

Amuri Area School



*Kia Kitea Toikaka
Nothing But The Best*

*Raising Achievement, Realising Potential;
Encouraging Excellence*

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**Term 1, Week 1
W/E 5th February 2021**

Kia ora koutou katoa

Welcome to 2021! We have started the year with 375 students! Yes, this is a number we have normally reserved for the end of the year, meaning the need for extra classrooms and redevelopment becomes ever more urgent. We have received solid enrolments into all areas of the school with healthy numbers throughout and one of the largest year 13 cohorts we have seen in some time. Our school continues to grow and thrive which is a sign of the great work in the wider community to make the Amuri area a great place to live and to raise your children.

NCEA Results

Firstly, congratulations to our 2020 cohort on some excellent results in a difficult year.

For students entered in NCEA who completed the year at Amuri our results were:-

- NCEA Level 1 - 96% Pass rate
- NCEA Level 2 - 97% Pass rate
- NCEA Level 3 - 100% Pass rate

We were especially proud of the large number of courses and certificate endorsements many at Excellence Level and the 66% of level three students achieving University Entrance.

It is interesting to note that very few students passed as a result of the additional Covid credits awarded by the Ministry with the vast majority of students passing with the full 80 or 60 credits they would need in any regular year.

Property Work Over the Summer

The asphalt on the junior side is looking great and we now have to wait a few weeks for it to harden up before we can bike or scooter on it. Once this has happened, we can then get some playground games painted on for the students to enjoy. The basketball court is complete and

looking stunning and the freshly painted courts look great. As we now have 2 outdoor courts for basketball we are asking students in year 10-13 to leave the smaller court for the exclusive use of the students in year 7-9.

In the gym we now have air conditioning units installed meaning we have now finally completed our heating upgrade and have no need of the coal boiler which will be decommissioned at some point this year.

We are still waiting on the outcome of our education brief and redevelopment and will advise you as soon as we know any more.

Uniforms and Phones

It was so good to see students looking smart on day one this week with very few students out of full uniform. Our additional lunchtime activities kicked off on day one with frisbee fun and we are really encouraging students to get involved, to communicate and socialise to substitute the loss of the cell phones. Time will tell, however we are confident we will end up with more active, more engaged and happier students as a result.

Assembly Next Week

On Tuesday next week our whole school assembly will open with a Mihi Whakatau to welcome our new students formally and to welcome Mr Garvin Filby and Mr Ross Williams to our staff. This assembly will also be the formal start of duties for our new Head Students Celine Barnes and Hannah Ferguson.

Board of Trustees

Our Board of Trustees Chair for 2021 is Adam Williamson with Wallace Jamieson coming onto the board with the finance portfolio. Esme Hewitt is our student Board rep for 2021 with the rest of the board unchanged.

A couple of important dates to note in your diary!

Monday 8th - Waitangi Day is observed so there is no school

Monday 8th March - We have our Cluster teacher training day with our contributing schools and other Canterbury Area Schools. This will mean all our schools will be closed on this day for instruction.

2nd to the 6th April is Easter and this falls within Term One this year with students coming back on Wednesday 7th of April for the remainder of term one.

Term ONE ends on Friday 16th April

Welcome back and let us have an outstanding year!

**James Griggs
Principal**

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to the start of a brand-new school year. It was a very positive start to our year on Tuesday morning and I really enjoyed welcoming students in Year 1-8 back to school. There were many smiles, and no doubt a few nerves, but my visits to all classrooms were positive and it was clear that students and staff were pleased to be back. Thank you to everyone for making our school such a positive place to be throughout the week! We changed our transition of our Year 7 and 8 students this year because of student feedback from previous years. They spent their first day in their homeroom to help them become familiar with their new classmates and teacher.

Term 1 is a reasonably busy term, and this year is no exception. We have Year 7-13 Athletics, Year 3-13 Swimming Sports, HPSSA (Zone) Athletics and Swimming, T-Ball/Softball for Year 4-6. There are plans being made for further sports activities that will involve the whole primary side, but all will be revealed in due time! Next week Harold the Giraffe and the Life Education bus will be here from Thursday through to the following Monday. The focus for this visit for Year 1-6 will be based on Friendships and Relationships. At the end of February, we have ASB Getwise Financial Literacy here on a four day visit. The facilitator will be running one lesson with Year 1-4 and then two lessons with Years 5-8. Thrown on top of all of that we have the Amuri Show at the beginning of March! So, there is more than enough happening this term.

