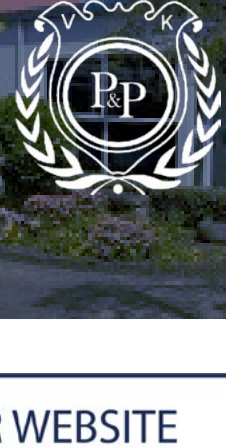


# Ss Peter and Paul School

Tuesday 8 April 2025



## Kia ora Parents and Caregivers,

### Welcome

A very warm welcome to our new students and their families who have joined us since our last newsletter. **Kōwhai** welcomes Evanyā and her family who are new to our school community, and Matthias and Otis who join their older siblings. We are very glad that you have joined our school whānau.

### Learning conferences

Many thanks to the large number of parents who have come along to our first learning conferences for the year. Teachers speak so positively of the opportunity to meet you all and discuss your children's learning journey.

Further opportunities will occur at the end of Terms 2 & 3.

### Health & Wellbeing

We strive for a consistent school-wide approach to help our students manage their behaviour and their relationships with one another. This approach supports students to develop social and conflict resolution skills. It aims to help them repair relationships and build well-being: increasing their empathy and ability to solve social problems that arise both inside and outside the classroom.

Our school values have formed the basis for identifying behaviours, attitudes and dispositions that will support both student learning and social and emotional development. We have a poster that features prominently in every classroom and teachers work with their classes to unpack what these would look like in the classroom and playground. We now have images of these on our school website and in the glass display area in the main entrance hallway.

When a conflict situation arises teachers use the structure of a restorative conversation with the students involved. The essence of a restorative conversation involves four big questions which a teacher will lead students through:

- Tell the story (What happened?)
- Explore the harm (Who has been affected and how?)
- Repair the harm (What do we need to do to put things right?)
- Move forward (How can we make sure this doesn't happen again?)

Some children find it quite difficult to be part of a process that considers a viewpoint other than their own. Some students want to tell the story but don't want to spend their time on the other questions and actually reaching a solution. Our aim is to help all students to understand that working through a consistent process that prioritises respectful relationships and dialogue is valuable learning for everyone.

We appreciate you taking the time to read and consider our work in this area and your support of our restorative practices. One important way to do this is should your child ever come home from school, upset about a conflict situation, please ask them if they have raised this with a teacher and if not, reassure them that teachers all follow a work that involves everyone being heard and working together to 'put things right'.

### Sensible screen use

Pasi Sahlberg is a Finnish education expert, author and professor at the University of Melbourne in Australia. Previously, Sahlberg has worked as a professor of practice at Harvard University at the World Bank, and as the director of the Centre for International Mobility in Finland.

He writes that...*Technology is a great enabler but it comes with potential cost for our health and wellbeing. This website helps you and your children navigate toward safer, healthier and more responsible use of media and digital technologies for happier lives.*

I have shared a link to the website previously but thought parents might find this a useful piece of research in a digital world. [sensiblenetgreenuse](https://www.sensiblenetgreenuse.com)

### Many thanks and please join us

On behalf of all the staff could I say many thanks for all your support over this last term. I hope the school holiday break goes well for you all, and safe travels if you are planning trips away.

We'd love our school whānau to join us for our Easter Liturgy on Thursday and our school assembly on Friday if the time of 9:15am works for you.

Have a very Happy Easter everyone.

*Kay Tester*  
Principal

OUR WEBSITE

PARISH WEBSITE

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Sport

Reminders & Updates

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## Events

Thursday 10 April

Easter Liturgy, all whānau welcome, 9:15am

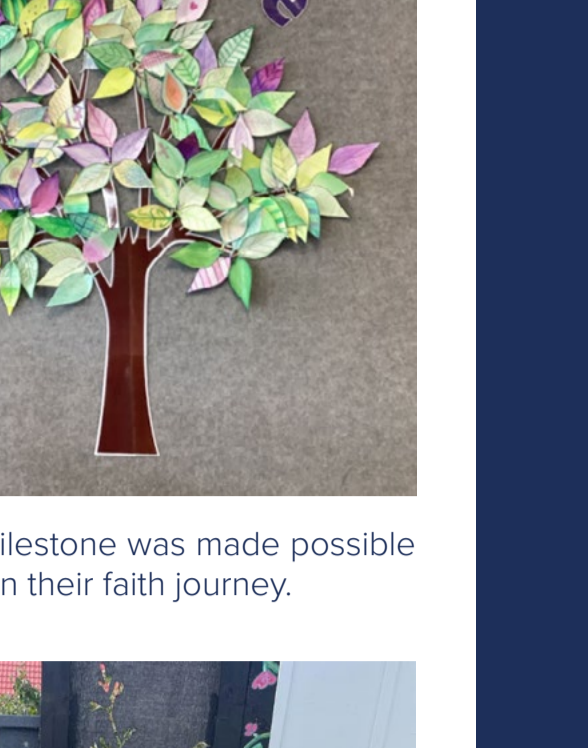
Friday 11 April

End of term assembly, all whānau welcome, 9:15am

Last day of Term 1

Monday 28 April

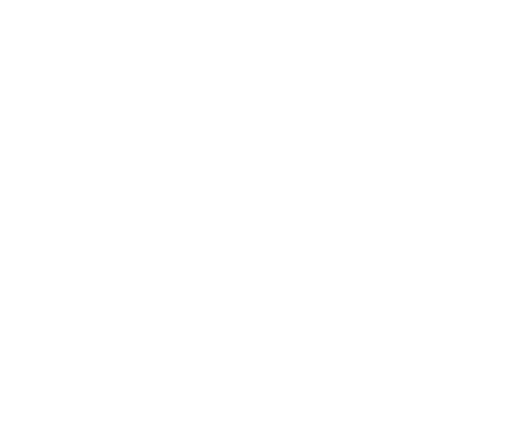
First day of Term 2



## SPECIAL CHARACTER

### Purple Day Lent Appeal

A huge thank you to everyone for your support! Your generosity is greatly appreciated. The total amount donated was \$600, which will be contributed to the Caritas Lent Appeal. The Christian Service Leaders did a fantastic job in promoting this fundraising event.



### Rātā Lent wall display

We have created a Lent tree to represent the kindness we practice during the Lenten season.

Every time we complete a good deed, we put a purple leaf on the tree to represent our commitment to the three pillars of Lent: fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

### Kora and Coco

### School Easter Liturgy

Thursday 10 April, at 9:15am in the Church.

We warmly invite our families to join us for this special liturgy.

### First Reconciliation

Several of our students have been preparing to receive their First Reconciliation.

On Sunday, there were about sixty students who received this important sacrament. This milestone was made possible through the joint effort of the students and their parents, who supported and guided them on their faith journey.

### Te Māra Kai

Another wonderful harvest from our school vegetable garden – Te Māra Kai – has been picked, packed and delivered to our local food bank.

You may have noticed a new extension being added to our vegetable garden. Cyril is building a vertical garden frame, and the children are helping with designing a sustainable way to grow more vegetables.

Our beautiful sunflowers are coming to the end of their flowering season. We aim to hang them up to dry so we can harvest the seeds for next summer. A great way for the children to see how a plant reproduces seeds from which it was grown.



Aurea Casino

Director of Religious Studies

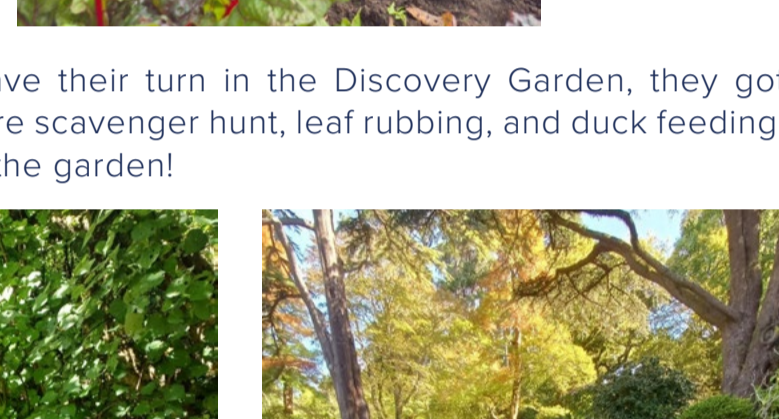
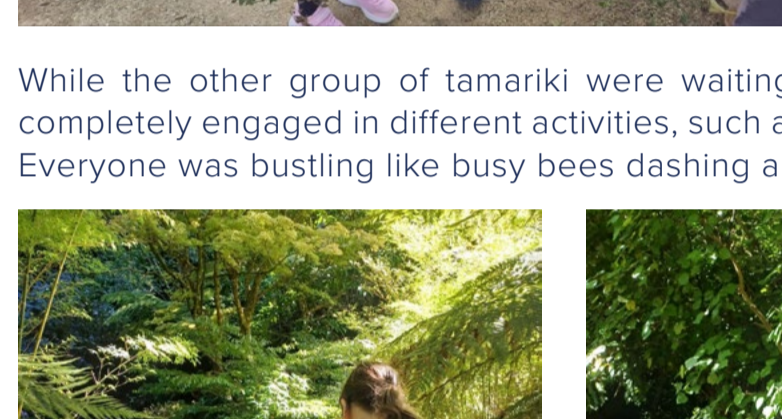


## Bees a-buzzing, Tamariki a-bustling: Kōwhai explores the Wellington Botanic Garden

For the past several weeks, we have been talking about bees, flowering plants, pollination, and everything in between. We all had our fair share of scientific investigations both inside and outside the classroom, and we have loved letting our inner scientists shine through.

