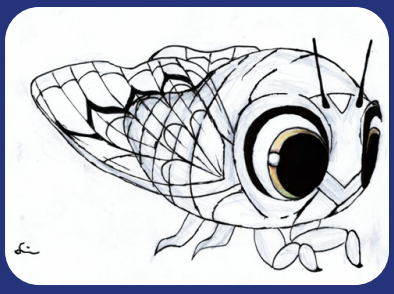
VOICE OF NGĀ TĀTARAKIHI OCTOBER 2026

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 akoranga tūroa



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 spring weather has been a little wild this term, leading to the unfortunate cancellation of our Kelburn Athletics Day in week 1. While this was extremely disappointing, Miss Bishop and the staff were able to offer events at school to assist in selecting tamariki to represent Kelburn at the Western Zone competition on the 6th November. I thank them very much for their adaptability and enthusiasm to ensure that Kelburn tamariki are involved in the Western Zone event.

My huge thanks to our kaiako and many whānau who have supported us in running our events so far this term - Road Patrol Training, the Wellington Orchestra Festival, Epro8, Talent Quest Rehearsals, the Battle of the Bands, Kids Sing, the NZ ShakeOut Earthquake drill and we have only just started!

New Tamariki

Welcome to our new tamariki who started at Kelburn in October. We held our mihi whakatau last Friday to officially welcome our new families. We have 6 new tamariki starting at kura this term in Tupu and Whanake! We know our tamariki and community will show you manaakitanga and help you to get to know everyone at our kura. Haere mai!

Tupu Toru - Etta F
Tupu Rima - Alice LS, Maxwell L, Georgia and Harriet G
Whanake Toru - Sophie S

Staffing News

I would like to announce to the school whānau that Mr Hugo Miller will be taking a year's leave of absence from Kelburn in 2027 to travel and visit family. We warmly wish Mr Miller safe travels in his adventures next year and look forward to his return to Kelburn at the beginning of 2028.

Ms Rebekah Rasmussen will finish her nine years at Kelburn at the end of term 4. Rebekah has won a new leadership position at Island Bay School for 2027. I thank Ms Rasmussen for her leadership of the Whānui ara, her teaching in Year 5 and 6, her leadership of the Kapa Haka group, and Kura Ahurea. We warmly congratulate Miss Rasmussen on her new role, and we will miss her many positive contributions, teaching and leadership at Kelburn.

We are currently interviewing for Mr Miller and Ms Rasmussen's positions and I will update you all on our appointments in the next few weeks.
We also have two new staff who have begun this term - Miss Jess Simmons, who is our release teacher, until the end of the year and Mr Mat Enright, who has joined our itinerant music teaching team. A very warm welcome to Miss Simmons and Mr Enright - we know they will love working here at Kelburn.

Traffic Safety around Kelburn
I would like to take this opportunity to thank our many volunteers from our Kelburn whānau who assist us in keeping the tamariki and whānau on their walk to and from Kelburn on school days. We have Road Patrol training for the tamariki assisting us in 2027 to replace our wonderful Year 8's and I thank Mrs Rachel Smith who organises the road patroller for Kelburn. We have noticed recently some parents not using the pedestrian road crossings on Upland Road and on Kōwhai Road outside of school. A friendly reminder that all families are to use the pedestrian crossings when entering or leaving school at all times please. We are very clear on our messaging to the tamariki about this and as adults we need to model this too, please.

We have also noticed whānau parking illegally on yellow lines or parking their car in the middle of the road before and after school in Kōwhai Road. I appreciate parking is tight at these times on some days. However, please only park your ars in legal spaces. There are traffic parking wardens who monitor the parks around school several times each day and we share Kōwhai Road with a preschool, BLENZ and residents. We all need to do our part to ensure we park and drop off safely.

School Donation and Activity Donation
As always, we have had a good response in 2026 from whānau, but we are still sitting below our budgeted figure for 2026, so we do need your contributions. Things such as camps, swimming, for example, are not funded through our Operations Grant, and while we do acknowledge that times are tough, we really do appreciate the school donations and activity contributions as they enable us to cover the costs of the additional activities and opportunities that our tamariki have had as part of their experience at Kelburn. To pay your donations please go to the office and speak to Loraine or Bo and they will assist. Or you can pay by direct credit to Kelburn Normal School Board, 12-3223-0190001-00

Whakanuia Awards
Whakanuia is a Te Reo Māori word meaning to celebrate, honour, magnify, or praise. It is commonly used to acknowledge achievements. It represents a time of recognition, joy, and highlighting success.

