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The advertisement shows the exterior of a Bisset Honda store. A large red sign with the Honda logo and the word 'HONDA' is prominent above the entrance. Several red and black ATVs are parked in front of the store. The text 'KEEPING YOU GOING' is written in large white letters across the bottom of the image, with the address and phone number below it.



Artwork by Eleri



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## Alfredton School

*Inspiring learning for a lifetime ~ Little acorns to mighty oaks*

**Newsletter ~ Wednesday, 26 March 2025**

**Tangata ako ana I te kāenga, te tūranga ki te marae, tau ana  
A person nurtured in the community contributes strongly to society**

Kia ora,

We have just over 2 weeks of term left. The work on Huia class is almost complete. The carpets in both Huia and Tui classrooms will be replaced during the holiday. We hope that the Year 5 to 8 children will be able to move back into their classroom at the start of Term 2.

I am very proud of how the children have tackled the challenges of our new maths curriculum and our new maths program - Maths No Problem. The staff and children are enjoying using the program.

Yesterday after school, Mrs Bond and I visited the Marae in Pahiatua along with other teachers from schools within our Tararua Kahui Ako. After a powhiri we all listened to Ta Daymond share stories from the Marae as well as learning a new waiata which all children at our local schools will learn for the Cultural Festival. Staff will be returning to the Marae early next term to continue their learning.

April the 2nd is World Autism Awareness Day. This year's theme is Hoods Up, Volume Down. Many people on the autism spectrum wear their hood up as they find it difficult to process background sounds, which means that they cannot concentrate and they can become overwhelmed. On April the 2nd we are asking all our children to come wearing a hood up. Children are asked to bring a koha which will be donated to Autism NZ.

We have 2 events coming up before the end of term. On April 8th we are taking part in the Tararua Rippa Tournament. Our children are part of two combined teams with children from 3 other rural schools. More details will follow soon.

On the last day of term ASCA are holding a picnic and Easter Egg hunt in the Native Garden. Whanau are encouraged to join us for this event. Details will go home next week.

We are hoping to organise teams for Indoor Hockey (Tuesday nights) during term 2. If you would like your child to play, please let school know as soon as possible. The cost will be \$18 per player.

Stationery invoices will be coming home today. We would appreciate payments be made before the end of term.

If you haven't downloaded the Skool Loop app, I would encourage you to do so as soon as possible. If you would like help to do this, please come and see me. We are hoping to be able to stop sending paper permission slips home next term if we can get everyone onto the app. It has been great to receive absence notices via the app too.

If you know of any businesses that would like to sponsor our school on the app please let me know. Their business details would be displayed on the app.

Have a good week.

Nga mihi nui

Alison

### **Dates for your diary**

#### Term 1

2nd April Autism Awareness Day

8th April Tararua Rippa Tournament (Pahiatua)

11th April Picnic and Easter Egg hunt in the Native Garden

#### Term 2

15th May Rural Schools Cross Country at Kumeroa

20th May NYLD for Year 7 and 8 in Palmerston North

6th June Bush Cross Country in Eketahuna (this replaces the road race)

18th June Cultural Festival

### **Touch Games - 28th March**

U7 Field 1B 3.30pm vs Pongaroa Kiwi,

U9 Field 3a 3.30pm vs Pahiatua Leopards,

U11 B Field 2 4pm vs Pongaroa Stags,

U11A Field 2 4.30pm vs St Ants Purple,

U13 Field 3 4.30pm vs Eke Chargers

### **Final Week Games - 4th April**

Games TBC



## Year 7 and 8 Technology

Term 1: March 27th, April 10th

Bush Primary Tech has its own Facebook page. Photographs, recipes and other information can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100069563117443>

## **2025 School Dates**

Term One: Tuesday 4th February to Friday 11th April (Closed 6th February)

Term Two: Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June (Closed 2nd and 20th June)

Term Three: Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September

Term Four: Monday 6th October to Wednesday 17th December (Closed 27th October)

There will also be two Teacher Only Days: 30th May and one TBC

This information can also be found on our school website.

## **Schooldocs**

Alfredton School Policies and Procedures can be found here:

<https://alfredton.schooldocs.co.nz>

Username: alfredton

Password: mighty

## **Alfredton School Board**

Next meeting: May 12th starting at 5.45pm.

2025 is Board Election Year. Elections will be held in September. Several of our Board will be stepping down and we will be looking for people to be part of the new Board. Please contact our current Board members if you would like to find out more or come to our next meeting to see for yourself how the Board works. This is a great opportunity for you to become involved in your child's school. Each one of you has something to contribute and we would love to see you sharing your skills and knowledge with us.

## **Huia Class Writing**

Huia Class have written short reflections of their activities during the month of March. These are just a few of them.

## Hill Walk

On Sunday the 9th of March I did the Alfredton School Hill Country Walk. The walk was taking place at Patitapu station. The scenery was beautiful, from the dense bush to the open hills. It was a perfect sunny day for the walk. I did it with Olive, Hadley, Jock and my grandad.