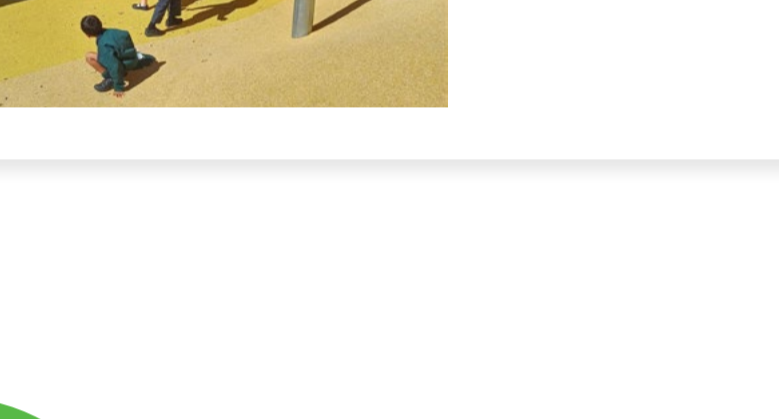
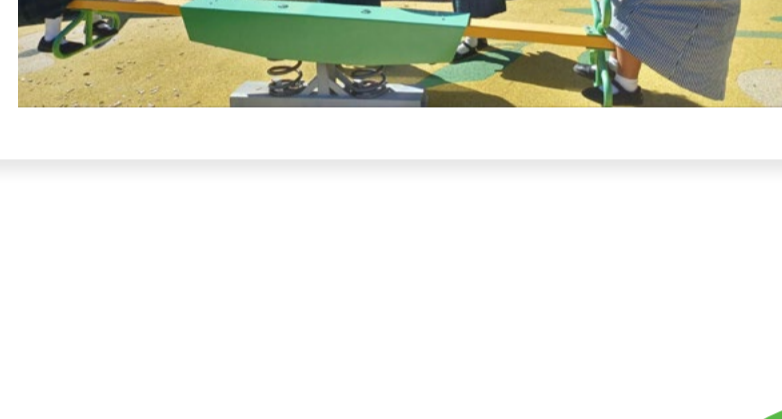
What better way to culminate and celebrate all the learning that we have done, than to explore one of our local gardens – the Wellington Botanic Garden.

We kicked off our trip with a fun bus ride with our friends, parent helpers, and kaiako. As soon as we reached our destination, we were welcomed by the lovely staff from Discovery Garden and proceeded with our health and safety briefing.

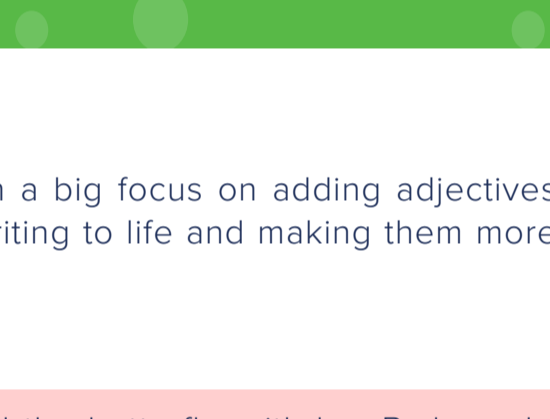
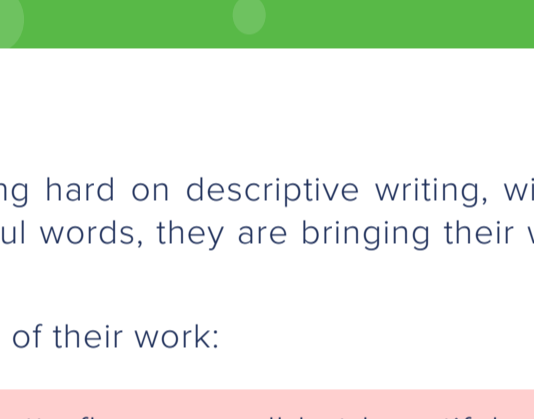
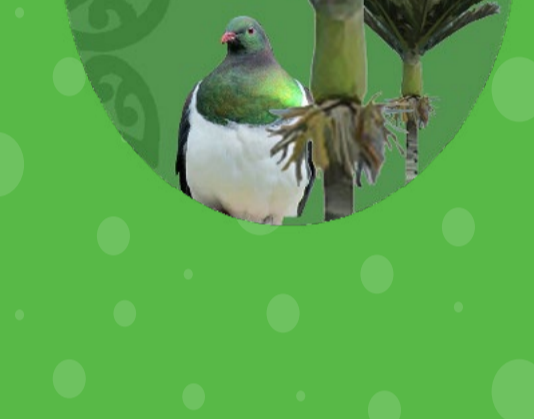


One group started their session in the Discovery Garden while the other group went to the Sound Shell for their self-guided activities.

In the Discovery Garden, the tamariki got their hands busy and learned how to make paper plant pots, plant some vegetables in old milk containers, and harvest corn from the vegetable garden. We also learned more about bees and how they pollinate flowers. We were all so amazed about the waggie dance, which is the bees' way of letting the other bees know about where they can find a new source of food.