Term 4 Week 2
Dulitha W, Elise A S, Hajra M, Imogen P, Dahlia C, Jeffrey Y, Violeta A-C, Evie R, Florence B, Isabelle B, Emily L S, George W, Sofia M.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Ngā mihi nui
Kent Favel
Principal/Tumuaki

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL UPDATE

Celebrations of Learning - Wednesday 4 November 3:15-5 pm

Our learning spaces are usually buzzing with activity, curiosity, creativity, and collaboration, and our Celebration of Learning is a wonderful opportunity to share this with whānau. From 3.15–5pm, our learning spaces will be transformed into interactive hubs where tamariki can showcase their classwork, projects, art, and the progress they have made throughout the term. Our kaiako and tamariki have put a great deal of thought and effort into preparing for this special event, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to see, try, and experience the learning that has been taking place. You may even get to play a game with your child.

This is a chance for your child to take the lead and share their learning journey with you. Tamariki will talk about what they can do well, what they are currently learning, and what their next steps might be. They may share writing from their books, talk about the books they have been reading, explain their mathematical thinking or show you other examples of their mahi.

The most important part of the afternoon is taking the time to listen to your child. These conversations help tamariki recognise their progress, reflect on their learning, and develop confidence in talking about themselves as learners. They also give whānau a valuable insight into the learning happening at kura and the effort that goes into making progress. Remember, learning is hard work! Mistakes, challenges, and unfinished work are all part of the process, so please be encouraging and celebrate the effort, growth, and successes you see.

How you can support your child

- **Come along together.** Your presence shows your child that their learning matters to you.
- **Listen and let your child lead**. Give them time to explain their learning in their own words.
- **Keep the focus on learning.** If you would like to discuss behaviour, social matters, or other concerns with the teacher, please arrange a separate time.
- **Be positive and celebrate!** Acknowledge your child's effort, progress, and willingness to give things a go. Every learner develops at their own pace, and challenges are an important part of learning.

Helpful questions to ask your child

If you're wondering what to ask, here are a few ideas to get the conversation going:

- What are you learning about at the moment?
- What are you most proud of? Why?
- What do you need to learn next? What are your next steps?
- What learning do you find easiest or trickiest? Why?
- What could we do together at home to help you?

We look forward to welcoming whānau into our learning spaces for an afternoon of sharing, connection, and celebration. Thank you for being such an important part of your child's learning journey. Together, we can celebrate how far our tamariki have come and encourage them to keep growing as curious and creative learners.

Rogaine in the Botanical Gardens

Who: Whanake, Whānui, & Māia
When: Māia- 8 December, 9am-12pm; Whānui - 12 - 2:30pm. Whanake - 9 December, 9:30am - 1pm.

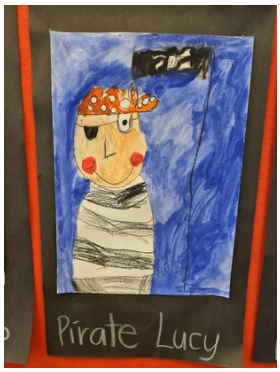
Coming up in December is the ever-popular Rogaine event. This team-building, map-reading, outdoor activity, which includes walking/jogging/running and clue-finding, has been an end-of-year fixture at our kura for many years.

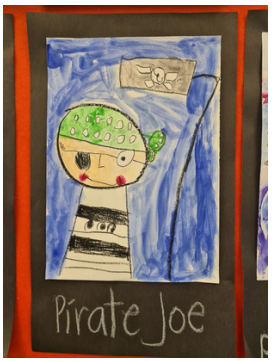
To run this event, we rely on adult helpers, who will lead a group of tamariki from one clue to the next. **Ideally, we are looking for five to six adults per home learning team to help out. Grandparents and teenage siblings are also great helpers.** We will have a mixture of teams to cater to all levels of fitness and competitiveness. If you can help, please let your child's teacher know.

