



The Aubert Oracle



Suzanne Aubert
Catholic School
Engage · Inspire · Empower Through Christ

TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER 2026

Tena koutou katoa whānau. Nau mai, haere mai ki te Hata Meri Hōhepa - te Kura Katorika o Papamoa. As we close Term 3 and prepare for our final term of 2026, I would like to reflect on recent key memorable moments in the Suzanne Aubert Catholic School community.

- **Grandparents and Grandfriends Day:** On 31 July we celebrated Grandparents and Grandfriends Day which is an annual opportunity to connect with the precious tūpuna in our community. It was very special to share a liturgy, learning, performances and memorable moments with our loved ones. Many thanks to those grandparents who travelled far distances to support this special day.
- **Bingo Night:** On 21 August we celebrated our 'Bingo Royale' Night. This was a major fundraising event to raise fund towards our next project which is a pump track for scootering, skating and biking. The event was well supported by local businesses, school families and community members. We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to the Aubert Whanau Group and volunteers who worked so hard towards planning and hosting such a fun event!
- **School Production Preparations:** Throughout Term 3, our learners have been very busy preparing for our upcoming inaugural school production, 'The Legacy of Suzanne Aubert'. Our main cast have been very committed with daily rehearsals and whānau classes are practising for their scenes and singing performances. We are very proud of the effort and commitment that the learners are putting into their singing and acting in what will be a special performance!
- **Visual Arts:** Throughout this term, our learners have been very creative designing artworks that reflect the life and legacy of Suzanne Aubert. They have used a wide variety of media and styles and will be showcasing their best work in the Pompallier Centre during the performance of our school production. Keep an eye out for displays of their masterpieces!
- **Cycle Safety:** Earlier in the term, our Year 5-6 learners enjoyed a great experience with Cycle Safety Week. This is a wonderful opportunity provided by TCC to support learners to grow in confidence, capability and awareness of cycling on our local roads. This is an incredibly important life skill for our young people to become safe citizens in our community.

Many thanks for your ongoing support of learning and community at Suzanne Aubert Catholic School. Wishing you all a very blessed and restful term holiday with whānau and friends. We look forward to reconnecting with you all in our final term for 2026.

Ngā mihi nui, Anthony Mills (Principal-Tumuaki)



HAERE MAI TO OUR NEW LEARNERS

This term we have welcomed 8 new learners to our Suzanne Aubert Whānau. Whānau McPherson, our roll growth new entrant class, has been established and started the term with 4 new learners - Audrey, Noah, Elsa and Nico. Remi then joined the class in week 6. In Mangatawa, Thomas has joined Whānau Newlands in year 4 and in Kopukairoa Emma has been welcomed into Whānau Mills and Indy into Whānau Moolman. We are delighted to have these new learners become part of our ever growing school family.



Noah



Audrey



Elsa



Nico



Remy



Thomas



Emma



Indy

TERM DATES 2027

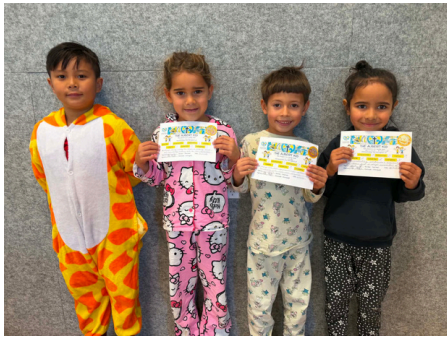
January 2027	Whanaungatanga Day - Friday 29 January
TERM 1	Tuesday 2 February - Thursday 9 April
TERM 2	Tuesday 27 April - Friday 2 July
TERM 3	Monday 19 July - Friday 24 September
TERM 4	Monday 11 October - Thursday 16 December

2027 STATUTORY PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

TERM 1	
Monday 1 February	Auckland Anniversary
Monday 8 February	Waitangi Day
Friday 26 March	Good Friday
Mon 29 / Tues 30 March	Easter Monday / Tuesday
TERM 2	
Monday 26 April	Anzac Day
Monday 7 June	King's Birthday
Friday 25 June	Matariki
TERM 4	
Monday 25 October	Labour Day

AUBERT KID AWARDS

Congratulations to our all of our learners who received Aubert Kid awards in term 2 and 3. These learners have demonstrated our 7 C's School Values in their learning and friendships. Kia kaha tamariki!