Over the summer break, the concrete was removed from the primary side and replaced with new asphalt. This has made an enormous difference and tidied the playground immensely. While we are waiting for it to set we have asked the children not to ride their scooters and bikes on it. The asphalt should take about three weeks to set and then we are meeting a company to talk about new playground games and markings to be painted on the asphalt.

By now all families and whanau should have had a letter from your child's classroom teacher regarding our online platform Seesaw. Please take the time to read through the instructions and get logged onto the classroom account. This is our main port of contact with you and all notices and communications

will be put through this avenue. Please check it frequently to stay in touch with your child's class teacher.

Most of our Year 1-6 students are wearing their compulsory hat which is great to see. Please make sure your children have their hat every day for Term 1 as it is part of our Sunsmart policy to have children wearing a sunhat.

We look forward to seeing you back at school soon.

Nga mihi nui
Kylee Habgood

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

8 th	Waitangi Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
9 th	Hamilton Assembly @ 10am
11 th – 15 th	Life Education Visit
15 th	Canterbury Tactix visit at 3:30pm
17 th	School Swimming Sports
	Board of Trustees meeting
24 th	Getwise – Years 1-6
25 th	Senior Athletic Sports
25 th	Getwise – Years 5-8
26 th	HPSSA Swimming – Cheviot

MARCH

2 nd	CCHS Swimming, Dudley Park, Rangiora
3 rd	HPSSA Swimming postponement
	Mitchell Assembly @ 10am
5 th	Year 1-6 Triathlon
8 th	Jumbo Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
10 th – 12 th	Year 7 Camp – Hanmer Springs
10 th	CCHS Athletics – Nga Puna
16 th	CSS Athletics Prelims – Nga Puna
17 th	HPSSA Duathlon – Hanmer Springs
	Board of Trustees Meeting
20 th	CSS Athletics Final – Nga Puna
22 nd – 26 th	Year 10 West Coast Trip
24 th – 28 th	Year 13 PE Trip to Bay of Islands
30 th – 1 st	Year 9 Camp to Windy Point
30 th	CSS Swimming Champs - Christchurch

APRIL

2 nd – 6 th	Easter – SCHOOL CLOSED
8 th	CPS Swimming – Selwyn Aquatic Centre
	Caverhill Assembly @ 10am
10 th – 11 th	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition
12 th	HPSSA TeeBall / Softball – Scargill
14 th	HPSSA Teeball / Softball postponement
14 th – 16 th	CASAfest – Oxford Area School
16 th	End of Term 1

MAY

3 rd	Term 2 begins
6 th	School Photos
13 th	MOE Accord Day – SCHOOL CLOSED
14 th	Year 12/13 Careers Expo



Project with an arts focus?

Creative Communities Fund

Applications Close 1st March 2021

Application forms and more information available via our website (www.hurunui.govt.nz) under 'Awards and Funds' or by emailing maree.hare@hurunui.govt.nz. Your project must begin after 24th March 2021 and be completed before 24th March 2022



Piano Lessons begin next Thursday with Andrea Hooper.

There are spaces available should your child wish to learn to play the piano. For more details, contact Andrea on 020-4035-8805 or e-mail penquinsurfer1@live.com



Entries are open for the **Weetbix Kids Tryathlon** on Sunday **28th February** at **Jellie Park, Burnside**. The TRYathlon is all about giving it a TRY and is a rewarding and fun day out for you and your child. Participants need to be aged 7-15 years old on event day, and can complete the TRYathlon as an individual or in a team of two. Participants need to be aged 6 years old on event day to complete the Splash & Dash.

To enter the TRYathlon visit www.tryathlon.co.nz/ This year our school has created a School Group which you can join when you enter from home. Search for **Amuri Area School** when prompted. By linking to our school group it will give us the chance to win some great prizes. The direct link to register into our school group is <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=40596&G=126641>

If someone you know requires financial assistance to enter the TRYathlon, should it be subsidised entry fees or funding for necessary equipment, then you can apply to the Weet-Bix TRYathlon Foundation for assistance.

Visit www.tryathlon.co.nz/foundation for details.

If you have any school related questions please contact **Phoebe Sopp** on phoebe@amuri.school.nz otherwise contact the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon team; email Sophia@smcevents.co.nz or phone 0800 WFFT BIX (0800 9338 249)

Being SunSmart at the pool

Swimming outdoors can be a highlight of summer – but it's also a time when we're even more likely to get sunburn. We get even more UVR when we're around water and sun damage can occur in as little as 10-15 mins when our UV levels are really high.

