

# Harvest Newsletter



The Junior Garden Project Takes Root!!!!!!

Welcome to Harvest Newsletter Issue 24! Keep an eye out for celebrations, the latest on the Aquabots Teams, achievements in sport, growing our very own veggies on the school grounds and heaps more.. As a staff, we are praying for each of you - stay connected, and let's embrace the adventures lying ahead this term. With less than three weeks of school remaining, we look forward to an exciting end to 2025.



Harvest Christian School is looking for a school custodian to clean our facility after school. This is a paid contractor position. Please contact Joseph at 029 0450 9867 or [principal@harvest.school.nz](mailto:principal@harvest.school.nz) for more details. An outline of the position and our cleaning requirements can be found here:

[Job Description](#)



You are invited to our school Christmas play, **"A Very Kerikeri Kiwi Christmas"**.

The performances will be on Thursday, December 11 at 2 PM and 7 PM.



*From the desk of*  
**THE PRINCIPAL**



*The Joe note*

My first bible, gifted to me by my Great Grandma Annie Andersen was a Thompson Reference King James Bible. It was much too large for me and the archaic language of the KJV left me puzzling over the meaning sometimes. However, I developed an appreciation for the richness of the phrases in it.

**“Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah.” Psalm 68:19 KJV**

The end of the school year is rapidly approaching; and with it comes all the excitement of summer and Christmas! We are truly blessed in New Zealand to have such an abundance of good things. Take a moment to take a quick inventory of how God has blessed you today. I hope that the list is lengthy and you feel

that you are loaded with his benefits.

I count each family at Harvest among the benefits with which God has blessed me. It is my great privilege to serve at Harvest and invest in the younger generation. We are getting in on the ground level, the early investors, who get to picture what may come for these boys and girls before they are fully grown.

Teachers measure the growth of students; it's one way that we can tell how we are coming along as a school, and how we can celebrate our students as individuals. Your child will receive a progress report on the last day of school which will talk about their attitude and effort, their abilities, and their progress as a learner. Our focus is always on progress, knowing that this is a milestone that marks where they are today, but not where they will end up.



Take time with your child when you receive the report card. Celebrate their growth this year and commend their hard work. Their learning is a marathon, and this Christmas is a waterbreak along the path. Enjoy this time together.

**BUS ROUTE**  
*changes*



Our bus route will change effective April 20, 2026 (start of Term 2). The bus will no longer serve Kaikohe Christian School and the route has been adjusted accordingly. This may change the time(s) that your child will need to be at the bus stop.

More information and route maps are available on our Parent Information page on the school website.

<https://harvest.school.nz/parent-info/>

# CLASSROOM TEACHERS for 2026

Our 2026 class year-level groupings will be:

- Y1 - Mrs. Rozie Russ
- Y2-3 - Mrs. Kathy Hutching
- Y4-5 - Mrs. Tracey Robinson
- Y6-8 - Mrs. Kate Bocock

The ratio of students to teachers is very favourable. Praise the Lord!

## SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Our school has outdoor supervision for students from 8:20 AM until school begins at 8:45. Please arrange to drop off your child after 8:20 AM.

After school supervision is available until 3:30 PM. If you are running late, please call the office 0220 256 779.



## Farewell

On 16 December will say goodbye to nine wonderful Year 8 students who are stepping bravely into the next chapter of their educational journey—secondary education. These young men and women have been a true blessing to our school community. Over the years, they have grown in faith, wisdom, and character, reflecting the light of Christ in their words and actions. As they move on, we are confident that the strong foundation of faith, love, and learning they have received here will continue to guide them. May the Lord bless them and keep them, make His face shine upon them, and give them peace (*Numbers 6:24-26*). We are proud of you:

- Paige Alley*
- Ayla Cowie*
- Aaden Discombe*
- Aoife Fair-Machin*
- Tor Godwin*
- Cayleigh Lovegrove*
- Patrick Nelley*
- Mclane Topia*
- Israel Wright*

### GRADUATE



## Welcome Mrs. Rozie Russ



Harvest Christian School is very excited to welcome a brand new staff member for 2026. Mrs. Rozie Russ will be joining us as a Year 1 teacher. She is a passionate follower of Jesus; and she is eager to share her testimony walking with him in a Christian education setting.

