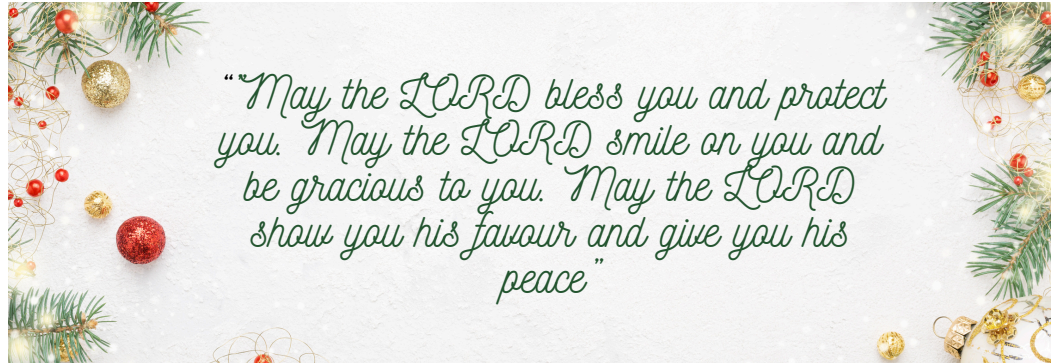




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"May the LORD bless you and protect you. May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you. May the LORD show you his favour and give you his peace"

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

BY ANDY LAWRENCE

This Christmas, I was reminded of *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers. In its festive sequel, the crayons argue over which colour best represents Christmas. Green champions holly and fir trees, red highlights candy canes and Santa Claus, and white and silver celebrate snow and bells. In the end, they agree that no single colour captures the season—each plays a role in its beauty.

This idea resonates with our ākonga too. If we asked them about their Christmas traditions or which colour, food, or song best represents the season, we'd hear wonderfully diverse perspectives rooted in their unique experiences. My own family's conversation began with Santa, the Grinch, and Christmas trees but led us to reflect on the true reason for this season. A phrase stood out: hope was born on Christmas day.

This hope reminds me of the parable of the seed—something small yet full of promise and purpose. That night in Bethlehem, the Son of God entered the world not with fanfare but as a child, embodying redemption and peace. The cradle held far more than an infant; it carried the fulfilment of a divine promise.

As we celebrate Christmas with our traditions and loved ones, may we also find joy in this surpassing peace—the peace born in humility and love.

We pray the following for you and your whānau over this break: 'May the LORD bless you and protect you. May the LORD smile on you and be gracious to you. May the LORD show you his favour and give you his peace.'



A DAY OF UNITY AND FUN: OUR FIRST WALKATHON

WRITTEN BY ANDY LAWRENCE

Last Thursday, our kura came alive with energy, laughter, and community spirit as we held our first-ever walkathon! It was heartwarming to see so many whānau turn out to support and encourage their tamariki. Every single child who participated completed all five laps – and they did it with a smile on their face! Their determination and joy were a powerful reminder of the perseverance and positivity our ākonga embody.

Equally uplifting was the incredible support from whānau in fundraising for this event. The generosity and effort from our families have been extraordinary, with some going well beyond expectations. Your contributions make a real difference, and we are so grateful for your partnership.

We are now in the final stages of collecting fundraising sheets and tallying up the totals to see which house will take the crown for the most funds raised. If you haven't yet returned your fundraising sheet or contributed the funds, we would love to have everything in as soon as possible. Let's finish strong and wrap up this incredible effort before the end of the year!

A special shoutout goes to Mr. Tasi, whose hard work, vision, and dedication made this event such a success. His commitment to fostering house pride and encouraging ākonga participation was evident throughout the day. The thoughtful touches – from the scenic course and shady gazebos to the shared picnic space – all added to the experience. If you see Mr. Tasi, we encourage you to pass on your thanks for his tireless mahi. His heart for our kura is unmistakable.

Ngā mihi nui to all who played a part in making this event a celebration of community, connection, and perseverance. Together, we've created something special. Let's finish strong as we close off the final steps of this journey.

He waka eke noa – We're all in this together!

