

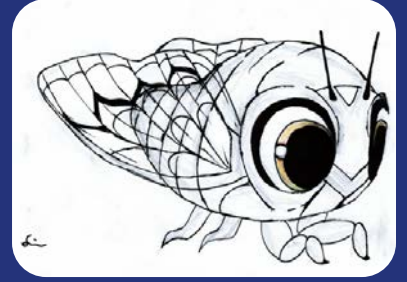


VOICE OF NGĀ TĀTARAKIHI OCTOBER 2025

NGĀ TĀTARAKIHI O AHUMAIRANGI

KELBURN NORMAL SCHOOL

Where students learn creatively and strive for excellence in preparing
for lifelong learning Kia auaha te ako a ngā ākonga me te whai i te iti
kahurangi mō te ake hurihanga



PRINCIPAL'S/TUMUAKI UPDATE

Kia ora koutou

Haere mai and welcome to our October edition of Voice of Ngā Tātarakihi – the Voice of Kelburn kura. It has been a very busy beginning to the final term of the year, the days getting longer and the weather a little warmer each day. Term 4 has seen many activities and events take place and some not take place due to the inclement weather that spring time can deliver. My huge thanks to our kaiako and many whānau who have supported us in around our events so far this term – Western Zone Athletics, Road Patrol Training, the Kī-O-Rahi tournament, Talent Quest Rehearsals, NZ ShakeOut- Earthquake drill and there is much, much more – and we have only just started!

New Tamariki

Welcome to our new tamariki who started at Kelburn in September and October – we know our tamariki and community will show you manaakitanga and help you to get to know everyone at our kura. Haere mai!

Tupu Tahi – Moie BM

Tupu Rua – Noah C, Bodhi S

Tupu Whā – Anh P, Frida R

Whanake Rua – Hannah R

Whanake Toru – Nika L, Oskar BM

Māia Rua – Minh P, Ezekiel R

Emergency Evacuation at Kelburn

As part of our health and safety procedures we practice fire, earthquake and reverse evacuations or lockdown exercise drills. At Kelburn we have engaged Harrison Tew® who are an independent, privately owned, and operated New Zealand company providing emergency management plans for school throughout New Zealand.

On Wednesday November 5th we will be holding as part of maintaining our emergency procedures in our school, specialised training conducted with our senior leadership and staff by Harrison Tew. The students will also receive information on how to respond in an emergency directed at their respective age groups from either their teacher or Harrison Tew.

We will then be conducting a reverse evacuation/lockdown exercise under the guidance and support of Harrison Tew. We will send a letter home on Monday with further information about the drill. Thanks you for your support here.

Thank you Kaiako and staff

Our wonderful kaiako are currently busy writing school reports that will be sent out at the end of year. And kaiako and support staff have also been busy with Mitey mental health professional development and also unpacking the refreshed curriculum where there have been many changes and updates. I thank all our staff for their care and teaching of our tamariki and all their little extras they do to make Kelburn the beautiful kura it is for everyone

New School Board Presiding Member

In the last edition we welcomed the new School Board. At our last Board meeting earlier this month, Fiona Mclean was elected as the Presiding Member. We warmly congratulate Fiona and I am looking forward to working with her and the new Board.



HEART Awards

Heart Awards are given out every fortnight at our Friday afternoon School Hui in the Hall. The HEART awards represent tamariki who are outstanding citizens of Kelburn Normal. Recipients who receive a HEART award show Hauora, Excellence, Aroha, Resilience and Teamwork as they go about their day in their Ara Teams and also when they represent Kelburn. Recipients are quality role models who inspire others! Kai pai to the following tamariki who have been acknowledged this term:

Week 3 Term 4 HEART Recipients

George O, Elia B. Cate S, Matteo R, Carys W, Mika S, Sophie D, Oscar L, Willa K, Arlo B, Minh P

Ngā mihi nui

Kent Favel

Principal/Tumuaki

What's the latest delights from the Tupu team?



Tupu Tahi investigated Tūi's. We were amazed to discover what clever manu they are as they can copy sounds of other birds, ringtones and even words. We see Tūi's in the kōwhai trees at kura. The Tūi inspired our stories and paintings.



I am Tūi. I have a white pompom on my neck. I can call other birds and my name is Tūi. I can fly really high. My friends help me when I am in trouble. One of my friends swooped near me and almost hit me.

