



ECCH TEAM NEWSLETTER

Term 1 2026

ELIM EXPLORATION: IDENTITY | TUAKIRI
FOCUS: SOCIAL SCIENCES - How do our STORIES | PURAKAU shape our community?
ARISE Profile: We are ACHIEVERS

Moana Team ENRICH Programme

This term, ākongā are diving into the world of Visual Arts and STEM, exploring how we can use our hands and minds to reflect our identity and God's creation.

🎨 Visual Arts: Van Gogh meets Kandinsky Our ākongā are exploring "Responsive Learning Environments" by blending the bold textures of Van Gogh with the symbolic shapes of Kandinsky. By weaving their own cultural narratives and personal motifs into their art, they are celebrating their unique identities—reminding us that each of us is beautifully made in His image.

🧵 STEM: The Art of Sewing From Level 1 through Level 4, our learners are engaging in Technological Practice through sewing.

- Junior levels are beginning to understand how materials work and how to plan a simple design.
- Senior levels are investigating complex systems, using stakeholder feedback to refine their prototypes, and exploring how technology expands human possibilities. Through this "purposeful intervention," students develop perseverance as they transform simple inputs into functional, creative outcomes.

What's happening in Term 1

👋 Meet the Teacher & School Picnic – Tuesday 17 February (5:00pm) A wonderful opportunity to connect with our staff and other families. Bring a picnic and enjoy a relaxed evening as we kick off the new school year together!

🚐 Life Education Caravan – Week 4 (23–25 Feb) We are excited to welcome Harold and the Life Education team. These sessions support our ākongā in learning about health, wellbeing, and making positive choices aligned to our Term 1 theme of Identity.

🏕️ Year 7 & 8 Camp – Week 5 (3–6 March) Our seniors head off for an action-packed week of team building and outdoor challenges. This is a pivotal experience for developing leadership and perseverance.

🏆 EOT Prizegiving & Celebration of Learning – Week 9 (Wednesday 1 April) Join us as we celebrate the progress and achievements of our ākongā throughout the term. It's a great chance to see the work they've produced in their Enrich Programmes.

📅 Last Day of Term – Thursday 2 April We'll wrap up Term 1 with our final school assembly at 2:30pm before heading into the school holidays.

Key Dates for your Calendar

- **20 Feb:** ECCH Olympics & School Assembly (2:30pm)
- **13 March:** ECCH Fundraiser (5:00pm)
- **24 March:** Parent Information Session (5:30pm)
- **30 March:** Whole School Mufti Day

AWA NEWSLETTER

Term 1 2026



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Special Character Programme

This term our special character focus is Identity/Tuakiri. Students will learn about who they are, who they belong to, and how their choices and actions reflect their faith and values.

Through Bible stories, discussion, and reflection, students will explore:

- using their gifts and doing their best
- belonging in God's family and including others
- working together and supporting one another
- learning from God's stories and sharing them with others

Students will make connections between Bible teachings and their everyday lives as they grow in understanding of belonging, purpose, and community.

Study Scripture

Weeks 1–2: Proverbs 21:5

Big idea: Those who plan and work hard succeed.

Weeks 3–5: 1 Peter 2:9–10

Big Idea: We are chosen by God and belong to Him.

Weeks 6–7: Ecclesiastes 9:10

Big Idea: Whatever you do, do your best.

Weeks 8–10: Psalm 78:1–4

Big Idea: God's stories are shared to guide and shape future generations.

Theme / Integrated Inquiry

Central Idea: IDENTITY/TUAKIRI

ARISE Focus: Achievers

This term, ākonga in Awa Team will explore how our stories (pūrākau), relationships, and experiences help shape who we are and how we belong in our community.

Year 2–3 Focus: How do our stories shape our community?

- Every person has a unique story that helps shape who they are.
- We belong to families, friendships, and communities that help us feel valued and connected.
- Our feelings, strengths, interests, and experiences are part of our identity.
- Listening to and sharing stories helps us understand and care for others.
- Working together and valuing our differences helps build a strong and supportive community.

Students will explore identity through creative expression, wellbeing learning, shared discussions and collaborative class experiences.

AWA NEWSLETTER

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Contact:

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Literacy

All Awa classes take part in the BSLA Structured Literacy programme, where students learn through a combination of whole class and small group instruction based on their learning needs. This helps build strong reading foundations through explicit teaching of sounds, blending and word patterns.

Students will:

- learn and practise phonics skills
- develop reading fluency and confidence
- build vocabulary and comprehension
- participate in shared and guided reading

In writing, students will:

- write recounts about real experiences
- write to inform and explain ideas
- practise spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation
- plan and organise their ideas before writing
- Students will also receive explicit handwriting instruction, learning correct letter formation, spacing and placement on the line to support neat, fluent writing.

Mathematics

Awa Team uses the MATHS - No Problem! approach to teaching and learning.

Students learn through hands-on activities, discussion, rich tasks and regular book work practice to help them understand concepts deeply, practise new skills and grow in confidence. Our learning focus for Term 1 for each year level is outlined below.

Year 2

- Counting, ordering, and comparing numbers
- Number bonds and number stories
- Addition and subtraction
- Solving picture and word problems
- Position and direction

Year 3

- Numbers and place value
- Addition and subtraction (including regrouping)
- Multiplication as equal groups
- Times tables for 2, 5, and 10
- Solving number and word problems