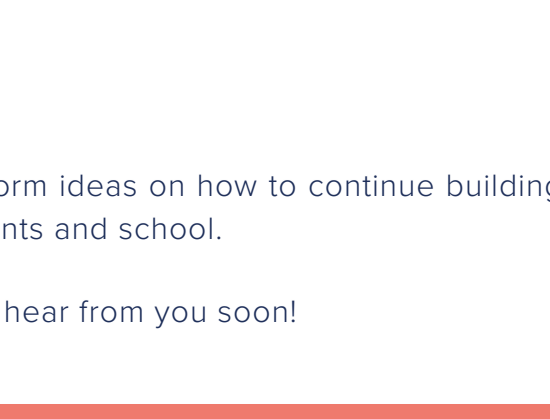
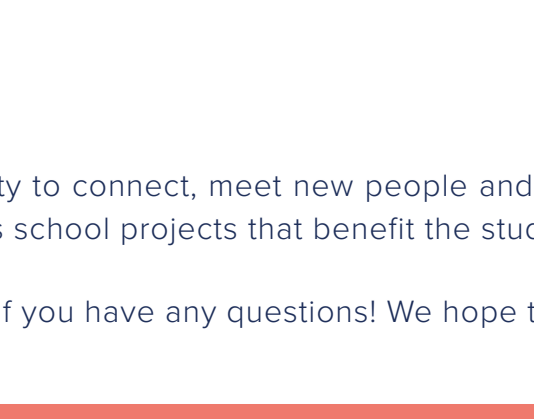
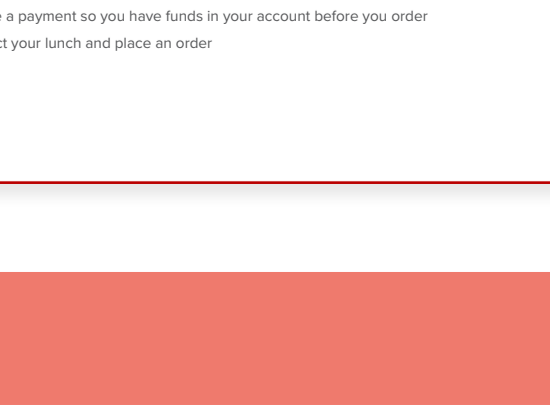
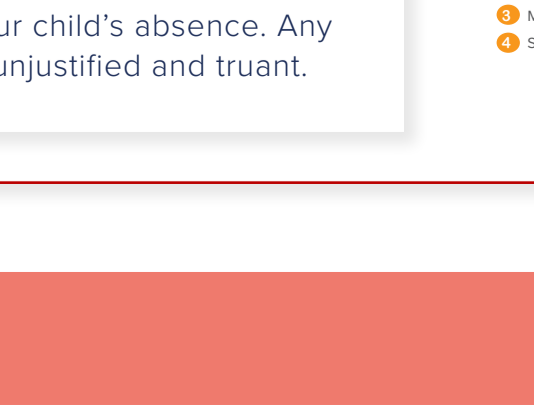
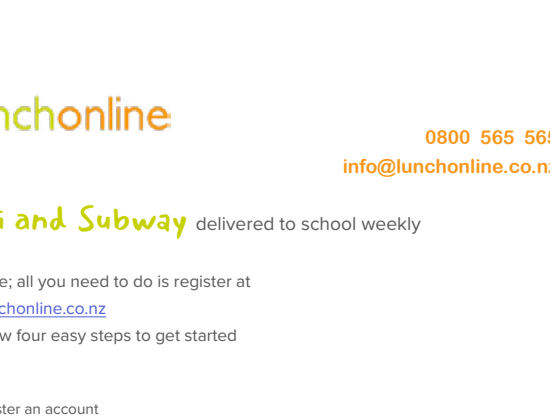
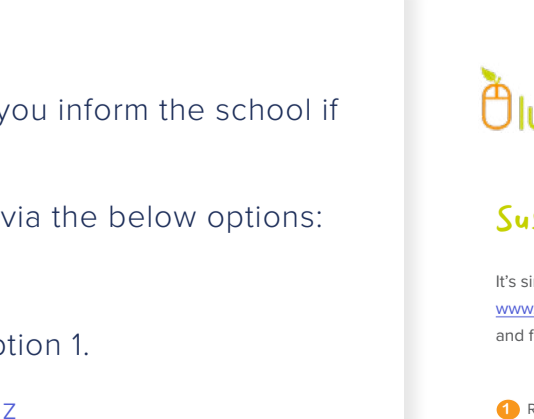
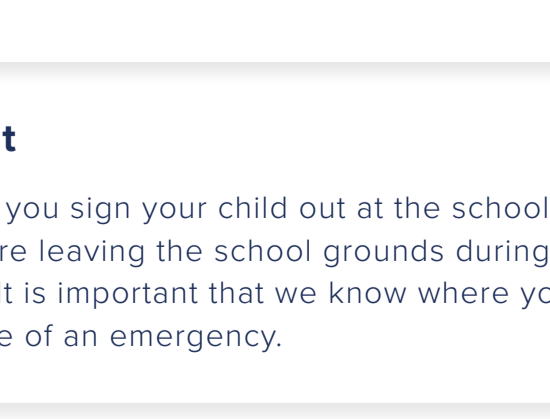
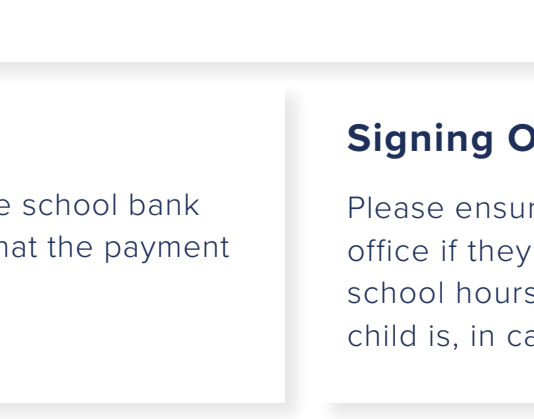
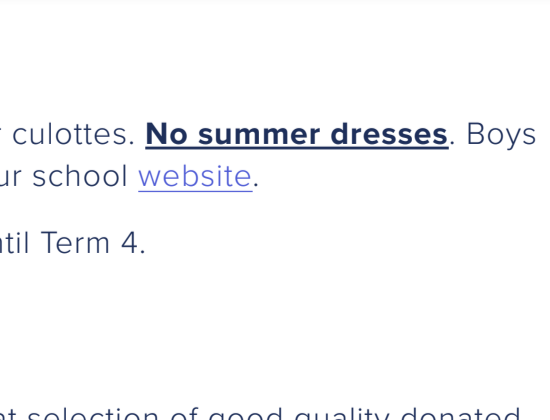
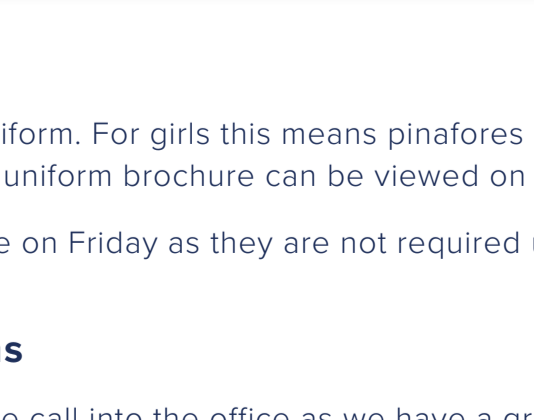
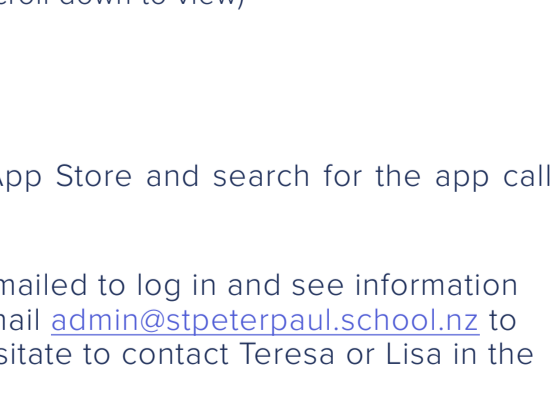
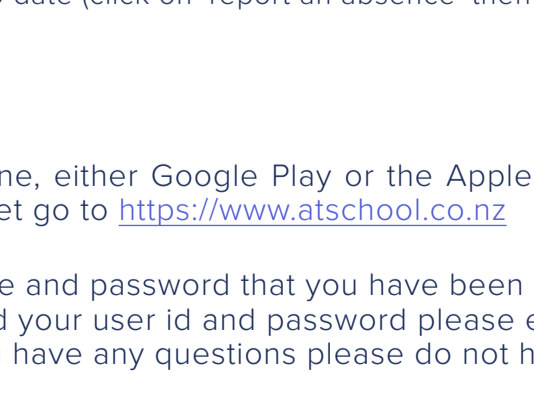
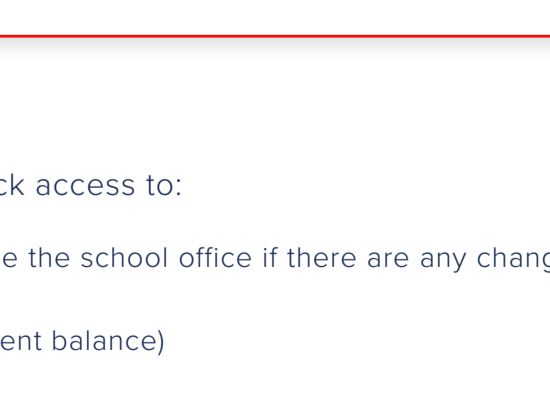
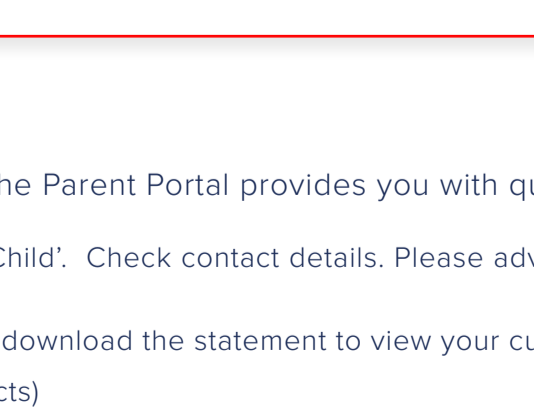
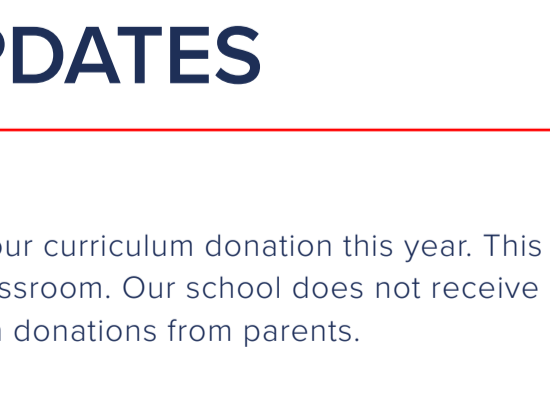
