



Paekākāriki School

Home of the barefoot learner

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 3 2026

22nd September KC Option
Day Yr 8

25th Sept - Last day of term

TERM 4 2026

12th October - Mihi Whakatau

14th October - Forest Lakes Yr
5/6 camp (4s for the day)

19th Oct - BOT meet

20th Oct - Mastermind Quiz

23rd Oct - TOD

24th Oct - Rainbow Gala &
Plant Sale

26th Oct - Labour Day

5th Nov - Parihaka
commemoration

13th Nov - Wainui Assembly

13th Nov - School Disco

19th Nov - Takiri o te Ata
Kapa Haka

30th Nov - BOT meet

11th Dec - Paekak's Got
Talent/Kaumātua afternoon
tea

17th Dec - Last day of term

TERM DATES 2026

Term 3 - Jul 20th - Sept 25th

TOD—24th August

Term 4 - Oct 12th - Dec 17th

TOD - 23rd Oct

Pānui

Term 3 Week 9

FROM THE PRINCIPAL.....

Nau mai haere mai

Strategic Planning Update: A Big Thank You to Our Community!

A huge thank you to all the whānau who took the time to complete our 'Looking Forward' survey. Your thoughts, feedback, and aspirations for our school are vital as we shape our next strategic plan.

To create a vision that truly reflects our whole community, the Board is gathering input from whānau, staff, and students. Every piece of feedback collected from these groups will directly feed into the development of our new roadmap for the future.

Adding to this exciting momentum, we are looking forward to hosting the Education Review Office (ERO) early in Term 4. Their visit will provide expert feedback and fresh insights, serving as another valuable source of evidence as we map out our next steps.

Thank you again for partnering with us to make our school the best it can be. We look forward to sharing the new strategic plan with you early in 2027.

Have a wonderful break away, enjoy the warmer weather, and we look forward to seeing everyone back at school for an action-packed Term 4!

Please remember to send your child with a sun hat and apply sunscreen before leaving home during Term 4.

Ngā mihi nui

Julia

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.....

Important Information

•2026 TERM DATES

Term 3: Jul 20th - Sept 25th

Teacher Only Day Monday 24 August

Term 4: Oct 12th - Dec 17th

Teacher Only Day Friday 23rd Oct

•2027 TERM DATES

Term 1: Feb 3rd - April 9th

Easter break 26th - 30th March

Term 2: April 27th - July 2nd

Term 3: July 19th - September 24th

Term 4: October 11th - December 15th

* 3 Teacher Only Days to be booked during the year

Did You Know?

- Our annual Rainbow Gala and Plant Sale is on Saturday, October 24th.
- Friday, October 23rd is a Teacher Only day.
- Term 4 and Term 1 the hot summer months. Sunhats and sunsmart clothing are compulsory when outside.
- Paekak's Got Talent is back in Term 4. Read more about this in our newsletter.

Spotlight on Inclusive Education

SLIPS/ Passion projects

Our **SLIPS (Student-Led Individual Passion Studies)** give tamariki the opportunity to follow their own interests and take the lead in their learning. Based on a theme whether it's art, science, music, building, cooking, nature or something completely unique, the possibilities are wide open!

Tamariki will have time to explore their passions, develop new skills, solve problems, get creative and share their learning with others.

Here's one example being celebrated this week – Leon, Miles and Kellan have taken the initiative to get stuck into improving our bike track. Armed with spades, plenty of enthusiasm, and with some help from Grant and a digger, they've been busy making their ideas happen! We're looking forward to the **official opening this Friday at 2.15pm.**



IMPORTANT INFORMATION.....

Congratulations

A big congratulations to all our Mathathon winners, those who dressed up, and everyone who took part in the 2026 Mathathon!

Please see the details below under the PTA section.



Many thanks

A Big Shoutout to Whaea Naomi!

Our school sports calendar is always action-packed, and we owe a massive thank you to Whaea Naomi for her tireless mahi behind the scenes and at the events. Thanks to her dedication and organising magic, we host school-based events:

- Swimming sports
- Athletics Day
- Cross Country

Our students also get the chance to represent Paekākāriki School, build confidence, and shine across a huge range of sporting events. Throughout the year, Whaea Naomi ensures our tamariki have the opportunity to participate in: *contd.....*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.....

- Interschool Swimming Sports
- Interschool Athletics
- Interschool and Regional Cross Country
- Winter Tournaments, two fantastic days of team competition across multiple codes
- Kī-o-Rahi
- Girls Football 'Have a Go' day

Thank you, Whaea Naomi, for making all of these incredible opportunities possible for our kids! A really big thank you to all the parents who step up to transport and supervise children at these events - without your support, we simply couldn't make this happen.

