

# MOKOIA INTERMEDIATE NEWSLETTER



TERM 1 WEEK 1 | 2 FEBRUARY 2024

## MATUA RAWIRI'S SHOUT OUT

### Tena Koutou Parents & Caregivers

Welcome back to Mokoia Intermediate for the exciting year of 2024! We hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable break, filled with wonderful memories. As we embark on this new academic year, we are thrilled to reconnect with our incredible school community and embark on another year of growth, learning, and success.

We have been eagerly preparing for your return, ensuring that our school is ready to provide the best possible educational experience for each and every one of our students. Our dedicated staff members have been working diligently to create engaging lesson plans, organise exciting events, and provide a safe and nurturing environment for all.

This year, we are excited to introduce several new initiatives and programs aimed at enhancing the learning experience. From innovative teaching methods to the integration of technology in the classroom, we are committed to equipping our students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in an ever-evolving world.

At Mokoia Intermediate, we firmly believe in the importance of a well-rounded education. Therefore, we are proud to offer a wide range of extracurricular activities, clubs, and sports teams for our students to explore their interests and passions. Whether it's joining the robotics club, participating in the school choir, or representing our school on the sports field, there is something for everyone to get involved in.

We also recognise the significance of strong partnerships between home and school. We encourage parents and guardians to actively engage in their child's education, attend parent-teacher meetings, and stay connected with our school community through our various communication channels. Together, we can ensure that our students receive the support and guidance they need to excel academically and personally.

As we begin this new chapter, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new students and families joining our school community. We hope that you will quickly feel at home and find Mokoia Intermediate to be a place of inspiration, growth, and lifelong friendships.

Lastly, we would like to express our gratitude to our amazing students and families for your continued trust and support. Your commitment to education and active involvement in our school community is truly valued and appreciated.

We look forward to an exceptional year ahead, filled with exciting opportunities and memorable experiences. Let us work together to make 2024 a year of growth, success, and endless possibilities.

### Matua Rawiri and The Mokoia 'A' Team

***We are Limitless! We are Passionate! We are Mokoia!***



## KEY DATES FOR TERM 1 2024

### Term 1 Week 1

- Monday 29th January – Auckland Anniversary
- Tuesday 30th January – Teacher's Only Day
- Wednesday 31st January – Students first day back

### Term 1 Week 2

- Tuesday 6th February – Waitangi Day – School Closed
- Wednesday 7th February – Meet the teacher 5:30pm – 7:30pm
- Friday 9th February – BMX Worlds Practice Day

### Term 1 Week 3

- Monday 12th – Tuesday 13th February – Noho Marae K4/K5
- Tuesday 13th – Wednesday 14th February – Noho Marae K1/K3

### Term 1 Week 4

- Monday 19th – Tuesday 20th February – Noho Marae W1/W3
- Tuesday 20th – Wednesday 21st February – Noho Marae W2/W4

### Term 1 Week 5

- Tuesday 27th – Wednesday 28th February – Noho Marae P1/P2
- Wednesday 28th – Thursday 29th February – Noho Marae P3/P4

### Term 1 Week 6

- Tuesday 5th March – Y8 Vaccinations
- Thursday 7th March – Swimming Sports

### Term 1 Week 7

- Tuesday 12th – Wednesday 13th March – Noho Marae K2

### Term 1 Week 8

- Tuesday 19th March – NZEI PUM Hui
- Thursday 21st March – Revolution Tour Group

### Term 1 Week 9

- Wednesday 27th March – Y7 Vision and Hearing Testing
- Thursday 28th March – Teacher Only Day – School Closed
- Friday 29th March – Good Friday – School Closed

### Term 1 Week 10

- Monday 1st April & Tuesday 2nd April – Easter Monday and Tuesday – School Closed
- Thursday 4th April – School Photos with Photolife

### Term 1 Week 11

- Friday 12th April – End of Term 1



## KEY DATES FOR 2024

### Term 2

- Monday 29th April – Friday 5th July
- Monday 27th May – Teacher's Only Day
- Monday 3rd June – King's Birthday
- Friday 28th June – Matariki Day

### Term 3

- Monday 22nd July – Friday 27th September

### Term 4

- Monday 14th October – Friday 13th December
- Monday 28th October – Labour Day
- Friday 13th December – Last day of year
- Monday 16th December – Teacher's Only Day

Want to see our full school calendar?