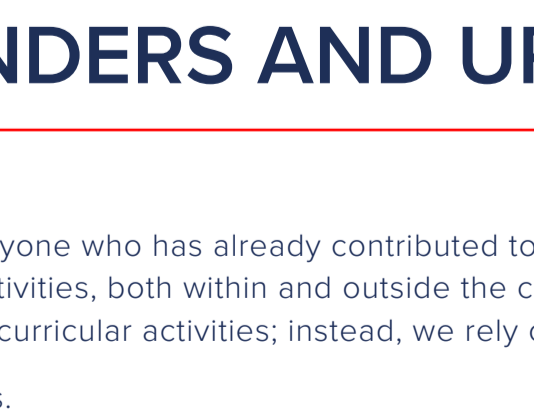
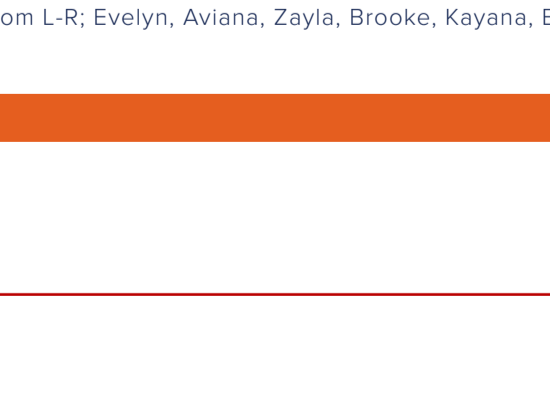
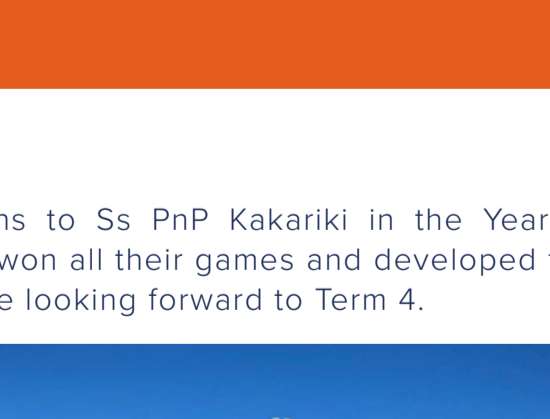
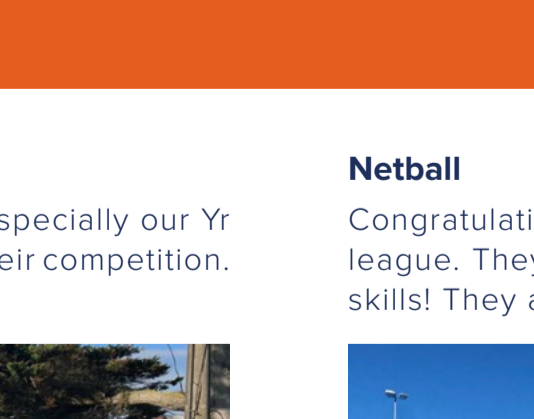
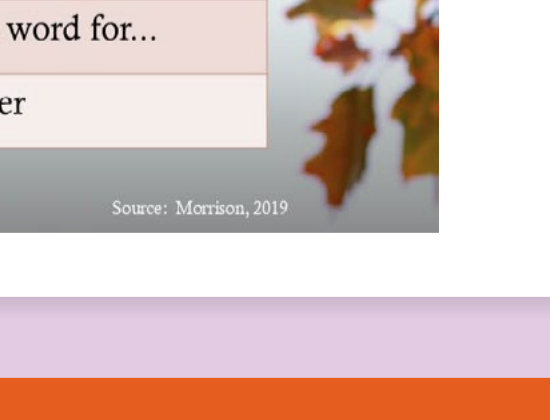
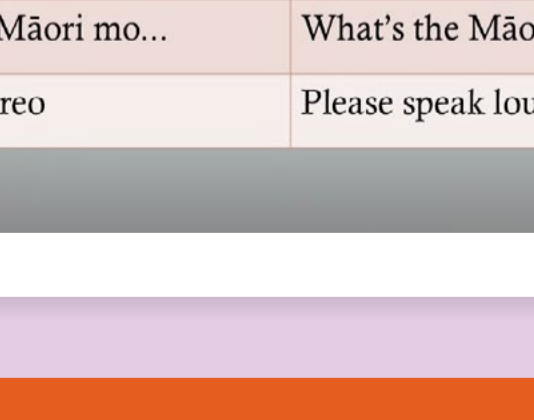
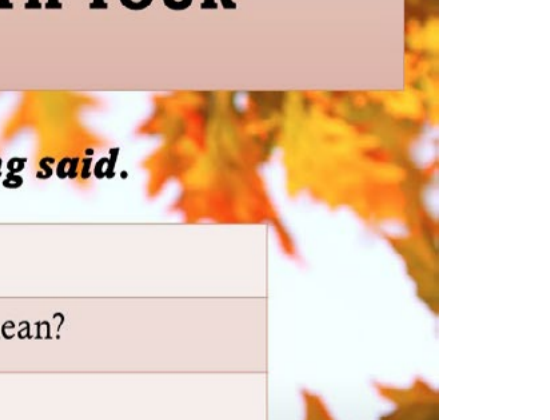
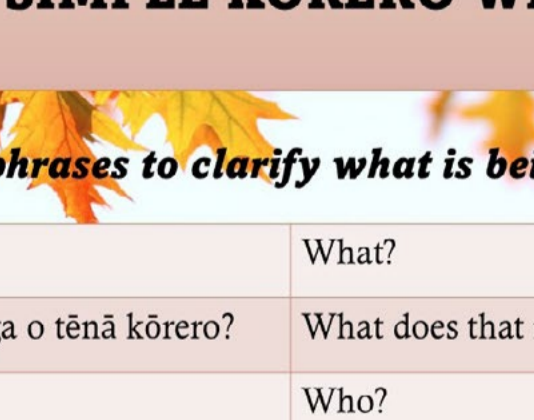
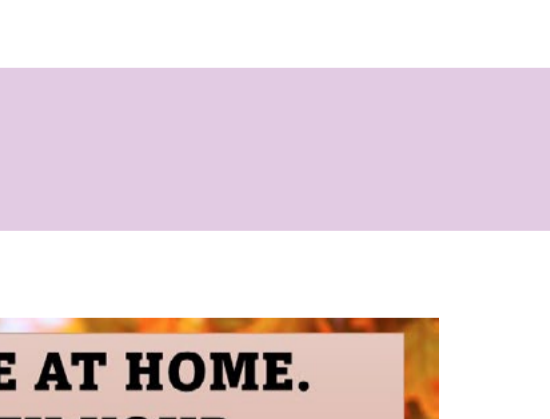
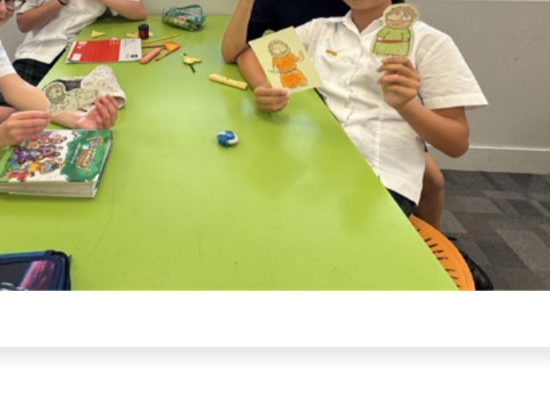
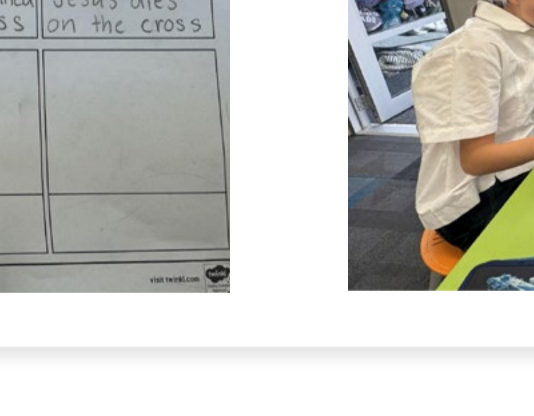
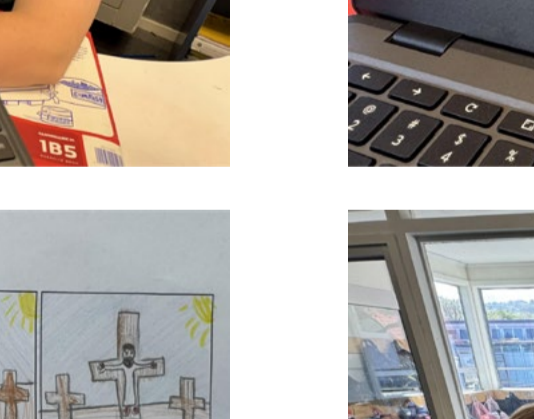
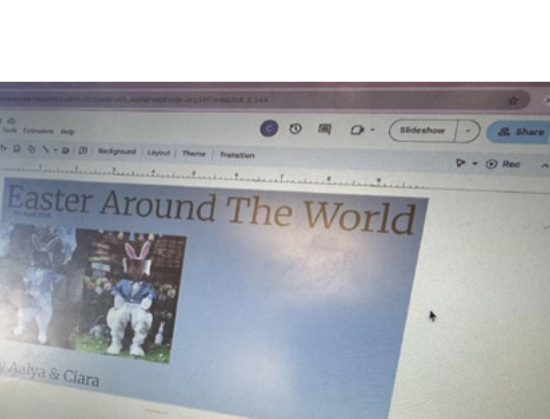
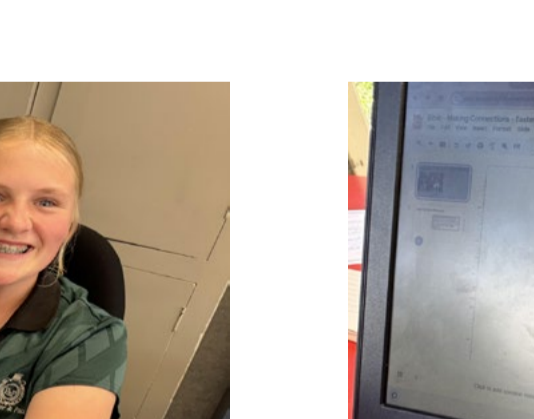