Finn, Mila, Titan, Archie



Lily, Ella, Everly



Cartelle, Angel



Alessandra, Matilda, Elsa



Davi, Remy



Isabel, Liam, Alexander



Lilly, Amariah



Audrey, Fiadh, Enzo Maya, Scarlett



Albie, Elise



Charlie



Nico, Tahlia, James, Isabella, James



Brody, George, Willa, Isla



Jack, Rehan, Isla



Theo, Noah, Charlie Reagan, Ayla



Jacob, Isaac, Esmée



Ella, Harrison

AUBERT KID MORNING TEA

These learners were also treated to morning tea in the staffroom.



YEAR 5-6 SPEECH FINALS

The final of our year 5-6 speech competition was held in the Pompallier Centre in August. The judges were very impressed with the calibre of the speeches. The Year 5 winner was Quinn with her speech on “why we should conserve water”. Oliver was named 2nd and Lilly 3rd with Tommy, Amariah and Prisha also doing an awesome job. The year 6 winner was Clai with her speech on “why we should be more confident,” with Clay finishing 2nd and Sadie 3rd. They were closely followed by Kingston, Lauren and Maddy who also did great speeches. As winners, Quinn and Clai qualified to participate in the Papamoa Cluster competition however with Quinn unable to take part, Amaraiah stepped in at the last minute. We are very proud of these learners for showing courage and confidence - it is not easy performing in front of judges and a crowd of spectators.



YEAR 5 FINALISTS

Prisha, Amariah, Lilly, Oliver, Tommy



YEAR 6 FINALISTS

Kingston, Clay, Claudia, Sadie, Lauren, Maddy

HIKURANGI FIREWISE VISIT

Our students in Hikurangi had an exciting visit from the Firewise team this term! The firefighters brought along their fire truck and showed the students some of the important equipment and tools they use when responding to emergencies. We also learnt some valuable fire safety skills, including the correct way to get down low and get out fast if there is smoke, and how to safely exit a house during a fire.

There was plenty of excitement as our tamariki had the chance to see the fire truck up close and learn more about the important work firefighters do in our community. A definite highlight came at the very end of the visit when the fire truck headed off with its lights flashing and sirens sounding – the Hikurangi students absolutely loved it!

A huge thank you to the Firewise team for such a fun, engaging and important learning experience.

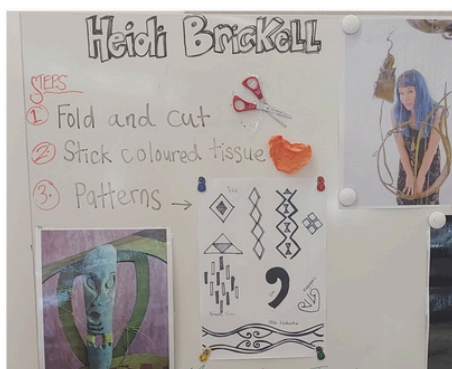
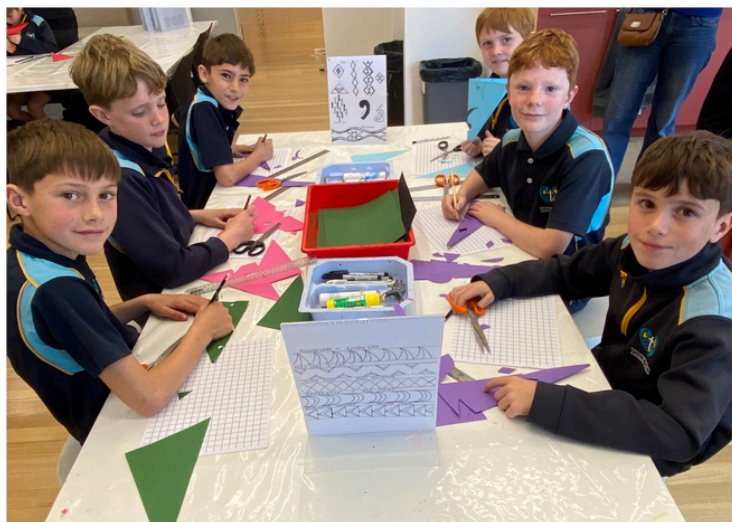


ART GALLERY AND TAURANGA LIBRARY VISITS

During the term Whānau Waddel, Zillwood, Newlands, Thornton and Cartwright all had the opportunity to visit the Tauranga Art Gallery and Library. Whanau Waddel describes their experience below:

On Wednesday the 26th of August, Whānau Zillwood and Whānau Waddel went on an exciting trip to the Tauranga Art Gallery and the Tauranga Library! First, we visited the Tauranga Art Gallery to explore the artworks of Heidi Brickell. Heidi is an artist and a teacher who lives near Wellington, and her work is heavily inspired by Te Ao Māori. We learned that Heidi uses lots of different materials to make her art. She mixes regular art supplies with everyday found objects to create unique textures and layers! After looking at her gallery, we got to be artists too! We created our own artworks using geometric shapes, triangles, and colourful tissue paper.

