



# NGĀ PĀNUI | THE NEWS

## HRC Te Otu Mātua Newsletter

I've learned what it's like to be House Captain.

Thomas

### What We Learned in Term 2, 2022

I've learned to control my anger when I nearly blow up, and I've learned about friendships.

Cooper

I've learned to stand up for myself and not let things get to me.

Bre

I've learned to be more resilient.

Arorangi

I've learned work experience skills.

Leighton

I've learned that you have a good time at HRC.

Ariki

I've learned how to focus quite good, and do work experience.

Bruno

I've learned how to be brave and stay the night at school.

Jonah



Our 2022 College Value Focus

# WHAIWHAKAARO | REFLECT

*Kupu from our*

## Tumuaki Principal Janine Harrington

July was grey. Too much rain and not much sun. A television reporter stated that it was the wettest in the history of Julys in Christchurch. It felt like it.

Nationally, the July holidays were hoped to be a circuit breaker; a chance for the transmission of the many bugs all schools were at war with to slow. My holidays started with the flu and ended with the big Covid-cherry on top.

I was saved from stuck-at-home boredom by taking up a fight with the New Zealand Defence Force for my second cousin, whom I am unofficially the next-of-kin. I proudly hold his war medals, legal papers, and letters, including those he sent to his aunty (my grandmother) from World War II battlefields. He was entitled to one additional medal, and I attempted to access it. It would have been easier if I was a direct descendant, but he didn't have children.

Jim's life was certainly not easy, from beginning to end. He spent part of his childhood in the orphanage behind Aidanfield Christian School, next to HRC, before the building was torn down post-quake.

When Jim was 13 years old, he was lucky enough to leave the orphanage to work. The woman who employed him wrote he was no good at felling trees or digging postholes (he was a small lad), and, consequently, she refused to pay for his ticket back to Christchurch. My grandmother met him off the bus, and the bus company demanded the fare from her. My grandparents were financially struggling, and she suggested they send the account to the woman who had sent him packing.

As a soldier, Jim was shot by friendly fire; ammunition fired by his buddy entered his body by accident. Jim endured the consequences for the rest of his life. He learned to walk again, although with a severe limp. He had to manage intense pain daily and he had numerous operations in attempt to remove the many tiny pieces of shrapnel that moved about in his hip joint.

I write this on the eve of Jim's 102nd birthday, and while the story is an oldie, the message is timeless.

None of us ends up being who we thought we were when we were 13. When we are young, that is hard to comprehend, especially if people have made us feel rejected, stupid or useless. Trauma can be overcome. Jim was a good man and a brave person in the face of adversity; adversity as an orphan, a young man rejected by an employer with unrealistic expectations, and a soldier maimed for life. I only remember him smiling, laughing and happy to be alive. He never focused on the bad, only the good.

If my grandmother had not turned up to the bus, no one would have met him. All adults have a duty to offer a hand-up to young people, especially those needing extra support, encouragement and/or those with special needs. They need to know they aren't all the bad stuff people have made them feel and that there is good in them - adults can see it; it does exist. Being able to do that daily is one of the perks of working here.

I am grateful that Jim's new medal arrived, brightening up the last rainy days of July.

Things to say to your child...

"I hear what you're saying."

"I understand how you're feeling."

"I see so many gifts in you."

"I believe in you."

"I love you no matter what."

"I'm always here for you."



*Photos from the unveiling ceremony for former kaiako Willie Holdaway*



*Written by Christine Carter, Ph.D.  
Senior Fellow at the  
Greater Good Science Center,  
University of California*



## Te Whare a Owaka

This term we celebrated Matariki by learning about what the stars represent and why it is important.

Breanna and Arorangi helped with preparing the kai for a hāngī. They peeled kumara, potatoes, pumpkin and carrots, and helped with the stuffing. The next day they helped set up tables and with any other mahi that needed doing. The last mahi they did was clean up.

During the week, Breanna and Arorangi participated in the activities that were planned for the week leading up to the hāngī. Some of the activities included making posters and panel art, and colouring in pictures.

This term, Arorangi went to Sharna's Doggy Day Care as part of her work experience.

Both girls enjoyed going to Zone 67 and go-karting in the weekend.

They have worked on a number of ABAS goals and have both achieved their yellow bands. Their te reo Māori when in karakia has gone from strength to strength and they confidently run karakia for the morning and evening shifts.



Bre made some delicious kai for the whare!  
Ka mau te wehi, Bre!

A fabulous new girls' school uniform designed by our ākonga!



# Te Whare a Makonui

The year continues to fly by for Makonui as we came to the end of another term.

The reduction in Covid-19 restrictions opened the doors to the movies and other indoor-based activities which were happily welcomed back by all. Unfortunately, the restrictions still didn't allow for whānau visitors.

