

BOOK WEEK

students and teachers celebrated books, authors, and book characters this week by participating in a wonderful array of activities prepared by Mrs Dwivedi. The support and fun we had together came together nicely by having all our whānau join us on Whānau Day. I can't wait until our next big event that celebrates books! Here are some photos from our Book Week.



The teachers were ready to go first thing in the morning.



The magnificent Puanga students



That paint didn't come off that easily!



Our very own Lilo.
She was soooo cute!



Our Andy Griffiths champion.



Guess Who?



Shrek and Fiona came to visit.



All the characters starting the day together.



Thing 1 and Thing 2



Cuteness overload.



The Wonkey Donkey



Our book reading master.

MORE PHOTOS...



Puanganui characters.



Te Ao Marama characters.



Moana, Hermione, and
Cat in the Hat



Our littlies really were
something.



Seniors enjoying the day.



NOT BOB THE BUILDER!

BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHANGE TO TIMELINE

UPOKONGARO SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES TRI-ANNUAL ELECTION TIMELINE

- Fri 18 July - Call for nominations
- Wed 6 Aug - Nominations Close 12pm
- Wed 13 Aug - Voting papers issued
- Wed 10 Sep - Elections
- 15th Sept - Poll closes 4pm
- 20th Sept - Accept postal votes
- 21st Sept - Count votes
- 22nd Sept - Board takes office

Please note the date changes to the timeline of the election, due to voting papers going out late. Please also remember to place your votes at the office at school.

FORREST SCHOOL

Last term, Whaea Jess aka Miss Davis and now Mrs Marshall, attended a course on how to deliver forest school. This has been a big vision in the making and Te Rito are lucky enough to be her test students as we prepare to roll out Forest School to the whole school in 2026. It is an exciting process and the students have already shown excellent skill, communication, innovation, resilience, creativity, cooperation and collaboration.

Next term we are adding a junior class to the sessions to see how it will work for them. We are excited to see how this will work and how we will be able to grow this wonderful opportunity that we have.

I'd like to also acknowledge Louise and the team at That Place who continue to support the growth and development of our kura and our taura. Their commitment and generosity to Upokongaro School have made this project possible and I can't wait to see what comes next. Thank you, That Place.

Here are some photos from day one at Forest School with Whaea Jess.



Principal's Message



As you can see there's lots going on at Upokongaro School and it's keeping our kids, staff, and whānau good busy.

I'd like to thank all of you who could attend our Whānau Day this term, it was a wonderful day to see learning, talents, and lots of fun which is what school should be about. I'd like to thank you also for your comments on the parent feedback sheets that will help our new board to determine the direction for the next three years.

Mrs Vincent and I had administration training to find ways to reduce the number of platforms we use as a school. My hope is that we will have one platform that does payments, notices, newsletters, teacher/whānau communications, attendance, and much much more. We will still have a social media presence and a website however the majority of our administrative executions will be on one app moving forward. Watch this space.

Final Word

Our children got the two and three word sermon regarding gossip this morning. This sermon is to be used to stop the spread of harmful information whether it is true or not. The sermon is **STOP IT! STOP IT NOW!** Our tamariki have practiced the sermon and will be reminded continuously about how harmful our words can be. It is not true that if something is true it should be said. Truth can be just as hurtful as lies if it is used in the wrong context. I want to invite all of our community to start using the two word sermon especially in the presence of children. Two pieces of gossip have resulted in the absence of students and brought fragility to the safety of our community.

Your place in our community is an important one, your influence on our tamariki is an important one, don't forget it and take care of it.

Mrs Browne

UPCOMING EVENTS IN TERM TWO

- 10 Sep - Wig Wednesday - Mufti Day
- 10 Sep - Cluster Speeches 5.30pm
- 15 Sep - Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori
- 15 Sep - BOT Election Day closes 4pm
- 20 Sep - BOT Election postal votes accepted
- 21 Sep - BOT Election Votes Counted
- 22 Sep - BOT takes office

SAVE THE DATE