



Boulcott School

Newsletter - Term 4 Week 3



Principal's Message

Principal — October 22nd, 2025

Kia ora koutou, Guten tag, Bula, Nǐ hǎo, Mingalaba, Namaste, Sàwàtdee, Hallo, As-salām 'alaykum, Min-ga-la-ba, nín hǎo, Néih hóu, Konnichiwa, Chôm rab suôr, Tālofa, Hola!, Kumusta, Vaṇakkam, Mālō e lelei, Bonjour, Kia orana, Xin chào and

Image sourced from web site link (<https://nzsl.nz>)



I had the absolute privilege last week of attending our annual Kapa Haka exchange programme hosted this year by Waterloo School. I witnessed a truly incredible performance by our rōpū.

The discipline, harmony, and pure joy visible on our students' faces were outstanding, and their mana radiated from the stage. I received many comments from staff at the other two schools about how impressed they were with our rōpū's professionalism and the high quality of their

performance.

We all know this level of excellence doesn't happen by chance. Molly Weaver, absolutely deserves to take a bow. Her passion, incredible musicality, and charismatic leadership have the students eager to please and perform for you. I was personally blown away by the group's harmonising, particularly in that powerful final waiata—it was a spectacular way to end the performances! Dusty Dewes needs also to be congratulated, he spoke with confidence and pride in his whaikorero- given on behalf of our school. Thanks Dusty you did an amazing job.



Kōwhai and Kahikatea Athletics Day

On Monday this week we had a really great time at our Athletics day. Our children ran fast, jumped high and long, threw quoits and vortex as hard as they could, despite the gusting winds. It was so gratifying to see the terrific sportmanship displayed by all our tamariki.



It was lovely to have our Junior students join us in the afternoon for our House and Year Group relays- such great competition and a real chance to show our House and Team spirit!! Thank you to all our parent helpers on the day and our Home and School team who organised the pizza and iceblock fundraiser. Ka rawe!



Classes 2026

Our Leadership Team has begun our planning for 2026. One of the key planning components is looking at our student numbers, so we have a good understanding of how many children we will have in each learning team. If your circumstances are changing and you know your child/ren will not be returning to Boulcott School in 2026 can you please contact the school office: info@boulcott.school.nz

For 2026 our school organisation is looking like the following:

Kahikatea- 4 x Year 5/6 composite classes 1 x Year 4/5 composite class

Kōwhai- 4 x Year 3 / 4 composite classes

Harakeke- 2 x Year 2 classes, 1 x Year 1 /2 composite class, 2 x Year 1 classes with another 2 x New Entrants classes expected to open in Terms 2 and 3 respectively.

Understanding Composite Classes (Multi-Level Groups)

At Boulcott School, like many schools in New Zealand we have composite classes. These are classes that contain students from two different year levels—for example, a Year 3/4 class. These are commonly known as composite or multi-level classes, and they are a normal, intentional part of how we structure our learning environment.

Why Does Boulcott School Have Composite Classes?

The decision to form these groups is fundamentally a logistical necessity (the "numbers game") driven by the total number of students enrolled and the maximum class sizes set by the Ministry of Education.

- If we have 49 Year 2 students dividing them evenly across three single-level classes (e.g., three classes of 16) would result in numbers that are too low. Instead we could have two Year 2 classes with 24 and 25 students in them - but these numbers are too high for this year level.
- Instead, we create three balanced classes— two x Year 2 classes and one x Year 1 and 2 composite class . This ensures equitable workloads for teachers and provides optimal student-to-teacher ratios across the entire school.