Sunscreen:

- Use water resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher
- Apply 20 mins prior to swimming. It needs time to be fully absorbed by the skin and may wash off if applied immediately before jumping into the pool
- Remind students to reapply when they are re-dressing (to ensure they stay protected whilst outdoors following the swim)

To ensure adequate protection sunscreen must be applied liberally to dry skin 20 mins prior to heading outdoors and then every 2 hours.

Encourage parents:

- to provide swimwear or rash suits that cover up more skin
- to apply water-resistant sunscreen SPF 30 or higher at home
- to provide a named sunscreen in swim bags for re-application during the day
- to show/remind children how much sunscreen is needed for good protection
Applying generously every 2 hours when outdoors is recommended
- to be SunSmart role models themselves

Incorporate information on sun safety in pool hire documentation / safety information / key handover sessions.

If you don't have much available shade encourage users to bring umbrella's if they're waiting poolside

Slip

on a rash suit &
cover up near
water

Slop

on water-resistant
sunscreen
SPF30+

Slap

on a wide
brimmed hat
poolside

Wrap

on sunnies
wrap-around
are best

HIKE IT, BIKE IT, SCOOT IT, SKATE IT

SAFER JOURNEYS
FOR SCHOOL
CHILDREN

A whānau and caregivers' guide



Here's what you need to know to help teach your child about staying safe on roads and near railways.

Keep it as a handy reference tool.



WALKING

Teach your child about how to be safe when walking alone or with others.

- Go to the roadside near your home and kneel down so you are the same height as your child.
- Ask your child what they can actually see or hear from their point of view.
- Children can't judge traffic and may not be thinking about what they are doing right then – like trying to cross the road safely.

Teach your child how to do the following (and explain why they need to):

- Walk on the footpath, close to the houses and away from the road.
- Look and listen for traffic at driveways (some driveways are difficult to see).
- Use pedestrian crossings or cross at traffic signals, wherever possible.
- Take care in car parks, school drop-off/pick-up points or busy shopping areas with lots of traffic.
- Walk facing oncoming traffic on roads where there are no footpaths.
- Share the footpath with others, including skaters, scooters, wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

If there are no crossings or traffic signals, talk about and show your child how to:

- find a safe place to cross
- always use the kerb drill.

BLOCKED FOOTPATHS

Teach your child to watch for vehicles.

If a vehicle is blocking the footpath, show them the following steps:

- Check inside the vehicle to see if there's a driver.
- If you can see a driver, stop a couple of metres away and wait to see if they are going to move.
- If you can't see a driver, look and listen for signs the vehicle may move soon, for example:
 - exhaust fumes
 - reverse lights
 - engine noise.

If there's no driver in the car and the engine isn't running, walk around the vehicle on the house side.

If there's no room on the house side, walk carefully around on the road side, looking and listening for traffic from all directions. Or go back and find a safe place to cross the road using the kerb drill.

KERB DRILL

- 1 Take one step back from the kerb.
- 2 Look and listen for traffic coming from all directions.
- 3 If there is traffic coming, wait until it has passed and then look and listen for traffic again.
- 4 If there is no traffic coming, walk quickly straight across the road.
- 5 While crossing, look and listen for traffic, wherever it may come from.

If there are no crossings or traffic signals, talk about and show your children how to find a safe place to cross.

WALKING ON RURAL ROADS

Help your child to:

- walk facing oncoming traffic
- keep as far off the road as possible
- walk in single file, shortest person at the front, so everyone can see oncoming traffic
- listen very carefully. Vehicles can approach at high speed and be heard long before they are seen
- if a vehicle is coming, stop and stay back from the roadside until it has passed
- if you can't see the road ahead clearly, be extra careful.

If there's a narrow bridge, stop in a safe place and:

- listen carefully and scan the distance to make sure there are no vehicles coming
- go onto the bridge and walk quickly across, facing oncoming vehicles
- keep looking and listening for any vehicles that come from behind or in front.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHILD BE SAFER WHEN WALKING?

- If you usually drive to school, park your car further away from the school and then walk some of the way with your child so they learn about road safety with you.
- Try a walking bus, where children walk to school in an organised group. Talk to your school. They may have walking buses.



Young children should always hold the hand of a responsible older person when walking near traffic.

Ensure your child always wears a helmet when using their cycle, scooter or skateboard.



