



ABSENTEES: SKOOL LOOP OR 07 3666 814 / BUS CHANGES: 07 3666 814 (LEAVE A MSG) / DENTAL UNIT: 0800 525 378

Principal Report

Term 3 2026
Week 3

Woohoo the Ministry of Education has informed us that we are eligible for a fourth teacher. This is fantastic news as it will enable us to split into four classes, while reducing our class sizes. I will be advertising this position and hopefully filling the role soon. We will utilise the classroom next to the staffroom for our forth class and rename classes to reflect the age levels in each. The classes will be split into Year groups: Kakano 0-1, Tupu 2-3, Mahuri 4-5 and Rakau 6-8. This gives us an even spread across in numbers and the year levels.

Further to the anti bullying policy update. It is important to realise: is it Rude, is it Mean or is it Bullying. While all three involve negative or hurtful interactions, they differ significantly in intent, frequency, and power dynamic. Recognizing these distinctions helps us respond appropriately rather than treating a brief lapse in manners the same as systematic harassment.

Behaviour	Definition	Key Characteristics	Example
Rude	Inadvertently saying or doing something that hurts or offends someone due to poor manners, social errors, or lack of awareness.	Unintentional, impulsive, usually a single event, not aimed at causing deep emotional harm.	Burping loudly, cutting in line, or texting continuously while someone is talking to you.
Mean	Intentionally saying or doing something hurtful to another person, usually out of anger or frustration in the moment.	Intentional, often driven by temporary emotion, typically occurs once or twice without an ongoing power imbalance.	Making a sharp comment about someone's appearance during an argument or saying, "You can't play with us today."
Bullying	Intentionally cruel behaviour aimed at hurting, intimidating, or humiliating someone, backed by an imbalance of power.	Intentional, persistent/repetitive, and involves a clear power dynamic (physical, social, or psychological).	Continually spreading rumours to isolate a peer, repeated physical harassment, or persistent cyber-abuse over weeks.

Why the Difference Matters: Over-labeling dilutes the term: Calling every rude act "bullying" makes it harder to identify and address severe, systematic abuse when it occurs. Solutions require different approaches: Rude behaviours require social manners coaching; mean behaviours require conflict resolution and emotional regulation; bullying requires immediate, direct intervention and adult or institutional authority.

When I am dealing with students' issues or concerns I will always take the time to get to the bottom of things. Children are very good at telling you what the other person did but struggle when they are asked to start their sentence with "I" to express what they have done as well. The phrase "there are three sides to every story: your side, my side, and the truth" captures the reality of human perception and conflict. It highlights how objective facts get filtered through subjective experiences.

- Your Side (Subjective Reality A): Built on your personal perspective, memories, emotions, and self-interest. You judge yourself by your intentions ("I didn't mean to upset you"), which makes your actions feel entirely justified.
- My Side (Subjective Reality B): Built on my personal perspective, insecurities, and interpretations. I judge you by your impact on me ("You made me feel ignored"), which makes my reaction feel entirely justified.
- The Truth (Objective Reality): The neutral, unvarnished facts of what actually happened—like an unedited video recording—devoid of emotion, assumption, or self-defensiveness.

Because no single person can strip away 100% of their own bias, the "truth" usually exists in the middle space where both subjective experiences overlap. This may take some time to get to the actual facts when dealing with issues, but the children can see that you are being fair and not just taking someone's side. If you are having concerns about behaviours at school, please come in and see me rather than just express your thoughts and concerns online where they can be taken out of context and/or cause personal harm to others.

Have a great weekend :)

07 3666 814

office@lakerere.school.nz

www.lakerere.school.nz

Office Hours

Monday: 9.00am - 3.00pm
Tuesday: 9.00am - 3.00pm
Thursday: 9.00am - 12.30pm
Friday: 9.00am - 3.00pm

Important dates

August

Mon 10 Science Roadshow
Wed 26 Tough Guy & Gal
Fri 28 Daffodil Day fundraiser

September

Wed 9 Board Meeting 7pm
Thu 10 LRS Speeches
Tue 15 Cluster Speeches
Wed 23 Cluster Winter Sports
Fri 25 Whanau Dance Performance,
Term 3 Ends

October

Mon 12 Term 4 Starts
Sat 17 LRS Pet Day
Fri 23 Group Day @ Waikite Valley
Mon 26 Labour Day STAT



Next Monday the whole school is travelling to Murupara for the Science Roadshow. We will be leaving school by bus at 10.00am and be back at school at approximately 12.30pm. We will have lunch when we return to school. Please ensure your child/ren have footwear, warm jersey/jacket, a good morning tea and water bottle packed.