Written by Freddie



This is the Tūi. It is blue and white. I am amazed that the Tūi is beautiful. I love it a lot. I will help it survive.

Written by Edward

I am looking for a Tūi. I think I heard a Tūi. Then I saw it but it flew away. The Tūi flew to the big flax. It was drinking nectar from the flax flower.

Written by Avery



Kicking off our science topic about Aotearoa's beautiful birds, Tupu Toru thought we would start with our most iconic and world-renowned bird, the kiwi. We researched facts about kiwi and created our cute little kiwi to start off our forest wall display.



Hi, I'm Emilie, and I'm going to tell you about kiwi today. Kiwi are nocturnal. The biggest problem for kiwi is that there are a few predators, like rats, mice, stoats and possums. Kiwi are endemic. Kiwi can live up to 40 or 50. Kiwi have very strong legs, they also have a very strong sense of smell and they're very good at hearing. Kiwi live in burrows. (Emilie) *Endemic is only in New Zealand.*

Kiwi have long beaks to catch food like bugs. They are nocturnal and they hunt for food at night time. They can't see well in the dark, so they hear noises and they smell to find food as well. When they lay eggs, they are huge and they sit on the eggs for maybe 25 days. Their predators are wild pigs and beetles and stoats. (Kelvin)



1. A kiwi is an endemic bird in New Zealand.
 2. They're nocturnal.
 3. They can't see very well at night or day.
 4. They have secret ears.
 5. They eat bugs and insects.
 6. They have powerful feet to walk all night long.
 7. They're endangered because there are predators all around New Zealand – rats, weasels and possums.
- (Isabella C)



Tupu Rua started the term by making a class korowai. We spent some time looking at traditional korowai and the reasons that they are worn. We then decorated two feathers each and put them together to create this beautiful korowai.



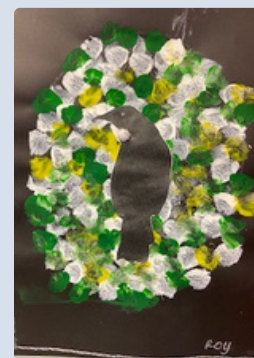
TE ARA TUPU



Tupu Rua has also been drawing kiwi birds in Discovery Time. We enjoyed going through the process of drawing them, creating our own forest for the kiwi to walk through, and then filling our pictures with colour using oil pastels and watercolour paints. We are enjoying learning about the birds of Aotearoa this term.



In Tupu Whā, we started our new term by wondering why birds are different from humans, and why they have their own special features. We had questions about what it would be like to fly like a bird and why some birds can't fly. We have investigated Tui's and the three different types of New Zealand native Seagulls (Karoro, the black-backed gull, Tarapunga, the red-billed gull, and Tarapuka, the black-billed gull). We noticed that seagulls live by the sea and have webbed feet so they can paddle on the water and search for fish to eat. They are also quite partial to eating our chips when we have fish and chip picnics at the beach. Our investigations have inspired our writing and our art.



What will we be up to next in the Tupu team...stay tuned to find out.

TE ARA WHANAKE

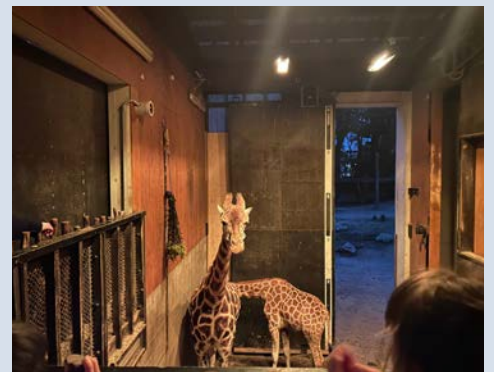
Whanake Update

In week two, our year 3 and 4 tamariki had an exciting time sleeping over at Wellington Zoo. We enjoyed two special behind the scenes tours, getting to see the animals after hours and learning all about them from our fantastic zoo rangers.

The lions' roars and gibbons' howls provided plenty of bedtime ambience, and it was exciting waking up in a room with our classmates (albeit earlier than the adults would have preferred!).

Alongside learning more about the animals at the zoo, the children were able to experience what it's like to be on a school camp, building resilience, connections and memories with their peers. Thank you to all of our fantastic parent helpers who made this trip possible.