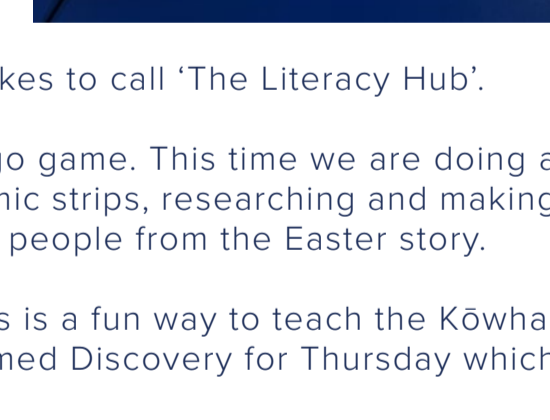
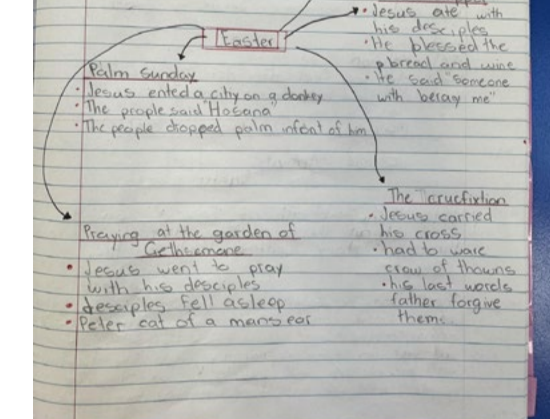
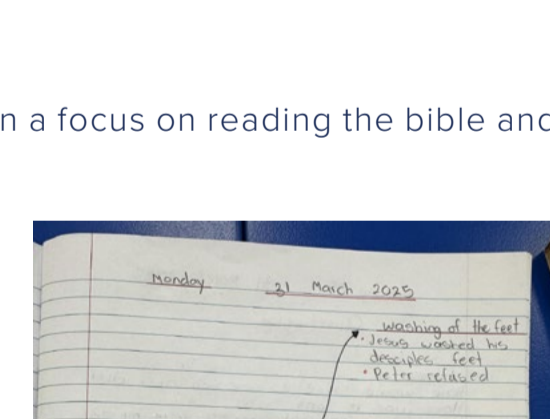
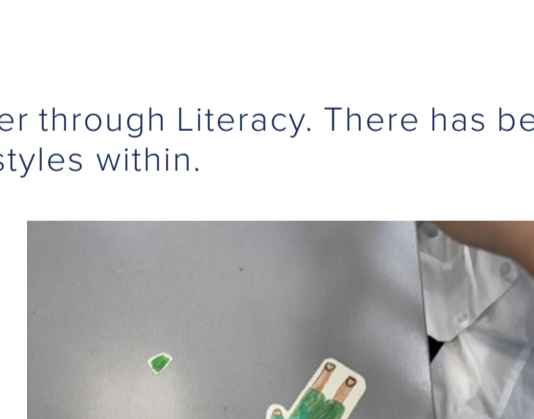
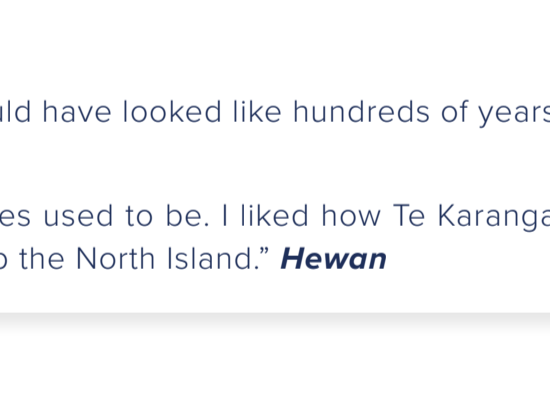
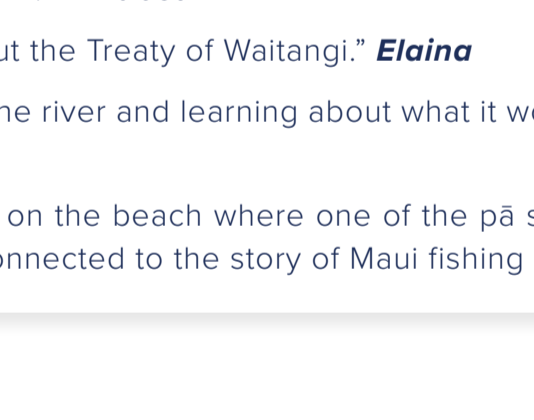
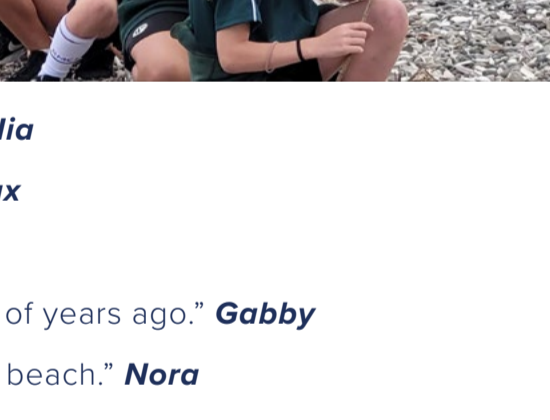
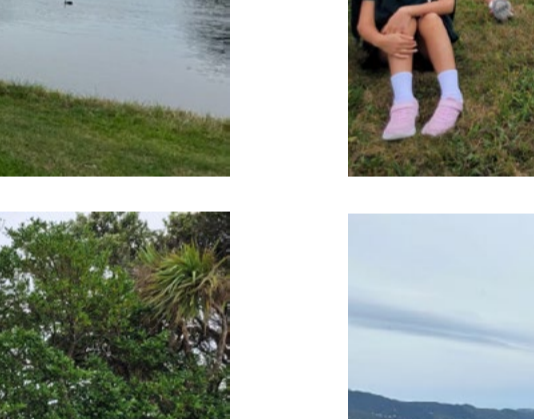
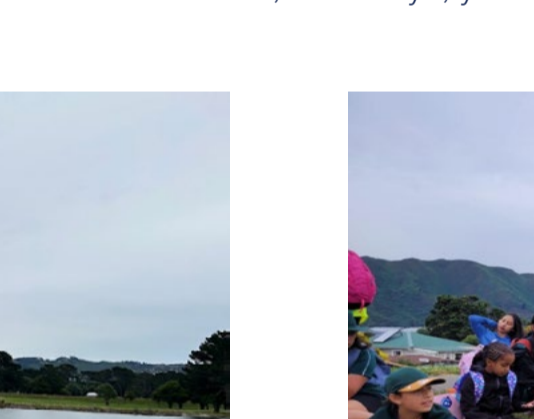
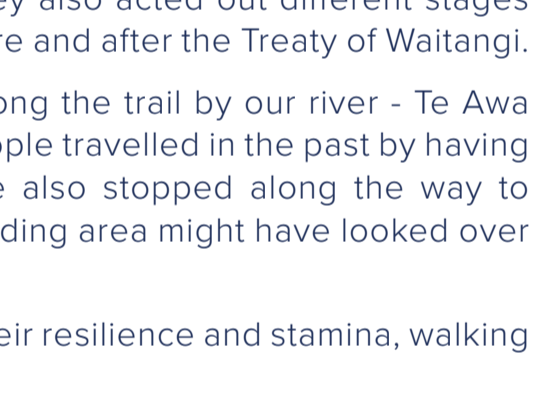
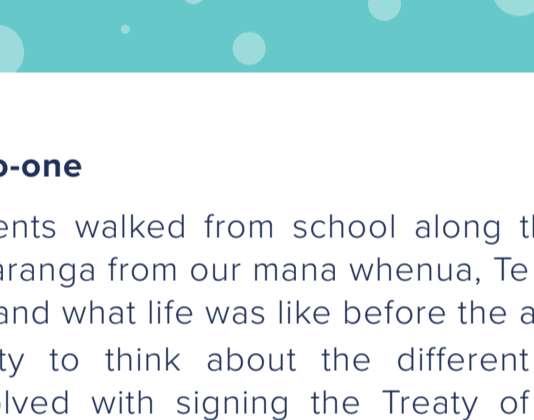
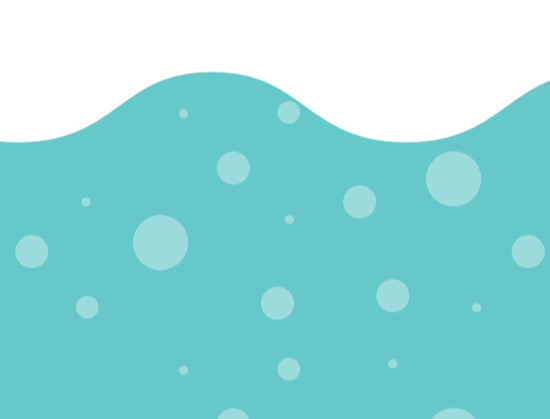
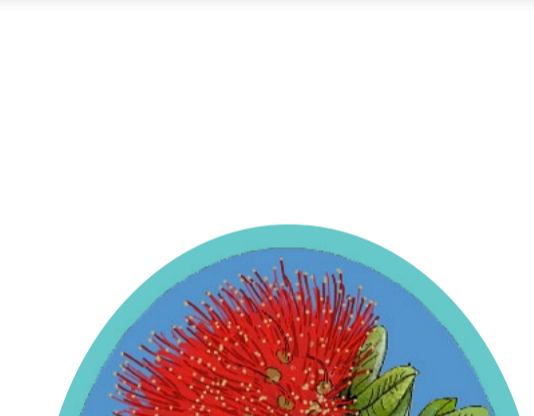
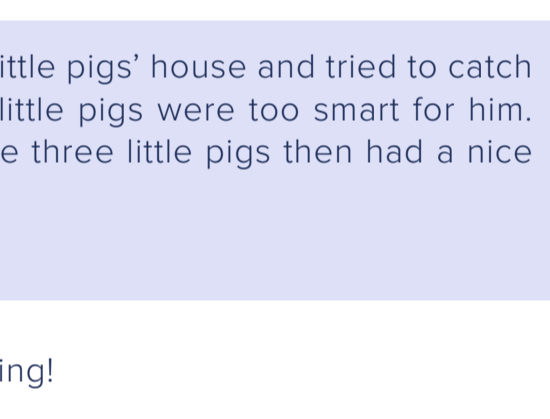
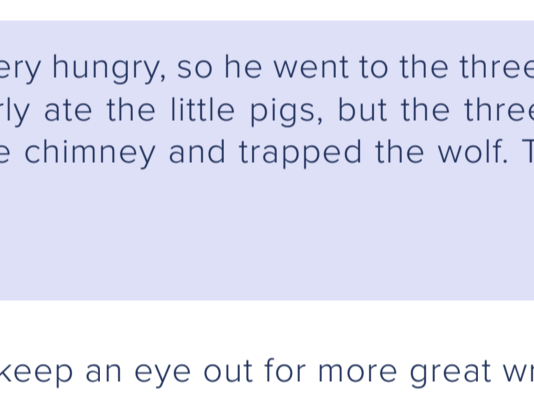