CYCLING

Children should know how to ride safely and be confident in traffic before attempting to ride to school, with or without you.

Support and help your child to learn how to:

- keep left
- check over their shoulder for traffic
- use the correct lane
- pass other road users safely
- use hand signals
- be safe and courteous when cycling in groups
- share the road and paths
- expect hazards and ride to avoid them.

The official New Zealand code for cyclists has information about the skills needed and available courses: www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/roadcode/cyclist-code

It is important that you know the correct rule and have the right equipment to keep safe:

www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/factsheets/01/docs/01-cycles.pdf



HELMET SAFETY – CYCLING, SCOOTING AND SKATING

To be safe:

- there should be a standards-approved sticker on the helmet
- the outside of the helmet (shell and polystyrene) should be in good condition and not cracked or damaged
- the straps and buckles should be in good order, not frayed or broken
- the cycle helmet should be the right size – with little or no wobble when fitted
- the helmet should be positioned level on the head, with the chin and back straps meeting on the jaw, below the earlobes
- the chin strap should be firm but not too tight
- if the helmet tips sideways, backwards or forwards, it is too loose.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHILD BE SAFER WHEN THEY'RE CYCLING?

- Ride with them.
- Make sure your child's bike is in good working order with working brakes.
- Make sure the bike has reflectors – it is a legal requirement.
- They need lights if they are cycling in low light or dark conditions.
- Give your child bright-coloured and reflective clothing so other road users can see them more easily.
- Backpacks should also be bright and reflective or be fitted with a high-visibility cover.
- Practise riding the route to school with your child on the weekend when traffic is light.

GOING BY CAR

Help your child to:

- wait until the car has stopped before getting in
- let children in and out of the car on the footpath side only
- understand not to distract the driver. They need to concentrate
- keep their hands and legs inside the car
- check with the driver before opening the windows for any reason
- wait until the car has stopped before taking off the child restraint
- look out for pedestrians and cyclists when opening the door
- use the door handle to close the door gently but firmly.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHILD BE SAFER AROUND CARS?

- Park safely – away from yellow lines, pedestrian crossings, intersections and driveways.
- Park on the same side of the road as your destination.
- Walk to school with your children, meet them after school and walk them to your car.
- Never call to a child from across the road.
- Make sure child restraints are standards-approved and fitted properly.

AS A CAREGIVER, WHAT AM I RESPONSIBLE FOR?

- Obey variable speed limit or active warning signs near schools when they are activated (40km/h).
- It is the law that:
 - All children under seven must be secured in an approved child restraint appropriate to their age and size.
 - Children aged seven must be secured in an approved child restraint if one is available in the vehicle, and if not, in any child restraint or safety belt that is available.
 - Best practice recommends that children stay in a restraint or booster seat until they are 148cm tall.
 - For more information visit www.nzta.govt.nz/childrestraints



Ensure everyone makes their seat belt click before starting the car on any trip long or short.



TAKING THE BUS

Help your child to:

- stand well back from the road when waiting for the bus
- wait for the bus to stop before getting on or off
- walk on in single file, letting smaller children go first
- listen to what the driver or bus warden says
- carry their bag in front of them so it doesn't get caught in the door
- stay seated and put their bag under the seat or on their knees where no one will trip on it
- get off the bus through the front door, and stand well clear as the bus turns or reverses and until the bus goes
- wait until the bus has gone before crossing the road so they can see clearly up and down the road. Always use the kerb drill to cross.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHILD BE SAFER AROUND BUSES?

- When picking up or dropping off children at the bus stop, wait on the same side of the road as the bus stop.
- Talk to children about why it's important to be quiet on the bus, and to listen to the driver and bus monitor.
- Dress your child in bright clothing so they can be easily seen.
- Teach your child the safest route to the bus stop. You can walk with them or drive there so they don't have to cross roads alone.
- Have a back-up plan in case you are running late.
- Slow down to 20km/h when driving past a stationary school bus.

SAFETY AROUND TRAINS

Help your child to understand that:

- trains are surprisingly quiet – you may not hear them coming
- trains are heavy – they take a long time to stop
- trains are fast – the average speed of a moving train is 80km/h
- trains have right of way – it's a child's responsibility to stay out of the way of the train.

Help your child to:

- only cross railway tracks at proper crossings
- stop, look and listen for trains
- use the signs, lights and bells to cross safely
- not to walk along the railway tracks
- look both ways – if there are two tracks, there could be two trains
- stay well clear of overhead wires.

WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHILD BE SAFER AROUND TRAINS?

- Always obey the signs, lights and bells when driving near railway crossings.
- Stand at least 1.5m back from the platform edge to avoid the backdraft of passing trains
- If wearing head phone, stop music or remove head phones before crossing the train tracks and look both ways.



Explain to children the danger of trains, railway and tracks the areas around the tracks

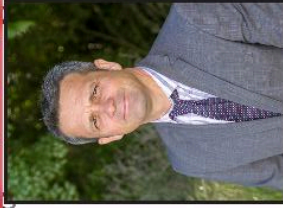
FOR MORE INFORMATION

For general enquiries, or more information about road and rail safety for children, please email info@nzta.govt.nz or visit education.nzta.govt.nz

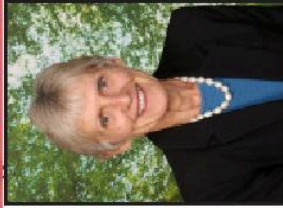
AMURI AREA SCHOOL

MEET THE STAFF 2021

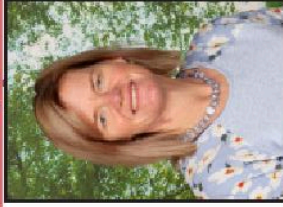
Senior Management Team



James Griggs
Principal



Penny Mossman
Deputy Principal
Careers Advisor
Principal's Nominee



Kylee Habgood
Assistant Principal
Primary Release

Administration Staff



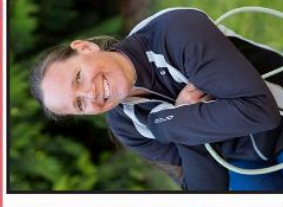
Melanie Phillips
Office Manager



Glenys Hendrickson
Finance Officer



Janine Jack
Receptionist



Dorz Jansen
Administrator

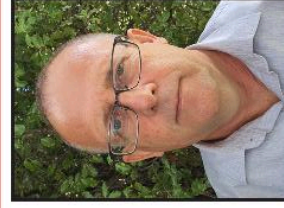
SECONDARY TEACHING STAFF



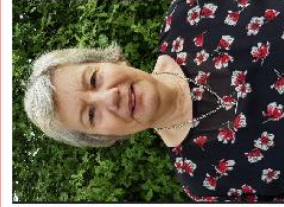
Bruce Anink
HELA Technology
Carpentry



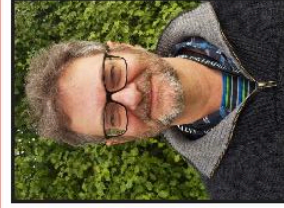
Gavin Cate
HELA Physical and
Outdoor Education



Garvin Filby
Science /Chemistry



Julie Fleming
Food & Nutrition,
Independent Living



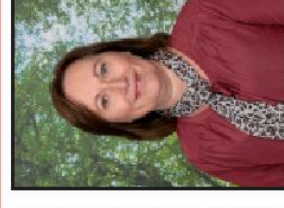
Gavin Hewitt
HELA Art, Design
and Photography



Melissa Greenwood
HELA Social Sciences



Sarah Helmore
Health, PE, Gateway



Susan Ibbetson
HELA Maths
Science

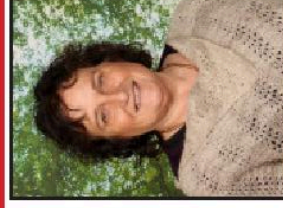


Emily Lane
Mathematics, Digitech

SECONDARY TEACHING STAFF



Claire McCarthy
English
ESOL



Catherine Owens y
de Novoa
HELA Science



Nicola Speakman
English



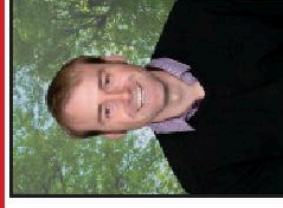
Julia Steel
HELA English
Classics



Sam Wilson
History, PE,
Year 7 & 8 Homeroom



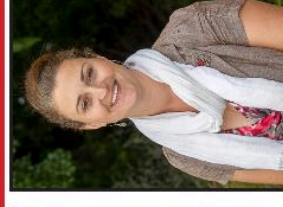
Charlotte Baldwin
Year 7 & 8 Homeroom
Art