Check out some of the photo highlights and Whanake Rua's zoo writing below!



I saw the mighty king of the jungle lounging in the hot beating sun.

I heard the deafening screech of the gibbons at the crack of dawn.

I felt the wind brush past me from far beyond the horizon.

I wondered if I would ever have this much fun again.

• **Maeve D**

TE ARA WHANAKE

I saw adorable capybaras sun bathing in the flaming hot sun

I heard noisy fat gibbons howling in the moonlight.

I felt so much excitement all balled up, I could have exploded.

I wondered if the mighty lions would just be quiet.

- **Florence B**



I saw the snow leopards bathing in the sun.

I wondered if the annoying gibbons would wake us up.

I felt brave and vulnerable at the same time.

I heard the furious lions roaring.

- **Theo N**

I saw the outstanding chimps as they swung across stringy ropes.

I felt the strong breeze of a carnivorous lion.

I heard the ear splitting gibbons in the morning.

I wondered how many cool, funny, fascinating, weird animals are at the zoo.

Joseph S





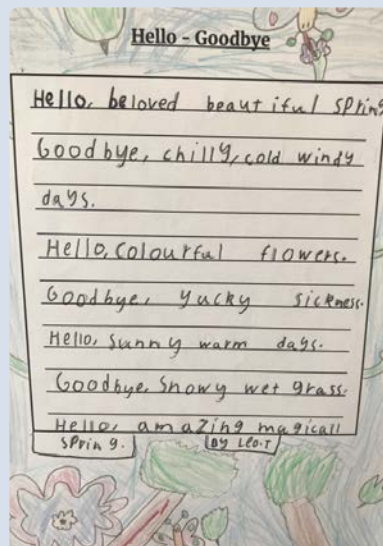
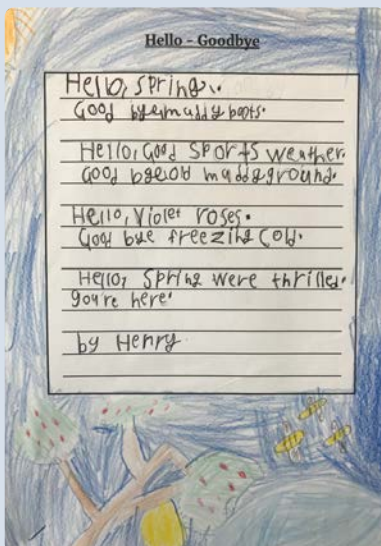
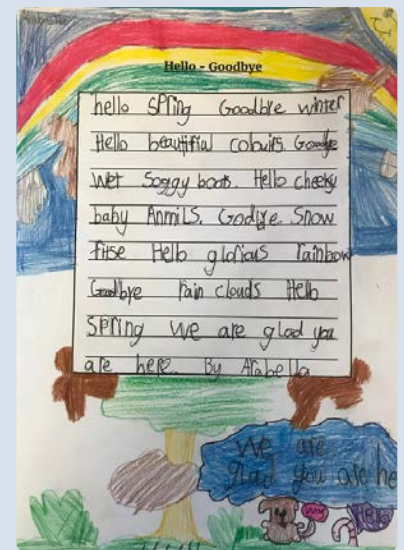
I saw magnificent snow leopards pacing around the glass wall.

I heard the deafening lion roar as it lumbered into its cave.
I felt excited as me and Flo saw a shy red panda eating.
I wondered if Sunni would breathe stinky giraffe breath on me.

