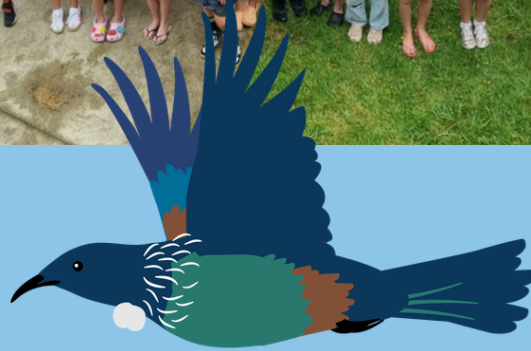




# Wainui School

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## Tui Team



**Mrs. Simpson - Year 4 Kowhai**

**Mr. Godfrey - Year 4 Totara**

**Mrs. Sutton - Year 5 Nikau | Team Leader**

**Mrs. Uhe - Year 5 Kauri**

**Mr. Cochrane - Year 6 Kahikatea | Assistant Principal**

**If your child is unwell or unable to be at school**

Email - [office@wainui.school.nz](mailto:office@wainui.school.nz)

Call - 09 420 5127 (please leave a message)

Text - 027 525 1848

Term 1, 2026

# Welcome to the Tui Team

*Kia ora and welcome to the Tui Team for 2026.*

We are delighted to welcome Aisha, Heidi, Arlo, and O'Rylee to our Tui Team whānau. It is also a pleasure to introduce our first international student - Ni Hao to Alice, who joins us from China!

Our Team includes five classes and 105 students. We have two year 4 classes, two year 5 classes and one year 6 class. We have many exciting learning opportunities planned for the year ahead so please keep an eye on our newsletters to stay informed and up to date. Our priority is to create a warm, safe, and supportive environment where children feel happy, confident, and empowered to grow in their independence.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or daily experiences, please don't hesitate to contact their teacher. We greatly value strong partnerships between parents, teachers, and students, and we welcome ongoing conversations about how we can best support your child.

On behalf of Luke, Tracey, Danielle, James, and myself, we warmly welcome you and your child to our wonderful Tui Team. We look forward to a positive, successful, and enjoyable year together.

– Fiona Sutton

*Tui Team Leader 2026*



## Tui Team Dates for Term 1

- Mon 23 Feb - PAT Testing Week - All week – completed in class
- Fri 27 Feb - Tui Team Assembly - 2:00 pm, School Hall (All welcome)
- Tue 3 Mar - Parent Conferences - 3:15 – 6:00 pm (In class; bookings essential)
- Wed 11 Mar - Parent Conferences - 3:15 – 6:00 pm (In class; bookings essential)
- Wed 18 Mar - Tui Team Bake Sale - Fundraiser for Camp
- Fri 20 Mar - Teacher Only Day - School Closed
- Fri 27 Mar - Te Kotahitanga - Year 5/6 students (Selected students)
- E Tū Tāngata Day - "Colour Your Day" (Details TBC)
- Thu 2 Apr - Last Day of Term 1 - Final day for the term

*\*\* Please see the Sports and EOTC dates on the last page*

**For all school dates this term, make sure you check out our weekly newsletter, website or follow us on social media to keep updates**



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# Learning Information



## Structured Literacy

### Reading - Panui

At Wainui, we follow the Better Start Literacy Approach (BSLA), a structured literacy framework that weaves reading, writing, and spelling into one cohesive programme. Your child will progress through various taumata (levels) that build on their learning year after year. We pride ourselves on being responsive to every learner. As we move into Phase 2, our students are diving deeper into comprehension, exploring four focused areas to strengthen their understanding. Spelling patterns and sounds are explicitly taught and integrated into the writing programme to support students' development as confident writers.

