



Bathgate Park School

He kākano ahau i ruia mai i a Rakiātea - A seed born of greatness.

Term 3 Week 4 Kia ora koutou, Mālō e lelei, Talofa, Bula, Ola, Namaste, Kamusta, Bonjour, Ni hau, Ahlan, Salam, Greetings to you all.

What an up and down fortnight we have had. The snow was a surprise and a good test of our snow procedure, which you should have received attached to the last school notice. Communication was also shared via text and FaceBook. If you did not get a text, please check with Felicity, in the office, that we have your correct details. We would also love it if you follow us on [FaceBook](#) as a lot more updates and photos are posted there, providing ongoing communication and updates. This was closely followed by some intense frosts making it a bitter start to the school day.

We are close to half way through the term and as always a lot is still on the calendar. Our wonderful multicultural group, which is nearly the whole school, have continued their practises getting ready for Polyfest, which is coming up in Week 8. Once we have our performance day and time, we will share this with you. We can't wait for you to see this great group perform.

Donations Scheme

The School Board is currently getting ready to commit to the School Donations Scheme for 2027. This scheme is a government initiative where the school is guaranteed an amount of money per student instead of asking for parent donations. This is something that the Board needs to decide on opting into each year. If anyone has any feedback they would like to provide please send an email to katrina@bathgatepark.school.nz before 15 September and it will be presented at the September Board meeting.

Language Weeks

At our school, we take immense pride in acknowledging and celebrating the diverse Language Weeks that enrich our community throughout the year. Embracing these occasions is a vital part of who we are; it not only fosters inclusive learning spaces where every student feels seen, valued, and supported, but also builds intercultural understanding and empathy across our entire student body. Crucially, this practice reflects our deep commitment to recognising and honoring the rich cultural heritages of the families who make up our vibrant school community. When we celebrate the languages spoken in our students' homes, we deepen connection, strengthen home-school partnerships, and build a truly welcoming environment for all. As our school grows, we are eager to keep learning about our newest community members and their cultures, ensuring we give time and space to include everyone in future celebrations.

This term features a wonderful variety of Language Weeks. Looking ahead, we are also excited to announce a school-wide Cultural Sharing and Potluck Evening in Term 4! Further details will be shared towards the end of this term.

We love learning directly from our community! If your family would like to share a story, teach a phrase, or contribute to an upcoming Language Week celebration, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher.

Governance Meeting

The next Governance meeting will be Thursday 27 August 6.30 pm in the staffroom. We would love to have you attend.



Current policies being reviewed are: N/A

Lucky Book Club



Orders, with money into the office by Friday 21 August

Cook Island Māori & Filipino Language Weeks



During Cook Island language week Rongo looked at the beautiful flowers: Hibiscus, Frangipani and Yellow Bells that can be found in the Cook Islands. We displayed our art work and imagined the beautiful smell. We looked at how they use these flowers to weave them into fresh flower crowns and necklaces.

Visitors to Tāwhirimātea made Tivaevae inspired art to help celebrate Cook Island Language week.



We proudly celebrated Filipino Language last week. Please check out one class's beautiful kai creation.

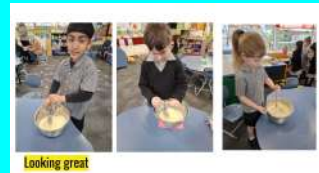
More photos from these weeks will be in the next newsletter.

Year 7/8 Fundraisers

This term is focused on fundraising for the Year 7 & 8's, to help with camp costs for Term 4. We have brought back the wonderful Bake Sales. The first one took place in week 4 and the next one is Friday 28 August.. The last two are in the final weeks of term.

This week the eldest in the family will bring home a grocery raffle card to sell. Every year the whole school supports this, knowing that when their child is in a camp year the same will take place to support. As always, we are keen to try and reach outside our school community so if you are able to take this to your place of work, church, sports teams etc and get their support we know we will be able to increase the amount we can sell.

Thank you in advance for your support with these.



Whānau House Challenge Week 3 - Highest Tower Structure

The challenge, to make the tallest free standing structure possible using only the newspaper and cello tape provided. Working together these are the wonderful creations that were made:



