



# ARAPOHUE SCHOOL

*Te ara ki mātauranga • The pathway to knowledge*

## Newsletter #7 2025 – Term 2 Week 7

### FROM KYLIE'S DESK

Kia ora koutou katoa,

Our term is racing by with so much happening that it is always nice to pause and reflect on what is happening at newsletter time! As the Matariki star cluster pops up in our night sky, it's a great time for all of us here at school to hit pause and have a bit of a think. The Māori New Year is traditionally about remembering the past, celebrating what's happening right now, and getting excited for what's next.

For lots of us, Matariki is a great chance to recharge our batteries (our wairua, or spirit!) and get ready for the year ahead. It's like a big reminder to take a deep breath, give ourselves a pat on the back for everything we've done, and set some goals for the coming year.

This whole idea of resting up and getting ready totally links with our local farming community. With the cows having a well-deserved break after being dried off, Matariki lines up perfectly with that vital downtime before the crazy busy calving season kicks off. Just like the land gets ready for new life, our farmers are taking this time to top up their energy and get prepped for all the hard work coming their way.

So, let's all embrace the spirit of Matariki together – a time to reflect on our journey, recharge our personal batteries, and get ready for new beginnings.

Mauriora,  
Kylie

### NEWS FACES

Last week we welcomed Sadie and her family who started at school with us today. I know Sadie will enjoy school life – she has made lots of friends already.



### CROSSCOUNTRY

I would like to congratulate all of our students who participated in the cross country – running is not something that everyone enjoys but it was great to see everyone training and improving on their own fitness – the perseverance and determination was admirable. We are also grateful to Adele Slater and the team at Ruawai who always welcome us to join in their event – what a great community we are a part of!

I would also like to acknowledge our 9 top runners who went on to represent our school at the Northern Wairoa Cross Country. They all ran incredibly well on a wet muddy course and had great results:

Sara finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the 8 year girls,





Leila finished 12<sup>th</sup> in the 8 year girls,  
 Jackson S finished 11<sup>th</sup> in the 8 year boys,  
 Layton finished 12<sup>th</sup> in the 8 year boys,  
 Gemma finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the 9 year girls.  
 Elsie finished 11<sup>th</sup> in the 10 year girls.  
 Stella finished 15<sup>th</sup> in the 10 year girls.  
 Jonathan finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the 11 year boys  
 Heidi finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the  
 12 year girls.



## LEARNING CELEBRATION

As per our last newsletter we have our learning celebration all set for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> of June at the extraordinary time of 6:45am!! Our Matariki

Celebration will involve welcoming in Matariki, the Māori New Year with karanga, karakia and waiata which our staff and students will lead. If the skies are clear we will do some star gazing before joining together for a shared hot breakfast. After breakfast we will have our students share their kapa haka performance with you. We anticipate being finished by 8am. PLEASE fill out the RSVP form and return to school by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to allow us to plan for catering.

Our Matariki Celebrations will continue the following day as we attend, and perform, at the NW Matariki Festival, Matariki ki te Wai, this year being held at Dargaville Intermediate. We invite all families to join us for this event. Please see below the approximate timetable. *We are planning to take cars to the event. If parents are attending you are welcome to take your children home after our performance, otherwise they will need to be picked up from school as we will not return in time for buses. **Likely pick up time from school would be approx. 3.30pm.***

Performance Schedule	
9:30	Powhiri
10:00	DIS
10:20	Te Kōhanga Reo o Te Puna o Te Reo o Takiwira
10:40	Selwyn Park Kindergarten
11:00	Selwyn Park School Juniors
11:20	Selwyn Park School Seniors
11:40	Tinopai School
12:00	Poutū School
12:20	Aranga School
12:40	Ruawai Primary
13:00	Tangōwāhine School
13:20	Arapohue School
13:40	Te Kōpuru School
14:00	DPS
14:20	St Joseph's Catholic School

## NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Board elections are coming up next term – if you are interested in standing for the board or would like to know more about what this entails talk to one of our existing members. We are excited that we should (hopefully) have the installation of some basketball hoops started at school this week. We are grateful to Basketball Northland for their support with this and for funds received from Sport Northland / Tu Manawa funding.