We will not use compasses, and please leave your dogs at home. Ideally, we will put whānau who wish to run with students who wish to run, and whānau who wish to walk with students who prefer to walk.

TE ARA TUPU

What's the latest delights from the Tupu team





Tupu Tahi was captivated by our weekly BSLA book called The book family Robinson where the Robinson family befriended the pirates from the ship the Evil Weevil with their love of books. We turned ourselves into pirates, and designed our own ship and treasure. We promise not to make you walk the plank.



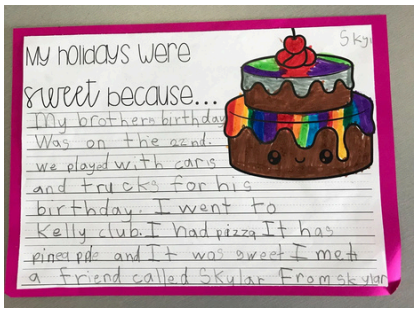


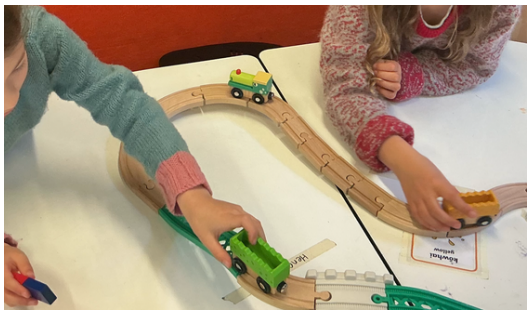
Tupu Rua has started off the term with some spring joy, specifically the young lambs that some of us have seen in the New Zealand countryside, and the colourful flowers. Here are some lambscapes that we made by using torn paper.





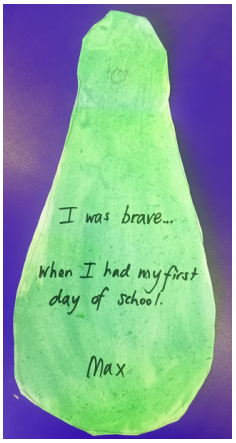
Tupu Toru have written stories with the prompt “My holidays were sweet because…”. We had to think about the fun things we got up to over the break, recording what we did and who with. Our next step was to carefully publish our writing onto the template, working on spelling correctly and having a neat handwriting style. Tino pai mahi.

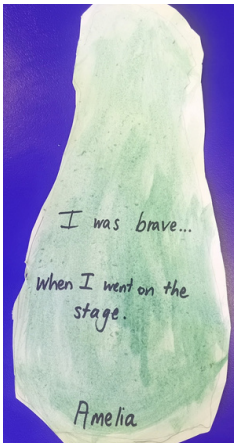




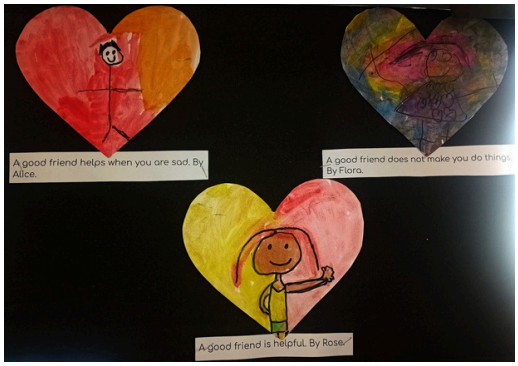
The Tupu Whā team have launched into our Push and Pull topic, investigating the different forces we can use to make objects move and what makes them move faster or slower. We also tried out windpower, magnets, ramps, levers, and pulleys.







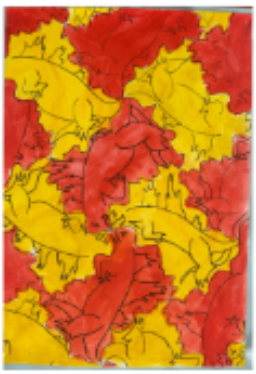
In Tupu Rima, we have been delving into the Mitey programme, exploring what it means to be a good friend and how we can show bravery in different ways. This has resulted in rich discussions where we expressed our ideas about these concepts in our writing and visual art. The mere pounamu are a symbol of strength and courage, and the manawa are a symbol of manaakitanga.