Next, we walked over to the Tauranga Library. We started our time there by acting out the story of Ranginui and Papatūānuku to bring the legend to life. Then we got hands-on with science and engineering. We built Lego models to show what happens at tsunami meeting points. To wrap up our big day, we put on our computer scientist hats and learned how to code using Indy Cars! We had an amazing day learning about art, story, science, and tech.



GRANDPARENTS AND GRAND FRIENDS DAY

On Friday 31 July, we celebrated our Suzanne Aubert Grandparents and Grandfriends Day. This is an annual event where we connect with our special tīpuna who are a central part of our school community. It is also a commemoration of the Church Feast Day of St Joachim and St Anne who were Mary's parents (Jesus' grandparents). It was heartwarming to see the smiles on our learners' faces as they spent precious time with their grandparents and grandfriends, many of which had travelled from far distances to be here.

We started with a schoolwide liturgy and hui which included beautiful blessings, singing and students presenting poems, artwork and reflections about their grandparents. After that, the students shared in learning and activities in the classroom hubs and a beautiful shared lunch with refreshments. The photo booth was another great opportunity to capture those special moments together too! Many thanks to Deearn Strawbridge for the wonderful photography and Isabel's nana and Hands on Tauranga for the awesome props used in the photos. Thanks also to the Aubert Whānau Group for helping with the lunch and managing the raffle - congratulations to the Glenn family who won the hamper!



PTFA UPDATE

BINGO NIGHT - WHAT A SUCCESS! \$15,265 RAISED FOR OUR SCHOOL!

What an incredible night! A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our Bingo Night such a fantastic success.

It was wonderful to see our school community come together for an evening filled with fun, laughter, auctions, raffles, bingo and some very happy winners! Most importantly, thanks to the amazing support of our families, friends, local businesses and wider community, we raised over \$15,000 for Suzanne Aubert Catholic School!

A huge thank you to our major sponsors & supporters

- Coastal Pet Vet Papamoa
- Venture Developments
- Advance Cleaning Solutions
- Wild Apricot Events
- Absolute Party Hire
- Contemporary Classics
- Super Liquor Papamoa
- Incharge Electrical



We were also incredibly fortunate to have so many generous local businesses donate prizes, auction items, food, experiences and services. Your generosity played a huge part in the success of the evening, and we are extremely grateful for your support of our school.

Congratulations to our big winners!

Adults' Raffle: Coastal Pet Vets

Children's Raffle: Angel

Principal for the Day: Cole & Blake

And finally, a very special thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated, organised, sponsored, bought raffle tickets, bid in the auctions, played bingo or simply came along and joined in. There is a huge amount of work that goes on behind the scenes to make an event like this happen, and we couldn't have done it without our wonderful school community.

Thank you for getting behind Suzanne Aubert Catholic School and making our Bingo Night one to remember.



BOARD SHORTS



A MESSAGE FROM OUR SUZANNE AUBERT BOARD

Kia ora to all our school parents, caregivers and whānau. Here is a short wrap-up of School Board activities for the middle of the year.

Mid Year Reporting

Parents and caregivers received learner's mid-year progress reports under the refreshed New Zealand Curriculum at the end of Term 2. The Board has since reviewed student progress data, submitted the Proprietor's annual report, and approved the mid-year budget review.

Policy Reviews:

The following policy reviews have been undertaken: Swimming Offsite, Education Outside the Classroom, EOTC Governance Roles and Responsibilities, EOTC Risk Management and Assessment, School Community Engagement, Inclusive School Culture, Student Attendance, Uniform/Student Dress Expectations, and Concerns and Complaints. A reminder that you are always invited to give feedback on any of our school policies that are under review. All school policies can be found within the SchoolDocs portal which is on the school website under the "Information" tab.