RŪMA PŪTAKITAKI: A YEAR OF BLESSINGS AND GROWTH

WRITTEN BY JIEUN KIM

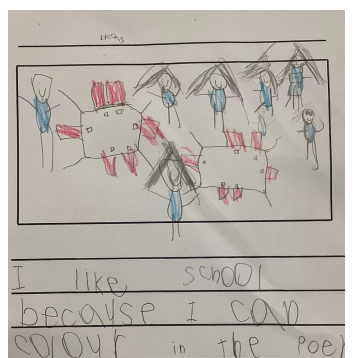
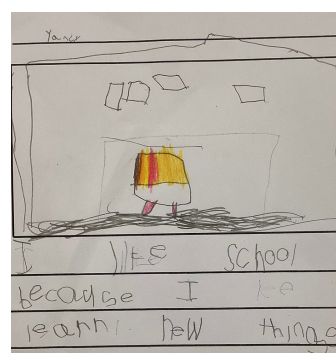
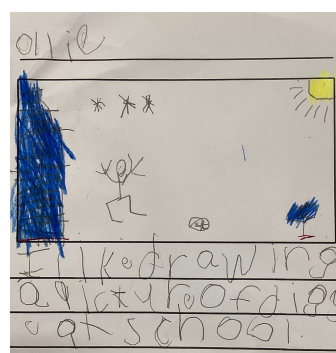
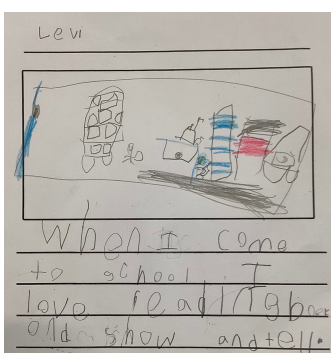
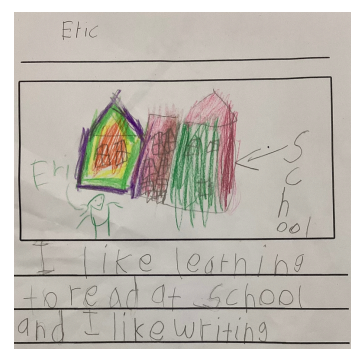
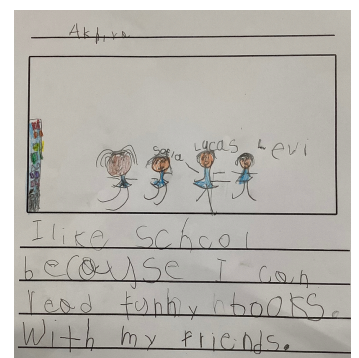
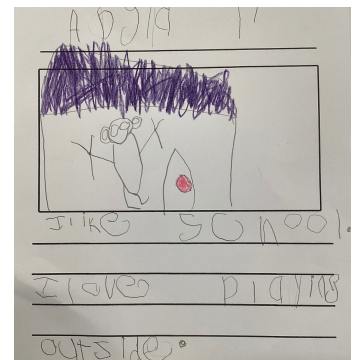
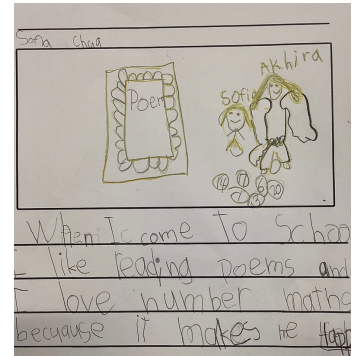
This year marked the opening of Rūma Pūtakitaki in Term 3, starting with six very enthusiastic ākonga. By the beginning of Term 4, our class had grown to eight, and what a journey it has been! Watching our tamariki settle in, grow, and thrive in such a short time has been an absolute blessing.

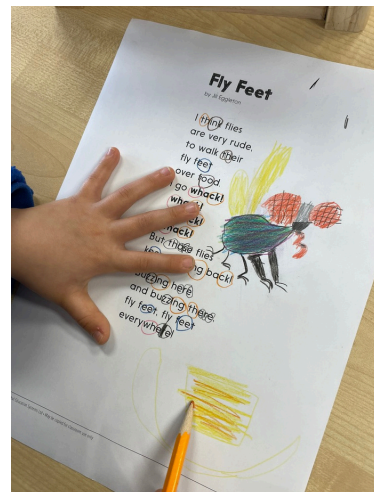
From small wins to big milestones, the progress this term has been extraordinary. Our tamariki have gone from learning to sit on the mat for five minutes to being expert listeners and asking thoughtful questions that deepen understanding.

Their joy and enthusiasm highlight the magic of learning, making every moment worthwhile. To celebrate, we shared why we love school and showcased our writing progress—some with teacher help, but always with clarity and enthusiasm.

Starting as the youngest five-year-olds in our kura, we'll return next year as mature Year 1s, ready to welcome new classmates. Every day has been a highlight, and we love being at school.

Meri Kirihimete and see you next year!





RŪMA PĪWAUWAWAU: CELEBRATING GROWTH AND CONNECTION

WRITTEN BY ERIN ZHANG

This year, our class has grown from six to thirteen students, and it's been incredible to see everyone thriving. Close friendships have blossomed, and each child demonstrates resilience and hard work daily.

