



We have a student in our High School who is struggling to attend school each day. Their journey at Taikura started in the kindergarten and they have been following older siblings who have each had positive and successful journeys all the way through Taikura. This student has always behaved well at school, enjoyed their learning, had a group of friends and experienced success. Their parents are very committed, always attending school events, initiating communication with the school to support all of their children's education and actively contributing in numerous ways.

In working collaboratively with this student and their whānau to support their attendance we discovered that this student has had poor attendance the entire way through their journey at Taikura and that assumptions were made to explain these absence patterns based on our knowledge of the whānau and societal events. In collaboratively developing a plan to support improved attendance we reflected that if active and intentional interventions had been made earlier in this student's journey, we may have been able to prevent the situation we have currently where poor attendance is seriously limiting the student's ability to progress their learning.

We are now three weeks into our new school year, and we are all finding our new daily and weekly rhythm. This year one of our annual achievement strategies is to improve attendance and how we track and follow up attendance issues in order to ensure they are dealt with early on in order to prevent them becoming bigger issues.

Our expectation is that students attend 90% of each term which means students do not miss more than one day of school every fortnight or a half day each week. If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by the age of 16.

Students with inconsistent attendance can find it challenging to settle into classroom learning and are missing out on experiences offered as part of our Steiner Waldorf curriculum. Our curriculum is unique in that it is not only skills based but the content is progressional as it works to meet the soul needs of each student at each age. Our staff put a great deal of effort into the planning, and it is significant when there are multiple absences throughout the course of a Main Lesson.

Two years ago we shared that we were aware that in our kura there is a culture of rest days and home days and that there had been discussion at a governance level on this in relation to our Special Character. The outcome was that there was no Special Character rationale for home days or rest days, either full or part days, beyond the recommended one day a fortnight.

As part of our annual achievement plan we have implemented a Stepped Attendance Response Overview this year which outlines our approach to promoting good attendance and identifying attendance concerns early so that we can work through issues in a timely manner so we can try to prevent poor attendance negatively impacting on our students opportunity to learn. Please see below for a copy of our Stepped Attendance Response Overview.

Pippa Caccioppoli
Tumuaki/Principal

Taikura Stepped Attendance Response Overview

Good Attendance		Worrying Attendance		Concerning Attendance		Very Concerning Attendance	
<p>Good chance of success</p> <p>Less than 5 days absent in a school term</p> <p>0 1 2 3 4</p>		<p>Less chance of success</p> <p>Up to 10 days absence in a school term</p> <p>5 6 7 8 9</p>		<p>Hard to make progress</p> <p>Up to 15 days absence in a term</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14</p>		<p>Very hard to make progress</p> <p>15 days or more absence in a term</p> <p>15</p>	
<p>Parents/Guardians</p> <p>Ensure student attends every day they are able. Reinforce good attendance habits. Open communication with school around attendance. Follow school attendance policies and procedures.</p>		<p>Parents/Guardians</p> <p>Return student to regular attendance. Contact school to discuss reasons for absence and impact on learning. Support student to catch up on missed learning Engage in supports offered.</p>		<p>Parents/Guardians</p> <p>Return student to regular attendance. Participate in meeting with school to analyse reasons for absence and to collaborate on a support plan. Implement strategies at home.</p>		<p>Parents/Guardians</p> <p>Return student to regular attendance. Engage in support plan. Participate in regular meetings.</p>	
<p>Taikura</p> <p>Communicate with parents about every absence. Maintain contact details of parents. Report regularly to parents on attendance of their child. Support student to catch up missed learning where required and appropriate.</p>		<p>Taikura</p> <p>Contact parents to discuss reasons for absence and impact on learning (including EOTC activities in cases)– if not initiated by parents. Support student to catch up missed learning where required and appropriate. Use in-school resources as appropriate to remove barriers eg counsellor, alternative timetables if appropriate.</p>		<p>Taikura</p> <p>Contact parents to escalate concerns, including possible restrictions on EOTC activities. Hold meeting to analyse reasons for absence and to collaborate on a support plan. Develop and implement a support plan tailored to the reasons and circumstances around the child's absence. Use in-school resources as appropriate to remove barriers and request support from Attendance Service or other agencies as needed.</p>		<p>Taikura</p> <p>Contact parents to inform of escalated response. Request support from Attendance Service or other agencies as needed. Participate in multi-agency response as needed. Maintain implementation and monitoring of support plan. Unenroll if student will not be returning to school.</p>	
Ministry of Education							
<p>Attendance Service</p> <p>Work with chronically absent and non-enrolled students and their families to identify and address barriers to attendance. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> agreeing changes to be made, addressing some unmet basic needs impacting on attendance, and referring students to other services as necessary <p>Collaborate with schools so that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> they remain engaged as plans are developed and implemented, and they can continue to provide support as the student increases their attendance at school, and <p>the additional Attendance Service support is withdrawn</p>				<p>Regional and National teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate involvement of other agencies › Support schools to access other education pathways for a student where appropriate Consider system-wide initiatives for high-risk attendance Reprioritise regional support resources to where most needed/effective Undertake Ministry-led prosecution when considered appropriate if supports are offered and not taken up, when requested by schools 			



