



Parent Information Book

2024

Mission Statement


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

Welcome to Lake Rerewhakaaitu School

Welcome to our wonderful rural school. We pride ourselves on having professional teachers who provide high quality programmes for your children in a safe and stimulating environment. We set high standards for our staff and children. We all need to be prepared for our day and be willing to give all tasks 100%. As parents and community members we invite you to come and share your ideas and opinions with us. Our 2019 ERO report was excellent and is available at the ERO website

[ERO 2019](#)

School Contact Details

Phone	07 3666 814
Absentees	Preferred -SKOOLLOOP App
Bus Changes	07 3666 814 (leave a message)
Email (office)	office@lakerere.school.nz
Address	9 Ash Pit Road, RD 3, Rotorua 3073
School Website address:	https://www.lakerere.school.nz/
School App	

Staff

Principal	Rick Whalley	principal@lakerere.school.nz
Deputy Principal	Natalie Gow	natalieg@lakerere.school.nz
Year 0-2	Tupu	laurenh@lakerere.school.nz
Year 2-4	Mahuri	jasminet@lakerere.school.nz
Year 4-8	Rakau	natalieg@lakerere.school.nz
Specialist Teacher	Vicki Arnott	vickia@lakerere.school.nz
Relief Teacher	Lynda Bullock	lyndab@lakerere.school.nz
Finance/Office Administration		Carla Williams
Teacher Aides		Rora Arnott, Sarah Scott
Cleaner		Tricia Druery
Caretaker		Anna McMillan

Board & PTA Contacts

Board	Presiding Member	botpm@lakerere.school.nz
	Mathew Armer	Parent Representative
	Catherine Dawson	Parent Representative
	Mary Ann Martin	Parent Representative
	Daniel Schutt	Parent Representative
	Bianca Sterkenburg	Parent Representative
	Natalie Gow	Staff Representative

PTA pta@lakerere.school.nz

Sam Allen	Anna McMillan
Ranee Perry	Katie Page
Adelle Pacey	Bianca Sterkenburg

Helpful Information

Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school then please notify the school office with reason for absence by 9.00am.

Send via the **SKOOL LOOP** App or phone 3666 814 and leave a message

If you do not contact the office we will endeavour to contact you to ensure your child is safe.

Please send your child to school each day they are well enough to be here. Check exclusions for infectious diseases <https://healthed.govt.nz/products/infectious-diseases-1>.

Assembly

School Weekly Assembly Friday 1.30pm - 2.00pm All welcome

Lake Rerewhakaaitu School Board

The Lake Rerewhakaaitu School Board is an elected group of parents as well as the principal and a staff rep. Their role is to oversee the running of the school. Meetings are held in the staffroom twice a term, normally Tuesdays 7.00 pm in weeks 2 & 8. Meeting dates are advertised in the school newsletter. Community members are welcome to attend but do not have speaking rights.

Buses/Pick up

We have two buses run by Go Bus: Waimangu Run (Route 9) & Lake Run (Route 1).

For bus enquiries email: euan.cameron@gobus.co.nz

Parents need to ensure that their children are ready in time to catch the bus in a safe place.

After school, the children that travel on the bus meet quickly outside the Boiler Room or on the decked area on a wet day.

If a child is being collected from school or travelling on the other bus on a particular day, notification must be made via phone call to the office 07 3666 814 (please leave a message) or a note must be sent to school by the parent explaining the change.

Behaviour on the bus is a shared responsibility between the bus company, parents and the school. The school reserves the right to withhold permission to travel on the bus with instances of poor behaviour. **If you pick your child up from school, please ensure they are signed out and let the teacher know.**

Cell Phones

Children are not permitted to have personal digital devices at school.

Students must have a letter from home and permission from school before they bring any ICT equipment/device from home. This includes items such as: mobile phones, iPods, games, cameras, and USB drives.

Complaints

If there is something happening at school that you are unhappy about, please do not hesitate to contact us. The school procedure is as follows:

1. Ring the school and arrange a suitable time to talk to the classroom teacher and clearly outline your concern with them.
2. If you're not satisfied, meet with the Principal and clearly outline the steps you have taken to date.
3. Arrange a second meeting with the Principal to follow up on how the complaint was handled. (time frame will vary according to the complaint)
4. If you are still not happy, write a letter to the Lake Rerewhakaaitu School Board. A copy also needs to be given to the Principal. The matter will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Please ensure children are not exposed to adult talk.

Covid-19

We will advise families of any changes or updates as we receive them.

Please refer to our School Website for Covid-19 Policies, Ministry of Education or Ministry of Health for current legislation.

Mobile Dental Unit

Dental Therapists visit in the mobile van. They will examine all children during this time. If you require additional assistance outside this time phone the mobile unit on 027 9735253 or Community Oral Health Service on 349 7955 ext. 8504.

Lakes DHB now has a fluoride protection programme with visits each year to school to apply the fluoride coating to all children with permission. Please feel free to ask if you have any questions.

Homework

Each Teacher has their own homework ideas and programmes. These are outlined and get sent home with students. Please contact your child's teacher for any queries.

Internet Use

The school is equipped with the facilities for internet use and this is integrated into the curriculum. We have a 'Cyber Safety Policy' that your child needs to have signed. This is kept on file and carries over from year to year although it is updated from time to time.

Library

All children are encouraged to read at home on a regular basis. School and Library books may be brought home, any that are lost/damaged incur a replacement cost.