Why Parents Should Not Be Concerned

We understand that parents sometimes worry their child will be disadvantaged by being the younger or older student in the group. However, in modern teaching practice, this is not a concern, and often, the opposite is true:

1. Learning is Individualised, not strictly year-level based: Our teachers plan and teach to where your child is currently learning, not strictly to their age. Every classroom at Boulcott, regardless of its composition, has a range of abilities. In a composite class, learning is naturally differentiated, meaning the teacher designs tasks and content to meet the specific needs of individuals or small groups, rather than teaching one lesson to a single year group.
2. Leadership and Mentoring: Younger students benefit from the role-modelling and motivation provided by their older classmates, often progressing faster than they would in a single-age class. Conversely, older students gain invaluable leadership, communication, and consolidation skills by teaching or explaining concepts to their younger peers.
3. Social and Emotional Growth: Composite classes help students build stronger friendships and relationships across age groups. They foster a sense of whānau and cooperation, teaching adaptability and empathy that reflects the real world outside of school.

Composite classes are simply an effective structure that allows us to manage our school roll while upholding our core commitment to providing high-quality, differentiated teaching for every child.

Teaching teams have started the process of forming classes for 2026.

This is a complex process where a lot of factors are taken into consideration. Learning, social, behaviour and emotional needs, are all put into the mix to ensure we make the right decisions for each child. At Boulcott School we do not take parent requests for class placements nor requests for specific teachers, however if you have some information you think we would find useful about your child, you are welcome to provide us with this. If you wish to do this, please let me know directly by next Friday, 31 October. Please email your information to me directly: principal@boulcott.school.nz

I have some bittersweet, yet exciting staff news to share with you all regarding our leadership team.

We are absolutely thrilled to congratulate Karen Clements, our wonderful Harakeke Team Leader, who has accepted the position of Deputy Principal at Houghton Valley School starting in 2026!

This is a significant and well-deserved promotion that Karen has absolutely earned. Her dedication, leadership, and energy will make her a tremendous asset to her new school, and we couldn't be prouder of her achievement.

While this is wonderful news for Karen, it means she will be leaving Boulcott School at the end of the year. After so many committed years with us, she will be sorely missed by our staff, students, and community.

Please join me in congratulating Karen on this incredible step in her career!

We are especially pleased to announce the appointment of Karen Henry as the new Team Leader for our Year 0-2 team. Karen brings a strong vision and deep experience in the Junior school, and we look forward to her positive leadership in this crucial team.

In addition, due to the growth and exciting expansion of our Year 5/6 team to five classes next year, we are thrilled to welcome a new teacher, Katie Roberts. Katie trained in New Zealand at Victoria University and brings five years of excellent teaching experience, having taught most recently in Australia. We are excited for her to bring her passion and expertise to our Senior students.

We are incredibly fortunate that Boulcott School is a highly sought-after place to teach, consistently attracting a large number of outstanding candidates for every position we advertise. This rigorous recruitment process ensures we choose the very best professionals, like Karen and Katie, to lead and teach our tamariki in 2026.

Thank you as always, for your ongoing support.

Warm regards

Ngā mihi nui

Rachael and the team at Boulcott



Te Kura O Boulcott
Boulcott
School

Kīwaha o te Wiki

Kīwaha o te Wiki 2025

Boulcott School — October 23rd, 2025

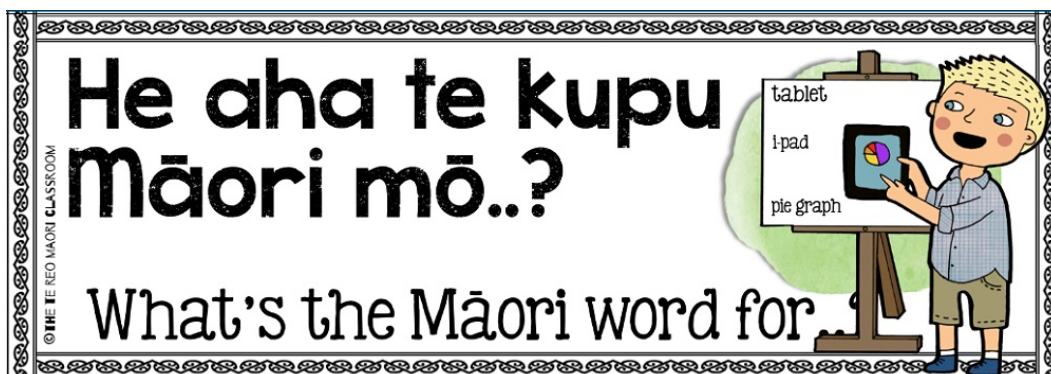
Term 4 Week 3 & 4

This week's phrase is:

Wiki tuatoru - Week 3



Wiki tuawhā - Week 4





Welcome to our New Students

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

Term 4 Week 3

We welcome the following student and their family to Boulcott School. It is wonderful to have you join us at Boulcott.

