



The Aubert Oracle



Suzanne Aubert
Catholic School
Engage · Inspire · Empower Through Christ

Message from our Tumuaki

MONDAY 8 JULY 2024

Tena koutou katoa whānau. Nau mai, haere mai ki te Hata Meri Hōhepa - te Kura Katorika o Papamoa. This term we have been exploring our concept of **Kaitiakitanga**. Our learning has been guided by the whakatauki:

Toitū te Marae a Tane-Mahuta, Toitū te Marae a Tangaroa, Toitū te Tangata
If the land is well, and the sea is well, the people will thrive

It has been a memorable and positive term of learning with our tamariki exploring our local natural environments and developing a scientific understanding of the native plant and animal species there. Key highlights this term have been:

- The scientific learning, collaboration and curiosity developed through the Hikurangi (Year 0-2) team visit to the Wairakei Wetlands, Mangatawa team (Year 3-4) visit to the Maketu rocky shore and Kopukairoa team (Y5-6) visit to Otanewainuku forest
- The professional learning and spiritual experience during the staff hikoi to the National Catholic Education Convention in Wellington
- The courage and collaboration shown during the school cross country at Wairakei Reserve
- Our end of term learning celebration where our tamariki shared their Kaitiakitanga learning with their whānau
- Our very first school and parish Mass held at St Thomas More Church to celebrate Suzanne Aubert's Birthday
- The joy for our learners getting to play on the newly completed stage 1 of our senior playground
- Our learners creating and sharing in winter veggie soup from our school garden to celebrate Matariki
- Book character week which showcased wonderful creativity and inspiration for our tamariki

Wishing you all a safe and blessed holiday with your whānau. We look forward to welcoming you back to Suzanne Aubert after the holidays for another exciting term of learning.

Ngā mihi nui, Anthony Mills (Principal - Tumuaki)



HAERE MAI TO OUR NEW LEARNERS

In week 8 we welcomed three new learners into our Suzanne Aubert Whānau. Sophie has joined our new entrants in Whānau Pachoud and sisters Harper (year 1) and Aiva (Year 4) have joined Whānau Cartwright and Whānau Newlands after relocating with their family from New Plymouth where they were attending St Joseph's Catholic Primary. Welcome to the Aubert Family tamariki.



Sophie



Harper



Aiva

NATIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATION CONVENTION - WELLINGTON

During week 8, our team had an incredible and memorable experience at the National Catholic Education Convention in Wellington. We stayed at the Home of Compassion which is the resting place of Suzanne Aubert and the spiritual home of the Sisters of Compassion. It was a special time for our staff to:

- Develop professional knowledge and theological understanding at the Convention
- Grow the understanding of our school Charism and whakapapa through the legacy of Suzanne Aubert and her Sisters of Compassion community
- Strengthen our Catholic faith and further deepen our spiritual connection with God
- Connect with Catholic educators across the country and establish networks with the wider national Catholic education community
- Strengthen friendships and grow closer as a team through a shared experience

Many thanks to those who made this experience possible for our staff:

- Suzanne Aubert Board for supporting our hikoi experience
- The Sisters of Compassion for hosting us with such warm hospitality
- NZCEO for preparing such a thought provoking convention
- Suzanne Aubert whānau for supporting our decision and your flexibility while school was closed for three days.



AUBERT KIDS

Congratulations to our recent Aubert Kid Award winners. These learners have demonstrated our 7 C's (Principles for Living and Learning) in their learning and friendships. Kia kaha tamariki!



L - R: Tui-May, Geneva, Lauren, Carter, Cody and Theo



L - R: Isaac, Brooklyn, Frankie and Effie (not pictured)



L - R: Elise, Isla, Harry and Penelope



Sarah, Cameron, Brax and Giulia



James, Mateo and Ethan

On the last day of term (Pyjama Party Day), we also hosted our Aubert Kids Morning Tea. All of the children above joined our teachers in the staffroom for their shared morning tea together.



FRESH MOVES 2024 "TIPPINGPOINT"

We are thrilled to share the incredible journey of our 39 talented dancers who have poured their hearts into this year's Fresh Moves theme, "Tipping Point." Over weeks of hard work, they've crafted and perfectly choreographed a dance that beautifully narrates the ups and downs of friendship and the array of emotions we experience in these relationships. Their dedication and passion shone brilliantly on stage at Baycourt making us all immensely proud. The judges gave us some awesome feedback and our school received an Excellence award for : Visual Impact and Dance Elements.