He Pito Kōrero!

Kua rongō kōrero koe...? Have you heard?

Kia ora koutou! Have you heard about 'Kaituhi'? Kaituhi is a web-based transcription tool that automatically transcribes te reo Māori and New Zealand English audio and video files! There is a cost for this app and if you want more information about it, click on this link! <https://kaituhi.nz/>

Kīwaha o te wiki ... kīwaha of the week!
E kai ō mata! (Eh ka eye orr mar tar)
Look at this, feast your eyes on this!

Hemi: Kia ora e Tāne, e kai ō mata!

Rangi: Yep, those taonga Class 10 have made look awesome!

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



Waiata Māi 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!

Community Assembly - Next Week Thursday at 11:00am

You may have noticed in our Upcoming Events that our Community Assembly is happening next week, and we warmly invite you to join us.

For some of you, this may be your first time attending one of our assemblies. These gatherings offer a special opportunity to see some of the activities and curriculum areas your children have been working on recently. It is not a polished performance, but rather a sharing of current mahi—a genuine window into your child's learning and into what is unfolding throughout the school. Our younger tamariki especially love looking out into the audience and recognising someone they know.

Grandparents, friends, and wider whānau are all warmly welcome.



WW Hook Fund

The WW Hook fund was generously created by the estate of the late Wallace William Hook back in 1987. The fund was created to assist akonga māori at our kura. Every year we set aside WW Hook funds to assist with camps and other fees. The WW Hook funds are a contribution towards the amounts applied for, however it is never the entire amount of the application.

To apply, we request a letter written from you and your tamaiti that details the following:

1. Who you are, by means of your pepeha
2. What you are applying for (the applied activity i.e. camp) and the cost (if known)
3. What other initiatives you have in place to pay for the applied activity
4. How the applied activity will impact you i.e. what you may learn or experience
5. Successful applications are asked for a letter of thank you and details of the applied activity once the event has taken place

Your letter can be handed into the office, addressed to WW Hook.

Selena Crouch
Business Manager

High School SENCo Room request

The High School SENCo room is seeking donations of LEGO and puzzles for older students to support our Quiet Club initiative. If you have any spare LEGO or puzzles that you would like to donate, we would greatly appreciate it. Thank you!