Kei te whakatakataka a matou
akonga mo nga ahei a tona wa
Preparing our students for the
possibilities of tomorrow

Due to Roll growth we are looking for an enthusiastic, compassionate, and outstanding Year 6/7/8 teacher to join our team as soon as possible. Our seniors are a great bunch of ākonga. As their kaiako, you will model our values while supporting our vision:

Preparing our students for the possibilities of tomorrow.

Kei te whakatakataka tā matou nga tauira o tenei wa mo nga ahei a tona wa.

This is a Fixed Term position, Fulltime to the end of Term 4 2026.

We are looking for someone who:

- has high expectations for student achievement and wellbeing
- is understanding of the diverse needs of learners
- is flexible and dedicated to teaching the learner in front of them
- has had experience teaching the New Zealand curriculum
- is a true team player who thrives in a collaborative working environment
- brings an innovative and adventurous spirit to the classroom
- is community-minded and eager to engage with our whānau.

Beyond our 'big backyard' rural setting, we offer a school culture where you will be genuinely valued. We want you to enjoy our school as much as we do. If you're ready to make a real difference and be part of a fantastic rural community, we'd love to hear from you.

To apply send your cover letter, CV and three references to: Rick Whalley principal@lakerere.school.nz

**We are seeking
a Year 6/7/8**



Kia ora koutou,

TUPU

Learning Focus: Being Great Buddies and Listeners!
This week, Tupu class focused on building strong communication skills through buddy activities. The children have been practicing how to listen carefully to a partner, remember what was shared, and repeat back the main idea.

To help deepen their conversations, we are also exploring the mechanics of questions and answers. Students are practicing how to listen for key details in a question and respond using clear, complete sentences.

Try it at home: You can support this learning by asking open-ended questions during dinner or car rides, for example, "What was the best part of your afternoon?", and encouraging your child to answer in a full sentence: "The best part of my afternoon was playing outside because...".

Kia pai tō rā,
Tupu Class

CLASS
Snippets

Kia ora whānau,

Our Mahuri students have been thoroughly enjoying our local curriculum inquiry, Cultures – How do cultures help people care for communities and the environment? Through this learning, we are discovering how dance helps people express their culture, identity, and sense of belonging, while bringing communities together across generations. In our classroom, we have been exploring dance traditions from around the world and learning about the stories, values, and cultures they represent. Students have enjoyed comparing different styles of dance and discussing how movement can help people celebrate, connect, and share their heritage.

Each Friday, students join mixed Year 0–8 groups to learn a dance style such as line dancing, folk dancing, or Samoan Sāsā. These sessions have been a wonderful opportunity for our tamariki to work alongside students of all ages, showing cooperation, respect, perseverance, and encouragement as they learn together.

It has been fantastic to see the confidence and enthusiasm growing each week. We look forward to sharing some of our learning with you later this term.

Ngā mihi,
Whaea Kylie

MAHURI

Rākau were incredibly lucky to spend 2 fun filled days at camps this week. Lots of new experiences and not a lot of sleep was had by all.

"The interesting activity for me was archery" was a common theme across the group, this activity was also the most challenging, up there with sling paint.

Our activities included, sling paint, archery, raft building, team building, kayaking, bushcraft, the Burma trail, GPS wayfinding, scavenger hunt, spa pools and the highlight was the Night astronomy session with John from Beyond Earth.

We had rain in the afternoon but it cleared by the time John set up the telescope and pointed out the constellations with his powerful laser (many of the tamariki would like a laser pointer now).

There were so many moments of students showing resilience, perseverance and whanaungatanga during camp and lots of smiles after feeling proud of themselves after completing each activity.

I'd like to say a huge THANK YOU to the parents who came along, Catherine, Megan, Emma, Sarah, Gerben, I couldn't have done this without you!