## GRATITUDE

Thanks to the Alver family for the generous donation of some winter jackets for anyone who may need one.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance updates were sent out to all families 2 weeks ago – as you would have noticed we are trialling different ways to share this information with you to give you a clear picture of where your child is at. We apologise for the typo in this letter which may have caused confusion – the attendance shown was for Term 2 only – the first four weeks (to be specific up until the morning of Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> where we took the data to start graphing.) Justified absences such as sickness and tangi are exactly that – justified. The magenta coloured unjustified absence is where we would like to a reduction.

## ASSEMBLY

On Friday our assembly was run by Rākau who shared learning that they had been doing in class. It was great to see the independence and leadership that our seniors take when it comes to choosing what work they would like to share and how they would like the assembly run.

Class awards went to: Matthew, Rowan, Leila, Harper, Alivia and Bella - Congratulations!



Mr Neighbours, our principal for the hour, was happy to award the following Path Card Draw winners to spin the wheel were: Phoenix who won Principal for an hour, Lachlan and Stella who both won Free Time with a Friend.

He was also so impressed with the behaviour that he chose to give ALL students an extended break time!

## UPDATING CONTACT DETAILS

Since enrolling your child at Arapohue School, have any of your contact details or their medical details (including vaccination record) changed that you may not have updated us with? If yes, please let us know in the office or use the 'Update Contact Details' button at the bottom of our website homepage so we can keep all information current.

## PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATION

A reminder from Health New Zealand to check on your **entire** family's vaccination status for the measles virus and book vaccinations/boosters if required to build community immunity. You can contact your GP or call Healthline free on [0800 611 116](tel:0800611116), anytime 24/7.

There have also been prevalent cases of Scabies in Northland recently. Please see the info page at the end of this newsletter for further information.

A reminder that our school's allocated Public Health Nurse may be able to help with minor health issues in your children, please contact the office if you have and queries.



## BUS/PICKUP CHANGES

Please ensure any changes to afternoon bus/pickup routines are phoned (4397513), texted (02108826534), or emailed (rochelle@arapohue.school.nz) to the office prior to 1pm. The office is unmanned after that time and our other staff are in class teaching. While we do our best to accommodate, we cannot guarantee last minute messages are cleared in time.

## NEWS FROM KĀKANO

In Kākano we have been learning about what makes a good piece of writing. We know that a good piece of writing has an interesting and informative introduction, a detailed main body and a satisfying conclusion. Good writing also uses linking words and descriptive language effectively. Here is a piece of writing that we have created together.

### The Differences between Honeybees and Bumble Bees.

Go outside and you will see flowers, fruit, and vegetables. You'll also see lots of bees, Honeybees and bumblebees. There are five main differences between honeybees and bumble bees.

The first difference is that bumblebees have 24 different species that have different stripes. Honeybees on the other hand have only one species.

Secondly, bumble bees don't have a hive, but honeybees do have a hive. Bumble bees are wild.

Humans help honeybees by planting flowers and making hives for them. We like to eat the honey that they make, and we help them to stay alive in winter.

Another way they are different is their appearance. Bumblebees have a deep hum. Honeybees don't. You can only hear it when it's close. Honeybees are slim and shiny like wasps. However, bumblebees are fat, fuzzy and furry like a hamster or a pom pom.

Honeybees gather pollen to eat in the winter. On the other hand, bumblebees don't because they die. Except the queen bee. She hibernates by herself.

Finally, Bumblebees are super pollinators. They have 24 types of tongues unlike honeybees that have one species and only one type of tongue. Bumblebees have long tongues to suck the pollen out of the flowers. However, honeybees don't have a long tongue. They only pollinate wide open flowers.

So, when you go outside, look around and find the bees in amongst the flowers. Can you tell the difference?

## NEWS FROM MĀHURI

Kia ora e te whanau,

Over the past three weeks Māhuri students have continued to practise their story telling and writing their stories in engaging ways. I encourage you to ask them to share some stories with you, as it helps with confidence.