Room 7: Sagal



Cheer Awards - Term 4 Week 3

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

Congratulations!!

Congratulations to the following students who have been our **CHEER** recipients from our last assembly.

A student at Boulcott School who earns a '**CHEER**' from the school community will have been displaying one or more of the following values: Confidence, Honesty, Enthusiasm, Excellence and Respect.

Room 1: Logan, Kelly

Room 2: Lily B, Sadik

Room 3: Jasper M, Saavi

Room 4: Joel, Mansirat

Room 5: Mia, Quinn

Room 6: Jack, Greer

Room 7: Sofia, Corbin

Room 8: Elle, Kaylee

Room 9: Jasper, Kasey

Room 10: Samarth, Evie

Room 11: Hyder, Ethan

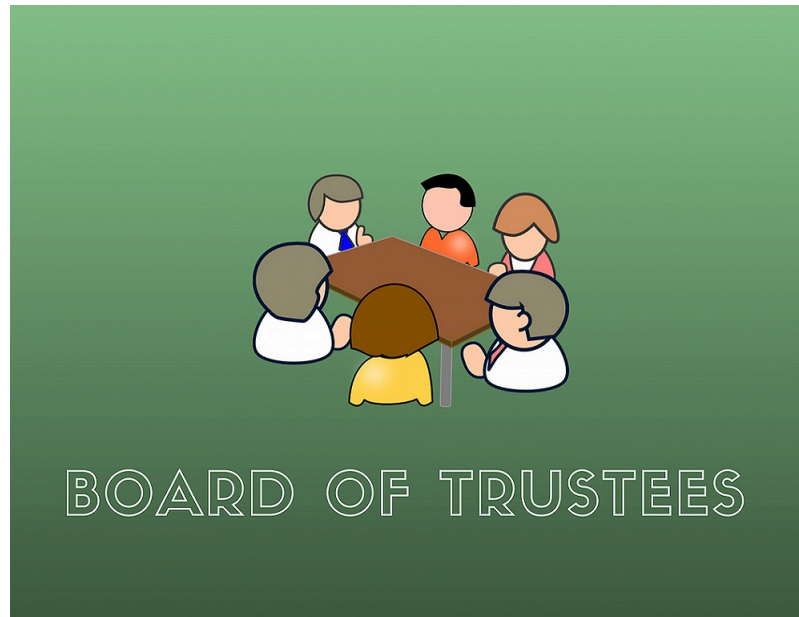
Room 12: Octavia, James

Room 13: Fons, Hope

Room 14: Evie, Max

Room 15: Alfie, Arjun

Room 16: Layla, Arav



Board News

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

The Board held its first meeting since the election on 13 October 2025. Your new Board is: Jacqui Rodger (Chair), Andreas Heuser, Sapphira Connor, Tim McKenzie, Tom Chatterton. Congratulations to our new Board members and thank you to all who put their names forward.

We farewelled our departing and valued Board members Margie Bargh, Wendy Dewes and Molly Weaver. A huge thank you to all of you for your service. Each added valuable insights and guidance over the past 3 plus years. Highlights of their time were Margie's assured chairing of the board for several years and leadership of the principal recruitment, Wendy's legal qualifications were invaluable in helping our decision-making as was her work on grants and correspondence, and Molly was a great advocate for the teaching team and students' needs. Thank you all.

We are pleased for Karen Clements that she has secured a Deputy Principal role at Houghton Valley School starting in 2026. Unfortunately for us, this means she is leaving Boulcott after 12 years. Karen became team leader of the Harakeke Syndicate in 2019, helped Boulcott become an early adopter of Structured Literacy, and has been a much loved classroom teacher for our New Entrants and Juniors! We wish Karen all the best in her new role!