Follow this link: <http://bit.ly/MokCal>



## MEET OUR STAFF

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### **Kāinga o Waengaehe - Senior Leadership Team**

Matua Rawiri Wihapi (Tumuaki - Principal)

Mrs Jackie Jones (Tuarua Heparua Tumuaki - DP Pastoral)

Whaea Kathryn McMurdo (Tuarua Marautanga Tumuaki - DP Curriculum)

### **Administration**

Whaea Sue Rasdall (Office Manager)

Mrs Janet Du Fall (Finance Manager)

### **Learning/Curriculum Staff**

Whaea Frances Wharerahi (Learning Support Co-ordinator)

Mr Gareth Upston - Health and Physical Education Specialist Teacher

Mrs Heather Lind - Resource Manager/Librarian

### **Kāinga o Kaituna**

K1 Whaea Leandi Labuschagne Year 7 supported by Whaea Donnella Mattock

K2 Matua Regan Hawke Year 7-8 (Rangatira o Rumaki) supported by Whaea Shelley Pene

K2 Matua Pene Panapa Year 7-8

K3 Mrs Lisa Vos Year 8 (Rangatira) supported by Mrs Antonia Wright

K4 Whaea Evelyn Lukis Year 7 supported by Whaea Karyn Thaine

K5 Matua Richie Year 8 supported by Matua Jerome Namana

### **Kāinga o Puarenga**

P1 Mrs Pam Osborne Year 8 supported by Whaea Anna Ranginui

P2 Whaea Deana Turner Year 7 supported by Matua Jireh MacFarlane-Roach

P3 Mrs Toni Bock Year 7 supported by Whaea Moana Hunter

P4 Mr Glen Law (Rangatira) Year 8 supported by Matua Hori Hapi

### **Kāinga o Waiteti**

W1 Whaea Jessica Gibbs Year 8 supported by Whaea Rika Climo

W2 Whaea Isabel Katene Year 8 supported by Whaea Cheyla Samuels

W3 Whaea Casey Smith-Pope Year 7 supported by Whaea Ellen Leach

W4 Mrs Tineke O' Callaghan Year 7 (Rangatira) supported by Matua Renata Clarke

### **Kāinga o Utuhina - Technology/Art/Science/Food/Music**

Whaea Lisa Te Whare (Rangatira) - Multi Media, Digital Technology and Science

Whaea Claire Walker - Food Technology

Whaea Fiona Wilcock - Nga Toi (Art)

### **Caretaker/Groundsman**

Mr Bert Hollis - Caretaker

Mr Gregg Hyde - Groundsman

### **Dental Clinic**

Mrs Wendy Mitchell - Dental Therapist

Ms Sara Gardiner - Dental Assistant

## WHO AM I

### CASEY SMITH

I have lived in Rotorua my whole life. I'm a mum to two gorgeous children and have a wonderfully supportive partner. When I'm not teaching, I'm at CrossFit pumping iron, or spending time down the coast with whānau. The thing I love the most about Mokoia is the whanaungatanga within the school. My goal as the teacher of W3 is to empower my students to know who they are and be confident within themselves.



### PAM OSBORNE

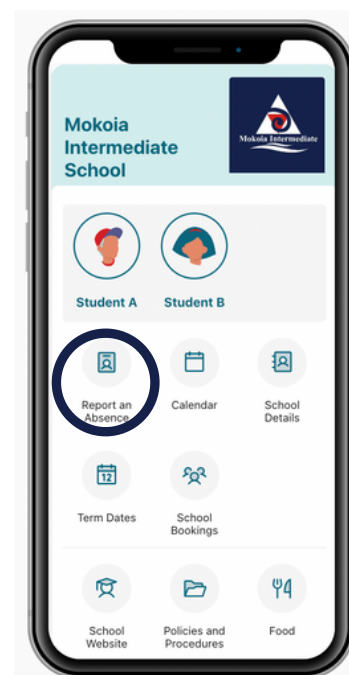
I've lived in Rotorua for 18 years. When I'm not teaching I like to go kayaking, do gardening, or spend time with family and friends. I have three adult sons and two beautiful granddaughters. Joining Mokoia, I just love the wairua that the school has and being part of that. Caring and paitence is something I like to instill in my students.



## ABSENTEES

If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, you have three ways to contact the school and let us know;

- Phone directly into the school office - 07 345 9071
- Send a text message to the school on 027 528 8910
- Send a notification through the Hero app





## WALKWAY AND DROP OFF ZONE

- All pedestrians, cyclists, scooter riders and skateboarders, **please use the pathway** on the Owhata School side of our turf.
- **All caregivers collecting students by car**, please follow the arrows to use our drop off zone at the front of the school. Traffic needs to move through smartly. If you need to wait for your child, please park along Brent Road. We ask that you do not expect your child to run across the road, but that you use the pedestrian crossing.
- For health and safety reasons, we ask parents **NOT** to drive vehicles or walk down the driveway.