Taumata 14 - Year 4	Taumata 15 - Year 5	Taumata 16 - Year 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying and using root words, prefixes, and suffixes to decode and understand multi-syllabic words.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing reading fluency and phrasing to read text at a steady pace with appropriate expression</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying implied information by linking clues from different parts of a text to form a conclusion.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recalling and sequencing key facts and main events to demonstrate a clear understanding of the text.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making inferences about a character's motives or feelings based on their dialogue and actions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluating the author's purpose and identifying how their choice of language influences the reader.</li> </ul>

### Writing - Tuhituhi

We are excited to continue using the Writer's Toolbox platform for the third year as we further develop our students' writing skills. This comprehensive structured literacy programme supports our Phase 2 learners to progress from crafting simple sentences to developing well-structured paragraphs, with a strong emphasis on building rich vocabulary.

Students engage with a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and experience a variety of learning opportunities working in their books, online, in group lessons, and through individual writing challenges. This approach ensures that every student is supported on their own learning journey, building confidence, creativity, and a love of writing.

Students will be explicitly taught the following sentence styles this term:

**Year 4** - 'ing' start e.g. Sprinting across the field, the player headed straight for the goal.

**Year 5** - 'Explore the subject (Compound & Comma rule) e.g. The old lighthouse, which had stood for over a century, guided the ships safely to shore.

**Year 6** - 'Em-Dash sentence, e.g. The relay team stood shivering on the concrete edge — they were only seconds away from the gold.

### Writing Genre - Recount & Narrative

Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sequencing events chronologically using a variety of time conjunctions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using descriptive language to establish a clear setting and mood.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selecting precise vocabulary to sustain tension and reader interest.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using basic punctuation consistently to separate distinct ideas and sentences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Controlling sentence length to improve the flow and pace of the writing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balancing dialogue and action to show character development.</li> </ul>



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# Learning Information



## Mathematics - Pāngarau

In the Tui Team, we use the structured PR1ME Maths approach as a scaffold to support rich, hands-on learning experiences that deepen students' understanding of number knowledge and strategies. Our programme aligns with the refreshed New Zealand Curriculum and has a strong focus on place value (thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones), as well as addition, subtraction, and multiplication.

Students participate in a balance of independent and teacher-supported learning in their textbooks, alongside rich tasks and authentic, real-life problem-solving experiences. This ensures they are applying their mathematical thinking in meaningful ways.

Mathematics is taught for one hour each day, providing consistent opportunities for students to build confidence, strengthen problem-solving skills, and develop a positive attitude towards learning maths.

Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partitioning two and three-digit numbers to solve addition and subtraction problems.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recalling and applying multiplication and division facts up to <math>12 \times 12</math>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solving problems involving percentages (10%, 25%, 50%) and their equivalent fractions.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using "tidy numbers" and compensation to solve problems mentally (e.g., <math>\\$48 + \\$25</math> as <math>\\$50 + \\$23</math>)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adding and subtracting decimals to one decimal place (e.g., <math>\\$1.3 + 0.2</math>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adding and subtracting decimals to two decimal places (e.g., <math>\\$4.55 + \\$2.12</math>).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading, ordering, and identifying the place value of digits in whole numbers up to 10,000.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading and writing whole numbers up to 100,00 and understanding the value of each digit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reading and writing whole numbers up to 1,00,00 and understanding the value of each digit.</li> </ul>

## Digital Technology

Our students are learning to use digital tools with confidence and are beginning to understand how digital systems work. This is an important part of the New Zealand Curriculum, as digital learning is now included within the Technology area. It helps prepare children for a world where technology is part of everyday life.

By developing these skills, students learn to:

- Use technology safely and responsibly
- Solve problems and think logically
- Create and design their own digital projects
- Understand how technology works, not just how to use it

### Term One Focus:

- Using devices safely and responsibly (digital citizenship)
- Using technology to support learning across subjects



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# Learning Information

## Garden to Table

Through our Garden to Table programme, Year 5 and 6 students in the Tui Team develop a range of key skills including planning and designing, following processes, problem-solving, teamwork, and safe food preparation. They learn to think creatively, manage resources responsibly, and reflect on how their decisions impact people and the environment.

Alongside their hands-on experiences in the garden and kitchen, students work towards completing key technology processes during their weekly sessions. These processes help them understand how to investigate, plan, create, and evaluate outcomes, strengthening their practical skills while building confidence and independence.