While the other group of tamariki were waiting to have their turn in the Discovery Garden, they got completely engaged in different activities, such as nature scavenger hunt, leaf rubbing, and duck feeding. Everyone was bustling like busy bees dashing around the garden!



We all gathered together for lunch and had a lovely picnic with everyone. We were also lucky enough to have a little bit of play in the bee-themed playground before we moved on to the next activity.

All in all, Kōwhai has had an amazing time at the Botanic Garden. It was surely the most bee-autiful way to cap off this term!



"I liked how Te Karanga did a whaikōrero - welcome for us on the beach." **Nia**

"I liked sitting on the beach looking at the harbour and being in nature." **Max**

"I liked it when we had to act out the scene from early Māori life." **Harper**

"I liked being there and imagining what it would have looked like hundreds of years ago." **Gabby**

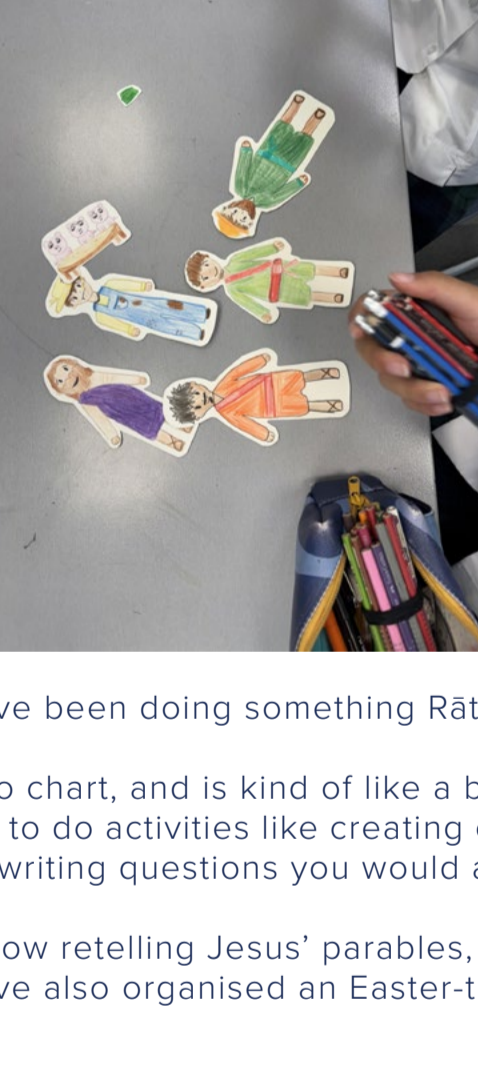
"It was interesting to look at the waka at the Tenth's Trust as we went to the beach." **Nora**

"I enjoyed the walk along the riverbank." **Elizabeth R**

"It was interesting to learn more about the Treaty of Waitangi." **Elaina**

"I enjoyed walking there, looking at the river and learning about what it would have looked like hundreds of years ago." **Joel**

"I was surprised that we were sitting on the beach where one of the pā sites used to be. I liked how Te Karanga described how the landscape was connected to the story of Maui fishing up the North Island." **Hewan**