A special mention goes to Mikey for his heartfelt introduction representing our Kura and setting the tone for a memorable performance.

A massive thank you to the wonderful group of mums who were backstage, ensuring our dancers looked their best with impeccable hair and makeup. Your support made a world of difference!

We also want to extend our deepest gratitude to Hannah Robson [The Academy Dance Studios](#) for generously lending us their stunning costumes. Your kindness and support were crucial in bringing our performance to life.

Additionally, a big thank you to Tui and Willa's mum, Deearn, for her amazing photography backstage, capturing the special moments shown below.

This has been an incredible and unforgettable experience, made possible by the unwavering support of our amazing community. Thank you all! We look forward to next year's Festival!



EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Our learners have been privileged to enjoy a number of exciting offsite learning experiences this term. Many thanks too the teachers for your organisation and to our parent volunteers who have supported with transport and supervision.

HIKURANGI YEAR 0-2 - WETLANDS TRIP

Early in June, our Hikurangi learners went on an exciting journey to our local wetlands to explore the habitat of the pukeko. Demonstrating great curiosity, they conducted science experiments to investigate different aspects of the wetlands environment, including water clarity, temperature, living organisms, bug identification, and sketching the wildlife they encountered. The hands-on experience allowed them to connect with nature, by observing, noticing, and wondering about their surroundings. This deepened their understanding of the wetlands and provided an opportunity for them to reflect on their responsibilities as kaitiaki.



FUNKY FUN DAY - WHĀNAU MILLER AND ZILLWOOD

On Monday 10 June, our learners in Whānau Miller and Whānau Zillwood travelled to Mercury Baypark Arena by bus to take part in the Funky Fun Sports Day. It was a great day where children from schools in the area have the opportunity to try a number of different sports. Our tamariki participated with teams from Taumata and Te Manawa O Papamoa Schools. It was an opportunity for students to try something new in a non-competitive environment. Everyone had a go at soccer, floorball, badminton and the ever popular...tug of war. A very big thank you to the wonderful parent helpers who came along.



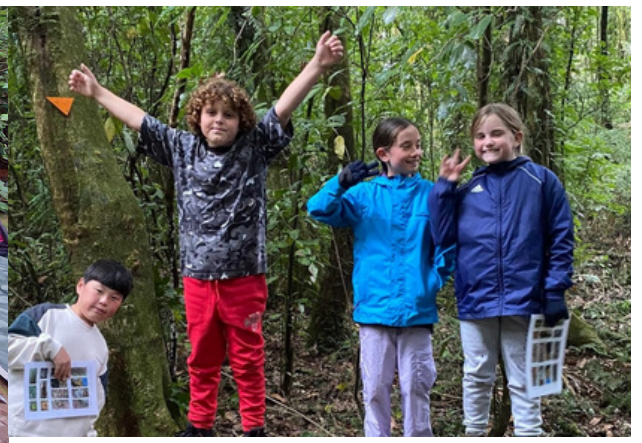
KOPIKAIROA YEAR 5-6 - OTANEWAINUKU FOREST TRIP

Term 2 has been filled with some exciting learning for our year 5 and 6 tamariki. We looked at different native forest plants and animals and investigated how we could show kaitiakitanga in our actions. As part of our learning experience, we connected with Bay Conservation and visited the Otanewainuku Forest park. Here we could see and experience the New Zealand native forest in person and we were able to make connections with our prior knowledge. We did a forest walk and studied some of the plant and tree species. Then we did some activities in the forest related to animal and bird sounds.



"For this term we were focusing on native forests. That's why we went to the Otanewainuku forest. When we got there we all had to sit down and learn the instructions around the forest then my class went into two groups and we each had a different activity. My first activity was to get the binoculars and try to spot two pukeko with bands on their legs, whisper it to our leader and the first correct person won. We were all being really creative but it was really tricky. Then we had to switch around and we were listening to different sounds of birds and trying to figure out which bird made which sound. Then we went back to base and had some morning tea. Then we did some exploring around the base. When it was our turn our Whanau class went for a walk. It was a pretty big walk and some people slipped. We had a piece of paper with different types of leaves and things on trees and we had to try to find them in the forest. While we were walking back to base I slipped and grazed my knee. I was at the back of the line for the rest of the way back. Then when we got back to base we had to have lunch and hopped back into the cars and drove back to school. My favourite part was going on the big walk."