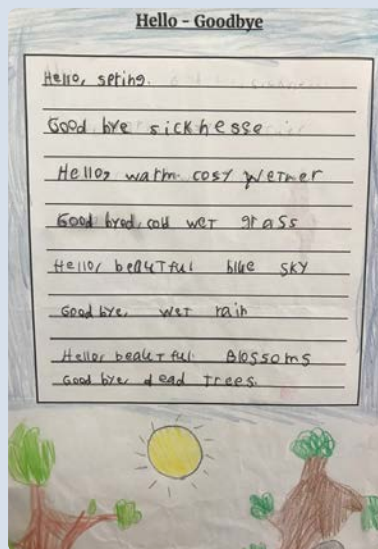
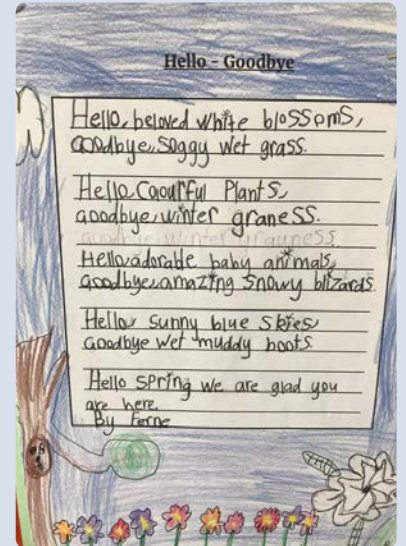
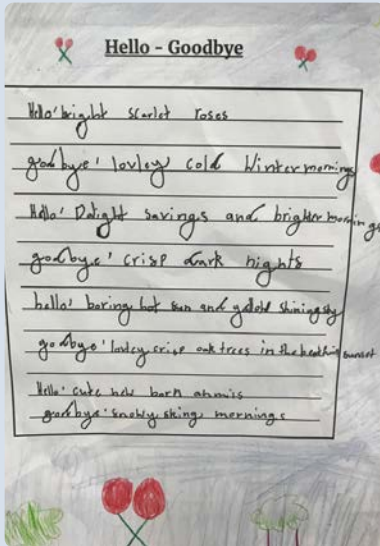
I wondered if I would get a hint of sleep.

• **Sophia Y**

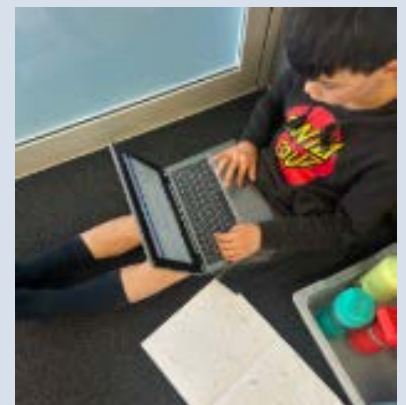
In Whanake Tahī, Whaea Mercy (our student teacher) worked with the class to write some poems 'Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring'... although, we don't think that the weather has quite cottoned on yet by providing some lovely spring weather. The tamariki had to think of the disadvantages of winter and the positives of spring, exploring language and incorporating adjectives to describe. Please enjoy the published copies by Ferne, Leo T, Leo F, Weichen, Arabella, Carys, Henry and Natalia.



TE ARA WHANAKE



In Whanake Toru, tamariki were each given different pictures of a person, place, animal, or thing that they had to write a fictional story about. They practised verbal storytelling in pairs before beginning their writing. After drafting and editing, they typed up their writing.



TE ARA WHĀNUI

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

With teacher Philippa Hilliard joining us in Whanui on Tuesday afternoons, we have been running rotations as part of our plant study investigations. This has been a nice opportunity for students across both home learning teams to work together in new, smaller groupings and with each of their teachers.

Budding Botanists in Action/Science and Art

Our budding botanists have been learning about plants through a range of hands-on investigations and observations. From planting mystery seeds and watching them grow, to dissecting flowers, exploring phyllotaxis (stem arrangements) and leaf venation (vein patterns), and creating their own Monet-inspired water lilies, students have been combining science with creativity.

Children are learning to observe closely, gather and interpret data, use evidence to explain their ideas, and communicate their findings. Each week, children rotate between teachers to explore different aspects of plant life, building on their knowledge and understanding as they go.

As part of our programme, we will have Dr Gabby O'Connor (Wellington-based artist with a background in science communication) visiting us. Gabby regularly collaborates with students, scientists and communities to create large-scale artworks in galleries and public spaces. In a week with Gabby, run an art and ecology workshop which will become part of a community exhibition. During the workshop, children will explore the plants of Te Whanganui a Tara before it was settled, and learn the plants that used to grow near Te Matapihi ki Te Ao Nui and our kura. Gabby will share different perspectives based on her research with mana whenua and ecologists. The class will then use images of native leaves to make pictures and patterns on illuminated lightboxes. The artworks created will be part of the first exhibition at Te Matapihi ki te Ao Nui, Wellington's central library on Victoria Street, when the building reopens in March 2026. Artworks made in class will be photographed for inclusion in the exhibition and shared digitally with the class.