Community Consultation

Thank you to all school whānau who attended the community consultation evening and provided online feedback in August for strategic planning 2027-2029. It was great for staff, the Board and school whānau to come together and collaborate; this feedback will be used to shape our school vision and that of our learners in the updated Strategic Plan.

Lastly, the Board has approved provisions for professional learning for school staff towards qualifications in Religious Education. The NZQA papers will be completed through Catholic Theological College (Te Kupenga), beginning in 2027.

We will all be looking forward to wrapping up the year next term with some great school events including the school production, Year 5/6 camp, the Christmas gala and end of year prizegiving. Thank you to school management and staff and the Aubert Whānau Group for all of the hard work and aroha you put into these great school events.

Ngā mihi nui,
Jessica Goodhue (Deputy Presiding Member)



SCHOOL PRODUCTION 2026

Planning is well underway for our school production 'The Legacy of Suzanne Aubert'. This performance tells the story of Suzanne Aubert. We believe this is particularly special this year being the centenary of her passing and 5 year anniversary of our school opening. The story will include scenes from significant moments in her life including her childhood in France, her journey to New Zealand, her missionary work throughout the regions and her connections with community.

Our main cast have been busy with daily rehearsals and whānau classes are busily preparing for their scenes and performances. The production will be performed in the Pompallier Centre over 3 days as below. More details about ticket sales will be released in the coming days.

- Tuesday 17th November (11-12:30pm)
- Wednesday 18th November (5:30-7pm)
- Thursday 19th November (5:30-7pm)

Special Catholic Character

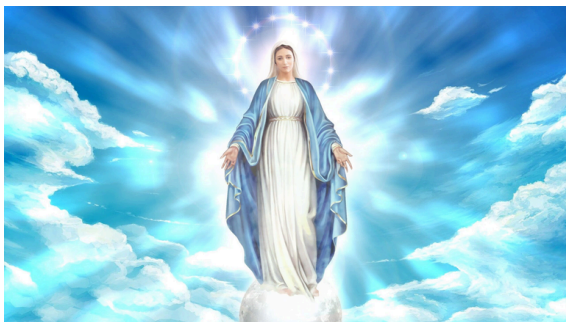
A Message from our Director of Religious Studies

Kia Ora Whānau,

I wanted to take a moment to pause, reflect, and share a quick update on some of the beautiful things happening across our school community lately.

A Reflection on Mary

Mary, the Mother of our Church, is a saint I admire so deeply. She navigated so many roles throughout her life, and when she was asked to step into something truly beyond comprehension, she simply said "Yes" with total faith and zero doubt. Mary is such a powerful role model for all of us—teaching us to look out for others (like she did at the Wedding at Cana) and standing strong through the hardest moments at the foot of the cross. As an ordinary woman who became the mother of our Church, her humility, courage, and faith give us such a warm, grounding guide. We honored her example together with our Assumption liturgy on Friday, August 14th.



Our Community in Action

There's so much heart on display from our students right now:

- **Gumboots for Tauranga:** Our Youth Vinnies team is about to start organizing a winter drive to collect new gumboots for our local homeless community. If you're in a position to donate a pair, we'd be so grateful for your help in keeping warm feet around town this season.



Butter Chicken for Families: Our new Special Character team hit the ground running at their first meeting! Next week, their second big project is cooking up a massive batch of butter chicken to stock our school freezer. These meals are there to wrap around any of our school families who need a little extra support. If you know of a family who could use a meal, please drop me a line directly—we're here for you.



A Resource for Your Home

Lastly, I wanted to pass along a resource that my own family has really loved using:

<https://www.shinetv.co.nz>

Shine TV is a New Zealand-based Christian lifestyle and family television channel operated by Rhema Media, a not-for-profit registered charity. It's packed with fantastic movies, series, and documentaries to help deepen your faith at home, including a wonderful section just for kids. Even better it is free! All you need to do is sign up!



Thank you all for being such a supportive, caring village. Have a blessed term ahead!

Amie-Lee

SPORTS UPDATE

Our learners have once again been making the most of the many sporting opportunities on offer this term.

Our Year 3–6 netball teams competed in the Western Bay of Plenty tournament, playing against schools from across the region. We also had 21 of our Year 5–6 girls take part in the Girls Playing Sport event, learners from Years 2–6 compete at the Te Puke Gymsports competition, and a number of our Year 3–6 learners represent SACS at the BOP Interscholastic Chess Tournament. For many of these budding chess players, this was their first time competing at an event like this but they all took it in their stride and performed well.