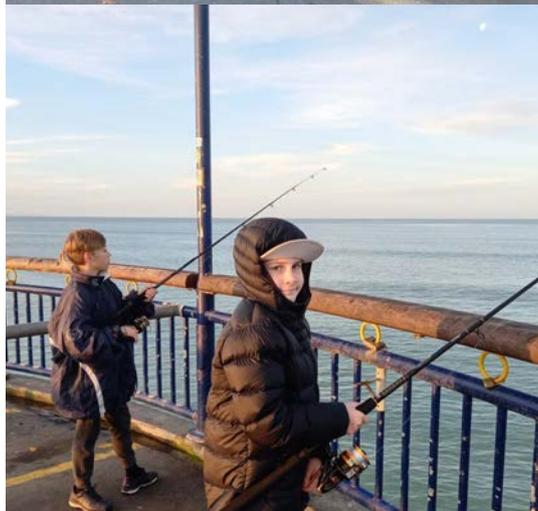
The few warm, wintery days provided students the opportunity to enjoy their favourite activity: the drift trikes, for racing, drifting and playing hide and seek.

We celebrated Leighton's 13th birthday with a delicious chocolate cake and a visit from mum and dad.

A trip to Zone 67 gel blast was a highlight for many including kaiako. The activity provided learning opportunities, supported by kaiako, for teamwork, social interaction, and communication skills .

At the end of the term, we farewelled Bruno, Thomas, Cooper and Tylar, who moved from Makonui to new whares for Term 3.

All the best, and we will miss you.



# Te Whare a Tauawa

As another term came to an end, our rangatahi and kaiako were ready for a relaxing and whakahou break.

Our whānau had a busy term with transitions, new students, Matariki, and working on their poutama. Our tamariki handled these situations with kaha and maturity. Some activities they have enjoyed during the term were gel blasters at Zone 67, movies, going to the Crusaders rugby, and not to forget, playing Fortnite with their fellow tamariki.

We were able to celebrate Matariki with our Te Otu Mātua whānau by putting down a hāngī. Our tamariki, the ākonga of Owaka, and Cooper from Makonui were excellent helpers. Ka pai to all.

Tauawa welcomed new tamariki into our whare during Term 2. Our senior taurira

have stepped up to role model our whare kaupapa.

Maverick settled into Tauawa well and has been embracing the te reo he is learning for everyday life. We enjoy listening to Maverick's wicked taste in music and enjoy playing board games with him.

Term 2 was a huge step for Jonah who is officially staying on site most nights. Jonah has really found his place in Tauawa. He has made friendships with our other tamariki and he is enjoying his time here. Kaiako are enjoying the evening movies Jonah is choosing.

Ariki has settled in well and follows our kaupapa. We are enjoying his company and we are happy to see him stepping out of his shell every day. He likes to share the story of his friend Elliot, a previous

student of Tauawa; they both seem to share a wicked sense of humour.

Our whānau continued to grow with the addition of Bruno, who joined us from Makonui, towards the end of the term. Bruno has adjusted to the change well and welcomes our kaupapa. We are enjoying having him in our whare.

Kia ora koutou whānau. Stay safe whānau.



## ← Kupu from Jony

"I am really enjoying my time here at HRC. I really like the bond I have made with my friends and kaiako. Mr Birtles is my favourite. I am currently working on my poutama and I'm not far away from the final level, which is very exciting.

I really miss Vijay and Rhome, who left last term, but I'm happy I keep in contact with them. Fingers crossed Vijay comes down for a visit and Rhome comes to see us. I look forward to coming back next term and hope everyone has a good break."



## ↑ Kupu from Marcel

"I really enjoyed my time at HRC and I'm really going to miss it if I go.

This term I have been going on transition visits with Simon to my new kura at Darfield High School. I have enjoyed meeting some of the new people, but I have found it hard stepping out of my comfort zone.

I am back in my class next term with whaea Jess and this makes me happy."



## Education Outside the Classroom





## Raumata

Teacher: Jess Grenfell  
Teacher Assistant: Jane Robb

Term 2 flew by and what a term it was!

The kaiako and tamariki of Raumata welcomed Breanna into our class. We enjoyed Breanna's presence and her sense of humour. We sadly said goodbye to Breanna at the end of Term 2 as we wished her all the best for her new class next term.

The students of Raumata were incredibly resilient this term during the changes due to kaiako sickness.

We have worked hard this term on our literacy skills including writing, phonics and reading, and we have seen some massive improvements in the students' reading abilities.

I can't wait to see what they will achieve in Term 3.

**Tukua kia tu takitahi  
nga whetu o te rangi.**  
Let each star in the sky  
shine its own light.

# Tihao

Teacher: Andy Dickison  
Teacher Assistant: Cassidy Robb

The Tihao classroom was re-opened as the student numbers increased at HRC. Andy and Cass led the opening with a completely new set-up in the classroom.