The Board is reviewing three policies this term: 1. Bullying and Harrassment; 2. Behaviour Management and 3. Minimising Physical Restraint. The school community is always able to have their say on the policies via the SchoolDocs

website: <https://boulcott.schooldocs.co.nz/Logon.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f> The

username and password is "boulcott" Click on the "current review tab" and then "start your review".



Term 4 - Hats

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

Compulsory wide brimmed hats

Hats are compulsory outside in Term 4.

Our Boulcott School hats are available to be purchased through the office at a cost of \$22.

Sizes are small, medium, large or extra large.



Events and Important Dates

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

Coming up!

Term 4:

Mon, 27 October: Labour Day - **School Closed**

Wed, 29 October - School Assembly 2:10pm, Room 9 & 10 hosting

Fri, 31 October - Kahikatea team sports exchange at Dyer Street School

Tues, 4 November - Central Zone Athletics (pp Thurs 6 November)

Fri, 7 November - Harakeke Athletics 11:45am - 1pm

Mon, 10 November - Cohort 8 starts

Tues, 11 November - Inter-zone Athletics

Wed, 12 November - School Assembly 2:10pm, Room 2 hosting

Fri, 14 November - Harakeke Zoo trip

Wed, 26 November - School Assembly 2:10pm, Room 7 hosting

Thurs, 4 December - Christmas cushion concert

Sat, 6 December - Whānau Rōpū Pool Party at Naenae Pool

Wed, 10 December - School Avalon Park trip

Thurs, 11 December - Year 6 Garden Party

Mon, 15 December - Reports go home

Tues, 16 December - Last day of Term 4 (School finishes at 1pm)



Sports News

Margaret Presland — October 23rd, 2025

Boulcott School Athletics

CONGRATULATIONS to all the students for their efforts at our annual Year 3 - 6 Athletics day. We definitely didn't let the wind stop us competing hard and running, jumping and throwing the best we could.

A special thank you to all the parents who helped out on the activities throughout the day. Thank you for your time and energy throughout the day and you all played a huge part in making the day a success. Thank you also to the parents who came down and supported the tamariki throughout the day. Your presence, encouragement, and cheering from the sidelines helped create a fantastic atmosphere and made the day even more special for everyone involved.

A very big congratulations to the winning Year 6 relay team who showed outstanding skill and determination as they raced to victory against the teacher and parent relay teams. They demonstrated teamwork, speed and a fantastic effort from start to finish.

Central Zone Athletics

Tuesday, 4 November at Hutt Rec

Congratulations to all the students who have made it through to the Central Zone Athletics. An email will be out shortly with a confirmed team.

We also require a number of adults that can come and support our tamariki throughout the day and help out with the event we are running. If you are able to help out please indicate this on the google form that will be sent out.

We are going to Central Zone by bus and there is a \$5 fee. Please pay this online to the main school account: 12-3142-0062729-00 (ref: Child's name & athletics bus) by Monday, 3 November.

Netball Year 1 - 4

Good luck to our 6 netball teams that have their first game on Saturday, 1 November at Taita Courts. You will be emailed out the draw each week and these can also be found on our school website and the Netball Hutt Valley website.

Touch Rugby

The touch rugby season is now starting on Thursday, 6 November due to the ground conditions at Fraser Park. A draw will be sent out as soon as it is completed. It can also be found on our school website and Total Touch website.

Remember cancellations are made by 1:30pm and can also be found on the Total Touch Facebook page. I will also email out any updates.

Weetbix Tryathlon

On Sunday, 15 March 2026 the Weetbix Tryathlon will be held at Kilbirnie Park in Wellington.

