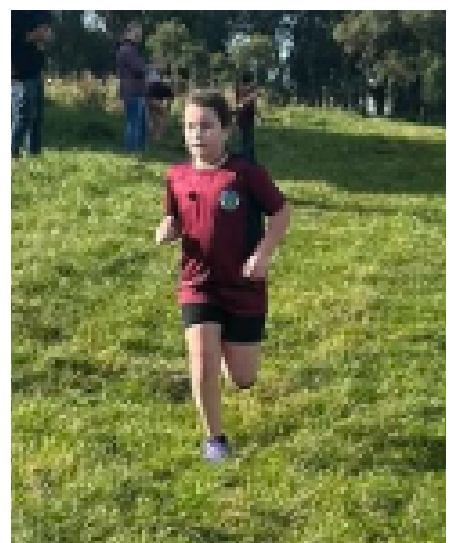
What a great and busy week we have had. We have been as clever as clever cookies learning about and using similes in our writing. We know what a hexahedron is and have made magic with milk. And what is hiding under the cloth? Time will tell...
For those of you who weren't able to come to our assembly last Friday, I have included a photo of model town, which we made with Mrs. O'Connor.
The highlight of our week has of course been our cross country. All of our training has indeed paid off.



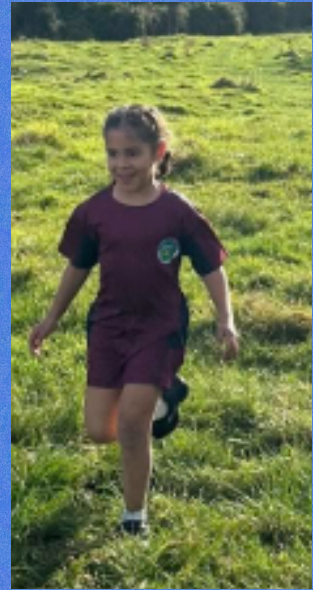


TOROA

Toroa have been working hard on their writing this week, creating stories about how dogs “see” with their noses. We have been focusing on the structure of introductions and conclusions, learning how to hook our readers in and finish our writing strongly. It has been fantastic to see the creativity and effort students are putting into their work. Cross Country was a fantastic event, with every student showing great determination and giving their very best effort. It was wonderful to see the confidence, resilience, and perseverance students displayed throughout the race, especially after all the hard work and training leading up to the day.



Cross Country





School Docs

School Policies and Procedures

All of our school policies are online. Every policy and procedure comes up for review every three years to ensure they stay current. You can view all of these by logging in with the details below.

<https://kaikourasub.schooldocs.co.nz/Logon.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

Community username

kaikourasub

Community password

fyffeforce

Policies for review in Term 1

Alcohol, Drugs, and Other Harmful Substances Policy (Board)

Sun Protection (board)

Digital Technology and Online Safety (board)

Cellphones and Other Personal Digital Devices

Uniform

Uniforms can be ordered through our school website at any time.

To order, go to www.kaikourasuburban.school.nz and click on the 'For Whanau' link. In the dropdown menu, click on the uniform shop. After you pay online, you will be notified when items are available.