A special mention to Clay and Cloud who both received awards - Clay for Best Score on Board 2 & Cloud for Best Score on Board 1.

It has been fantastic to see so many of our tamariki getting involved, representing SACS with pride and enjoying such a wide variety of sporting opportunities. A huge thank you to all our parents, coaches, managers and supporters who help make these experiences possible.



PAPAMOA CLUSTER WINTER TOURNAMENT

Our Year 5 and 6 tamariki participated in the winter sports tournament on Wednesday 26 August, competing against the other schools in the Papamoa Cluster. It was a great day and we had some awesome successes. Our football team won 4 games, drew 1 and lost 1 in a penalty shootout. Our social rippa team was unbeaten and our year 5-6 Netball team finished in third place. A highlight was our year 6 boys Basketball team who won the competitive basketball division. This is an awesome result for a team that has played together since year 2.



TE PUKE GYMSPORT FESTIVAL

It has been great to see the interest in gymnastics at our school lately. Thanks to the hard work and support of our school mums, Agnes and Angelina, a group of our year 2 - 6 tamariki recently competed at the Te Puke Gymsports Competitions against gymnasts from other local schools. The children did extremely well with our year 5/6 team ((Angel, Lucy, Indy, Cartelle) finishing in third place in the Novice Flyers division. Quinn also competed in the Novice Twisters division. Our year 3/4 Novice Flyers team (Ella, Frankie, Violet, Elise, Milly) also finished third, with Frankie achieving individual 3rd place. In the WAG Step 2 division Esmée achieved 3rd overall and Penelope was 4th. Finally in WAG Step 3, Mila was 1st overall. A fantastic effort by all involved.



CELEBRATIONS

Gwen (year 2) recently took to the stage at Baycourt for the Tauranga Performance Arts Society Speech & Drama Competition with her playful portrayal of Pippi Longstocking in the 9 Years & Under category. At just six years old, she was the youngest competitor in a field of 11 children and was awarded First Place equal. Gwen had so much fun and had worked especially hard practicing her lines and characterisation.



KEY DATES



**Suzanne Aubert
Catholic School**
Engage - Inspire - Empower Through Christ

TERM 4 2026

DATES	EVENTS
Monday 12 October	1st Day of Term 4
Thursday 15 October	Touch Rugby Starts
Wednesday 21 October	New Zealand ShakeOut (Earthquake Drill and Tsunami Evacuation)
Wednesday 21 October	Board Meeting at 5.30pm
Monday 26 October	Labour Day (No School)
Friday 30 October	Rippa Rugby Starts
Sunday 1 November	Flippa Ball Starts
Sunday 1 November	Whānau Mass (Mills, Newlands, Pachoud, Gordon)
Tuesday 3 November	Aquinas Transition Visit (Year 6) - 8.30am - 12.30pm
Wed 4 - Fri 6 November	Year 5/6 Camp at Ngamuwahine
Tuesday 10 November	School Athletics Day (Postponement Thursday 12 November)
Wednesday 11 November	Board Meeting
Friday 13 November	Teacher Only Day (No School)
Tuesday 17 November	Papamoa Cluster Athletics Day (Postponement Tues 24 November)
Tuesday 17 November	School Production - Matinee (11am - 12.30pm)
Wed 18 Thurs 19 November	School Production - Evening Performances (5.30 - 7pm)
Sunday 22 November	Whānau Mass (Moolman, Waddel, Cartwright)
Friday 27 November	Ra Whakangahau at Golden Sands School (Kapa Haka Ropu)
Wednesday 2 December	Board Meeting
Sunday 6 December	Whānau Mass (Zillwood, Thornton, McPherson)
Monday 7 December	Mt College Visit - Pacifica Performance
Wednesday 9 December	Advent Twilight Festival
Monday 14 December	Graduation and Prize Giving - Papamoa Baptist Church
Tuesday 15 December	Meet the Teacher (11am - 12.30pm)
Wednesday 16 December	Last Day of Term 4 (school finishes at 12.30pm)

Aubert Authors!

BILLIE REYNOLDS (YEAR 1)

I saw firefighters at school and a red fire truck. I was happy

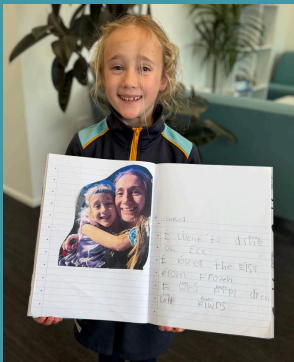


TAYA MATULINO (YEAR 2)

The fire truck visited our school. They let us look all around. Next we saw hoses and masks.