## STATIONERY

### Stationery List 2024

Purchase from the retailer of your choice or pre-order a stationery pack from Bay Office Products – 8 Old Taupo Road or visit their website to pre-order

- 6 1B8 Workbooks – (pre ruled margins)
- 2 1E8 Maths Book (pre ruled margins)
- 1 3B1 Notebook
- 1 Eraser
- 1 Ruler
- 3 Red ballpoint pens
- 3 Blue ballpoint pens
- 3 Pencils
- 2 Glue sticks
- 1 Highlighter
- 1 pencil sharpener
- **Headphones for device - very important**
  
- **All books to be clearly named**
- **Covering - Optional**
- **Twink/ White Out is not permitted at school**

***We recommend every student has their own device. This can be a Chromebook, iPad or laptop.***

### Optional

- 1 Pair of scissors
- 1 Calculator – Scientific
- 1 Pack of coloured pencils

## BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS

- Bicycle and scooter stands are in a gated area provided for pupils and they must be locked to the stand at all times.
- While in the school grounds, all pupils must walk their bikes and scooters along the footpath.
- All pupils must wear safety helmets when using bicycles.
- Bicycles and scooters will not be stored in the office area or classrooms.

## UNIFORM

Our uniform consists of a range of serviceable items, easily layered for extra warmth, which are readily available at **The Warehouse**.

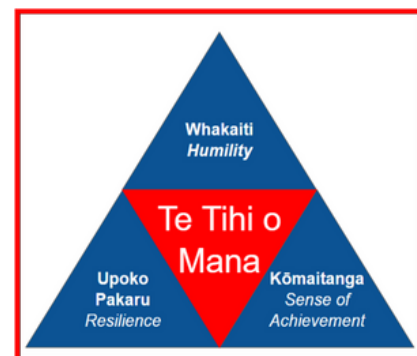
### Additional notes:

- Caps and beanies – **navy blue with no insignia.**
- Socks – **navy blue and black.**
- Tights (winter) – **must be navy blue and not footless tights.**
- Footwear – Black covered-in leather or canvas lace up shoes are permitted. They must have black or white soles and black laces. Covered in shoes are **compulsory for technology classes. No gumboots or cros!**
- Black roman sandals or other sandals with back strap. **(No jandals or slides.)**
- School uniform to be worn to and from school.
- P.E. uniform to be worn for all fitness and sports.
- **Only jewellery accepted** is a watch, plain studs or a taonga.
- **Hair must be tied up** for physical education and specialist classes for health and safety reasons.
- **Only the school polar fleece and jacket** are permitted to be worn. Non uniform jumpers, hoodies or puffer jackets are **NOT** permitted.

## OUR SCHOOL VALUES

**Tihi means peak. Mana is, in simple terms, self respect and respect from others.** Mana exists within all people, from the time they are born till death. Mana can be grown and can diminish depending on one's actions. Mana exists in three forms: **Mana atua - genealogical mana, Mana tangata - personal mana and Mana whenua - mana through connection with the land.**

Te Tihi o Mana is held up by three pou or pillars: **Ūpoko Pakaru - Resilience** and **Kōmaitanga - Sense of Achievement** and **Whakaiti - Humility.** **At the centre is Te Au - the self.**



This year we are introducing three new values that were developed within our Eastside Community of Learning (REKA). They are **Whanaungatanga - Relationships, Manaākitanga - Ethics** and **Wairuatanga - Spirituality.** The English words have been chosen to represent an encompassing understanding of what the value means.

We have been lucky enough to have had Matua Taimona work along side some wonderful members of our community to connect each of these values to an tūpuna within our local iwi, as well as creating reimagined tuhangata and tuawahine to represent them. Each of our school values is also represented by our three house colours - pink, purple and green, and our new values by the colours of the tino rangatiratanga flag - red, white and black.

Over the course of this term each one of these values will be introduced in each newsletter, along with the ancestor connected with it and the meaning behind it. As well as interviewing ākongā and kāiako to see how they see the values represented within Mokoia Intermediate.

We are also introducing a new graduate profile incorporating these values. These are actions we at Mokoia believe students should strive to and have the ability to show before they leave us at the end of year 8. This will also be shared with our community in the coming weeks.

## DIGITAL DEVICES

- **What device?** - We do not specify any one device. iPads allow students to be creative with photo and film. Chrome books are more cost effective and as we only use online tools, will be all they need. Laptops have more grunt and storage capacity in a hard drive; each student has an online drive in our education domain. We do not install a mobile device management protocol or apps onto your child's device at this point. While we strongly recommend BYOD (Bring Your Own Device), we are aware that not all families can afford their own device, so we have a small supply that can be borrowed from the school library for one school block at a time.
- We cater for everything **as long as it has a screen over 20 cm and does not use data.** We concentrate on using digital applications that can be accessed on laptops, chrome books or tablets, iOS or Android.
- Your children will bring home a **Digital Device Responsible Use Agreement** which they have gone through with their teachers. **Please make sure you read the document and sign it.** Only then will your child be able to use their own or any school digital device.