Looking ahead, next term brings;

- basketball season! We can't wait to see our students back on the court, tearing up the hardwood and showing off their skills.
- Cricket festivals
- Touch rugby at Mazengarb Park, Paraparaumu.



Thanks to all our soup chefs this term. Our tamariki really enjoy the hot cup of soup on a Thursday at lunchtime. It is wonderful to have our village support us in this way.



WHATS HAPPENING AT PAEKĀKĀRIKI SCHOOL

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) - Barefoot Learner Focus

Ko ia kāhore nei i rapu, tē kitea - Those who do not seek will not find

A Paekākāriki Barefoot Learner is inquisitive, asks questions, gathers information, and makes connections between ideas.

Paekāk's Got Talent - PGT

Date for the diary ***December 11th***

Get ready to see some of the amazing talents our tamariki have to share!

From singing and dancing to comedy, music, magic, and everything in between, **Paekāk's Got Talent (PGT)** is all about celebrating the unique talents, creativity and confidence of our Barefoot Learners.

We can't wait to see our tamariki, give things a go and cheer each other on!

More details coming soon...

Maximising Our Resources: How Grant Funding Helps Our School Thrive

Core operational funding from the Ministry of Education partially covers the day-to-day running of our school, but sadly it is not enough to provide the quality learning and environment we seek for our tamariki. Because of this, we actively seek out and apply for external grants to give our students the best possible environment and learning opportunities.

These additional funding sources allow us to stretch our budget further and bring large-scale projects to life much sooner than would otherwise be possible. Thanks to successful grant applications in recent years, we have been able to construct our senior playground, build our basketball court, and expand our digital learning resources with new Chromebooks for classroom use.

We are constantly working behind the scenes to access these external funds. Looking ahead, we will continue applying for grants to support curriculum programmes, grounds development and staffing. Every successful grant directly enhances our students' daily school experience. We want to extend a huge thank you to our PTA, the Potty Potters and other community organisations or supporting us.

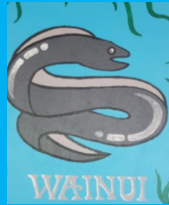
CURRICULUM

As you will be aware, New Zealand's national curriculum is undergoing its most significant overhaul since 2007. Designed to raise student achievement and provide consistency across schools, the updated curriculum shifts the focus toward a knowledge-rich approach grounded in the science of learning. Some of the changes are:

1. Clearer Expectations with a fixed year-by-year learning sequence, detailing content, concepts, and skills your child is expected to cover in a given year.
2. Focus on Core Foundation Skills, including Structured Literacy & Phonics and higher expectations for foundational math skills.
3. Clearer, Consistent School Reporting using a standardised five-point progress descriptor scale relative to year level, visual progress tracking graphs, teacher narrative notes, and specific steps for how parents can support learning at home.

Ensuring our students thrive under the updated curriculum has been a major focus for our team over the last two years. During term-time and break-period Teacher Only Days, our staff have worked alongside Ministry of Education specialists and local school networks to master the new content and reporting guidelines. In Term 4, our final curriculum-focused Teacher Only Day of the year will center on the new math framework.

House Points

	Wainui	Pouawha	Haumia	Miriona
				
Term 1	319	238	260	222
Term 2	410	325	376	368

Congratulations to Wainui for being our Term 2 winners.

COMMUNICATIONS

From the Board of Trustees

The next BOT meeting will be held on 19th October.

From the PTA

MATHSATHON UPDATE!

Fantastic job on the Mathsathon whānau! A whopping \$4,134 was raised!
And the PTA have done some number crunching:

$\$4,134 \times$ a bunch of Paekākāriki School mathletes + the awesome support and encouragement of our Paekākāriki kaiako = at least a hundred gazillion new brain cells added to the school! PLUS the PTA will use the funds raised to go towards the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of our school pool.

By our calculations, the positives resulting from this term's Mathsathon are approaching infinity, the benefits are increasing exponentially, and the number of winners is...really really big.

A huge thank you to all our students, friends and whānau for getting behind the Mathsathon, and to Whaea Ju, our Paekākāriki kaiako, and Erin from the PTA for making it happen!

SCHOOL NOTICES

School Gate Safety

For the safety of our tamariki, all of our school gates need to be closed during school hours. Please make sure you close the gates behind you, thank you.