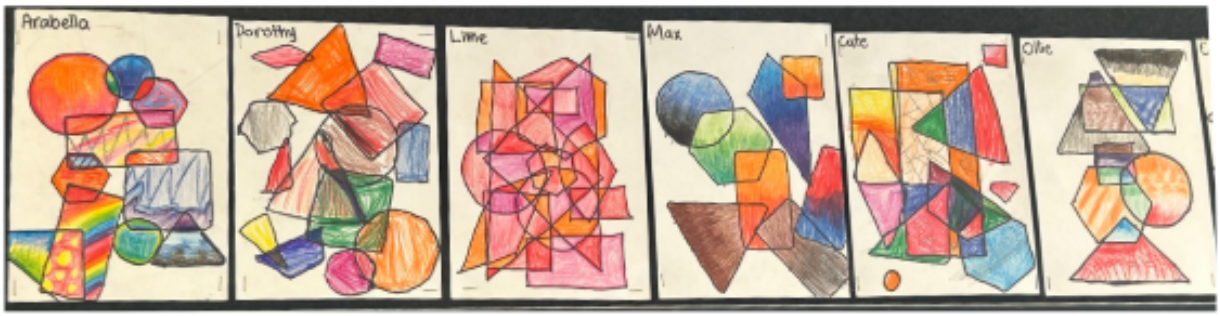


What will we be up to next in the Tupu team…stay tuned to find out.

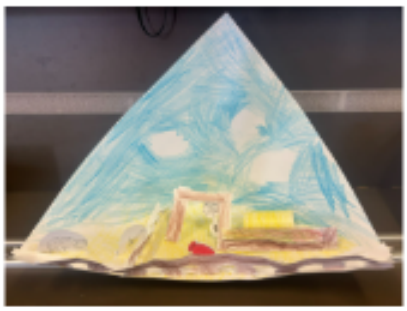
TE ARA WHANAKE

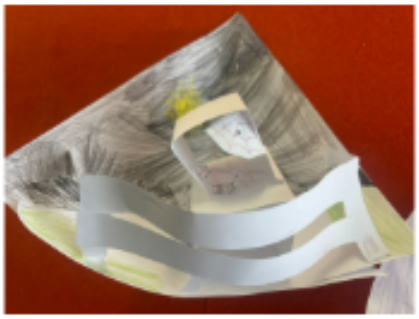
In Whanake, we have been exploring shapes, lines and angles as part of our mathematics learning. We have been comparing right, obtuse and acute angles, grouping and sorting shapes, and noticing the use of line and shape in our everyday lives. We have particularly enjoyed discovering the close links between geometry and art. Check out some of our geometric designs below.



In reading, we have been doing novel studies. We are enjoying delving into extended narratives, and getting to know the characters in our stories. As we read, we are spending plenty of time discussing the story elements and making connections. We have also been exploring these novels through hands-on chapter chat activities.





