



20 November 2025

Taikura Fête 2025 - Thank you!

Thank you to everyone for your contributions to an amazing Fête day. The food was delicious, the activities buzzing, and the children full of excitement. There is no better way to showcase the community spirit, connection and joy at the heart of our school. We overheard some first time visitors making their way towards Scannells, say, "Wow I can't believe this is a school, it is just so beautiful!"

The proceeds from the day are still being calculated and we will share the amount raised in a future Grapevine.

A big thank you to all school whānau for supporting the Fête. It is a big commitment for busy families who are already juggling a lot. Heartfelt thanks for pulling out all the stops to raise money for our school and showcase our special character to the community.

Feedback

If you have any feedback on the Fête this year, or ideas for ways to make it better, please email taikurafete@gmail.com.

Again, thank you to everyone who made the Fête such a success this year. It takes a village, and we have a great one.

Ngā mihi nui,

The Fête Committee







He Pito Kōrero

Toitū Te Reo....Te mīharo hoki!

Last Thursday and Friday, Toitū Te Reo was held here in Heretaunga. This language symposium was an experience for multitudes to be immersed in te reo Māori. Walking around the streets surrounding Toitoi, it felt like the norm to hear te reo flowing freely amongst young and old, and not only Māori! Then to have discussion panels of te reo experts, keynote speakers, spaces for fluent speakers to upskill and spaces for people just starting to learn. Te mīharo hoki...it was awesome!

I shared with our ākonga, prior to going, that I was attending Toitū Te Reo, and that I would be in the total immersion space where speakers would be sharing their knowledge and their own journeys and reflections about the language in te reo! "I'm going to drown in te reo, possibly not knowing the full content of knowledge being shared, and thinking oh dear, but I'm gon'na love it...and I did. It was a good gauge to see my own growth of knowledge, understanding and speaking te reo, especially when the space one's chosen is full immersion. Many of our community attended which was great to see, filling their kete with kupu hou, words of encouragement and advice, as we all navigate the best ways of learning te reo! Toitū Te Reo was kai for the soul!



Nā, Matua Troy.

Ko te reo te tuakiri
Ko te reo tōku ahurei
Ko te reo te ora.
Language is my identity.
Language is my uniqueness.
Language is life.



He pito kōrero is a space dedicated to celebrating and promoting Te Reo me ūna Tikanga Māori

Waiata Mai Every Thursday 12:25 - 12:55pm!

Ngā mihi hīkaka ki a koutou ngā manu tioriori o Taikura!

Every Thursday in our whare, Te Manukura, you can learn some of the many waiata that your tamariki sing at kura! Nau mai, haere mai te katoa...all are welcome!

Ngā mihi ki a koutou ngā kōpara e kō!

Class 12 Graduates 2025 Reflections

Madeline Golding

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

The Class 12 year provides more privileges within the school and we have developed a relationship with teachers and so I feel we are treated as young adults.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

Memories of the Lower School camps and the car trips there and back in which we played our class playlist with our classic class songs; 'Mr Bright Side', 'Mr Blue Sky', 'Escape'.

What are your future plans?

I want to become a Veterinary nurse and will study at the EIT in Napier.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Starting your Class 12 project early - particularly researching the theory aspect.

Quote : "Sometimes you don't get what you want, because you deserve better"



Tabitha Mouat

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

Probably the process of completing the Class 12 project which was very stressful. The Odyssey Camp was intense as I was partnered with Mika who nagged me to paddle harder!

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

I enjoy the social aspect of school and connecting with friends.

What are your future plans?

I plan to complete an Art course at the EIT next year and do something in the Medical Science area the following year.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Enjoy your last year and remember to have fun and don't burn out.

Yudi Porter

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

The hockey tournaments, especially Bill in the van.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

Staying in the Scout camp for the 2023 Hockey Camp in Levin.

What are your future plans?

Not sure yet.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Don't test your lunch privileges.



Nico Theyer-Durham

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

The Odyssey Camp was fun.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

Playing 'happy campers' in Class 3 with Johnny Ryan. At least once a week we would run into Scannels - one team are the animals and the other the campers. If you knocked over the campers' fire you won.

Class 9 Mountain Biking Camp in Rotorua was a favourite camp.