Written by Mikey Francis - Year 6



"In the morning when we got to school we met in Whanau Waddel and Mr.Moolman told us what car we were in. I was with Mr Moolman with Jacob, Billy and Leo. We got to Otanewainuku forest around 10:30. When we got to Otanewainuku we met Janie and Thomas. Whanau Waddel went on the loop walk first and we got separated into a year 5 group and a year 6 group. The year 5 group did a cool activity where Janie played bird sounds and we had to go to the stuffed bird that made the sound. Then we went with Thomas and tried to find the birds that have little bands on their ankles. We had lunch then Whanau Moolman went on the walk but we did it a lot quicker then Whanau Waddel. We finished the walk at 12:23. We had a sheet with different things on them that we had to try to find. There were lots of leaves, roots, trees, plants, mushrooms, dirt, and it was very shady from all the trees. We got back to school at 1:44. We were very collaborative and curious. It was a really fun and educational trip. Written by Cheyenne Higgs - Year 5

MĀNAWATIA A MATARIKI - WINTER VEGETABLE SOUP

To celebrate Matariki, our learners made beautiful winter vegetable soup which our tamariki enjoyed for their lunch. Using vegetables from our school garden, the children all helped with peeling, chopping, stirring and serving. At one stage there were 7 large crockpots of soup bubbling away! The soup was really popular, with many tamariki and staff members coming back for seconds and thirds. A special thanks to Nina from Pips for her organisation, recipe and nurturing the garden from which the yummy veggies came.



KAITIAKITANGA LEARNING CELEBRATION

Our 'Kaitiakitanga' Learning Celebration was a positive experience for our school community! It was wonderful to see our tamariki proudly presenting their learning from our term concept of Kaitiakitanga, showcasing their work and sharing it with whānau. It was a great opportunity for our kaiako to connect with parents and families and discuss the learning from this term. Celebrating this learning journey together is an example of strengthening the partnership between ākonga, whānau, and kaiako.



Special Catholic Character

A Message from our Director of Religious Studies



As we conclude this term, I am filled with gratitude and pride for the journey we have undertaken together in exploring and deepening our understanding of Te Atua (God). It has been an enriching experience watching our children engage with their faith in such a meaningful and heartfelt way.

Throughout the term, our classrooms and school grounds have been filled with lively discussions, thoughtful reflections, and creative expressions of faith. Our children have not only learned about the teachings of Te Atua but have also embraced these teachings in their daily lives, demonstrating kindness, compassion, and love towards one another through the 7Cs.

One of the highlights of this term was our YCC Pyjama Party Day, where the entire school came together to support Holy Trinity School in Papua New Guinea. It was a joyful day filled with fun and generosity as students and staff wore their pyjamas and participated in various activities. The spirit of giving was truly remarkable as we enjoyed a delicious sausage sizzle and collected donations. Thanks to your kindness and support, we were able to raise a significant amount of money to aid our friends at Holy Trinity School.

Our prayer and service kaiārahi have also been busy this term, helping create a promotion video for Caritas in preparation for Social Justice Week coming up in September. Their dedication to promoting social justice and raising awareness about important issues is truly inspiring and reflects the core values of our Catholic faith.

Our collaborative projects this term also showcased our children's understanding of God's love through art, music, and storytelling. These activities have allowed them to connect with their faith in diverse and personal ways, reinforcing the values we hold dear as a Catholic community.



Our weekly prayers and liturgical celebrations have been moments of unity and spiritual growth. Witnessing our children lead prayers and participate actively in Mass has been a testament to their growing faith and confidence in expressing their beliefs.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated teachers, staff, and parents who have supported and nurtured the spiritual development of our children especially through supporting Whānau class Masses. Your commitment and enthusiasm have been instrumental in creating a vibrant and faith-filled learning environment.

Looking ahead to next term, we are excited to focus on the theme of being Church and growing even stronger as a community. Together, we will explore what it means to be part of the Church, building on our shared faith and fostering a deeper sense of belonging and unity.

As we continue our journey, let us walk in faith, guided by the love and teachings of Te Atua. May we all strive to grow closer to God and to one another, fostering a community rooted in faith, hope, and love.

Thank you once again for an incredible term, and may God bless you all abundantly.
In faith and gratitude, Amie-Lee Mills



CARITAS YCC DAY - PYJAMA PARTY!