This is open to 6 - 15 years with several different entry options:

- Individuals 7 - 15 years
- Splash and Dash - 6 years
(Swim and run only)
- Junior Team - 7 - 9 years
- Senior Team 10 - 15 Years

For more information: <https://tryathlon.co.nz/locations/wellington/>

Boulcott School has created a school group for this event. You need to register and pay for your child to enter this event, you can have the option to have your Tryathlon pack sent to school. You must be registered at least 4 weeks before this event to ensure this arrives at school. To register under Boulcott School you can click on the link below
<https://raceroster.com/events/2026/109744/wellington-weet-bix-kids-tryathlon/register?team=865851>



Whānau Rōpū

Boulcott School — October 23rd, 2025

Whānau Rōpū Pool Party!

Save the date: Saturday, 6 December 6:15pm-8:15pm

Free Event for Boulcott Whānau

Look out for more information in the coming weeks.

Our annual Kapa Haka Exchange with Waterloo and Eastern Hutt schools took place last week, hosted by Waterloo school.

Ka Rawe, Kahikatea! You all did amazing!

Thanks to Molly Weaver for leading the group/rōpū!



Measles Outbreak in NZ

Boulcott School — October 23rd, 2025

Measles cases in Aotearoa

As you may be aware there have been recent measles cases in areas of the North Island. Cases were active in the community while infectious and there is a risk of measles circulating more widely in Aotearoa.

- Measles is very contagious and can make people of any age very sick.
- Watch for measles symptoms – fever, cough, runny nose, sore eyes and a blotchy rash.

[Measles: Locations of interest in Aotearoa New Zealand – Health New Zealand](#)

- If anyone in your whānau has measles symptoms keep them home and contact a doctor or Healthline urgently on 0800 611 116.
- Vaccination is the best protection from measles. Check all whānau are immunised.

[Measles immunity – Health New Zealand](#)

[Measles, mumps and rubella \(MMR\) vaccine – Health New Zealand](#)

- Anyone closely exposed to measles who has not received two MMR vaccinations cannot attend their school/kura for at least eight days.



School Term Calendar Dates - 2025/2026

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

Term Dates and Public Holidays

Term Dates 2025

Term 4: Monday, 6 October - Tuesday, 16 December

Public Holidays 2025:

- Monday, 27 October: Labour Day - School Closed

Term Dates - 2026

Term 1: Monday, 2 February - Thursday, 2 April

Term 2: Monday, 20 April - Friday, 3 July

Term 3: Monday, 20 July - Friday, 25 September

Term 4: Monday, 12 October - Friday, 11 December



Happy Diwali

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

This week we have had a special time celebrating Diwali (The Festival of Lights) at Boulcott School. We learned about the importance of Diwali and how the Indian community celebrate during this time. We participated in lunchtime activities and had a go at creating henna and rangoli patterns. Some students also got to make a traditional Indian sweet called "peda" with Miss Lal and her whānau. It was amazing to see students dressed up in beautiful traditional clothes throughout the week too.

Thank you to Miss Lal, her whānau and our Boulcott Indian community for sharing their culture and traditions with us. We look forward to celebrating together again next year!



Our staff were treated to a lovely morning tea, Thank you!



Launchpad

Boulcott School — October 23rd, 2025

Launchpad Champions (formerly Bible in Schools) meet in Room 15 on Friday mornings 8am-8:30am.

Last week we played a tricky teamwork activity! #power of forgiveness



Did you know that there's only 65 days till CHRISTMAS!

Launchpad is once again planning on collecting gifts for children in the Lower Hutt area that may not be fortunate enough to receive many gifts during this season...

SO, should you be checking out the toy sales during the coming weeks these are some of the things on children's wishlists this year....

LEGO, barbie & accessories, memory/card games, soft toys, transformers, a robot, minecraft, dinosaurs, squishy toys, Sponge Bob, Spiderman, a scooter, drawing/colouring supplies, RC car, soccer ball, Sonic plushy, new hat, new bag, Lilo & Stitch, arts & crafts, fidget toys, dolls, sticker roll books, a bouncy ball!

IF you would like to help us, then new and unwrapped gifts will be collected throughout November.