What are your future plans?

Hopefully I will find a summer job and then move into an apprenticeship or something conservation related.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Enjoy your last year of school.

Quote: "When the bush thrives we thrive as a people." Joanna Babarich



Mika Moenchmeier

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

The Odyssey Camp, the Class 12 Play, Class 12 Projects and the relief of finishing school work and being nearly at the end.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

Class 12 Camp was special.

What are your future plans?

I am planning to have a gap year to figure out what I will do next.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Time goes faster than you think. All of a sudden you are at the end with exams, cushion concert etc. For the Class 12 Project find a topic that you will be interested in for three terms.



Ashley Diedericks

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

The Odyssey Camp because everybody had the time to connect without any stress.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

The Whanganui river camp in Class 7 was memorable for positive and negative aspects. We had to paddle more than 30km in one day.

What are your future plans?

I am going to study Adventure Tourism at Queenstown Resort College.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Do a topic that you are passionate about and will not get bored of.

Quote : "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."



Pippa van Duin

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

Making my own fruit wine for the Class 12 Project and this provided me with an insight into what I may do in my future as a career in viticulture now interests me. I enjoyed the Odyssey Camp with my classmates. A great memory is jumping into the water at night with friends.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

I started Taikura in Class 7 and it was great to get to know a small class and develop personal relationships and long lasting friendships.

What are your future plans?

Next year I am moving to the Netherlands to au pair for a year. After this I plan to study - maybe viticulture or nursing.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Start your project early - especially the book.

Quote: "Every day is a Thursday except for a Friday, Saturday, Sunday."

Summer Cleaver



Summer Cleaver

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

All the experiences this year; Hockey camp, Waka Ama camp and the Odyssey camp. The camps allowed me to connect with people, both in and outside my Class 12 group.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

This is my first year at Taikura after transferring from Raphael House in Wellington. My memory of this year will be the friends I have made.

What are your future plans?

Travel the world.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Lock in and have fun.

Quote: "Live every day like it's Thursday." *Pippa van Duin*

Liam Roustaeu

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

The Odyssey Camp and the Class 12 Project, for which I made a short film

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

Going to camps every year and all the different experiences they offer. I also enjoyed the Main Lessons for the learning and the practical experiences we had. Sport at school has also been fun, playing Football, Hockey and Basketball. Playing with other students from different classes and in mixed teams.

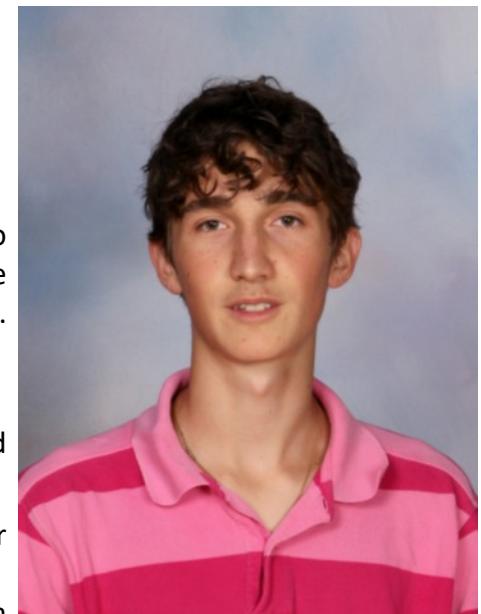
Explain what your future plans are.

I am still figuring that out; but so far: doing a film course at EIT, or working and saving to travel

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Get on top of school work and do not leave it till the last minute. Choose a Class 12 Project topic that is an interest or passion and that will keep you motivated

Quote: "I'll see you in another life...when we are both cats" from the film Vanilla Sky



Kate Caccioppoli

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

Doing the play as I enjoy acting. The project was also a significant part of the year.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

The camps we have been on in school and some of the Main Lessons have been interesting.

What are your future plans?

I am intending to go to Massey University to study Agri Business

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

It is good to know what you want to do for your project and to complete it early. Time management is an important aspect of the Class 12 year.



Isabelle Caccioppoli

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

My roles in the play.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

I enjoyed all the camps, especially canoeing on the Whanganui River in Class 7.

Explain what your future plans are.