## History Hikoi to Tenth's Trust Pito-oke

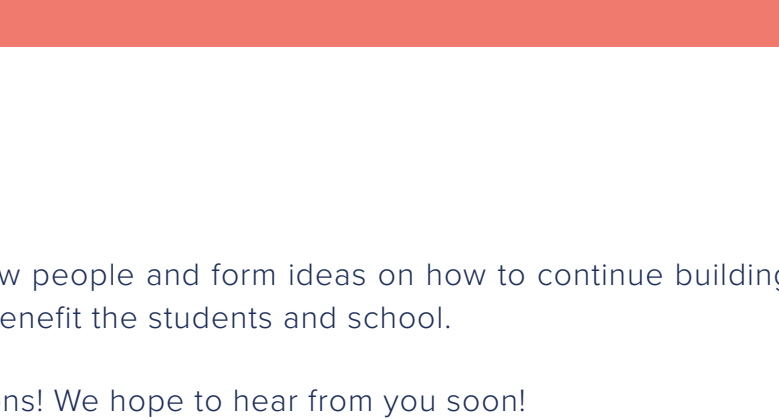
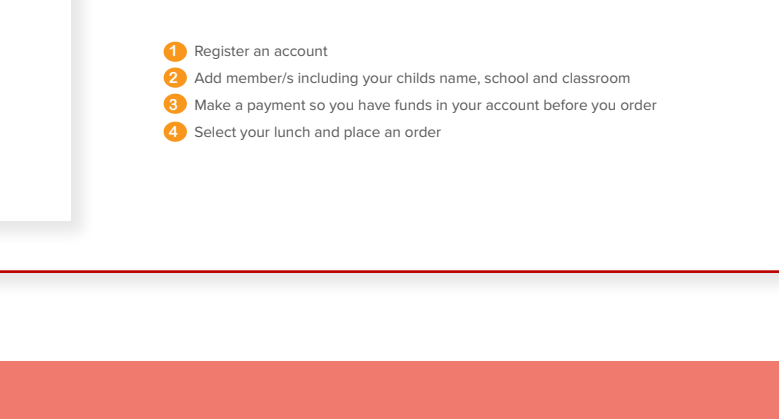
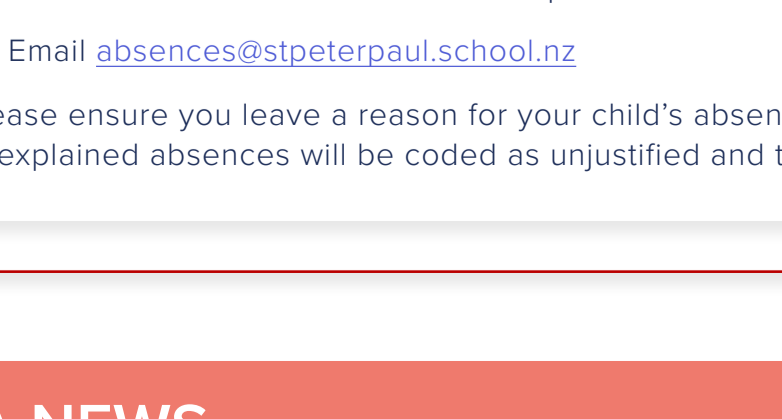
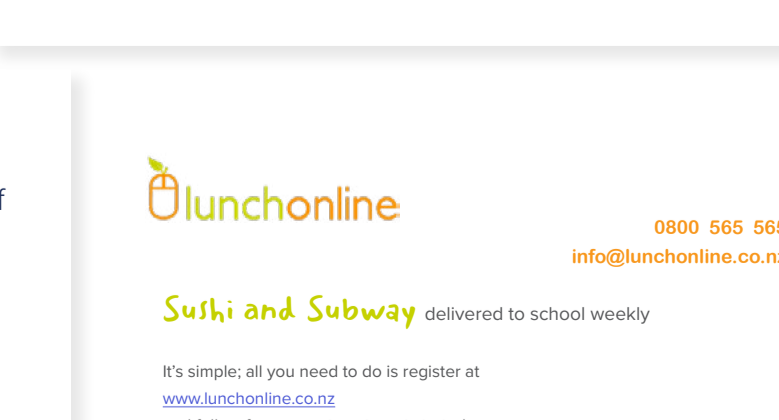
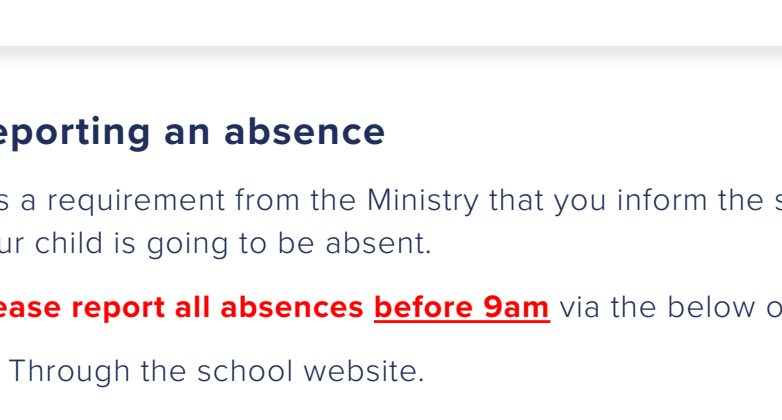
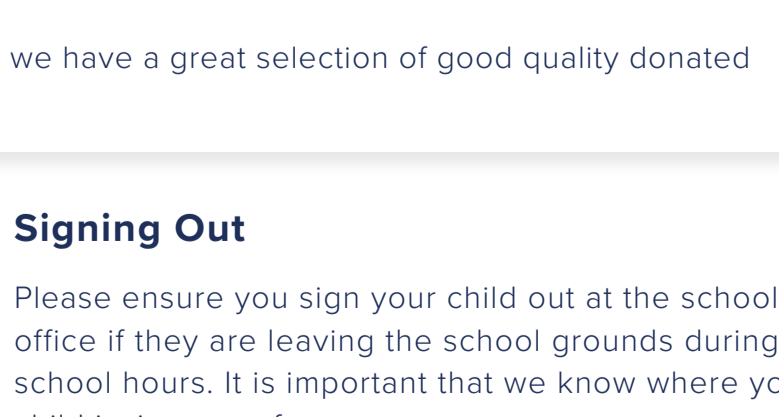
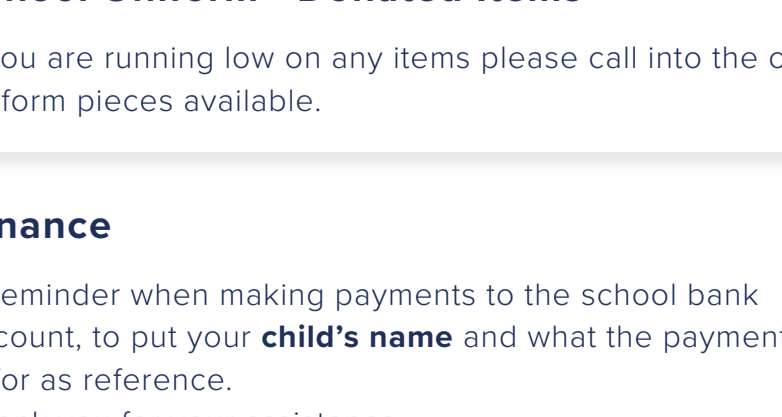
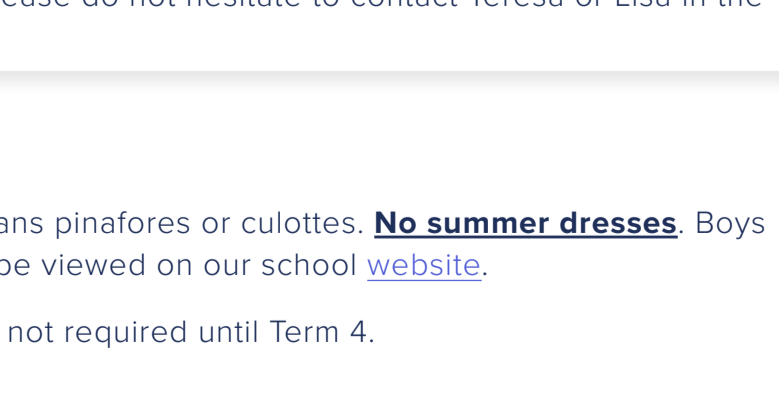
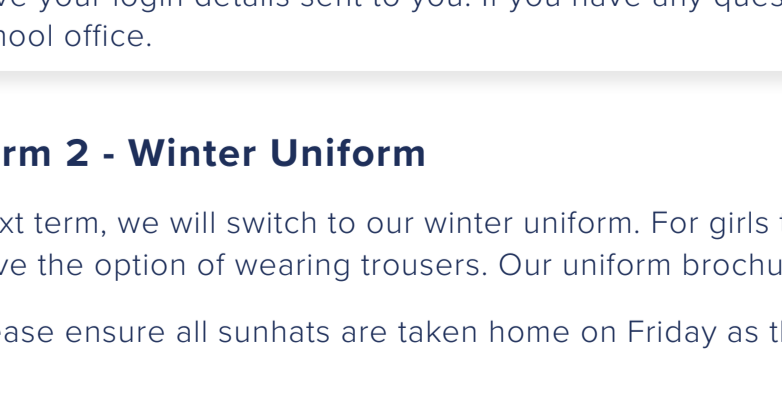
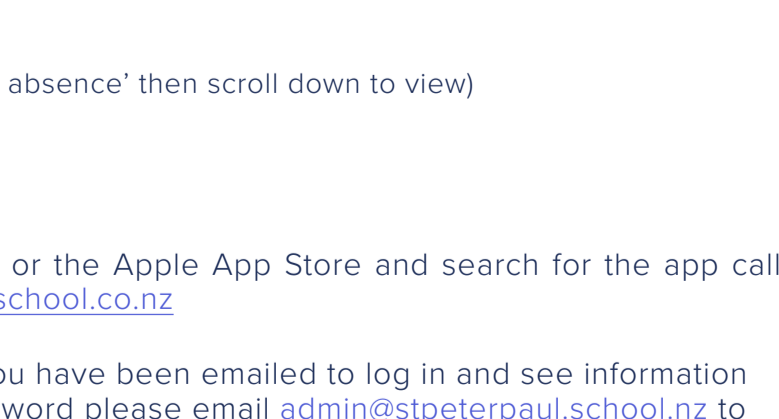
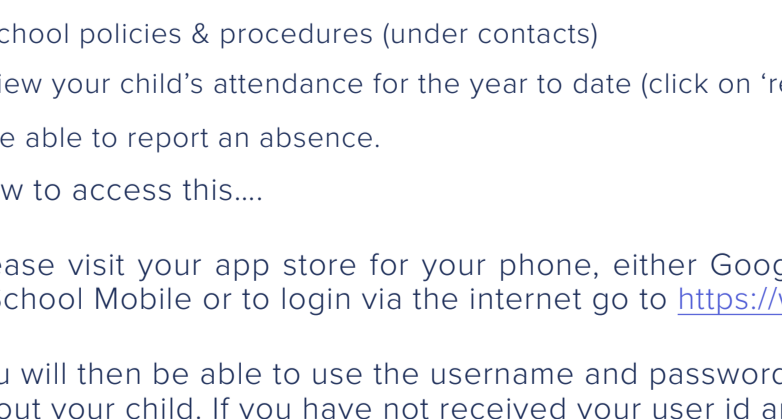
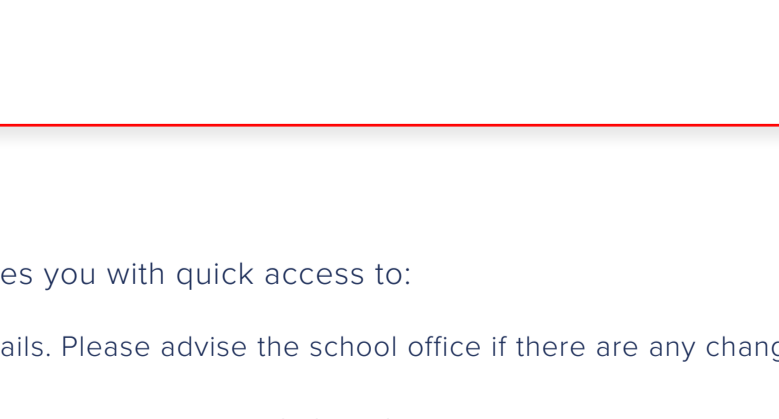
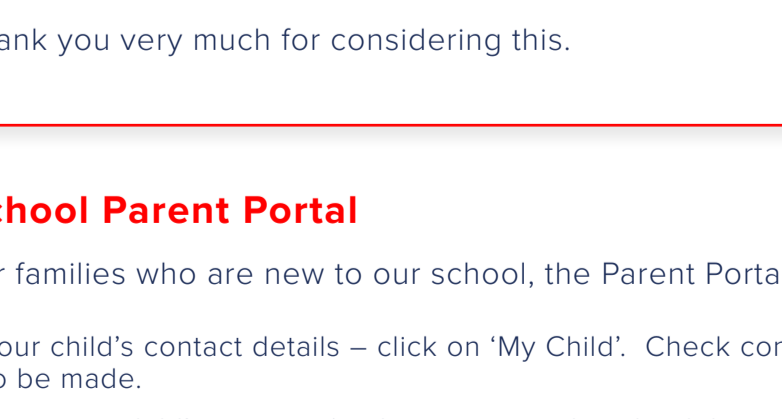
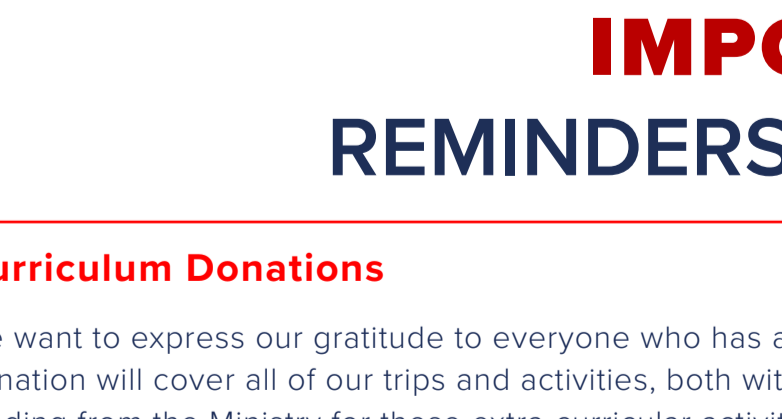
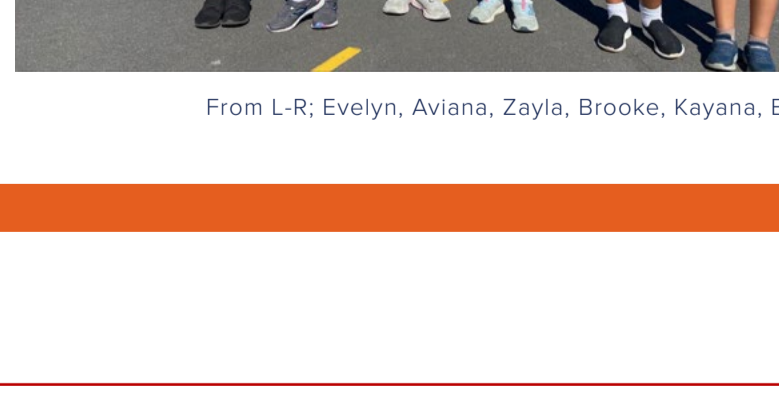
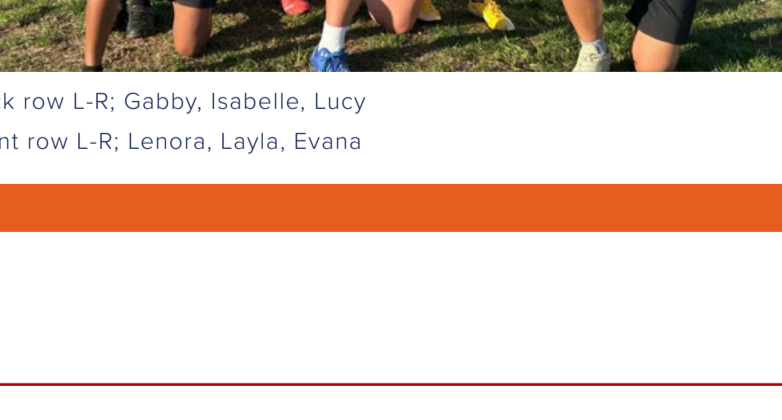
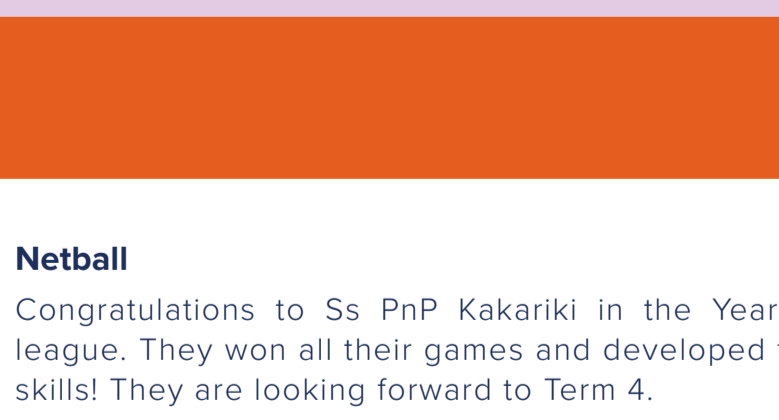
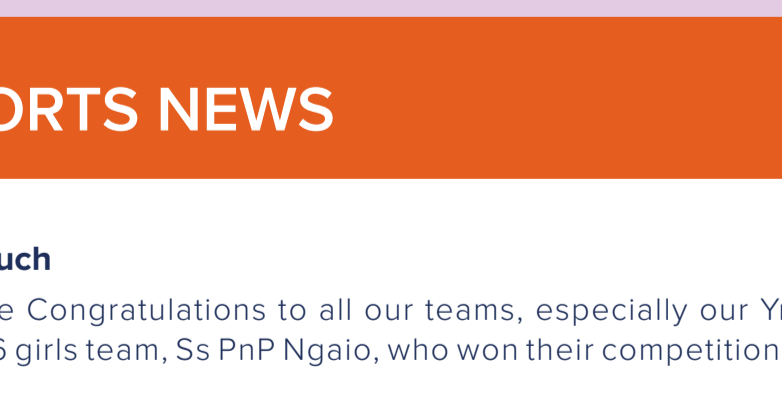
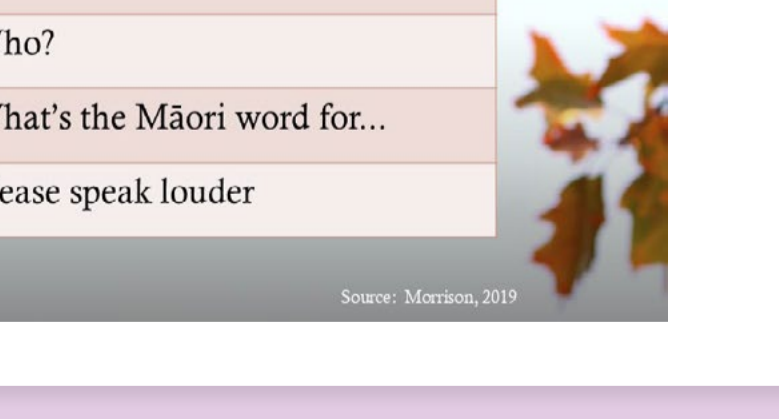
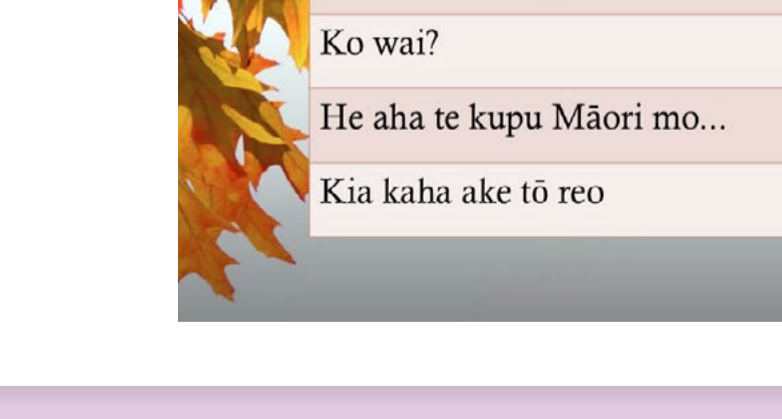
Last Thursday, Pōhutukawa students from school along the riverbank to Hikoiko Reserve in Petone. There they met with Te Karanga from our mana whenua, Te Atiawa (local iwi). Te Karanga shared his knowledge of his iwi's history and what life was like before the arrival of European settlers.