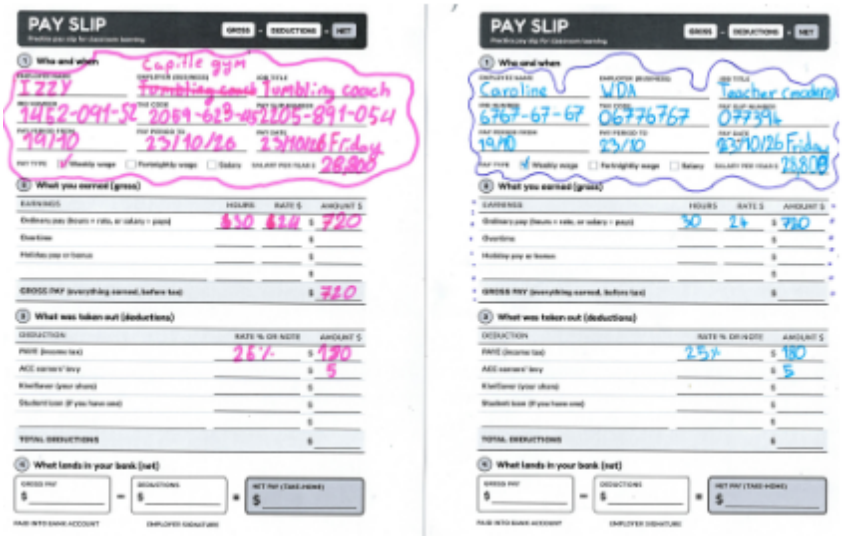

TE ARA WHĀNUI

An outdoor adventure while inside!
Blake VRNZ brought the outdoors into school for an exciting adventure the kids won't soon forget! Sir Peter Blake was a celebrated New Zealand yachtsman, known for his leadership and sailing achievements. His passion for protecting the ocean lives on through BLAKE, the environmental education organisation he founded to inspire people to care for the environment. With headsets on, the children explored the natural world, asked curious questions, and discovered how science helps us understand the environment around us. It was a fun-filled experience packed with adventure, learning, and plenty of excited squeals at every discovery! It included a helicopter ride across a glacier, an underwater scene with close encounters with sharks and whales, and even a cheeky kiss from a stingray.





Maths Meets Real Life: Financial Literacy!
The children have explored how maths is used in everyday life by learning about payslips and important financial terms. They learned the difference between gross pay (earnings before deductions) and net pay (what you take home), and how taxes and other deductions affect a payslip. It was a practical, hands-on way to connect classroom maths to real-world money decisions!



What's Happening in Māia?



EPRO8

Our top two groups from our school EPRO8 series have competed in the inter-school competition! One of these teams came first in their heat and is off to the semi-finals at Maidstone Intermediate next month!
Congratulations to Louis, Kieran, Isla, and Thomas!



Utopia

In preparation for our speeches on the topic *Describe the society you would like to live in in 20 years' time*, we have been exploring the idea of utopian societies. These are some excerpts of children's writing in response to visual prompts.

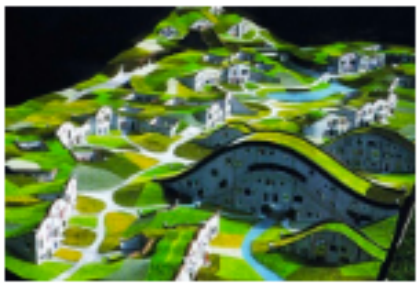
Large white towers loom over these parks & gardens, their straight lines and sharp angles all equal in every way. Huddling together like a herd of sheep, they glow with a dim light throughout the day. Their libraries and personal chambers provide a place of refuge from the gossip and excitement of the extraordinary gardens.

- George



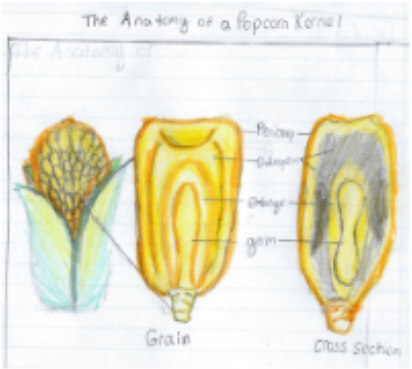
I like this utopia. It shows many buildings with plants and grass all over them. In the one on the left, there is a town of hobbit-like houses, with windows and the occasional balcony inside the house's own little hill. On top of the hills are grassy plains, which, if I owned one of these houses, I would grow some trees or a garden on. I would like to live in this future, because I see it as a world where humans and plants live together in peace, and the ecosystem is stable.

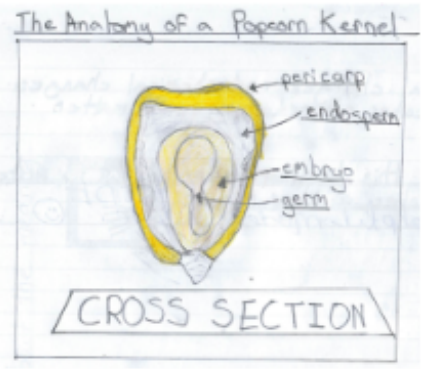
- Claudia



Science

We are exploring the specific life processes required for survival.





Mitey

We are learning about ourselves, others, and empathy through our backpack unit. We have started by imagining what the backpack in our scenario might look like.