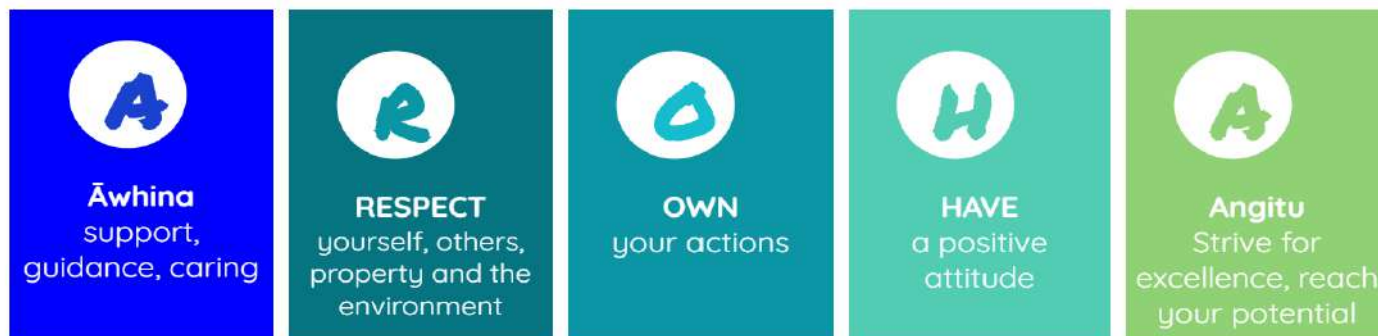
Duffy Caught Being Good & AROHA Certificates

Congratulations to the following people for the wonderful learning and AROHA they have been showing.



Player of the Day Senior Netball





Tidiest Classroom Term 3 Results

Week 1: Rehua
Week 1: Tāne Mahuta
Week 3: Tangaroa
Week 4: Rehua



Our Art Exhibition Corridors

Some samples of the fantastic art work that goes on at our school. The corridors are treated like an art gallery, with the children's work proudly on display.



Term 3 Calendar of Events

Week & Date	Event
TERM 3	
Week 5: Mon 17- Fri 21 August	Tongan Language Week
Week 5: Tues 18- Fri 21 August	Life Education Bus Visits
Week 6: Thursday 27 August	Governance Meeting 6.30pm
Week 6: Friday 28 August	Bake Sale #2
Week 8: Mon 7-Fri 11 September	POLYFEST Week
Week 9: Mon 14 - Fri 18 September	Māori Language Week
Week 9: Tuesday 15 September	Rūaumoko swimming
Week 9: Wednesday 16 September	Tāne Mahuta swimming - last session
Week 9: Thursday 17 September	Tāwhirimātea swimming - last session
Week 9: Friday 18 September	Bake Sale#3
Week 10: Tuesday 22 September	Rūaumoko swimming - last session (catch up from snow week)
Week 10: Friday 25 September	Bake Sale#4
Week 10: Friday 25 September	Last day of term



Taking the learning from the classroom, into the artroom, into the display spaces.

BGP Netball Team 2026

Congratulations to the BGP netball team for their hard work and positive attitude towards the competition and individual games. Well done on showing A.R.O.H.A in an outside school setting, representing themselves, their whānau and the school with pride as well as giving it their best. We are all very proud of you.

A huge thank you to Abbey, Māia and Ms DJ for their reliable support, encouragement, coaching, and refereeing as well as looking after all the behind the scene aspects.



Year 8 High School Enrollments

Year 8's - Do you have your High School enrollment form into a High School?

Secondary schools are working to a cut off date of around 28 August where ideally, they would like to have all enrolments in. This helps them with planning for 2027 for such things as staffing, coursing and the like.

Please make sure you have these in asap. If you need enrollment forms, you can ask for these from the High School's reception.

Special Principal Shout Out

A special Principal shout-out to this wonderful Rongo reader, who made last Friday an absolute delight when they came and shared their reading! They blew me away with the progress they have made and their increased fluency.



Daffodil Day support Right through to the end of August



Located at the school office, these daffodil flowers are available for a donation.

Happy Principal Appreciation Day

I was pleasantly surprised with a wonderful morning tea shout from staff and a presentation with some yummies from Rongo. Thank you so much to you all for your kind words and acknowledgement.



Important Health Information

This winter we are seeing a rise in seasonal colds, flu and other respiratory illnesses circulating within our community and school. To protect everyone from the spread of respiratory infections this winter, and recognising **COVID-19 and Influenza A are both circulating**, it is important that we all follow infection prevention measures.

While we strongly encourage children to maintain good attendance and value having them engaged in their learning every day, we are fully aware that sickness and serious illness mean they need to rest, recover, and heal safely at home.

When to Keep Your Child Home

Please keep your child at home if they are unwell. Specifically, they should stay home if they:

- Have a fever, persistent cough, or significant fatigue.
- Are vomiting or have had diarrhea (please keep them home for at least **48 hours** after symptoms stop).
- Are experiencing significant cold or flu symptoms that prevent them from participating fully in the school day.
- Test positive for COVID-19 (please follow current health guidelines regarding isolation periods). Remember to RAT test if your child is showing COVID-19 symptoms. You can now also get tests that will check for Influenza A & B as well.