We have just completed our last science kit for the term; 'What do You Think?' Which encouraged the students to use their scientific skills to predict what was in the mystery box, or what they thought was going to happen. It was great to see students using their natural curiosity and asking lots of questions.

With Cross Country done and dusted for another year, I felt super proud of the effort the students applied not only in their training, but also on the day, with a record number of students attending the NW event.

As our term draws to a close, we continue to prepare for our end of term assembly with puppet story-telling and regular practise for the upcoming Matariki celebration. I look forward to seeing some of you at our dawn welcome and early breakfast in week nine. Hope you're keeping warm as winter wraps around us.

### **Anahera and the Kites**

Many moons ago, there lived a little girl named Anahera. She was very beautiful and lived in a small Māori village.

It was two days before the biggest tradition in their country: Matariki. There were hangi, gatherings and most importantly, the kites. Every year she would sit and watch the mystical kites rise into the sky; they were most beautiful at night. They glowed in the light of the stars and moon. On the perfect, spotless nights, with no clouds the light shone down creating unreal colours. This year was special, because Anahera was old enough to fly her own kite. Anahera decided to make a mind-blowing kite that everyone would remember.

The next morning Anahera collected the materials, gathering the best of the best for her very first kite. There were harakeke strips, Pohutukawa flowers, sophora and korokia. Arahura used a Moa bone - that had been passed down through her ancestors - to cut the shrubs.

Night came and she stared at the stars as she weaved. She believed that if she looked at the moon while she worked it would bring good luck. She imagined the stars weaving themselves into the kite, wrapping in the bright life with them. Anahera wanted her kite to be as beautiful as her, nothing could go wrong.

The day of Matariki came faster than she thought, the day was cool, with a warm breeze swirling around the crowd of people. Her kite was ready. She hoped the message she had implanted in it, would reach the stars and gods. A storm of children came running past, Anahera tried to shield the kite, but the group of children were running too fast and smashed into her kite! It was nearly time to send the kites; she would never fix it in time! Until something fell softly on the grass in front of her. It was light and shone brightly. It was a star. Anahera took the star; it was like a message from the gods. She used the gold star to bind the kite back together; she joined the other kites and was ready to launch it. It sprang to life, dancing in the sky. The small flower strips at the bottom swaying to and fro in the wind. Dancing like clouds on a sunny day. Her kite was sent along with her message.

**By Stella.M.H**

## NEWS FROM RĀKAU

### Kia ora whānau,

It's hard to believe we're already in Week 7! Rākau has certainly been busy over the past few weeks, with lots of exciting learning and activities happening in and out of the classroom.

We were lucky to receive a new science kit titled "*What Do You Think?*" which explored the nature of science and how scientists work. The students loved engaging in hands-on activities that got them thinking, questioning, and experimenting just like real scientists. We're also in full swing preparing for the upcoming Matariki Festival, which will be held at Dargaville Intermediate in just a few weeks. Rākau has been working hard on their performances, and I'm sure many of you have already heard the catchy waiata being sung at home! They're sounding and looking incredible.

Over the past couple of weeks, the students have also been training daily for cross country. Their efforts paid off at the recent Cross Country event in Ruawai and the NW Cross Country Event at Te Kopuru, where they represented Arapohue School with pride. Ka rawe, tamariki mā!

In class, we're continuing our focus on measurement, decimals, percentages, and sharpening our basic facts. It's been great to see students improving their times tables in our daily multiplication speed tests – their progress is really showing!

Our writing programme has been exploring different ways we can tell stories. Students have been working with Mrs Piper to create their own digital stories, which has been an exciting and creative journey. I've also been working with them on sentence types and structure to strengthen their writing skills. Over the next few weeks, we'll be diving into information reports – a form of writing that teaches students how to research, organise, and present factual information clearly and effectively.

Below are some wonderful writing samples from our Rākau students – we hope you enjoy reading them!