Bikes and Scooters

We are very lucky in Paekākāriki to have a safe community in which to cycle. Students and whanau who cycle, scooter, skateboard, or roller blade to school please remember you must WALK in and out of the school grounds. This helps keep other cyclists and pedestrians safe. No wheels to be used after 8:30 or before 3:15. Students who wish to ride bikes, scooters etc at lunch time need to be wearing shoes and a cycle helmet.



Managing concerns and incidents

Our school is committed to fostering a respectful, inclusive, and supportive environment for all members of our school community. Anyone who wants to bring a matter to the attention of the school is encouraged to follow our concerns and complaints procedures, including contacting an appropriate person at the school. We expect concerns and complaints to be raised respectfully, constructively, and with a willingness to work collaboratively to resolve the matter.

Calendar

To find out what is happening at Paekākāriki School please go to our [Community Calendar](#) - events will also be linked to the Facebook page.

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=paekakariki.school.nz_3i1d30lhk9begr3ferb8f4qack@group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Pacific/Auckland

School Newsletter

Our school newsletter is published 3 times a term, with all other urgent messages sent out via Hero, email and/or the Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/PaekākārikiSchool/>).

Website

www.paekakariki.school.nz



PAEKĀKĀRIKI SCHOOL PLANT SALE + Rainbow Gala

- ♥ NATIVES
- ♥ STRAWBERRIES
- ♥ FLAXES
- ♥ TOMATOES
- ♥ HERBS
- ♥ SUCCULENTS & MORE!

FOOD
COFFEE
CAKES

FUN
ACTIVITIES
GAMES

MUSIC
COMMUNITY
GROUPS

STALLS
WHITE ELEPHANT
KIDS MARKET

EFTPOS
&
CASH

SATURDAY 24TH OCT 10^{AM} - 1^{PM}

JUNIOR SURF OPEN DAY



★ ★ ★
PAEKAKARIKI
EST.1913
SURF LIFEGUARDS

18th October 2026 - 1.00pm
at the new clubhouse

Come and join us for a fun introduction to our
Junior Surf programmes.

All Nippers welcome (from age 7).

For more information, visit:

<https://paekakarikisurflifeguards.org.nz/junior-surf/>



*Kāpiti Women's
Triathlon*
Inspire, Motivate, Participate

LET'S TRY-ATHLON TOGETHER

**SUNDAY
21ST FEBRUARY**

**TRIATHLON - DUATHLON -
5KM AND 10KM WALK/RUN**

**School Age Group Special
Enter the 5km for \$5
Enter the 10km for \$10**

**Use the code:
SCHOOL5KM
SCHOOL10KM**



www.kwt.org.nz

Community Notices



Ngā Uri o Tū is a **Kapiti College production** about 5 Māori boys that enlist underage to go to WW2. Though it is a fictional story, it refers to experiences that Māori soldiers had before, during and after the war.

Ngā Uri o Tū showcases the many talents of our students and incorporates drama, dance, poetry, bands, solo singers, group singers, kapa haka and an orchestra.

Proceeds from the show will contribute to the fundraising for Kia Aio te Noho 2027 Kapa Haka trip to Rarotonga.

For accessibility seating information and wheelchair space bookings please email kiaora@teraukura.nz or call 04)9740535 during office hours.

Door sales are only available if the event doesn't sell out prior.

<https://teraukura.nz/event/nga-uri-o-tu>

What tamariki need when emotions are big



Children learn to manage big feelings with us before they can do it on their own.

When a trusted adult stays steady, tries to understand and helps them settle, tamariki learn: "I can get through this, and I don't have to do it alone."

Here's your 4 go-to's when emotions are running high. Often called The 4 S's:



SAFE

"I am protected and the adults around me are steady."

Children need to know the adults around them will protect them and remain steady, even while setting limits.



SEEN

"My feelings matter."

Look beneath the behaviour and let your child know you are trying to understand what is happening for them.



SOOTHED

"I don't have to face hard feelings alone."

Stay close and help them settle. Tamariki learn to calm themselves by first experiencing calm with someone they trust.



SECURE

"I can count on someone to show up for me."

Over time, these repeated experiences teach tamariki: "When things are hard, I can count on someone to help me."

Over time, these 4 experiences help tamariki understand their feelings, ask for help, manage disappointments and reconnect after hard moments.

Based on Daniel J. Siegel and Tina Payne Bryson's Four S's.



Word
whizz

Parents, help your child read and write with confidence

Word Whizz makes it easy for Kiwi parents to boost their child's early literacy skills, helping them catch up or excel in reading and spelling.