She brings her experience as an Early Childhood Educator and as a primary school teacher at Hingaia Peninsula School. She loves outdoor learning activities, art, and imaginative play. She also plays the ukelele and weaves music and te reo Māori into her classroom learning.

We are thrilled to welcome Mrs. Russ to the Harvest family!

FROM  
*Tiny Seeds*  
TO  
BIG DREAMS



Many thanks to Lawrence Bergman from Riverstone Firewood who provided half-price wooden sleepers and Steve from Growing Media Supplies who donated the garden mix. If anyone wants to get involved in the Harvest Garden please see Kate Burgoyne.



Outside Room 1 is our "Harvest Garden". We are starting small but hope to expand in the near future and would love to involve the rest of the school. With the support of Kate and Roddy Burgoyne, Room 1 students have planted potatoes in one veggie bed and kumara in the other.



This hands-on gardening project is a key part of Harvest Christian School's Sustainability Unit. Through digging, planting, watering, and weeding, our young learners are discovering how to care for God's creation right here on our grounds. They're not just growing vegetables; they're growing responsibility, skills and respect for the environment that sustains us.



We are also growing sunflowers to brighten the beds up. Hopefully at the start of school next year we will be able to harvest our crops and share some home-grown chips!



# NATURAL WONDERS

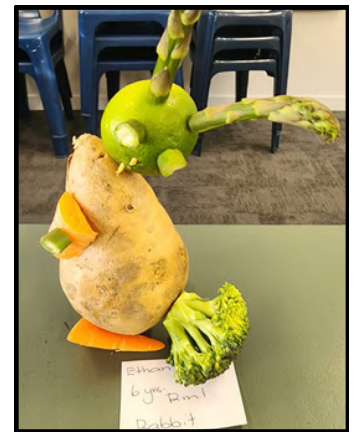
for the P&I Show



Students across the school crafted exciting exhibits which were judged by independent representatives of the Royal NZ Agricultural Society on October 7 — where they showcased their creativity and innovation!

Finalists' works were advanced to the Waimate North P&I Show on 8 November. There, amidst the buzz of the wider Northland community, our finalists displayed their work alongside other talents, with winners announced and prize money awarded on Monday during assembly. Robbie Gabriels claimed 5 Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates with a couple of dollars towards art supplies!

A huge thank you to Kathy and Kate for all the transport and coordination of this fantastic event.



# Trash DASH

Students Take on the Trash Dash: Cleaning Up Waipapa Road and adjacent Sports Fields! Our amazing tamariki turned into environmental superheroes this week with the much-anticipated Trash Dash! Students from Years 3-8 armed with gloves, bags, and a mission: survey, collect, and analyse the rubbish lurking in our community, from sneakers to soda cans. While the junior students were hard at work around the sports fields, who should drop by but the President of the local Football Club! He was absolutely delighted to see our kids giving the fields some love. "This is fantastic!" he told the teachers, snapping a proud photo of the rubbish-collecting.

The photos speak for themselves - overflowing bags of plastic bottles, packets, straws, a vehicle fender and all sorts of litter that definitely doesn't belong in our community. Back in class, the students sorted their haul, counted categories, graphed the data, and even discussed where all this rubbish comes from and how we can stop it ending up on our streets and fields in the first place. Little actions add up to big change, and our Trash Dash crew just proved it.





With a little more Splash than Smash, our students represented Harvest with great conduct and sportsmanship. Our amazing students headed across the road to the Tennis Northland Primary and Intermediate Tournament.