Ngā mihi nui,
Rebekah Rasmussen, and Hugo Miller
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TE ARA MĀIA



EPRO8

Eight of our ākonga went to South Wellington Intermediate School to compete in the EPRO8 inter-schools engineering challenge! Our creative and critical thinkers manipulated gears, pulleys, electronics, and motors aplenty to build solutions to hands-on challenges. Congratulations to Kelburn Tahi who was awarded third place!



Athletics training

Ka pai to our students who have made it into Western Zones for their efforts in Athletics! We have so many skilled athletes. We have been proud of everyone for giving things a go and the peer support we have seen is delightful! Some of our students from overseas had never tried high jump, but they approached the challenge with a positive attitude and a willingness to give it a go.

The Kids Sing

Our auditioned choir Lyrica participated in The Kids Sing, a wholesome choral event where students could showcase their mellifluous voices. As well as performing, they watched choirs from three other schools, received feedback from a judge, and learned a new song!



TE ARA MĀIA

Play letters

After the class plays every year, students write reflective letters about their experience of the play, below are some excerpts from these letters.

Dear older self,

I'm writing to you from 2025, where we have recently finished our class play, Hamlet.

Right now you are possibly reading Hamlet or learning about it again for school. I wonder now that you're older if you still remember the things I do about Kelburn and the plays. Well you know that last year we made up our own play, it was probably the best one I've done during my time at Kelburn. This year, well this year was different, much different. When we were still deciding on our play, I was set on doing romantic and comedic one but when Miss Munn told us we were doing Hamlet I thought there is no way we can make this gory tragedy funny but as you know, we did.

- **Lydia**

The first scene was us on the ship as it was sinking where dialogue was shouted and scattered across the stage. Increasing the fear and importance of this scene. Fear clouds the stage covering everything like snake skin. Soon to be shed. The next act is my big scene. I walk out and immediately jump right into my character. My lines run through every part of my body. My cues spewing out of every orifice. And then, comes my line. "Sir, he may live". It's going smoothly. I try not to smile for this is all I could've wished for. I walk offstage smiling ear to ear for it was perfect

- **Arlo**

It was strange, the feeling after the show. First, I was giddy. We did it! This is the fruit of our hard work, and we could finally enjoy it! But then, I felt sad. It felt as if you had ingrained yourself into my life, and I felt empty after, as if I had lost something important to me. I wanted to stay with the play, and spend every day down at the Gryphon Theatre, laughing with my friends about something stupid. But I knew I had to go on. It felt good being able to know Hamlet's story, and I'm thankful for that. For now, I say adieu.

- **Fiona**

As the lights first came on and everybody was still scrambling to their places you could feel all the eyes watching immersed in what was going to happen next. There were no lines said in the first scene yet it felt like one of the longest. My character had no lines in the first three scenes yet it felt like I said everything like I was being tricked by my mind pressure building each time someone said a line ready to explode the moment I opened my mouth. As the fourth scene came and I stood on stage with James and Kieran I looked at the audience, their dark faces, their eyes fixated on the stage. A few lines were said then I started speaking "Tis Most True..." It felt as all this pressure building up vanished into thin air like a ghost. The rest of my lines felt natural to me like I had known them all my life memorised like the back of my hand. Once my final scene came and I had already been killed I could finally rest. The weight lifted off my chest and the burden released.

- **Ryan**

I know this sounds cringey, but it did feel like we were one big family, and even though every line felt like it was the choice between sinking or floating, we were all swimming in the sea together. At the final scene, I just wanted to get up and hug every single one of my classmates, because when you work together that closely for 14 weeks, you either bond, or grow apart. And we had done it. We were all so close now, it felt like we had known each other since forever, like tomorrow didn't matter, and we were the only ones. Ever. The simple "Good jobs" and "You did so good" didn't feel like it mattered, as all that mattered were the words of our classmates, because they were the only ones who could have seen you at your worst at the start, and at your best now. They were the only ones who really knew how far you had come.

- **Esther**

TE ARA MĀIA

Art

We have been experimenting with perspective, vanishing points and foreshortening. We have learnt about linear and atmospheric perspective and have created some optical illusions for your viewing pleasure. This has also been a great opportunity for us to explore colour, tone, and texture. Bright and uplifting images now adorn our walls!