**Note - All student mobile phones MUST BE handed in to the office each morning!**

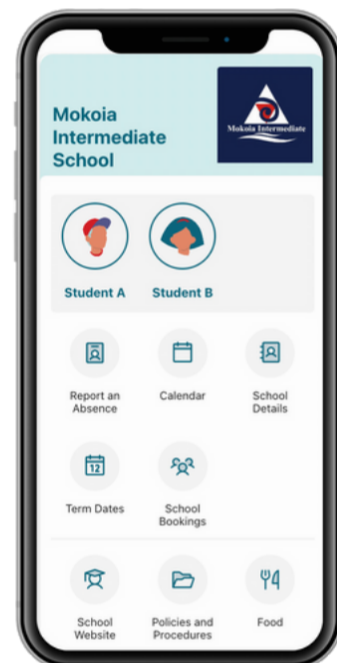


## DIGITAL TOOLS - FOR STUDENT USE AND WHĀNAU COMMUNICATION

In 2024 Mokoia Intermediate will no longer be using Seesaw to communicate information and student learning. We are delighted to launch our new communication and reporting system, **Hero**. An online sharing platform with complementary smart app. Hero allows us to customise an online environment that enables teachers, students, and families to view and share content anytime, anywhere on any device. The software is secure, easy to use and brings together all school-related information in one place. By downloading the app you will be able to see your child's profile of achievements and posts. You will also be able to report an absence, have links to our school website, pita pit ordering and our newsletter. You can get more information on this at our meet the teacher evening; **Wednesday 7th February from 5:30 pm - 7:30pm**. Come along to meet your child's teacher and if you want help getting on board or any more information on how it works we will be there to help.

**With Hero**, you have the ability to:

- read and comment on posts relating to your child's learning
- view information on your child's progress and goals,
- read and comment on school notices sent to the class or groups your child is part of
- respond to school notices such as surveys and trip permission requests
- view school term dates
- view a school calendar of events
- notify the school if your child is absent or late
- navigate to other school-related webpages
- customise your account by adding a profile image
- select how you wish to receive notifications



Learning posts combined with curriculum information and goal-setting will form an online report designed to build year-on-year so that over time you will have access to written posts, images, video, work samples, and helpful resources all in one place. Over the coming year, staff and students will be posting rich content to our Hero software. We are looking forward to sharing this with you, including you in your child's learning journey. Bear in mind that this is all new for our school, so please make allowances for our staff while they navigate and learn their way.

At Mokoia Intermediate, we use a lot of digital tools, including online assessments. Every student has a **Google Drive** where their work is stored. We have an education domain which has more stringent parameters than a private Google account. **Your child has an email address and password controlled by Whaea Kathryn, who also monitors all digital use.**

**Facebook** - For up-to-date posts please look for the group **Mokoia Intermediate 2024**, and ask to join. This is a private group, access to which is controlled by the senior leadership team. **No students currently at school are given access** as Facebook is restricted to users 13 and over. We ask that you **only post photos of students on the school group page**. It is good practice to **not** post photos of other people's children. We also ask you to direct questions and concerns directly to the school and not post them here. This is a positive forum, and negative or inappropriate material will be declined or deleted.



## CELEBRATIONS

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- 👍 Welcome to all our new Mokoia Intermediate whānau!
- 👍 Thank you to all of our teachers and support staff who have spent holiday time setting up their learning spaces.
- 👍 What an amazing job Matua Bert has done, beautifying our grounds before school started this week. Ngā mihi!
- 👍 Welcome to the new Year 7 cohort! What an amazing group of students and we just cannot wait to get to know you.
- 👍 We welcome Matua Pene into a new role this year. While he is remaining in Ngā Pōtiki Ngau Papawai, he is moving from his role as kaiārahi, to being a kāiako in the class. We congratulate him on how hard he has worked to achieve this goal.
- 👍 We welcome Pam Osborne as the new teacher in P1 this year. She is taking over from Whaea Kathryn in Terms 1 and 2 whilst she takes on the role of Deputy Principal. Pam comes to us with 30 years of vast experience in teaching.
- 👍 We welcome Whaea Casey Smith. Whaea Casey joined us as a student teacher early last year and continued on with us as a long term reliever. She accepted a position at the end of the year and is teaching in W3 this year.
- 👍 Congratulations to Mr Upston who has taken up the role of Health and Physical Education Specialist Teacher this year. He will be teaching all our classes across the kura for health and physical education. He is also in charge of the organisation for all our school sports.
- 👍 For more information go to our Facebook group page, Mokoia Intermediate 2024.  
<http://bit.ly/MokoiaFacebook>