Maybe going to University to study Horticulture in Palmerston North. I also want to travel overseas to Italy.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Start your Class 12 Project in the Christmas holidays. Have fun and enjoy the moments.



Iris Moriarty

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

Class 12 Projects because you have an opportunity to follow something you are interested in for the whole year.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

Playing in Scannell Gardens in the Lower School and the Ancient History Main Lesson with Darryn.

What are your future plans?

I haven't made up my mind yet.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Do not procrastinate with school work.



Lucy Allison

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

The Odyssey Camp as it was the last camp we would share together while at school so it felt extra special. The Hockey Tournament in Dunedin as these were my last games for the school. Perhaps the experience that has been least positive was the stress from the Class 12 Projects but I am sure it was character building.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

I still remember the Class 6 camp and capsizing Darryn in his kayak.

What are your future plans?

Next year I will work and travel; particularly through Germany and Italy. The following year I plan to go to university and study Health Science.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

At the end of the day it is not that deep so have fun.

Quote: "There is light at the end of the tunnel."



Sonne Allison

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

This year has been a roller coaster. The camp was amazing and the relief at completing the Class 12 Project was huge.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

Class One as I had the best times. The nap times were a highlight.

What are your future plans?

I am going to go and live life.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Do not procrastinate with school or you will start going grey twenty years too early.

Quote: "Sunsets are proof that endings can be beautiful too"



Imogen Mackenzie Mapel

What has been the stand out experience of your Class 12 year?

Making my dress in Handwork, and my other elective subjects Art and English.

What is one of your favourite memories of your time at Taikura?

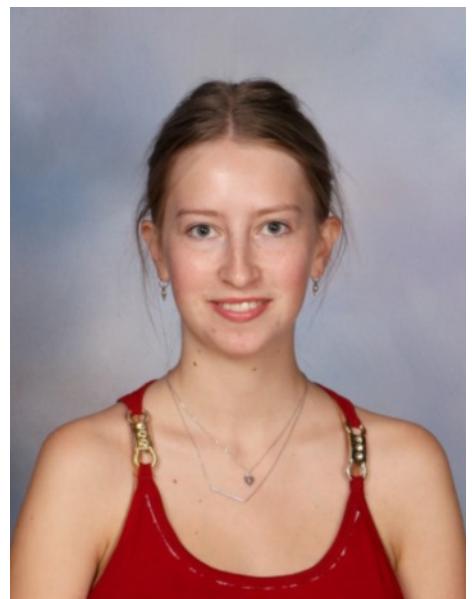
Planning our first High School Ball in Class 11 and seeing how everything came together, and our vision brought to life.

What are your future plans?

To focus on my health and once I am well I intend to travel.

If you had to give future Class 12 students advice on handling their last year at school, what would it be?

Keep persevering and grab every opportunity that is offered to you.



Class 11 Eurythmy



Thank you to class 11 for a wonderful Eurythmy performance of the story of Mahuika and the Fire. It was heartwarming to see how the students worked well together to create this performance. The movements, the music they created and played, the speaking of the story, the costumes...it all came cohesively together to create an effective rendition of the story. Well done students!

Nives Frigerio

Lower School Open Hour

Dear whānau of Classes 2 - 6,

You are warmly invited to an open hour next week on Wednesday afternoon 26 November from 2.45 - 3.45 pm. We want to give the students of these classes the opportunity to share their mahi and learning space with their whānau. It also provides a time for whānau to connect with their child's Class Teacher and each other before the Christmas season and summer holidays begin.

Classrooms 2 - 6 and specialist classrooms will be open with teachers present.

Your child/children will curate your hour for you - both showing you their learning spaces and work, along with sharing places which are important to them during their school day. Grandparents are most welcome to attend. You can expect to be greeted with a cold beverage over the course of the hour.

Unfortunately this year due to fire restrictions the pizza ovens are unable to be in use.

There will however be an alternative activity in this space. Despite no fires please know that everyone is welcome to stop by the outdoor kitchen to learn more about this space and its operation.

Children go home as normal If their whānau are not attending this event.

Warmly,
Kelly Sutton

Our Kids Online

P#rn: It's Only a Click Away — What Parents Need to Know

Even very young kids can stumble onto porn in seconds — without spelling a single word.