Launchpad is an opt-in, 30-minute lesson that presents tamariki with positive values and aims to grow their sense of mana, self-worth and character. Stories from the Bible, NZ history and international role models are presented, and the values from these stories emphasised, to help students take these values into their lives. It's lots of fun and

we'd love to have you join us!

This [link](#) gives more information about the programme.

If your child would like to opt-in to this programme please

go to this [link](#) to enable your tamariki to be added.

You can also check out [Launchpad Plus](#), an online link to short 5 minute videos touching on a range of positive values including respect,

kindness and honesty.

Penny and Mrs Cody



Yummy Stickers

Boulcott School — October 23rd, 2025

Thank you for collecting Yummy stickers!!

YUMMY Fruit Stickers

You can start collecting yummy stickers at anytime! Please keep collecting if you can, place the Yummy stickers on sticker collection sheets (available from your classroom teacher) and bring them into school.

Get your friends, family, neighbours collecting the Yummy Fruit Stickers to help out Boulcott School. Shop at your local New World, Pak 'n' Save, or participating Four Square stores.

Purchase Yummy apples, either bags with cut-out labels or individual apples with Yummy stickers. One cut-out label is worth 10 Yummy stickers! Place the Yummy stickers on sticker collection sheets and bring them into school.

Our Yummy stickers will then be converted into a winning share of the \$200,000 sports prize pool from DG Sport.

*Newsflash: There is now an addition to the Yummy family - Hailstone Hero apple bags. A wild spring storm hit the Hawkes Bay, damaging a significant amount of the apple crop with hail. Although these look funny, they still taste yummy. The official cut-out is not on these bags, but you can collect the round bar-code sticker as 10 points. These are Yummy apples but branded Hailstone Heroes and available in both New World and Pak 'n' Saves.

Sticker collection sheets - you can print them from the Yummy Fruit website:
<https://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/schools/>

So let's get munching!



Community Notices

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

SCIENCE & TECH CLASSES

Private STEM Sessions

- **PERSONALISED SESSIONS FOR YOUR CHILD**
 - CODING, ROBOTICS, 3D DESIGN, SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, MINECRAFT
- **BOOKED ON YOUR SCHEDULE**
 - DURING SCHOOL, AFTER-SCHOOL
 - ONLINE, AT HOME, LOCAL VENUE
- **FOR ALL LEARNERS**
 - EXTENSION
 - BUILDING A NEW HOBBY
 - DEVELOPING CONFIDENCE & SKILLS
- **HIGH & COMPLEX NEEDS SUPPORT**
 - IF AND CARER SUPPORT FUNDING ACCEPTED

BRAINPLAY.CO.NZ





Boulcott School wishes to thank all our sponsors

Boulcott School — October 22nd, 2025

For your continued support of our school community

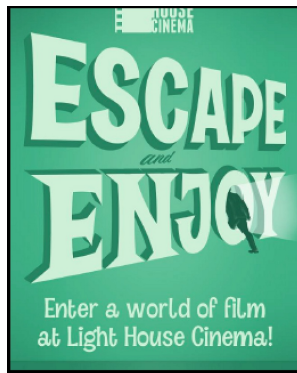
Your children are amazing already. We just help them prove it.

Ages 5-16

ENGLISH & MATHS
Free assessment
Book now!

Lower Hutt
Ph **570 0737**
numberworksnwords.com/nz

NumberWorks 'nWords | TUITION CONFIDENCE RESULTS



Tall Poppy
REAL ESTATE

Making your **property dreams** come true with **Anna**

- Exceptional Service
- Local knowledge
- Sound advice in preparing your home for sale
- Trustworthy and easy to work with



Anna Garamila-Young
Sales Consultant
021 110 5833
anna.garamila-young@tallpoppy.co.nz
Member of the Real Estate Institute of New Zealand

QPG QUALITY PAINTING
Guaranteed Ltd

STEVE SALMON
Mobile 027 282 7557

162 Eastern Hutt Road,
Wingate
04-577 2127
steve@qppltd.co.nz
www.qppltd.co.nz

**ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE!!**

Contact the school office
if you're interested.