- Mclane stormed to 1st place in the Intermediate Girls!
- Luke fought hard playing up several age groups and brought home a 4th place in the Year 7 & 8 Boys.
- Phoenix represented us with heart and spirit in the Primary Boys division.
- Janco battled it out in the Intermediate Boys category with determination and never-give-up attitude.

Congratulations Luke, Phoenix, Janco, Mclane; the weather did not dampen your spirits.



Congratulations Luke Thompson for battling your way to the top, achieving First Place in the under-10 Boys category at the 2025 Junior Tennis Festival held in Whangarei on Sunday 23 November.



Thank you!



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to every parent, student, and community member who supported our Aquabots fundraising efforts — whether by donating, volunteering time, washing and vacuuming cars in the heat of the day, lending a hand, or even buying a hotdog for your child! Thanks to your incredible generosity, we have raised an amazing \$7,000+! This allows our students an opportunity of a lifetime to compete and showcase their skills on a national stage.



**28 November 2025**

The much-anticipated Aquabots competition is upon us! The big event has finally arrived, promising thrilling challenges, creative underwater robotics, and unforgettable moments of teamwork and discovery. To all our participants and supporters: we pray that God will keep you safe on your journey, fill your days with joy, and make this an exciting time packed with wonderful outings and lasting memories. Go shine brightly - we're cheering you on!



Harold the Giraffe and the Life Education caravan are rolling into Harvest from 8-10 December! Each class will climb aboard the mobile classroom for fun, interactive lessons about keeping our bodies and minds healthy, making good choices, and looking out for each other.



The school holidays are a wonderful time for family adventures, relaxation, and making memories – but they don't have to mean a complete break from learning! A few minutes of fun, everyday-learning keeps children's brains active, prevents the "summer slide," and helps them return to school feeling confident and ready. The best part? Most of these activities feel like play, not work.

- Reading on the go: Turn car trips into reading games. Ask your child to spot and read road signs, billboards, or shop names. Start with simple words ("STOP", "EXIT", "McDonald's") and celebrate every find!
- Grocery maths: At the supermarket, let them count fruit into the bag ("We need 8 apples – can you count them?") or add up small prices ("This banana is 30c and that one is 40c – how much altogether?").
- Cooking together: Measuring ingredients practises counting, capacity, and following steps – plus they get to eat the results!



- Nature scavenger hunts: Look for "something red," "three different leaves," or "a number bigger than 10" on a stick.
- Holiday journal: Encourage them to write or draw one thing they did each day.
- Real-world maths: Let them help plan a day trip budget, calculate distances and travel time on a map, or work out the best-value snacks at the service station.
- Board games & card games: Classics like Monopoly, Scrabble, Clue, or even Uno reinforce strategy, reading, and mental maths without feeling like "school."



Read Every Day! Whether it's a picture book with you, a comic, a novel under a tree, or an audiobook by the pool, reading every single day is the simplest and most powerful way to keep skills strong.

A little learning sprinkled through the holidays means happier, more confident kids when the bell rings again. Primary Boys division. Most importantly, we remind our families that our faith comes first and reading the Bible is a priority.



Our Junior students (Years 0-2 are in for a colourful treat! On Thursday, 4 December, our young explorers will be heading out on a Parrot Safari as the exciting culmination of their current Art unit. Studying these exotic birds in a natural environment is the perfect way to bring their artwork to life and inspire even more creativity back in the classroom. A huge thank you to the wonderful parents who have already offered to help with transport and supervision. We can't wait to share photos of the day—and the beautiful parrot-inspired artworks that are sure to follow!





# 2025

# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Aquabot Nationals	2	3	4 Y0-2 Field Trip to Parrot Place	5	6
7	8 Harold the Giraffe	9 Harold the Giraffe	10 Harold the Giraffe	11 A Very Kerikeri Kiwi Christmas 2 PM & 7 PM	12 Prizegiving Assembly 11 AM	13
14	15	16 12 PM Dismissal Progress Reports	17 Enjoy your summer!	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