Ngā mihi,  
Miss Mitchell

### The Forest

After a long hot day at work I decided to take a relaxing bath. I turned the tap which made a loud squeak, as the water splashed down into the tub. While the bath filled, the water began to fizz and swirl. I reached out and touched the water which started to glow. I hop into the bath and feel myself sinking deep down into the water. Suddenly I appear in a forest. The bath became a portal to a mysterious place. I had landed in a dinosaur's faeces. I started to crack up and decided to go on an adventure. I heard a noise and found a waterfall so I decided to go wash myself and found dragons and dinosaurs and then I made a bow and arrow and I shot the dinosaur in the heart and I yelled victory!

### Part Two

Later, I went for a walk and started to build a small hut. After that, I gathered some sticks to make a fire. Feeling tired, I lay down and dozed off to sleep. In the morning, I finished building my hut and cooked up some breakfast – dinosaur meat! It was surprisingly tasty. The smoky smell filled the forest air making it feel like a campsite. Afterwards I caught some fish for lunch and devoured it. While looking around, I spotted a stampede of triceratops coming towards me. I dashed into the nearby forest to hide. But they kept following me, crashing through the trees.

Suddenly, I woke up in the bath. Was it all just a dream?

***By Matthew Brogden***

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My EPIC game

Yesterday I played Super Smash Bros. My favourite character to use is Link. He is a brave young Hero from the legend of Zelda. He wears a green tunic and carries a sword and shield. The reason why I chose him is because he makes some good fighting attack combos. In some battles I use something called a bomb jump. A bomb jump is when Link uses a bomb to blast himself across a gap into a higher place. When I use a final smash Link uses a big bow to snipe anyone who's in front of him. This then causes the opponent to take a lot of damage in the final smash. Why do I like SSMU is I like playing Super Smash Bros because it is an adventurous game that is pretty epic to play, there are lots of different levels to reach and so many characters to choose from.



**By Jackson A**

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### *Why Animal Cruelty Should Be Banned*

Now, I know what all of you guys are thinking about, 'It's already been banned' and that it is illegal to abuse animals. Yes, you are right, but some people still get by, by calling it 'treating them how they are bred to'. But that's just wrong, even with people mass breeding rare dog and cat breeds to sell their offspring, to get rich. Imagine being in a world, when you turn ten you have to start reproducing until you are so weak that you die of unsanitary reasons. That's just wrong in SO many ways. Firstly, these rare breeds aren't even treated properly, they aren't spayed and probably still get abused by their 'owners'. They are usually kept in someone's garage or basement where so many diseases spread, and the poor animals get fleas and worms and never get treated for them!

A few ways for you to tell that they are not treated properly, is their fur and claws. If the breed is supposed to have big, fluffy fur, and it looks like it is very fluffy, make sure to pet it (if it's friendly) and feel if it has thick fur. If it has thin, ragged fur then that's one of the signs that it isn't cared for properly. Another sign is the animal's claws. A cat or dog's claws are supposed to be sturdy, and if you don't know this, their claws are made of layers and layers of nail material, like our nails. If you look closely at a poorly cared for animal's claws, they will look like the layers are falling off, or crumbling.

Getting out of the house pet zone and more into the farm zone. Cattle and sheep that are shredded for meat don't even live their best life before they get shredded! They live on mud farms and walk in and on their own dung. Chicken all over the world get tortured as well, trapped in cages in enormous factories all over the world, being forced to lay eggs every day. They get fed un-nutritious grains and are forced to stand day and night. These animals are forced into these tortuous environments all over the world, with no consent. Just to feed us humans, the killers of all of them. This is pure torture.

The over-breeding, the mud farms, the torture is just too much. Us humans were introduced into this ecosystem to help, and nurture nature. But we did the exact opposite. We cut down trees, poisoned the land, just so that our life would be easier. We trapped the animals that owned the land, killed them, and fed them to our young. We introduced plastic and threw it away the next day. We destroyed the environment just so that we could repopulate and destroy even more. Our way of living is not sustainable, especially with the killing of animals. That is why I am writing this, to give you, the reader, some self-awareness on what is happening throughout the world to these poor animals. See an animal in distress, be the one to call the best.