In our classroom, we are more than just learners—we're a family. We laugh together, share kindness, and focus when it's time to learn. Watching our ākonga step out of their comfort zones, whether adjusting to school for the first time, joining a new class, or speaking on stage, it has been inspiring.

A heartfelt thank you to our whānau for your support in sharing home learning and life experiences. This partnership has enriched our classroom and helped our tamariki grow.

Meri Kirihimete and Happy New Year! May your holidays be full of joy and blessings.





RŪMA PĪWAKAWAKA: LEARNING, FAITH, AND FUN IN 2024

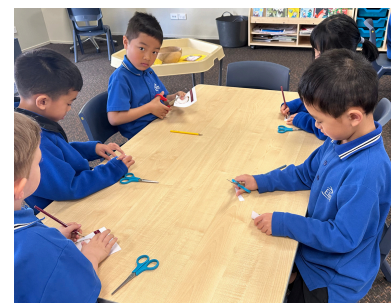
WRITTEN BY HANNAH SIMMONS



This year in Pīwakawaka has been filled with learning, creativity, and fun! We began by building strong class connections, making us feel like one big family. A highlight was our art project inspired by *The Gruffalo*, where we brought the story to life with our creativity. In Maths, we explored Time, Measurement, and Fractions, learning practical skills. Writing saw us crafting exciting sentences with wow words, while in Reading, we discovered new letters, sounds, and poems that sparked our love for books.

During committal time, we deepened our faith by learning about Moses, praying, and finding ways to praise God creatively. In Social Studies, we explored the story of Māui and Te Wheke and learned about Aotearoa's rich history and culture. Swimming helped us gain water confidence, while cricket and hockey built our coordination and skills.

I'm so proud of everyone's growth this year. Have a relaxing holiday, and Merry Christmas!





RŪMA KEA: OUR FIRST YEAR JOURNEY

WRITTEN BY STEPHEN RYAN

As our first year as a school comes to an end, we reflect on a journey of growth and transformation. What began as a group of students from different schools, year levels, and cultures has become a strong, united team. This year, we adapted to new routines and enjoyed the first full, COVID-free school year since the pandemic. Along the way, relationships blossomed, and students learned to be responsible for their belongings, learning, and environment.

This term, we explored science concepts focused on energy and power, including planting seeds and investigating sustainable energy sources. In our poetry unit, we learned to use language to create vivid imagery, painting pictures with words.

A highlight of the year has been watching students showcase their learning by creating Blookets for their peers. They demonstrated their ability to ask engaging questions and craft thoughtful answers, reflecting their creativity and understanding.

It has been a pleasure to work with this amazing group of learners, and we are proud of everything they have achieved.

The Hole in The Rock

Narya

Bright green bushes
White foamy waves
Dark gloomy tunnel
Sharp pointy cliffs
Bright sunny sky



Nature Poem

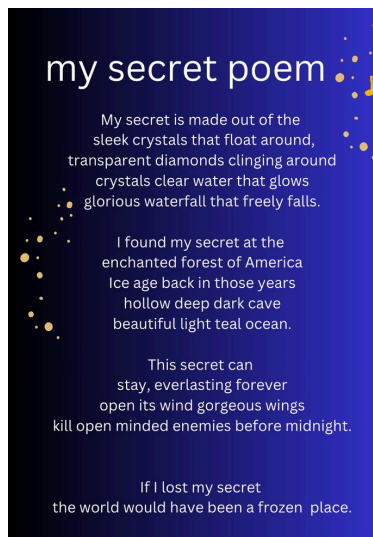
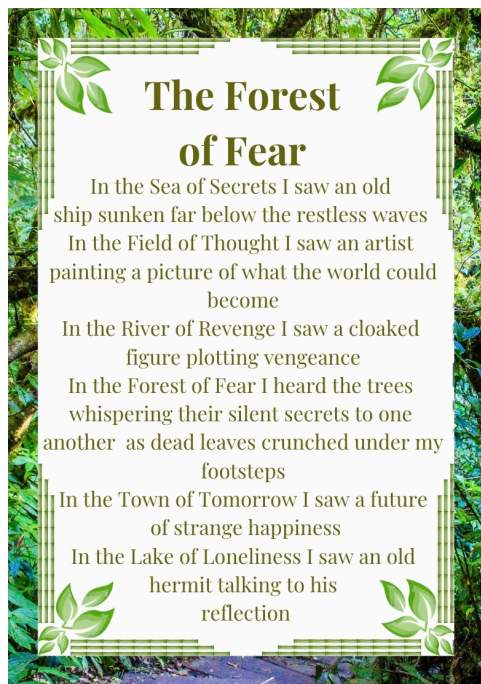
All Around are chirping birds
Singing songs without any words,
Wind Blowing against the trees,
Blowing off bright green leaves,
The sun is up in the sky,
Birds and butterflies flying by,
When it's windy but the sun is
bright,
Children come out to fly a kite,
When it's too rainy to play,
All the animals go away,
And come back on a sunny day



My Teddy Bear

Hard squishy nose,
Soft cuddly body,
Black sparkly eyes,
Warm brown fur,
Kind loving smile.