Last Friday we celebrated the end of term with a Pyjama Party. This was a mufti day to support Caritas. The money raised is going towards supporting Holy Trinity Catholic School in Papua New Guinea with classroom resources and furniture. It was wonderful to see our learners dressed up in their PJs, onesies, Oodies, dressing gowns and slippers for this beautiful winter's day. Thank you all for your generosity towards this very special cause!



SUZANNE AUBERTS' GOT TALENT

SHOWCASE YOUR TALENT!

Do you have a special talent you would like to share with an audience? Maybe singing, dancing, acting, magic tricks or playing a musical instrument? If so, we want to see it! You can enter the performance as a soloist, a duo or in a group.

SHINE LIKE A STAR

TERM 3

TUESDAY 6 AUGUST

11AM-12:30PM

Open to Y2-6 learners only.
Please note only Y4-6 entries are eligible for the Papamoa's Got Talent competition

For more information, please contact Mrs Mills:
almills@suzanneaubert.school.nz

STAFF ONLY DAY FRIDAY 30TH AUGUST STRUCTURED LITERACY

On **Friday 30th August**, school will be closed as our staff will be attending a teacher only day to further develop our Structured Literacy programme. As you will be aware, the Government recently announced an expectation for all New Zealand Primary schools to be engaging with a structured approach to teaching literacy. At Suzanne Aubert, we have been implementing a structured literacy approach through the iDeal platform (Learning Matters) since we opened in 2021. This teacher only day is being facilitated by 'Learning Matters' and will focus on further upskilling our team and strengthening our programme to ensure that the tamariki in our school receive the very best foundation in literacy learning.

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SPORTS UPDATE

It has been a busy term of sports for our tamariki. We have had 5 netball teams and four basketball teams playing in the local competitions. Thirteen of our Year 1-2 learners have also been involved in Fun Sticks, the junior hockey programme offered by Tauranga Hockey. Our school has also participated in a number of local events with some highlights below.

BASKETBALL WORLD CUPS

Our Year 4 Basketball team, the SACS Lakers, and our Year 5 - 6 team, the SACS Breakers, both had the opportunity to play in the basketball world cup competitions held at Mercury Arena in June. Playing in the tournament with 23 others teams, each school is assigned a country to represent and teams are encouraged to dress up in the colours of that country. This year, the Lakers were representing the country of Ireland and the Breakers were representing Japan. Thank you to our coaches, managers and parent supporters for taking this on.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S SPORTS AND CULTURAL DAY

On Friday 31 May, our Year 5-6 Kopukairoa learners participated in the annual Catholic Inter Schools Sports and Cultural tournament at Aquinas College. It was an awesome day of friendly competition in sports and culture activities. We entered teams in netball, rippa rugby, football, drama, quiz, chess and scripture reading. All our learners participated with great courage, collaboration and teamwork. A special mention goes to our chess team which finished 2nd overall in the competition! Thanks to all those who made the event possible: Mr Moolman for all your organisation, our parent volunteers for coaching and transporting our teams and Aquinas College and St Mary's TGA staff for hosting all the schools



TOUGH GUY AND GAL CHALLENGE

It was great to see a group of our year 3 - 6 learners take part in the annual Tough Guy and Gal Challenge at Mercury Baypark Arena. Despite the beautiful sunny day, our tamariki still managed to get filthy running through mud puddles and over a number of different obstacles. Such a fun day out! Thanks to the parents that supported with transport and supervision.



CROSS COUNTRY CLUSTERS

Following the success of our own school cross country, we had seven of our year 4-6 tamariki qualify to run in the Western Bay of Plenty Cross Country Clusters at Waipuna Park in Tauranga. Congratulations to Kayley, George, Brax, Tui-May, Sieni, Kaydence and Domenico for this achievement. At the WBOP clusters, three of our girls, Kayley, Tui-May and Kaydence, finished top 15 in their races and progressed to the Bay of Plenty Cross Country Clusters which was held at Waipuna Park on Tuesday 25 June. Running against the best cross country runners from all over the Bay of Plenty, we are very proud to say that Kayley finished 15th in the Year 8 Girls Race, Tui-May came 12th among the Year 9 Girls and Kaydence came 6th in the Year 10 Girls Race. Well done girls. We are very proud.