Free Workshop – wordwhizz.co.nz

★ Structured Literacy Approach

★ Unlimited Sessions

Community Notices



HATO PĀORA PROMOTIONAL TOUR

Wellington - 16th to 20th September

Old Boys Whānau Day - Sunday 20th September

Maidstone Intermediate School

16 Redwood Street, Elderslea, Upper Hutt

Time: 2.00pm to 5.30pm (KOHA ENTRY)

CAR BOOT

at the

ŌTAKI



MARKET

\$10

Per Car

31 May | 28 June | 26 July | 23 August | 27 September | 25 October | 29 November | 13 December

10am - 2pm, In the Carpark, at the Otaki Market, Main Highway, Otaki



JUNIOR & YOUTH BRAZILLIAN JIU JITSU CLASSES

***TEACHING: Confidence, Responsibilty, Communication,
Awareness, Control, Self Discipline, Respect & Safety.***

***CLASSES: \$10 per session/ \$200 per term.
TUESDAY & THURSDAY: 3.45 - 4.30 PM***

CONTACT - JASON TE WHAARO 020 4135 7486

**OLIVER MMA, 27 HINEMOA ST, PARAPARAUMU
WWW.OLIVERMMAKAPITICOAST.COM**

A WILD ADVENTURE AWAITS YOUR TAMARIKI!

Experience the wonders of Te Nukua Wellington Zoo

School holiday Programme

During the upcoming school holidays, we have five different themed days to choose from:



Charismatic Carnivores: Monday 28th September & Tuesday 29th September

Delve into the lives of some magnificent creatures as we explore their adaptations and behaviours, and how we care for them at the Zoo.



Animal Ambulance: Wednesday 30th September & Thursday 1st October

Learn how to help care for local wildlife, then test your skills in our special holiday programme Zoo triage clinic.



Zookeeper Apprentice: Friday 2nd October & Monday 5th October

Join our Zookeepers for the day and go behind the scenes in the greatest job in the world!



Snow Leopard Celebration: Tuesday 6th October & Wednesday 7th October

Discover the Snow Leopard's mountainous habitat. See these elusive cats and learn all about their wild homes.



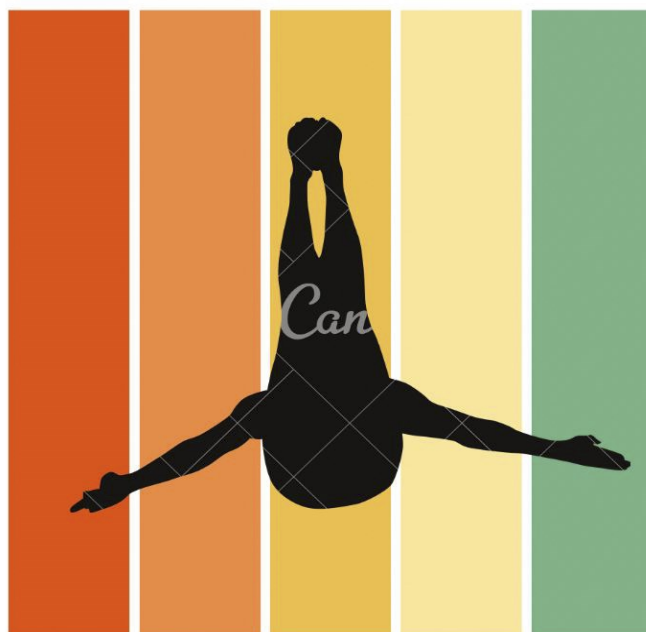
Zoo Detectives: Thursday 8th October & Friday 9th October

Rumour has it there is some treasure hidden at the Zoo! Join a team of intrepid explorers to track it down.

<https://www.wellingtonzoo.com/visit/plan-your-day/things-to-do/holiday-programmes>

WELLINGTON SCHOOL DIVING CHAMPS

19TH SEPTEMBER 2026
WELLINGTON REGIONAL AQUATIC CENTRE



WHO IS IT FOR?

Anyone who attends a Primary, Intermediate or Secondary School in the Wellington Region.
No diving experience needed!