Where do I get my Ideas?

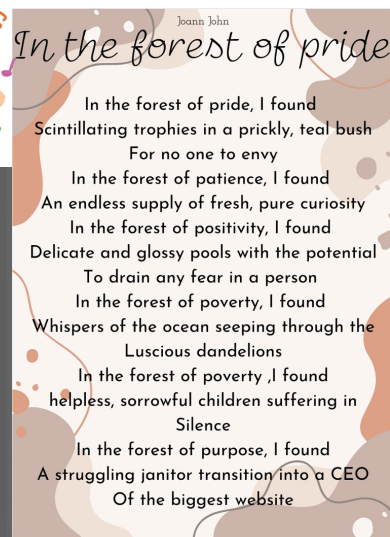
capture them in rocky pools dig for them in a cold dark trough

rotten bones sticky mud loud phones growing buds

muddy field tall tree shiny shield yellow bees

jumpy fleas rocky mountains loud falcons crazy crowds.

by Micah



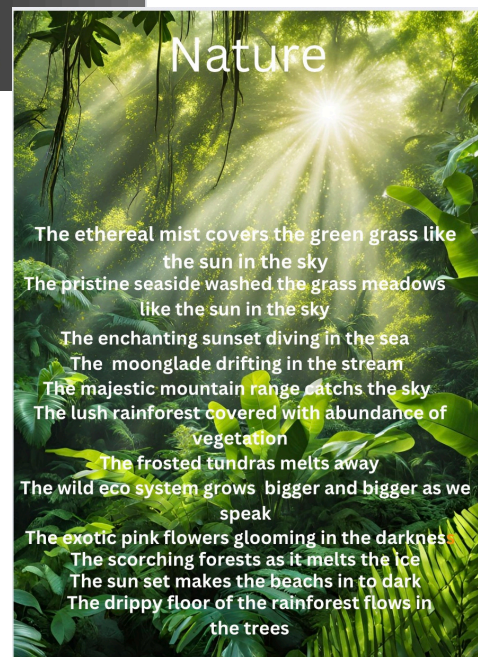
LEARNING WITH HEART: HIGHLIGHTS FROM RŪMA TŪĪ

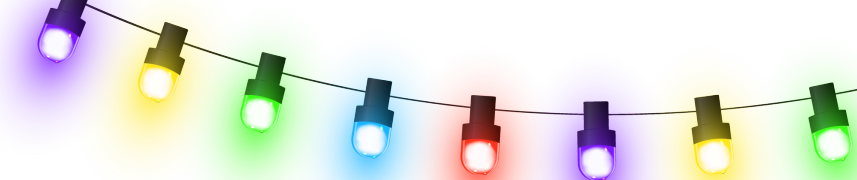


WRITTEN BY SARAH DE RAAT

As we reflect on the year, we are filled with pride at the incredible progress of our learners in Rūma Tūī. From their first day, they have grown in confidence, knowledge, and skills, showing resilience and a love of learning. We ended the year creatively, designing water wheels and solar ovens, and even making s'mores using the sun's energy! This hands-on project sparked curiosity and showcased their ingenuity. Their poetry captured hearts, using language to evoke emotion and reflection. A highlight has been watching the children thoughtfully assess their learning styles and set meaningful goals for the future—a testament to their maturity and determination. This year has been a journey of growth and discovery, and we couldn't be prouder.

Thank you for celebrating their successes with us!





FROM SPEECHES TO SASA: TAKAHE SHINES

WRITTEN BY TASI TASI

What an extraordinary year it has been for Takahe! Starting with 13 dedicated students, we proudly conclude the year with the same number, ready to tackle new challenges with confidence and determination.

One highlight was our Term 1 novel study of Mission Girl. Students explored themes and characters through detailed projects, thoughtful questions, and visually engaging presentations, showcasing remarkable creativity and insight.

In Term 2, Takahe students delivered speeches on topics ranging from "Why Being a Christian Is Good for Your Health" to "Why You Should Own a Pet." Their eloquence and conviction left a lasting impression on all who listened.