TACKLE 5 RUGBY

In week 8, a team of our year 5 and 6 boys entered the rugby 5's tournament. The boys played well with a great attitude, leading the first half of most games despite tough competition. Unfortunately they could not hold onto the lead until the full-time whistle was blown and they ended up with one win, one draw and 3 losses, all within 3 points. The boys showed great determination and strength making Suzanne Aubert proud. Thanks to Mike and Kelly Redgate for your supervision and support.



WHAT'S ON IN TERM 3

Both netball and basketball continue on in term 3 with basketball starting back with Little League on Monday 22nd July and the netball teams all having their first game of term 3 on Saturday 27th July.

BOARD SHORTS



A MESSAGE FROM OUR SUZANNE AUBERT BOARD

Dear Parents and Friends of Suzanne Aubert Catholic School,

Some of you will know me as Cole and Blake Graham's mum and wife to Cam who coaches school Rippa and rugby at Papamoa Rugby Club. I am also a member of our amazing board of trustees and get to see the dedication and hard work that goes into making our school thrive. Our school is very fortunate to have Anthony as our principal and I have seen firsthand how hard he works to ensure that every student receives the best possible education in a safe and nurturing environment.

As a board we assist with overseeing student achievement, the school's finances, facilities/infrastructure, and reviewing policy development and governance. This term our focus has included:

- Preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023
- Completing this year's audit of our school financial statements
- Reviewing health and safety and student accidents
- Reviewing school policies including Appointment Procedures, Equal Employment Opportunities, Teacher Relief Cover, Safety Checking, Police Vetting and Classroom Release Time

We are always happy to receive comments from our parents if you are interested in providing feedback on school policies or would be interested in learning more about the board of trustees and standing in next year's election.

We have continued to support our talented teachers through professional development opportunities including the whole team attending the NZ Catholic Education Convention in Wellington. This was a unique experience for professional learning and equally important team bonding which helps strengthen the culture and relationships between leadership and teachers.

As a board we are proud to see the opening of our senior playground and great to see all the families at school on the weekend enjoying the new facility. I can't stress enough what an amazing job the PTFA have done raising funds. To complete the build and final items including a flying fox and climbing tunnel, the PTFA are looking to raise around \$45,000. We hope you can all support the wonderful events in the coming term.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to fostering a culture of inclusivity and diversity within our school community. We believe that every student deserves equal opportunities to succeed, and we are committed to providing the necessary resources and support to Anthony and his team to achieve this goal.

I encourage you to stay informed about our school's progress by attending schoolwide events and Aubert Whānau Group (PTFA) meetings. Your input and feedback are invaluable to us as we continue to strive for excellence in education.

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Warm regards,

Amanda Graham

Elected Parent Representative Board Member





THE AUBERT WHĀNAU GROUP

Dear Parents, Teachers, and Friends,

As we kick off these holidays and look back on the last term, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to our school community. Your dedication and hard work have made a significant impact, and we couldn't have achieved so much without your support. From organizing events to volunteering your time, every effort has been deeply appreciated.

It's been wonderful to see so many of our children's pure joy whilst playing on the new playground - something that would not have been at all possible if it wasn't for those who have contributed.

Looking ahead to the next term, we have even more exciting opportunities to get involved and continue making a difference. Whether you have a little time to spare or a lot, there is always a way to contribute. Your participation is invaluable, and together, we can create a nurturing and enriching environment for our children.

Let's keep the momentum going and make the next term as successful as the last. Thank you once again for your unwavering support and enthusiasm.

Warm regards, Pete Harrington (Chairperson)



MOVIE NIGHT RAFFLE

The raffles from the movie night were drawn at our celebration hui on Friday. It was exciting to see three of our families names being drawn out and there were shouts of delight from our lucky recipients. A big thank you to all who donated goods to include in the raffles, the Aubert Whānau for organising and for all our families and whānau who supported by buying tickets.



SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policies and procedures are important foundation documents to guide governance, management and operations of a school. At Suzanne Aubert, we use SchoolDocs as a portal to host these policies & procedures. Our school policies and procedures are available for all to view. They can be accessed via School Docs:

- 1) Click on the link to School Docs [here](#)
- 2) Search for Suzanne Aubert
- 3) Enter the username: suzanneaubert
- 4) Enter the password: empower
- 5) Use the left hand menu or search bar to locate the policies of interest

Policies Under Review T2 2024:

- Employer Responsibility Policy
- Appointment Procedure
- Equal Employment Opportunities
- Teacher Relief Cover
- Safety Checking
- Police Vetting
- Classroom Release Time



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Year 7-8 5:30-6:15pm



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