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

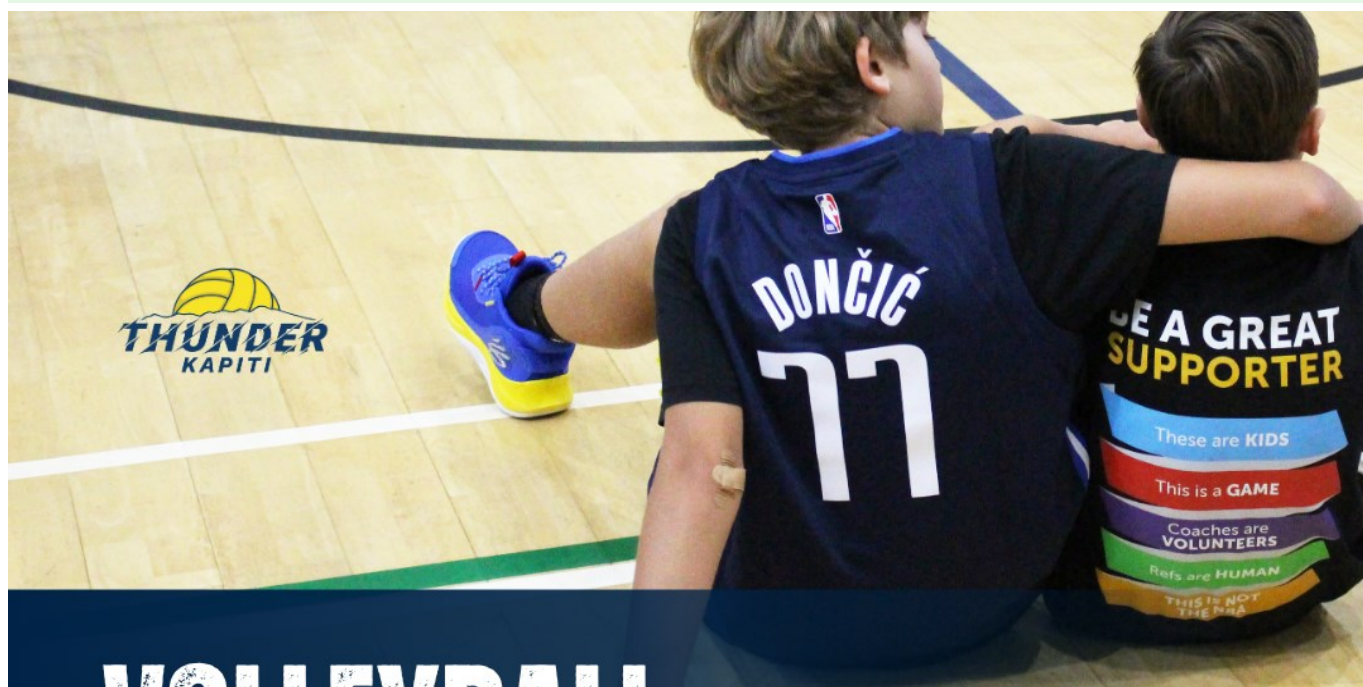
contact your sports administrator or
development@wellingtondiving.org.nz

WWW.WELLINGTONDIVING.ORG.NZ



SIGN UP HERE!

Community Notices



VOLLEYBALL PROGRAMME

**SATURDAYS,
17TH OCTOBER –
5TH DECEMBER**

Fun, challenging and engaging coach led volleyball sessions for kids and youth. Join one of the most exciting and fast growing team sports. BE the Thunder, RIDE the Storm!

LEARNERS
(skills and game fundamentals)
3.15–4.15pm

**DEVELOPMENT &
PATHWAY**
4.15–5.45pm

**PARAPARAUMU
COLLEGE GYM**

REGISTER NOW



 022 187 11 33

 facebook.com/kapitithunder.volleyballclub



Community Notices

STEM Holiday Programme

MAKERROOM

Wellington



This Holidays Choose from 3 Awesome
Projects in 3 Convenient Locations

Miramar, Lower Hutt and Crofton Downs

One Day, Take Home Builds For Young Makers Aged 10-15

Small Group Sizes With Friendly Experienced Instructors

\$140 For The Day, 2nd Oct - 9th Oct

To Learn More and Book Your Place visit:

www.makeroomwellington.nz

THE ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ARTS
PROUDLY PRESENTS

HENNY PENNY

THE SKY IS FALLING!
by Andrew Thomson

AT: St Peters Hall, Paekākāriki
29 & 30 September, 1 October,
and 6–8 October 2026
(September/October school holidays)

🕒 10.30 am DAILY

Tickets available now at
eventfinda.co.nz
Search: Henny Penny – The SKY is FALLING DOWN!

creative nz
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

Kāpiti Coast
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Me Huri Whakamuri, Ka Tiro Whakamua