The children had the opportunity to sign the Treaty of Waitangi - Te Tiriti o Waitangi. They also acted out different stages of what life was like for Māori before and after the Treaty of Waitangi.

It was great to be able to walk along the trail by our river - Te Awa Kairangi - and experience how people travelled in the past by having to walk between settlements. We also stopped along the way to imagine how our river and surrounding area might have looked over two hundred years ago.

The children were amazing with their resilience and stamina, walking there and back.

Thank you to the parents who joined us on our walk; as always, your support is greatly appreciated.



"My favourite part was giving food to the ducks." **Kyle**

"I liked making the paper pot and putting the pea seed." **Evanya**

"I really enjoyed making the garden because it was fun to plant new seedlings in." **Jude**

"My favourite part of the trip was planting the sugar snap pea seed. I got to bring it home too, but I am looking after it." **Anthony**

"I liked how Te Karanga did a whaikōrero - welcome for us on the beach." **Nia**

"I liked sitting on the beach looking at the harbour and being in nature." **Max**

"I liked it when we had to act out the scene from early Māori life." **Harper**

"I liked being there and imagining what it would have looked like hundreds of years ago." **Gabby**

"It was interesting to look at the waka at the Tenth's Trust as we went to the beach." **Nora**

"I enjoyed the walk along the riverbank." **Elizabeth R**

"It was interesting to learn more about the Treaty of Waitangi." **Elaina**

"I enjoyed walking there, looking at the river and learning about what it would have looked like hundreds of years ago." **Joel**

"I was surprised that we were sitting on the beach where one of the pā sites used to be. I liked how Te Karanga described how the landscape was connected to the story of Maui fishing up the North Island." **Hewan**

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