### Term One Focus Year 5/6:

- Construction & Woodwork: Students will master fundamental construction skills and learn about tool safety. Students will follow the design thinking process to create a planter box, that will be used by the Tui team. This will be purposeful as we move into term 2, when we inquire about growth cycles and healthy eating.
- Vermi-composting (Worm Farming): This is sustainability in action. Students manage our "worm hotels," gaining a technical understanding of nutrient cycles and waste reduction to produce the "liquid gold" that fuels our soil.
- Visual Arts: Students will complete two visual art pieces, completed by the end of the term.

### Term One Focus Year 4:

Our Year 4 students are exploring how animals adapt to survive in Aotearoa New Zealand, and how these adaptations help them thrive in environments such as the Wainui School Bush.

Through this learning, students are discovering how physical and behavioural features enable animals to find food, stay safe, and live successfully in their habitats. They are making connections between local wildlife and the unique characteristics of our own school bush, deepening their understanding of how living things are suited to their environment.

## Inquiry - Pakirehua

Ngā Hononga Ora – “The Living Connections”

Ngā refers to “the many,” Hononga represents the bonds, links, and relationships that connect us to our history, our environment, and one another, and Ora means to be alive, healthy, and flourishing. This theme celebrates our role as kaitiaki, recognising that our strength and wellbeing come from the living connections we share with the world around us and the people within our school community.

## The Arts

Our Art sessions provide students with opportunities to explore their creativity through a wide range of mixed media. Learners experiment with drawing, painting, collage, and construction while developing important skills such as proportion, attention to detail, and careful observation.

Students are encouraged to take creative risks, share their ideas, and reflect on their learning. Through Art, children build confidence, strengthen problem-solving skills, and develop their ability to express themselves. They also begin to understand how artists use different materials and techniques to communicate meaning and tell stories through their work.



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# Learning Information

## Sports - Hākinakina

This term, students are developing their core physical skills through a range of activities. During our swimming programme (concluding in Week 6), students are building confidence and refining their swimming techniques.

### Swimming Days:

Tōtara and Kōwhai - Monday and Wednesday

Nikau - Tuesday and Thursday

Kahikatea - Monday and Thursday

Kauri - Wednesday and Thursday

Additionally, the Tui students will take part in athletics rotations in preparation for the upcoming athletics day.

### Term One Focus: practising key skills in

- sprints
- shot put
- long jump
- high jump
- discus

These experiences will help to build coordination, strength, perseverance, and teamwork while encouraging active participation and enjoyment of physical activity.

### Tui Team Sport Dates for Term 1

Fri 20 Feb - Year 5/6 Swimming Trials at the school pool (Optional)

Fri mornings, Weeks 3, 4, 5 - Athletics Rotation (requires closed-toed shoes and a hat)

Thu 5 Mar - Cricket Zone Day (Optional for Year 5/6)

Mon 9 Mar - Kaipara Swimming Competition (Optional for Year 5/6 qualifiers)

Thu 12 Mar - School Athletics Day (All Year 4–8 students)

Thu 19 Mar - Athletics Zone Day at Orewa College (for qualifiers)

## EOTC

### Year 4:

While our Year 5 and 6 students are away at camp, our Year 4 students will take part in a special two-day EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) experience. As part of this, they will enjoy a day trip to Action Ninja World on Thursday 21st May. Further details will be shared early next term.

### Year 5/6:

Our Year 5 and 6 school camp is scheduled for Term 2. Camp is a wonderful opportunity for students to immerse themselves in the outdoors, participate in activities that promote teamwork and independence, and develop a deeper appreciation for the environment. We are planning to attend Camp Shakespear from Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd May. More information will be sent home soon.

## Te Ao Māori

Whaea LeeAnne Wade will continue supporting us with our Kapa Haka group and Te Ao Māori programme, a vital part of our school's culture. The programme supports students to develop confidence, leadership skills, and a deeper connection to Māori culture. We see tremendous growth in students who are active participants and leaders in this programme. Te Ao Māori is an important part of our nationwide curriculum.



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