SCARLETT ARENHOLD (YEAR 2)

The fire truck visited our school. We looked at the equipment. There was a ladder, hoses, lights, keys and fireman suits. Inside the cab, we saw radio and drink bottles. The truck can fit six firefighters.



CHELSEA SMITH (YEAR 2)

I went to Disney on Ice.
I loved Elsa from Frozen.
I wore a purple dress with flowers.

JAMES BUTTSWORTH (YEAR 1)

I went to Poppy Peach for dessert on Father's Day



KIDS SHOULD BE ABLE TO WEAR WHATEVER THEY WANT

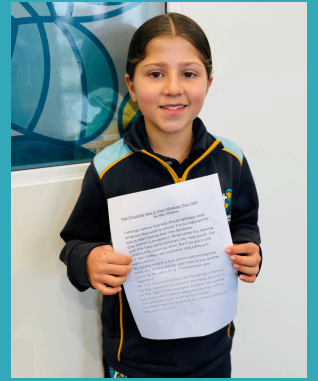
A SPEECH BY MILA WILLIAMS (YEAR 4)

I strongly believe that kids should definitely wear whatever they want to school. It is so important for kids to start making their own decisions.

One reason is because in winter when it is freezing, girls only have skirts and boys have shorts. Our jumpers only cover our arms. But if we got to pick our own clothes, we could wear warm pants and long clothes. My second reason is that school uniforms become small very quickly and we soon have to buy another one to do the same thing. This becomes very expensive!

My final reason is that the cost of washing a uniform is not only expensive but parents don't have the time to do this. Again, if we could wear what we wanted, parents wouldn't have to keep washing the uniform over and over again and it will be cheaper.

For these reasons, I think kids should wear whatever they want to school.



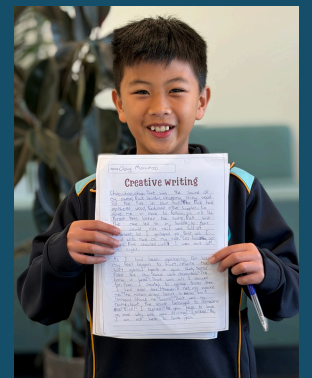
CLAY MACAZO (YEAR 6)

Chop, chop, chop. That was the sound of my owner, Rick Shintar, chopping shiny wood for the fire in our hut. After Rick had gathered wood, food, and other supplies, he gave me a map to follow, as all the forest trees looked the same. Rick said the map led to a saddle, so that he could ride me. I was full of excitement, so I galloped as fast as I could with map on my side. "Go horse, go Lucas!" Rick shouted until I was out of his sight.

As I had been galloping for hours, my feet began to hurt, despite the soft grass. I heard a gun shot, terror filled the sky. Peace was devoured. "The horse is here!" That was all I stayed for, then I started to gallop faster than I had ever done! However. A net, all around me. "The million dollar beast is mine!" Pew. A tranquil struck me. "Lucas?" That was my name, but the voice belonged to someone else. "Rick?" I replied. "Are you here to save me, and why are you driving?" I asked. "No, I am not here to save you."

"I am driving because I am the hunter, I have no supplies and you will help me buy them." Out of fury I kicked Rick, knocking him out. The truck crashed, and I escaped. Still loyal to Rick, I took my map and carried on my journey. Finding the saddle, I galloped back to Rick.

Everyone gets another chance, I thought. So I forced him onto me and ran, hoping to discipline Rick one day.



GRANDPARENTS & GRANDFRIENDS DAY



AUBERT KID'S MORNING TEA





COASTAL
PET VET
PAPAMO A

At Coastal Pet Vet we endeavour to provide both the best animal health care and exceptional customer service to the local community.

We provide all forms of medical and surgical treatments for your beloved pets.
Check out our facebook page for ongoing deals and promotions so you don't miss out!

OPEN HOME FOUNDATION
TE WHARE KAUPAPA AWHINA

ROOM IN YOUR HOME FOR ONE MORE?

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Foster Parent Recruiter
Bridgette.Munro@ohf.org.nz
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TUESDAYS | 5.20PM | TAURANGA DOMAIN
SEASON RUNS FROM OCT 13 to MAR 31

AJS Celeste

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