***By Rowan Aurelia Van Den Berg***

[laura@arapohue.school.nz](mailto:laura@arapohue.school.nz)

Ngā mihi,

Miss M

## PAPER BAGS

If anyone has surplus paper shopping bags we have many uses for them and would be grateful to receive any you may have available.

## SCHOOL DOCS

Don't forget to log on to Schoolboys to complete this terms reviews:

<https://arapohue.schooldocs.co.nz/>

User name: arapohue PW: path

Term 2 policies	Review opens 28 April
• <b>Planning and Preparing for Emergencies, Disasters, and Crises</b>	Board review
• <b>Communication During an Emergency, Disaster, or Crisis</b>	Board review
• <b>Emergency Closure</b>	Board review
• <b>Emergency Management</b>	
• <b>Disaster Management</b>	
• <b>Crisis Management</b>	

### 2025 Some Dates to Remember

Monday	9 June	Newsletter
Wednesday	18 June	Learning Celebration – Shared Breakfast Board Meeting
Thursday	19 June	NW Matariki Celebration at Dargaville Int School
Friday	20 June	Matariki Statutory Holiday
Thursday	26 June	Reports Home Seniors last day of technology
Friday	27 June	Last Day Term 2
Monday		First Day Term 3





# ARAPOHUE SCHOOL


*Te ara ki mātauranga • The pathway to knowledge*


*You are invited to our*


## *Term 2 Learning Celebration*

**Join us in welcoming in Matariki, the Māori New Year**

**Please RSVP by 13.6.2025**

**Date: Wednesday, 18th June 2025**

**Location: Arapohue School**

**Time: 6.45 AM – 8 AM**



### **Learning Celebration RSVP**

Our family will be attending the learning celebration on Wed 18th June

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Return by 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025

NW Matariki Festival – Matariki kie te Wai

I am / am not able to provide transport and supervision to the NW Matariki Festival at DIS

I am able to provide transport for \_\_\_\_\_ students.

My car is warranted and registered YES / NO

I have a full driver's licence YES / NO

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Scabies

(you say, skay-bees)

Scabies is caused by a tiny insect known as a mite which digs under the skin and lays eggs. Small blisters grow on the skin above each egg and the skin gets very itchy. The redness and small blisters look like a rash on the skin.

The scabies rash may start anywhere but it is usually between fingers, on wrists, inside the elbow, around the waist, on the bottom or private parts and under armpits.



## What to do

- Go to a doctor or call the school nurse or public health nurse to get an insecticide (you say, insect-a-side) cream to kill the mites. If your child is under 2 years old, they may need a different treatment so make sure you check with your doctor or nurse.
- Get enough cream to treat everyone in the household. Everyone should be treated even if they don't have a rash or itch.
- Apply cream to everyone in the family or household on the same day.
- The cream has to go all over the body, from head to toe - including the soles of feet.
- The cream must be left on overnight.
- On the same day as putting the cream on everyone you also need to wash all sheets, pillow cases, towels and clothes in hot water - or you need to put these things into a sealed plastic bag for 5 days to kill the mites. If you don't do these things, the mites will reinfect your family.
- Hang quilts and blankets outside for a day so the sun can kill any mites.
- Check other family members for scabies.

## Time off from kura or school

At least one day after treatment with the insecticide cream.

## What to do if scabies get worse

- Once you have killed the scabies mites with the cream, the sores or the rash will stop growing but it will still be itchy for up to four weeks.
- The sores and rash can become infected.
- Go to the doctor if the sores or rash gets redder, warm, start swelling or have pus. This could be cellulitis.

You may also need to repeat the treatment of the whole family with the insecticide cream.

If your child's scabies has turned to cellulitis, your child may need blood tests and antibiotics.



## How is scabies spread?

Skin contact with the infected person, and sharing sheets and clothes.



It is important to take the antibiotics every day until they are finished, even if the scabies has cleared up earlier. The antibiotics need to keep killing the infection in the body after the skin has healed.