Friends of Te Papa Photography Competition

2 September – 30 September 2026

**Explore Te Papa and capture your favourite
place or object**

**Entries to the Friends by 5 October 5.00pm
Only hardcopies accepted**

Location	Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
Registration	On this entry form
Judging	11 October 2026 2.00pm – second floor Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
Entry costs	Free entry – maximum of three entries per person
Prizes	Finalists in each category will receive \$100.00



SGCNZ
Shakespeare Globe Centre New Zealand



Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Spring's Sprites

Wellington Botanic Garden

Te Wā o te Kōanga

Spring Festival

**Sunday 20
September
2026
10am - 3pm**

*Interactive readings at the Joy Fountain
11.30am | 2.30pm*

*Dress
as Puck
or Bottom
for our
costume
competition*

*Judging
12
and 3pm*

Community Notices

***Hi – Sports Jam is back! (September/October 28th – 9th) Yahoo!!!
Hope to see you all there again soon!***

Check out our ‘Awesome’ Website: sportsjam.co.nz

Program: Kids can register for full week or individual day/s

Ages: Primary school kids (ages 7 y/o plus)

Venues: Kapiti: (Kapiti College, Margaret Road) Raumati Beach, Paraparaumu.

Times: 9am – 3pm (Full day) (am or pm option also available)

Dates: September 28th – 9th October (2 weeks, Mon - Fri)

Medical: First Aid personnel on site

Refreshments: Free - Juice, water, fruit, snacks

Program Costs: \$35 per child/day, \$20 AM or PM Option

Bookings: www.sportsjam.co.nz (bookings page), email: info@sportsjam.co.nz (021 116 0086)

Payment Options:

On website: (new payment option)

Cash: payable on the day at venue. (If numbers allow / numbers are limited)

Bank Funds Transfer: Account Number 01 0731 0232606 00

Account Name: SPORTS JAM (Ref: Childs full Name & Program Date/s)

Thank You Sports Jam Team

CARTERTON SPACE WEEK

ROCKET REVOLUTION
4 – 10 OCTOBER 2026

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

THIS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS,
CARTERTON BECOMES
A SPACEPORT.

BUILD & LAUNCH
ROCKETS

STARGAZE

STEP INSIDE THE
PLANETARIUM

LOOK THROUGH
TELESCOPES

MEET REAL SPACE
PEOPLE

EXPLORE

LEARN

CONNECT

BE INSPIRED

FREE + LOW-COST EVENTS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



SCAN FOR
FULL PROGRAMME
& BOOKINGS

www.cartertonspaceweek.nz

CARTERTON
**SPACE
WEEK**

ROCKET REVOLUTION
4 - 10 OCTOBER 2026

JUST 1 HOUR FROM WELLINGTON

FUN FOR ALL AGES

LEARN ABOUT SPACE



Community Notices

Otaki Pottery Club School Holiday workshop

Looking for some fun and exciting workshops to keep your kids entertained during the school holidays? We've got you covered! These project-based sessions are perfect for kids who love to get creative and explore their artistic side.

Visit our website to enrol: <https://www.otakipotteryclub.org/kids-pottery-classes.html>

Programme:

Build a chicken - Tutor: Christine

Tuesday 29/9/2026 and Tuesday 6/10/2026

1pm to 3pm

Maximum 12 students

Ages 7-16

Create your own clay chicken in this fun, hands-on pottery workshop. Learn simple handbuilding techniques such as pinching, coiling, and shaping while bringing your feathered friend to life. Explore creativity, build confidence with clay, and take home a unique chicken masterpiece.

Build a creature phone holder - Tutor: Karin

Thursday 1/10/2026

1pm – 3pm

Tuesday 6/10/2026

10am to 12pm

Maximum 12 students

Ages 7-16

Get creative with clay and design your own creature phone holder. Use a simple pinch pot to sculpt a fun and functional character that can hold a phone. From quirky monsters to fantastic animals, this workshop encourages imagination, creativity, and hands-on clay skills while making something unique and useful.

Learn the wheel - Tutor: Sarah

Tuesday 29/9/2026

Tuesday 6/10/2026

10am – 12pm

Thursday 1/10/2026

Thursday 8/10/2026

1pm – 3pm

Maximum 10 students

Ages 7-16

Create your first pottery pieces on the wheel in this fun beginner-friendly workshop. Learn the basics of centring clay, shaping forms, and using pottery tools. Build confidence, develop new skills, and enjoy the excitement of creating with clay.

Bring an apron or something to cover your clothes.