Lost Property

All children are encouraged to have their clothing and shoes clearly named. Lost Property is kept in Ngahere. Please come and check for any missing items. At the end of each term any unclaimed items are collected up and sent to the Salvation Army.

Newsletter

This is a school and community newsletter. It is sent home every Friday with the eldest sibling, either on paper or by email. They are available to view on the school website and SKOOLLOOP app. Please ensure you ask your child for it and read it each week to keep up to date with activities and events.

You can advertise in the newsletter for \$2 per ad per week. Adverts must be written down and delivered to the office or emailed (office@lakerere.school.nz) by Wednesday.

Outdoor Education

All children will be involved in outdoor education/trips throughout the year. At years 5-8 this involves a 4 night camp each year. Children are encouraged to fundraise for these events to aid keeping costs down for families. Each year a selected group of senior students with leadership qualities have the opportunity to attend Hillary Outdoors Camp. This camp focuses on leadership, growth and development skills.

Updating Permission and Medical Forms

These are handed out on enrolment or at the beginning of the year. They give teachers important information about your child's medical needs etc. This permission covers day trips to local areas and local sports events. Any overnight trips will require a specific permission form to be completed. Parents will **always** be notified of trips etc and have the right to withdraw their child from any event or trip. This must be done in writing.

Photocopying

The school offers photocopying to the community.

The price is currently 10 cents black and white and 20 cents colour per A4 copy.

PTA / Fundraising

Our school has a very active PTA. We encourage all parents to join and support their fundraising ventures. These usually include: Fishing competitions, quiz nights and catering opportunities. New ideas are welcomed. Please contact the office, or email pta@lakerere.school.nz if you are interested in helping.

Reporting to Parents

Our school aims to provide accurate feedback to parents on their child's achievement/progress.

This is done through the following methods:

- Written Reports

- Parent Interviews

- Phone calls/Informal discussions

- One-on-one meetings by arrangement

Information sessions

Notification of involvement in special programmes

Reading, Writing and Mathematics Levels

Teachers use a range of tests or procedures to assess reading, writing and mathematics skills and overall abilities. There is no single test that will measure all skill levels. Results of tests are expressed in a form of 'reading age' for reading, 'stage' for mathematics and 'level' for writing. This indicates the level of achievement reached. During the year, you will receive information that explains these systems and outlines expectations of the expected levels for children at each year level and their age group. This information will also explain what forms of assessment we use and what they are used for.

Scholastic Book Club

Our pupils are invited to purchase books from the Scholastic Book Club. The books are very reasonably priced. There is no obligation to buy.

School Donations

Our school has opted into the Ministry of Education's Donations Scheme which means there are no School fees to pay.

Sports Uniforms

All pupils are provided with a sky/navy blue school shirt when participating in inter school sports events, these are to be returned after the event or you will be invoiced for the cost of replacement. If you prefer to purchase your child a personalised shirt, we can order for you at cost.

Stationery

School stationery is provided for our students, to help support our local families.

Sun Protection

We encourage all children to take sensible precautions against the sun. School hats are required in Terms 1 & 4 and it is strongly encouraged for your child to come to school with sunblock applied. We regularly discuss being sun smart with the children and have sunscreen available for reapplying during the day. PTA provides students with a free school hat.

Swimming Pool

All classes are involved in class swimming lessons throughout the warmer months. Please ensure your child brings their own named togs and towel. Pool keys are available to hire over the summer months.

School Lunches

We are fortunate to be enrolled in the Ka Ora, Ka Ako Free School Lunches scheme for all our tamariki. These nutritious lunches are provided by local providers, Waimangu Volcanic Valley. If your child/ren have special dietary requirements, please request a form.

School Events

Our main events are; Swimming Sports, Summer & Winter Sports, Pet Day, Athletics, Cross Country, Kapa Haka/ Cultural Festival are run annually and biannually a School Production.

These are in our school calendar and outlined in the school newsletter and SKOOL LOOP.

Working Bees – Community Caretaker

We employ a caretaker for 5 hours per week, but much of the caretaking of the school is completed by parents and working bees. This is another way that our school is able to direct more funds into learning. If you can offer a bit of your time, get in touch with us.

SCHOOL HOURS

School Starts	8.55am	Morning Tea	11.00am
Second Block	11.30am	Lunch	12.30pm
Third Block	1.15pm	School Ends	3.00pm

Term Dates 2024

Term One	7th February	-	12 th April
Term Two	29th April	-	5 th July
Term Three	22 th July	-	27 th September
Term Four	14 th October	-	20 th December

Warrant of Fitness for Students

Be sure to send your children to school with their WOF.

They need:

1. **Plenty of sleep.** Children have trouble learning when they have watched too much TV or have stayed up late.
2. **Be well fed.** Children need a balanced diet with regular mealtimes and healthy food. Breakfast is essential. Morning tea and lunch are also essential. Fruit, vegetables and less processed foods help children concentrate at school. Too much processed food can have a negative effect on performance at school.
3. **To be secure.** Our pupils come from caring homes. Children need reassurance, encouragement and to have realistic expectations from their parents.
4. **Have a positive attitude.** If children expect good things to happen at school then they will have a keen, sparkling attitude to school.
5. **Have the correct gear.** Comfortable clean clothes, their stationery, drink bottle, library books, homework etc. Please encourage independence.