A standout moment was leading the school-wide Samoan sasa dance. Takahe not only performed with passion but also taught younger students, sharing cultural heritage and fostering unity across the school. This year, Takahe has embodied responsibility, teamwork, and resilience, consistently upholding our school values. **Well done, Takahe—we are excited to see you continue to excel!**



WESTWAVE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Several of our whānau utilise the afterschool programme offered by WestWave, which has now shared details of their upcoming holiday programme. If you are interested in exploring their offerings, please see the information below.

WestWave's holiday programme caters to children aged 5 to 13 and offers a variety of engaging activities. Options include in-centre activities like quizzes, games, swimming, and baking, as well as trips to the movies and educational excursions. The programme runs from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, with before and after care available for added convenience.

For more details or to register, visit the [WestWave website](#).



STATIONERY 2025

We've partnered with OfficeMax to simplify your back-to-school preparations! Plus, if you place your order in December, you'll go in the draw to win one of five \$1000 cash prizes (T&Cs apply).

Your child's class list has already been uploaded to myschool.co.nz/elimhenderson. All you need to do is enter your details, review the list, make any necessary adjustments, and confirm your order. Orders over \$70 qualify for free delivery, and OfficeMax will ensure everything is shipped directly to you.

Payment options include internet banking, credit or debit card, and Zip Pay#, which allows you to split the cost into four interest-free payments over six weeks while receiving your order immediately.

By ordering through OfficeMax, you'll also help our school earn rewards that go toward purchasing essential resources. WINZ quotes can be obtained by calling 0800 724 440 or emailing enquiry@myschool.co.nz. We encourage families to order early to avoid the last-minute rush and ensure students have all their stationery ready for the start of Term 1.

Start your back-to-school shopping today and set your child up for success!

#Zip Pay is subject to approval and credit checks. Late fees and T&Cs apply. Visit myschool.co.nz/zip for details.



Order their Back to School stationery now and **beat the rush!**



Class lists are ready to view at myschool.co.nz



UNIFORM UPDATE

All required uniforms can be purchased from Prestidges Schoolwear (formerly Elizabeth Michael Uniforms).

Refer to the following information and, Visit their store or contact them directly for any uniform-related queries.

PRESTIDGES SCHOOLWEAR FORMERLY ELIZABETH MICHAEL UNIFORMS

Elizabeth Michael Uniforms has just changed its name to Prestidges Schoolwear.

All of the great people, quality, service and style that you know and love about Elizabeth Michael will stay the same now that we are Prestidges Schoolwear and our shop will still be at 65 New North Road, Eden Terrace, Auckland.

So this name change will not effect you as a customer.

If you have already registered as an Elizabeth Michael customer on-line this registration will still be valid on the Prestidges on-line store. If you have not registered to purchase uniform on-line just go to [prestidges.co.nz](https://www.prestidges.co.nz) and click Register then follow the simple instructions.

Please call 09 358 1680 or email us at uniforms@prestidges.co.nz if you have any questions.

BACK TO SCHOOL - EXTENDED SHOP HOURS

We close for Christmas at 12.00pm, Friday 20 December 2024
We re-open in the New Year on Monday 6 January 2025 at 9am

Monday - Wednesday	9am - 5pm
Thursday	9am - 7pm
<i>extended hrs - from now until 20 Feb 2025</i>	
Friday	9am - 4pm
Saturday	9am - 3pm
<i>extended hrs - from 11 Jan until 22 Feb 2025</i>	

PARKING - at the front of the building & also at the rear of the building - just off Exmouth St

65 New North Rd, Eden Terrace, Auckland 1021
P: 09 358 1680 • uniforms@prestidges.co.nz • www.prestidgesl.co.nz

KEY EVENTS 2025 WEEKLY

- Monday: Worship Assembly
(starting at 8.50 a.m.)
- Friday: Whole School Assembly
(starting at 2.30 p.m)

TERM 1

- Wednesday, Last Week:
Awards Assembly



IMPORTANT DATES TERM 1 2025

- Friday 31 Jan - Term 1 starts @ 8.40am
- Monday 3 Feb - Pōwhiri (welcoming ceremony) Assembly @ 9.00am
- Tuesday 11 Feb - Meet-the-teacher / School family picnic @ 5.00pm
- Sat 22 Feb - Welcome to Elim event at Elim Botany @ 6.15pm
- Fri 11 April - End of Term 1 @ 2.00pm

Thank you for all your support throughout 2024.

Merry
Christmas
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

WE WISH YOU A SAFE AND BLESSED SUMMER HOLIDAY
AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN 2025!