When It Is Okay to Be at School

Your child is fine to attend school if they:

- Have mild, lingering symptoms (such as a minor, infrequent clear runny nose or a slight dry cough) provided they are otherwise well, energetic, and fever-free without medication.
- Have fully recovered from a recent illness and are ready to resume normal activities.

Steps We Are Taking at School to Promote Wellbeing

- **Stay at Home If You Are Sick:** Staff and students must remain home when unwell to prevent community spread.
- **Good Hand Hygiene:** All staff and children are encouraged to wash and dry hands thoroughly or use alcohol-based hand sanitiser, especially after using the bathroom and before mealtimes.
- **Masks:** It is completely okay to wear a mask at school. Masks are readily available in all classrooms for anyone who wishes to use one.
- **Cough and Sneeze Etiquette:** We practise sneezing or coughing into an elbow or a tissue, avoiding touching the face, disposing of tissues immediately in waste bins, and washing/sanitising hands. Rubbish bins are cleared regularly.

- **Ventilation:** We keep spaces well ventilated by keeping windows and/or doors open to support fresh airflow



Got a cold or flu?

Find out what to do



Cold and flu symptoms are similar, but flu-like illnesses are usually more severe.

Signs and symptoms	Cold	Flu-like illness
Symptom onset	Gradual	Often sudden
Fever and chills	Uncommon	Common
Head and body aches	Uncommon	Common
Fatigue, extreme tiredness	Uncommon	Common
Sore throat	Common	Sometimes
Cough	Sometimes	Common
Sneezing, runny nose	Common	Uncommon

Symptoms of COVID-19 can be similar to a cold or flu and range from mild to severe.
See covid19.govt.nz for advice or phone [Healthline's COVID-19 line](https://www.healthline.co.nz) on 0800 358 5453.

You can treat most colds and flu-like illnesses with rest and self-care at home, but you need to know when to seek medical help.

When to seek advice

Contact your medical clinic for advice if you:

- are not getting better
- are aged 65 or older
- are pregnant
- have a sore throat and are Māori or Pasifika aged 3 to 35 years
- have diabetes or a health condition affecting your breathing, heart or immune system
- are concerned or not sure what to do.

Phone first if you might have a highly infectious virus like COVID-19.

Not sure what to do?

Phone Healthline free on **0800 611 116** for health advice anytime

When to seek immediate medical help

If you have any of the following signs you may be seriously unwell and need emergency care:

- difficult or painful breathing
- bluish lips or tongue
- chest pain
- coughing up blood
- severe shaking, rigors
- confusion or difficult to wake
- stiff neck
- rash with purple or red spots or bruises
- clammy skin
- not urinating or dark coloured pee.

Phone **111** or go to the hospital emergency department right now. Do not delay.

Self-care for colds and flus



Rest – at home if possible so you don't spread bugs.

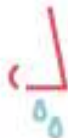


Drink plenty of water, warm lemon and honey drinks or soups to avoid dehydration.

* Honey is not safe for children under one year.



Sore throat? Suck a teaspoon of honey or gargle salt water. Adults can also try a medicated lozenge, gargle or throat spray.



Blocked or runny nose? Ask your pharmacist about decongestants and nasal sprays.



Cough? Sip a lemon and honey drink or ask your pharmacist about cough lozenges or medicines that may be suitable for you.



Aches and pains? Try paracetamol OR cold and flu medicines (check doses carefully and ask your doctor or pharmacist if safe for you).

Avoid antibiotics – they can't cure colds, flus or most coughs as these are caused by viruses.

Avoid spreading and catching bugs

Take care of your health and protect your whānau and community.

Wash your hands for 20 seconds and dry them well.

Cover your coughs and sneezes

Avoid touching your face with unclean hands.

Don't share personal items such as cups, food utensils or towels.

Clean and disinfect surfaces often, like doorknobs.

Stay home if you are sick and avoid close contact with others.

Keep coughs away from other people.



Keep well this winter



Get the flu vaccine each year – it might be free for you.

Keep your immune system strong: be active, eat healthy food, be smoke-free and get plenty of sleep.



Stay warm – heat your home to at least 18°C.



Quit smoking – smokers get more colds, symptoms are worse and last longer.



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 **ATHLETICS
OTAGO**



ASB **GEORGE ST MILE**

**SATURDAY
12 SEPTEMBER**

DUNEDIN'S ICONIC GEORGE STREET WILL BE LIT UP BY FLYING MILERS RACING THROUGH THE CENTRAL CITY THE DAY BEFORE THE EMERSON'S DUNEDIN MARATHON.

**PERFECT FOR FIRST
TIMERS, THOSE CHASING
A PB, OR KIDS LOOKING
FOR A FUN RUN.**

FIND OUT MORE AND ENTER
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KIDS MILE

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SHAKEOUT MILE**

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