A tap of the microphone on Google and a silly search like “boobies” or “penis” can open the door to hardcore, violent, degrading content.

In this 2-Minute Tuesday video, we share expert insights from Dr Gail Dines on how early exposure can shape a child’s sexual template — teaching them that violence, aggression, and degradation are “normal sexuality” long before they understand what intimacy even is.

As parents we need to know how quickly this can happen... and how deeply it can impact our kids

This affects both our sons and our daughters, and it has nothing to do with whether we’re “good parents” or have a “good home.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PU-erkicWaM>

Hay Needed

We are after 8 to 10 bales of hay to be used for our Shepherd’s Play, the performance of which is an annual gift to our students from their teachers. If you have any available, we would like to use them from Friday 12 December, until lunchtime on Wednesday 17 December. Please email suzan.bart@taikura.school.nz if you can help.



Welcome To Our New Kindergarten Kaiako

It is an absolute privilege to be stepping into a permanent kindergarten teaching role in 2026. Many of you already know me as a parent in the community over the past five years, as well as through my work as Taikura’s Playgroup Coordinator and my occasional relieving in the school.

I am a primary-trained teacher and completed my Rudolf Steiner Certificate studies in 2023. Hawke’s Bay has always been home for me, and for the past 15 years my work has consistently centred around children and parent education a thread that has shaped both my personal and professional life.

I am absolutely thrilled to be joining the kindergarten team in an ongoing capacity. My passion for anthroposophy and Steiner education continues to deepen, and I feel grateful to be able to contribute to our community and a way of working that feels truly aligned with my values and sense of purpose.

I look forward to getting to know you and your wonderful children more wholeheartedly as we walk this journey together.

Ngā mihi,
Britt Aberahama



Community Noticeboard

New bus network launches 25 January

Get ready for a better-connected Napier and Hastings — the new Hawke's Bay bus network launches on 25 January 2026. The redesigned network will be more direct and simpler to understand services, better connect the cities, and offer new connections to Hawke's Bay Airport and the Regional Sports Park.



In preparation, you might notice some work happening over the summer months as new bus stops are installed in Napier and Hastings. These new stops will provide access to the new network for passengers. We appreciate your patience while this important work is carried out and look forward to welcoming you on board the new network early in the new year.

To see a map of the planned routes and more information, visit the GoBay website.

The Bubble Show is Coming to Taikura!

We're excited to welcome *The Bubble Show* to the Taikura School Hall on **Saturday 29 November** at 2:00pm.

The show is created and performed by Eran, who previously taught Drama and Bothmer at Titirangi Steiner School before becoming a full-time performer touring internationally.

Eran has performed around the world — from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival all the way to the South Island of New Zealand and beyond. He has even put Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern inside a giant soap bubble, served as Resident Bubbologist at Rainbow's End Theme Park in Auckland, and received numerous awards including:

- The Variety Artists Club of New Zealand Award for Best Children's Entertainer
- Nelson Fringe Festival – Audience Choice Award
- Face TV Award for Best Family Act
- Features at Guinness Worlds of Records 2025 with his bubble skills



The Bubble Show is a joyful and uplifting experience especially suited to the lower school age group, blending art,

Fleece Wanted

If you have any undyed natural wool fleece (white or brown) which you do not need, I would be very happy to hear from you. Please text me on 02102771201 or email evaurieli@gmail.com