I'd also like to thank the PTA for the fundraising you do to pay for Rakau camp each year, as camp is a big part of our primary school experience.

RAKAU





Attendance

Attendance - Our 2025 Target is: To improve attendance and engagement to 75% of students attending 90% or higher.

We are currently sitting at 47% of students at 90% attendance or above. Last weeks results:

Rakau 91% attendance
Mahuri 90% attendance
Tupu 84% attendance

We currently have 5 students with 100% attendance this year. Excellent effort to those students and their whanau for ensuring your tamariki are attending school each day.

And the Winner is...

RAKAU!



"Tidy Kiwi" award goes to the class who consistently keeps the corridor and deck tidy over the day and week. Ensuring our school is kept beautiful while being safe in emergency situations.



**KEEP UP
the good
WORK**

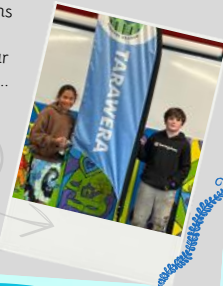
HOUSE POINTS

Tarawera Kakaramaea

Each week we give out a house cup to the house that's in the lead. Students can earn house points by following our school rules, values, being on task and even when they get caught being awesome.

House Captains are:
Tarawera - Te Ngahere & Flynn
Kakaramaea - Taituha & Nikau

Congratulations to our house winner from our latest assembly...



CONGRATULATIONS



LAST WEEKS CLASS CERTIFICATES WENT TO:

Alistair for perseverance with maths problems. Mana for working steadily to complete his learning tasks each day. Kahlani-Rose for for showing resilience, perseverance, courage, respect, whanaungatanga and honesty each and every day in Mahuri. Eleanor for super engagement in your learning. You are putting so much effort in. Quinton for asking for help to support his learning. Charlie for taking on leadership roles within the class

WE ARE HIRING

GROUNDSPERSON EXTRAORDINAIRE

We are looking for our next fabulous Grounds person to join our team.
5 hours per week, Term Time.
Plus extra hours over the holidays.

A high standard is expected.
The successful candidate will be required to undergo and pass Police Vetting.

Starting Term 3, 2026

Drop your CV into the office, or for more info contact: Rick Whalley, Principal on 07 3666814 or principal@lakerere.school.nz

Applications close:
3.00pm Friday 7th August 2026



Caught being Awesome

"Caught Being Awesome" awards are given out to students of Lake Rerewhakaaitu School at playtime. Students can earn them by following our school values, being a good friend and following the school rules. These awards then go into either the senior or junior bucket, then at Fridays assemblies all get read out and one from each drawn out as our super star recipient. Our Caught Being Awesome recipients are...



 You can start to choose your pets for Pet Day!

It's that exciting time of year again—Pet Day is just around the corner! Children are already buzzing with enthusiasm as they prepare to choose and raise their special pets.



Our School Pet Day:
Saturday, 17th October
Group Day:

Friday, 23rd October @ Waikite Valley School

For those interested in raising a lamb or calf, please note that these animals must be born between 20th July and 25th September 2026 to be eligible. To help your child get started, check out the helpful Rearing Booklets available on our website:

<https://www.lakerere.school.nz/publications>



HOT NEWS, COLD DAYS

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Scan the QR code or in Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.



When home is feeling a bit louder and more reactive

Mid-winter can be a tricky time. Tamariki are tired, we're stretched, and small things can start feeling big.

1

Everyone may be running low

Tamariki can be tired, hungry, overloaded or holding in big feelings. Adults can be carrying work, routines, worries and the end-of-day rush.



2

Nothing has gone wrong

More tears, arguing, refusal or after-school wobbles do not always mean a bigger problem. Often, they are a sign that everyone's capacity is lower than usual.

3

What helps

Food before questions

Fewer words

One clear instruction

A softer voice

Step outside or change the scene

Repair after a hard moment



Ask: What would make the next ten minutes a little easier?

You do not need a perfect response. Sometimes the next small, steady thing is enough.

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PLEASE CALL **SAMMIE 021 060 7948** IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION



SALE DATES:

THURSDAY 13TH AUGUST &

THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2026

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