We began the term with emphasis on a team approach, supporting each other and 'having each other's backs'. Maverick and Jonah started us off and both learners had a very settled and productive first two weeks. We worked heavily on emotional regulation, feeling comfortable and being welcomed into the new classroom.

We read a large number of books and really enjoyed sitting and listening to really cool stories such as *A Summery Saturday Morning* by Margaret Mahy and *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Stuart Hancock. These are Andy's favourite books. Jonah and

Maverick joined in with the reading and Maverick has now begun reading books aloud to the class.

Cooper joined us in the third week. His determined nature and high level of independence added another level of maturity to our group. We continued our programme of completing schoolwork in the mornings and attending EOTC outings, sport and technology in the afternoons.

We went on numerous outings including trips to Taylors Mistake beach studying rock pools, Harry Ell Walkway, Worsleys Spur walk, Scarborough beach and playground, Rolleston play park, bowling, and the odd visit to McDonald's and Starbucks as a treat. A really popular outing was getting hot chips and loads of tomato sauce from the local fish 'n' chip shop.

Horse riding was also a highlight for the Tihao class, and our boys fully engaged with the RDA programme. They have been very excited to work with the horses and they have demonstrated a high level of skill and confidence.



# Te Puna Wai

Teacher: Nicole Todd  
Teacher Assistant: Lee Tacon

## Written by the ākonga of Te Puna Wai ...

Term 2 was filled with our school work. We don't know what to call it. It used to be called PLP Personal Learning Programme, but now everyone calls it different names. The most popular name is 'Fat Heads' because we're making our heads fat with information.

We did lots of artwork. We went out running in the cross country and road race. We played soccer on Wednesdays. We went to the beach, Margaret Mahy Playground and

the Canterbury Museum to see the dinosaurs.

We also got some new class members: Cat and Dog, our fish. Unfortunately, RIP Dog.

We also gained Bruno who is a valued member of our class.



### Hi, I'm Shaydin.

I liked playing soccer. I liked working as a team and committing to it, and going hard and having fun.

### Hi, I'm Leighton.

I loved going to Margaret Mahy Playground. I loved going on the slide with Lee.

### Hi, I'm Aro.

I've learned to participate more, even if I don't think I'm going to enjoy it. It's usually fun.

I'm feeling a bit braver and I have a bit more confidence.

### Hi, I'm Bruno.

I've got a little bit better at participating with my colouring in.

I've enjoyed everything.

### Hi, I'm Jony.

I liked getting out of the class and going to work experience with Don and Josh. I liked cutting down all the weeds with the weed whacker.

I really liked going to Ara and learning about keeping safe.

# Kawatea

Teacher: Sarah Hall

Teacher Assistant: Ruth Baker

Term 2 brought the end of the Kawatea pilot as Dysharn and Rival-reign prepared to return to their mainstream schools. It was great to see these two boys successfully transition out from the pilot, and great for Ruth and I to be able to support them in a way that ensured the best possible return to their mainstream schooling.

Dysharn transitioned back to South Hornby School (SHS). He spent much of Term 2 visiting and spending time in his new class, and he did it really successfully. While either Ruth or I accompanied Dysharn to SHS, he didn't need our support as he fitted in so easily with familiar kaiako and students.

Rival-reign transitioned back to Westburn School, and like Dysharn, did really well. Once Rival-reign began his visits, he didn't want to return to HRC.

He is very much part of the Westburn School community.

While it was a milestone moment farewelling Dysharn and Rival-reign, Ruth and I enjoyed a new-look Kawatea class at the end of the term with two new residential students, Tylar and Ariki.

Tylar is from Nelson, and Ariki is from Snells Beach. Both have settled into HRC incredibly well, and fully participated in classroom life. Ruth and I are enjoying getting to know the boys, and we have planned lots of activities and learning opportunities for them for Term 3.





# Matariki ki runga

## Celebrating Matariki



# Ākonga vs kaiako football match

Our ākonga stole the game with a jubilant 1-0 win over the Te Otu Mātua kaiako. Ka pai!



## Dates for the diary

### Board of Trustees Meeting

Friday 19 August, HRC

Friday 23 September, Video conference

### Term 3 Travel Out Day

Friday, 30 September

### Term 4 Travel In Day

Tuesday, 18 October



Large panel painting by kaiako Jasmine Taylor-Harris

## RSS-only Enrolments at HRC

### Who makes the application?

Applications can only be made by the young person's learning support provider in their home region. This could be a Resource Teacher Learning and Behaviour (RTLb), a Ministry specialist, or a day specialist or fund-holder school.

Please contact our student coordinator if you have any questions about the enrolment process, or if you would like to arrange a time to visit.

Anna McCoy, Student Coordinator  
03 339 7802 | [annamccoy@halswellcollege.com](mailto:annamccoy@halswellcollege.com)

[www.halswellcollege.com](http://www.halswellcollege.com)