Eva Steinmetz-Urieli

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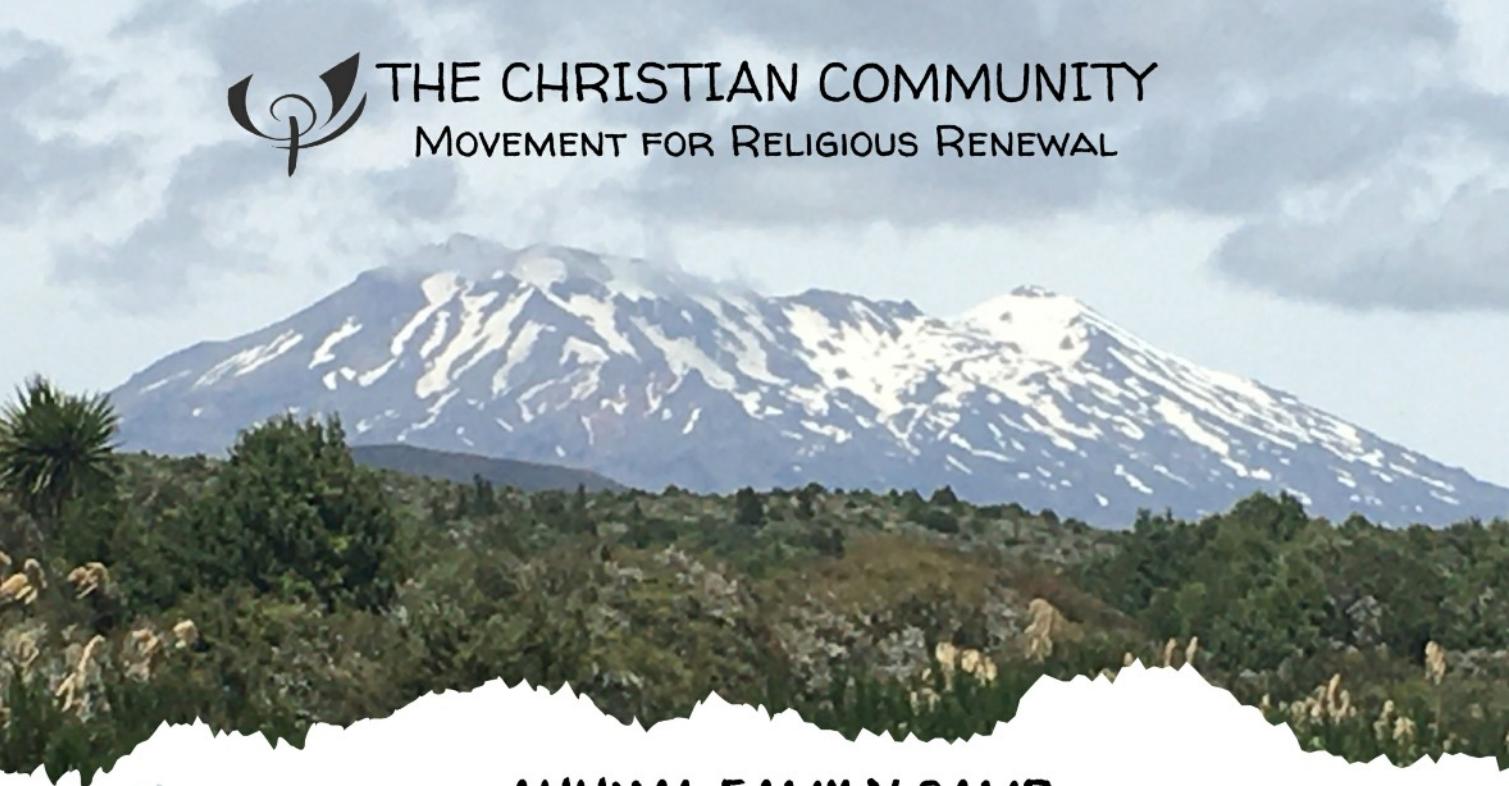
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ANNUAL FAMILY CAMP MANGATEPOPO, TONGARIRO NATIONAL PARK

January 6-11 2026

BOOKINGS

Registrations for our 2026 Summer Camp are open – spaces are limited so please book your space to avoid disappointment.

DAILY RHYTHM

Each year we offer separate programmes for little children, young children, youth and adults.

We begin and end each day with a circle including games, singing and an ongoing story. Morning and evening services deepen our spiritual striving and devotional life. Together we build and strengthen our community and connection with daily work, play and devotion. We prepare and enjoy organic and biodynamic foods.

Tongariro is renowned for its beauty and diverse outdoor activities including walks, waterfalls, hot pools and swimming holes.

All inclusive costs per person;

Adult \$450; 10-17 yrs \$300; 5-9 yrs \$250; Up to 4 yrs \$75

Camp Account: The Christian Community 03-0259-0165146-05

INFORMATION: Hartmut Borries hartmutborries@gmail.com 021 259 8555

BOOKINGS: Cheryl Prigg cheryl.n.p@gmail.com 021 0232 0932



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www.thechristiancommunity.org