Upcoming Events

High School Athletics Day - Tuesday 3 March

Class 7 Whānau hui - Wednesday 4 March at 6:00pm

Community Assembly - Thursday 5 March at 11:00am

Class 3 Whānau hui - Thursday 5 March. Time TBC

Class 2 Whānau hui - Thursday 5 March at 6:00pm

Kererū Kindergarten Pounamu Room whānau hui - Tuesday 10 March at 2:00pm

Kererū Kindergarten Kōwhai Room whānau hui - Wednesday 11 March at 2:00pm

'Our kids online' parent information evening - Thursday 12 March at 6:30pm

Teacher Only Day - School Only - Friday 13 March

School Board hui - Monday 16 March at 5:00pm

Autumn Festival - Thursday 19 March

Term One ends - Thursday 2 April at 2:45pm

School Photos

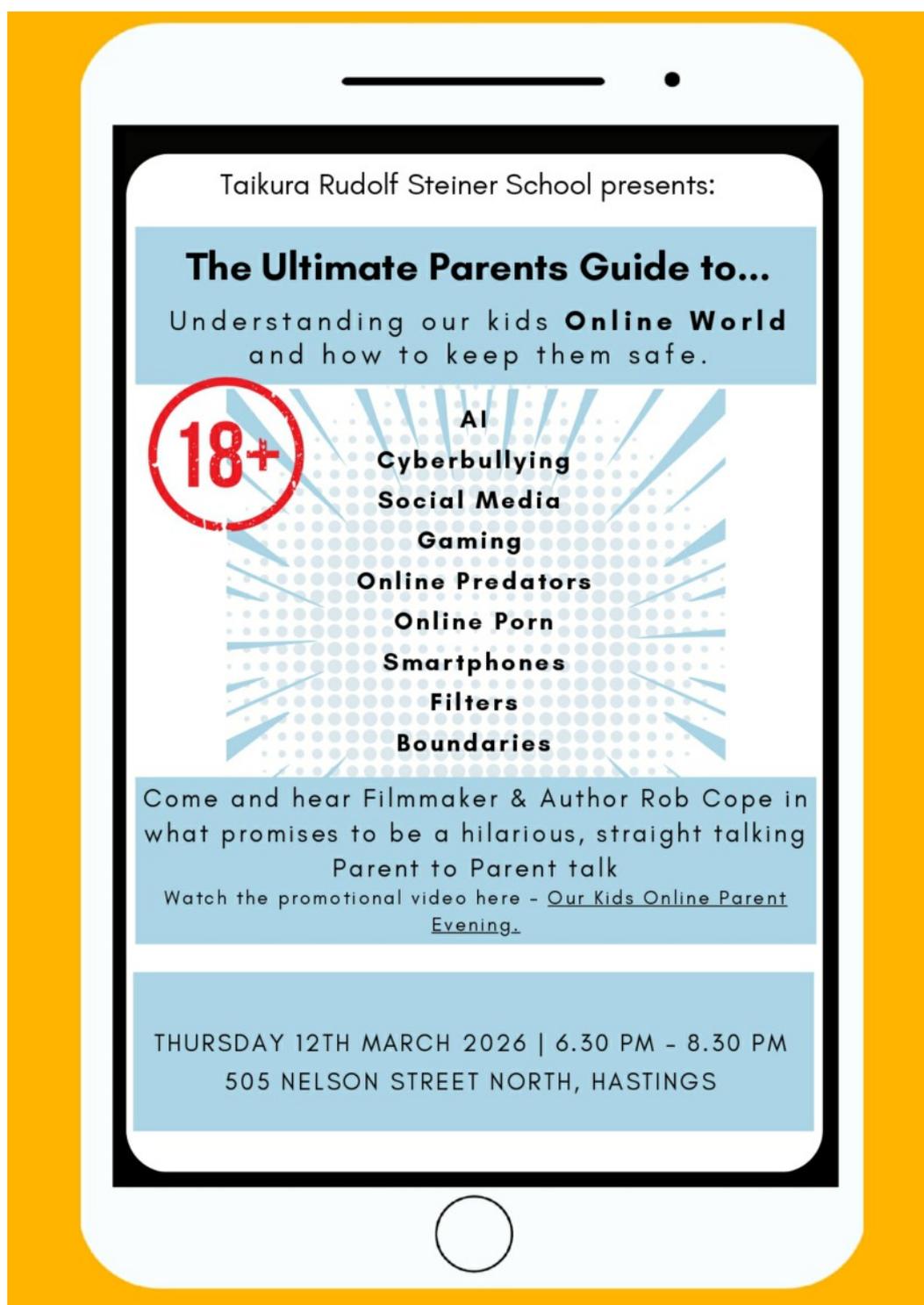
Student photos are now live and ready to view and order. **Keycodes** will be sent via email. Please check your junk, spam, or promotions folders, in case the message was filtered. Free delivery applies to orders placed before midnight on **Sunday, 8 March 2026**.

Our Kids Online

The Secret I Tell My Kids

I let my kids in on the big secret: I don't always know what I'm doing as a parent. I've never done this before, but it's the most important job in the world to me. I'll make mistakes, I won't always get it right, but I need you to trust that the rules and boundaries I set come from what I do know: they're there to protect you, nurture you, and help you become the very best version of yourself.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ArjSxbqlws>



Taikura Rudolf Steiner School presents:

The Ultimate Parents Guide to...

Understanding our kids **Online World**
and how to keep them safe.