Adrian Black
Year 7 & 8 Homeroom

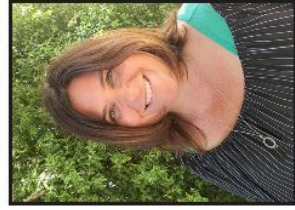


Emily Shaw
Year 7 & 8 Homeroom
Science



Charlotte Campbell
Year 6 Homeroom

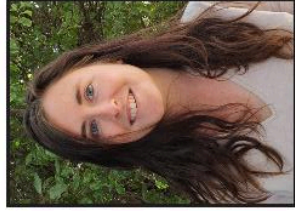
PRIMARY TEACHING STAFF



Alannah Moke
Year 5 Homeroom



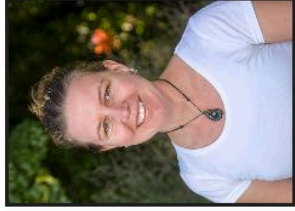
Phoebe Sopp
Year 4 Homeroom



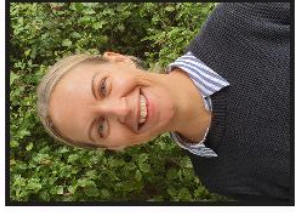
Kirsten Allison
Year 3 Homeroom



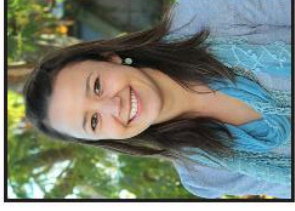
Renet van der Merwe
Year 2 Homeroom



Denise Johnson
Year 1 Homeroom

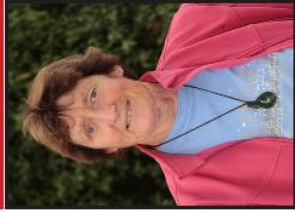


Debby Galletly
Primary Reliever



Dee Shanks
Primary Release

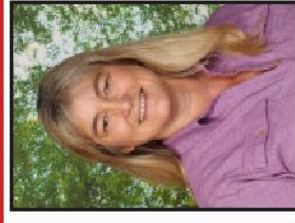
SUPPORT STAFF



Drin Alleway
Teacher Relief



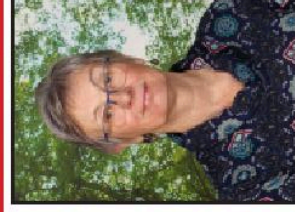
Toby Brown
Teacher Aide



Karen Nicholls
Learning Support
Co-Ordinator



JJ Gudopp
Librarian



Alison Nimmo
Reading Recovery



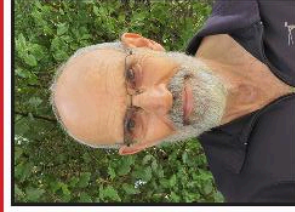
Lynda Parker
Teacher Aide



Marie Pitt
Cleaner

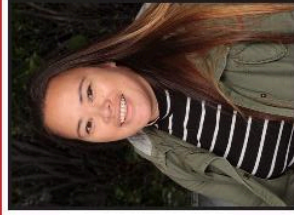


Pam Price
Librarian

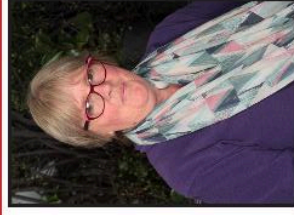


Ross Williams
Teacher Relief

SUPPORT STAFF



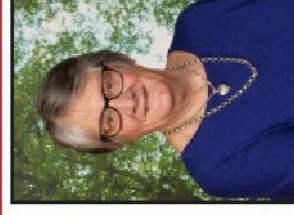
Eve Reihana
Teacher Aide



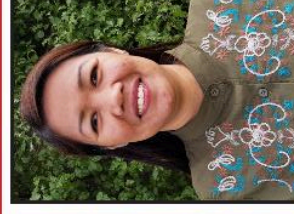
Dorothy Rodgers
Teacher Aide



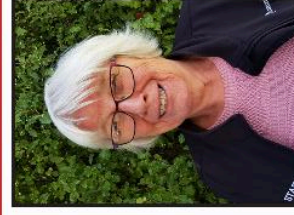
Tony Stanton
Caretaker



Elizabeth Teulon -
SENCO
Counsellor



Genilyn Mercado -
Canteen Manager



Ali Wilkes
Teacher Aide



Eleanor Youngman
Cleaner