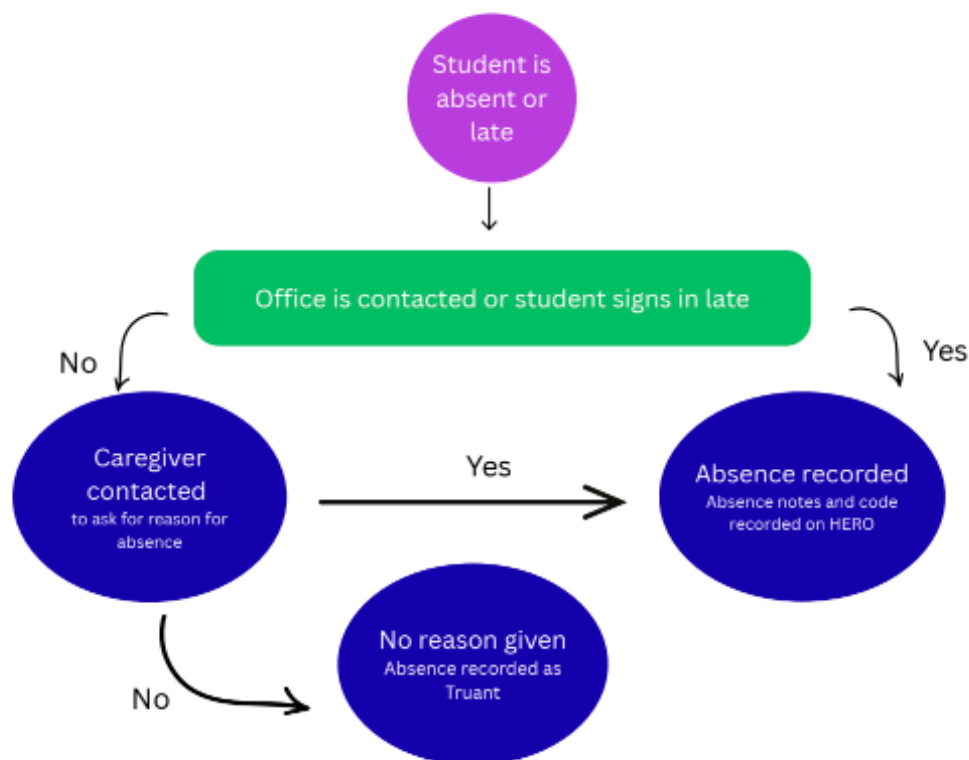
Police Vetting

If you are intending on being a parent help at school events or camps, can you please come and collect a policy vetting form from the school office.

All volunteers who work with and around our children require a police vet. This also includes coaching sports teams for our school.

If you have previously had a police vet done by Kaikōura Suburban School, please be aware that they only last for three years, so you may require another one. If you are not sure, please ask Annie.

Kaikōura Suburban School Attendance Procedure - For Whānau



More than 5 days absent in a term - 80-90%
Worrying Attendance - Possible Actions

- Contacted by office for reason of absence.
- Caregivers contacted by class teacher to discuss absences and next steps.
- Referral made within school to the Principal for monitoring.

More than 10 days absent in a term - 70-80%
Concerning Attendance - Possible Actions

- Contacted by the Principal to discuss referrals, positive behaviour plan etc.
- Student added to Attendance Register and monitored weekly.
- Positive behaviour plan created in collaboration with whānau.
- Referral to Health Nurse, Te Whare Putea, Mana Ake.

More than 15 days absent in a term - <70%
Very Concerning Attendance - Possible Actions

- Whānau meet with Principal to create an individual attendance plan.
- Referral to Truancy Services.
- Referral to external services such as Mana Ake, Health School, Te Whare Putea
- Continued monitoring of attendance by the Principal.

Kaikōura Suburban School aims to have 80% of students attending at least 90% of the time.
All justified and unjustified codes count towards days absent. It is important to record reasons for absence to help develop plans and support.
Early identification and support are vital to help address absences and ensure students are regularly attending school.

Our process will be:

- Parents report absences via HERO, SkoolLoop, telephone, text, or in person.
- Teachers login to HERO by 9:00 am and again at 1:40 pm to fill in attendance data. Relievers collect a class list from the Office Administrator, and this is returned to the office ASAP.
- Late students report to the office on arrival.
- The Office Administrator contacts the parents of unknown absentees and reports to the Principal daily.
- Attendance is uploaded daily to the Ministry of Education. As a staff, we look at attendance at weekly staff meetings.
- When attendance drops to 91% (more than 4 half days per term), whanau are contacted by the class teacher to make them aware and explain the next step.
- When attendance drops below 85% (more than 10 half days per term) the Principal contacts whanau to organise a formal meeting.
- If there is no improvement and attendance slips below 70%, then the Principal contacts whanau to discuss and then will make a referral to Truancy Services.

Please get your children to school as much as possible. Of course, all cases are unique, and we do understand life happens. We aim to work with and support our whānau to improve attendance across the school for all of our students.



Whose Celebrating A Birthday?

Happy Birthday to **Mavi**, 7th of June, and **Tyler**, who is also celebrating his Birthday on June 7th.
Have a fun filled day!