18+

- AI
- Cyberbullying
- Social Media
- Gaming
- Online Predators
- Online Porn
- Smartphones
- Filters
- Boundaries

Come and hear Filmmaker & Author Rob Cope in what promises to be a hilarious, straight talking Parent to Parent talk

Watch the promotional video here - [Our Kids Online Parent Evening.](#)

THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2026 | 6.30 PM - 8.30 PM
505 NELSON STREET NORTH, HASTINGS

School App

If you have not already done so, **we encourage you to download our School App into your smart phone.** You will find school contacts, newsletters, a link to our website, term dates, absentee notifications and our calendar which is filled with upcoming events, meetings, camps and trips. Subscribe to class alert groups and you will receive notifications such as class camp school arrival times and meeting reminders straight to your phone. So much useful information!

1. Go to the **App Store** or **Google Play Store** on your mobile device
2. Search **SchoolAppsNZ**
3. Download the **App**
4. Open the **App**
5. When it asks to send notifications – click allow.
6. When it asks to search your **School** – type your **School Name** in the search bar
7. Lastly, subscribe to the Alert Groups you would like to receive alerts for.



Community Noticeboard

Coffee and Conversation - Free

At the Steiner Centre across the road from Taikura. Mondays and Fridays after drop off and before pick up.

After School Caregiver Needed

Looking for after-school care for two children (ages 7 and 9). Ideally someone who can walk them home from school – it's a short distance. An older student perhaps. Hours will vary week to week, and I'm happy to offer fair compensation. Please text: 0274725142

Caregiver needed

Our family is looking for a caregiver who would be available Monday- Thursday for school pick ups, errands, dinner and bath etc. I have three children, ages 5, 13 and 14. Times can be discussed but can be around 2.30-6.30 or any time from 12.30pm. Please text Kate 0220257948. Position available from 9th March onwards. Term unclear and dependent on my recovery but is likely to be at least 3 months or more, I would be able to give one months notice.

House for Rent - Havelock North

Fully furnished 4-bedroom house available April to October 2026.

Sleeps 5–6, office, pool, organic fruit and vegetable garden.

Located within short walking distance to the village and cycling distance / public transport access to Taikura.

For further details, please get in touch - email@moenchmeier.de



Heretaunga
Women's
Centre

JOIN US FOR AN
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2026
BREAKFAST AND PANEL DISCUSSION

FRIDAY | 6 MARCH 2026 | 7-9 AM

Hastings Community Arts Centre
106 Russell Street South, Hastings

Join us for a meaningful International Women's Day Breakfast as the Heretaunga Women's Centre launches its 2026 **'Give to Gain'** campaign. The event will bring together community leaders, supporters, partners, and advocates to explore a simple yet powerful idea: when we support women, we all gain. The morning includes networking, a light breakfast, a facilitated panel discussion, and an opportunity to be part of a year-long movement for collective gain.



Korrin Barrett
MC - Life Unlimited
& Resilience Expert



Wendy Griffin
Educator, Volunteer
Connector



Emma McLean
CEO Works for
Everyone



Raukura Huata
Cultural Advocate &
Content Creator

Tickets are \$50, which includes breakfast, and ALL remaining funds will support funding the Heretaunga Women's Centre.
<https://events.humanitix.com/hwc-international-women-s-day-2026>
Proudly supported by the Hastings City Business Association.



"Really bat-mospheric!"

BAT'S INCREDIBLE

DATE: Friday 6th March

PLACE: Te Poho O Tangianui Marae
95 Auckland Road Greenmeadows

TIME: 7 - 8pm

PRICE Please register /attendance by koha



BOOK
HERE

STORYTELLER TANYA BATT AND MUSICIAN PETER FORSTER INVITE YOU INTO THE TWILIGHT REALM OF THE BAT. SHOW CASING AOTEAROA'S ONLY INDIGENOUS LAND MAMMAL AND ONE OF THE MOST PROLIFIC MAMMALS ON OUR PLANET - THIS FAMILY FRIENDLY PROGRAMME IS A WEAVE OF TRADITIONAL BAT STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD, BAT SCIENCE, STRANGER THAN FICTION FOLKLORIC TRADITIONS AND A BAT - FACTS QUIZ WITH PRIZES!! SPREAD YOUR WINGS UP AND DON YOUR MASK AND COME & DISCOVER JUST HOW INCREDIBLE BATS ARE.

"Bat-Tastic!"

ALWAYS BE YOURSELF UNLESS
YOU CAN BE ~~BATMAN~~ *Batwoman*
ALWAYS BE BATWOMAN.

"Completly Batty!"

TANYA BATT'S
IMAGINED WORLDS
COME EXERCISE YOUR IMAGINATION

www.imagined-worlds.net