Cross-country racing unfolded like a flash, with the entire school dashing across the muddy course.



Biking is now very popular out the back of the school on the track.



In just 17 days, the countdown officially ends, and I'll be walking into the fabulous age of 11! I couldn't be more thrilled! 🎉

SEEKING EVENT CATEGORY SPONSORS

2026 Whale Run



2026 Whale Run Event Category Naming Rights Sponsors

We are offering an opportunity for our school family businesses to secure Event Category Naming Rights for the 2026 Whale Run. Only three sponsorship opportunities are available - 21km Event Sponsor - 12km Event Sponsor - 5km Event Sponsor

Your sponsorship package includes:

Naming rights to your chosen event category - Your business logo featured on all official 2026 race bibs for that category
Promotion on Whale Run social media in the lead-up to the event - Exposure on race day - Recognition on the Whale Run website
Exposure to 400+ entrants with numbers continuing to grow - The opportunity to visibly support Kāikōura Suburban School's biggest annual fundraiser - Ongoing brand exposure after the event, with race bibs taken home by participants

💰 Sponsorship Investment: \$500 per category - first in, first served!

Before opening this opportunity to the wider community, we are inviting our school family businesses to express their interest first.

📧 To register your interest or find out more, please contact:

kalkourawhale@ks.school.nz

Expressions of Interest close: 5 June 2026.

Your logo
here



Kaikoura Suburban School Home and School Raffle



RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

TICKETS
\$2

Buy a ticket to support the
children at Suburban School

Three Amazing Prizes up for grabs

- 1st Prize = Trailer Load Of Old Mans Pine Firewood
- 2nd Prize = \$200 New World Voucher
- 3rd Prize = \$100 MTA Voucher

Go in the draw to win one of three exciting prizes!
All proceeds go towards stage one of our new playground!

Tickets on sale now in the community
alternatively contact the school office on 03 319 5064 to purchase



Raffle Drawn Thursday 4th June



We are aiming to sell 1600 tickets

KAIKOURA COMMUNITY INVITES YOU
TO
CANCER AWARENESS BIKE OR WALK
On SUNDAY 24TH MAY @9.30AM

We all know someone affected by this disease, so
Please come along & help raise funds for our local
families who are having a real tough time.

Choose your challenge:

BIKE approx. 40kms, 22kms or Kids 10 & under with a shadow adult
14kms or less..... It's all good.

WALK The Town Trails 6 walkways 10kms, 2 walkways 7kms, or a flat
leisurely stroll 6kms....

\$5.00 per person, something for everyone, wear pink & meet
at the shingle area at the end of Hawthorne Road by New World

By 9:15 am, there will be plenty of parking

All proceeds will be donated to OUR LOCAL CANCER SOCIETY

Finish @ BEACH HOUSE CAFE for great coffee and kai!

Unable to bike or walk but want to donate & be part of this
community fundraiser, come along, wear something pink & meet
us at the BeachHouse Café about 11.15 AM onwards, or contact

Chris Boyd Re: making a direct donation 0272210869

SAVE THE DATE.
THE BIG BIKE FILM NIGHT
Mayfair Theatre
THURSDAY 28TH MAY @ 7 PM





In memory of Caryn Colombo, KORl presents

The Great Kaikōura Whale Count 2026

To get involved email GKWC2026@gmail.com

Sunday 31 May

GKWC2026 Launch at the Kaikōura Museum
15:00 - 15:30

Sunday 7 June

Kaikōura Whale Festival at Fyffe House
11:00 - 14:00

Sunday 14 June

Family Fun Day at the Emporium
11:00 - 14:00

Sunday 26 July

Project Jonah's Walk-through-Whale
experience at the Memorial Hall
10:00 - 14:00



Rātā
Foundation



KAIKŌURA MUSEUM
OUR JOURNEY
OKU HAERENGA



We want people from local communities to work in voting places and help people vote. The 2026 General Election will be held on Saturday 7 November and we're taking registrations from people who are interested in working with us.

Whether you want to work for several weeks or just on election day, there are roles for everybody, from students to experienced leaders.

**ELECTORAL
COMMISSION**
TE Kaitiaki Take Kōwhiri



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