My favourite spot was probably Squeaky Hut because there was a good view and we had our lunch break there. The burgers were awesome with lettuce, carrot, ham and mayo. We walked the short walk, which was 11 kilometres long, the long walk was 17 kilometres long. It wasn't too much of a challenge, but I did have sore legs after. **Rupert**

The hill country walk was amazing because I got to walk it. It was a hard walk for the first kilometre but then it got very cruisy. I walked it with Sophie and James. It was fun doing it with Sophie and James. Lunch was the best part about it because I was so hungry. I got brownie and a huge bun, I could not eat all of it. At the end of lunch time, I got a ride back with Keira and Keira's driving was so crazy. When I got to the end I was so tired. I had a great sleep. **Nellie**

On March the 9th, Alfredton school hill country walk happened. It was at Jo and Doug McKenzie's farm. There was a short and long walk. The short walk was 11kms long and the long walk was 17kms long. I was marshalling the long walk with Dad.

Brendan Varty ran the long walk and was still back first. It took him 1 hour and 45 minutes to get back to the start. There were 6 runners on the long walk.

There were walkers too, they took lots of the lollies that my Mum gave us. I had lots of lollies as well. There were 2 groups of walkers.

There were 6 river crossings, 4 in one spot! When we were almost back we caught up to Olive and Rupert. I walked the last bit with them. Olive ended up behind me and Rupert. Soon we saw Hadley. We started running to Hadley and then we were running with Hadley. Rupert ran ahead of us. We were close to the end, then I fell over. Hadley said I would be ok. My Dad wasn't far behind. Olive told Dad I fell over. I grazed my knee both elbows and a little bit on my hip. I am now ok. **Emily**

I went on the hill country walk. I went on the bike with dad. I went into the bush and I helped people. It was fun. I ran down the hill. **May**

### Totara Flats Overnight Camp

On the twelfth of March, all of the year seven and eight went on a walk to the Totara flats hut. Now...on the way up was no easy mission, the entire thing was slippery and mostly downhill, not to mention the fact that we had these heavy, at least 12-13 kg overnight packs resting on our backs and shoulders.

It was at least a hefty six and a half hour up to the hut, with there being many dips and sudden downfall. The last 45 minutes of the walk was completely flat, and we could see the beautiful crystal-clear river at the bottom, which of course, the water was completely drinkable. When we arrived at the hut, we set up our beds and proceeded to do multiple activities, such as hut building and roasting marshmallows at the end of the day. Overall, everyone overall enjoyed this walk. **Kitana**

On the 11th and 12th of March the year sevens and eights went for an overnight tramp to totara flats hut. At the first part of the tramp there was a 100 meters long and 75 meters high only 8 people can go on it. It took 5.5 hours to get to the hut. When we got to the hut we relaxed for a bit then Jock, Tova, Harvey, Ben and Brian went swimming.

After that we went to build huts. I was with Harvey and George. Our hut was on the side of a hill because it was easier to build a structure. Then we had dinner. I had spag bol. It was yum. Then we did our skits. It was fun. In our one 2 homeless people fought a rich guy then we sang rain rain go away it was good.

Then we went to bed. In the morning the Sid woke us up. It was a pain. We had breakfast and then went over another swing bridge. It was fun. Then we tramped back out to the car park.

**Hadley**

Me and my dad got to the meet up point a little late. We chucked on our boots and got our bags and got on the track. The first little challenge was the swing bridge, it was giant and sketchy looking. Everybody had crossed the bridge and we had a couple breaks until we made it to the halfway point where we had lunch. After a long break we started to walk again. We walked until we saw the hut. I felt so happy we made our beds and went for a swim. Miss Mabey gave us a challenge to make a hut. Me, Sid and Jock were in a team and to be honest we had more fun breaking logs than building the hut. We went back to the hut and had dinner and it was amazing. Then we made up a play for a challenge Miss Mabey gave us. Afterwards, we had some marshmallows and went to sleep. The next morning we had breakfast and waited until the time we were allowed to leave. We left the hut and walked back to the car park. **Kade**

On Tuesday I went on a walk to Totara Flats Hut along with the other year sevens and eights. At the start of the walk we were met with a very high and very long swing bridge. I was one of the first eight to go. As I stepped on I felt a chill run up my spine. I didn't think I was going to live - but I did.

When we finally went to the hut I ran inside and picked the best bed and sat down. I was so tired because we walked almost all day. Then I decided to have a swim along with Zara, Ben and Jock. It was very cold, but it was so refreshing. I loved it so much but they made me get out so I didn't lose any toes. I was super cold when I got out as there was a bit of wind. **Tova**

It was a cold day. We had all gathered in the carpark where we awaited instructions from Miss Mabey. After Miss Mabey gave out a few pointers we were on our way. We first had to walk over a giant swing bridge. It was the first of many we had to cross. It reached over the top of the gorge standing around one hundred feet tall. After walking over the terrifying bridge, we had to walk a miserable 10 km to reach the hut. We walked over a few more bridges and lots of rough muddy terrain before reaching the hut. At the hut we did lots of fun activities like building huts and roasting (well more like burning) marshmallows. If I could rate the dinner that night I would give it a 2 star purely because it was soaked in water. Even though dinner was horrible, the breakfast was definitely a 5 star. Anyway in the morning we woke up and packed to go home. After Kitana, Miss Mabey and the Kumeroa teacher left, we left. The thing that was weird when we got back is that I acutely missed the car park. It was a fun, enjoyable experience and I loved it. **Harvey**

All our school news in one place

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THE SKOOL LOOP APP

Simple free download: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' and choose our school once installed.

# CERTIFICATES - 14<sup>th</sup> March Assembly

Principal Award



Classroom Award



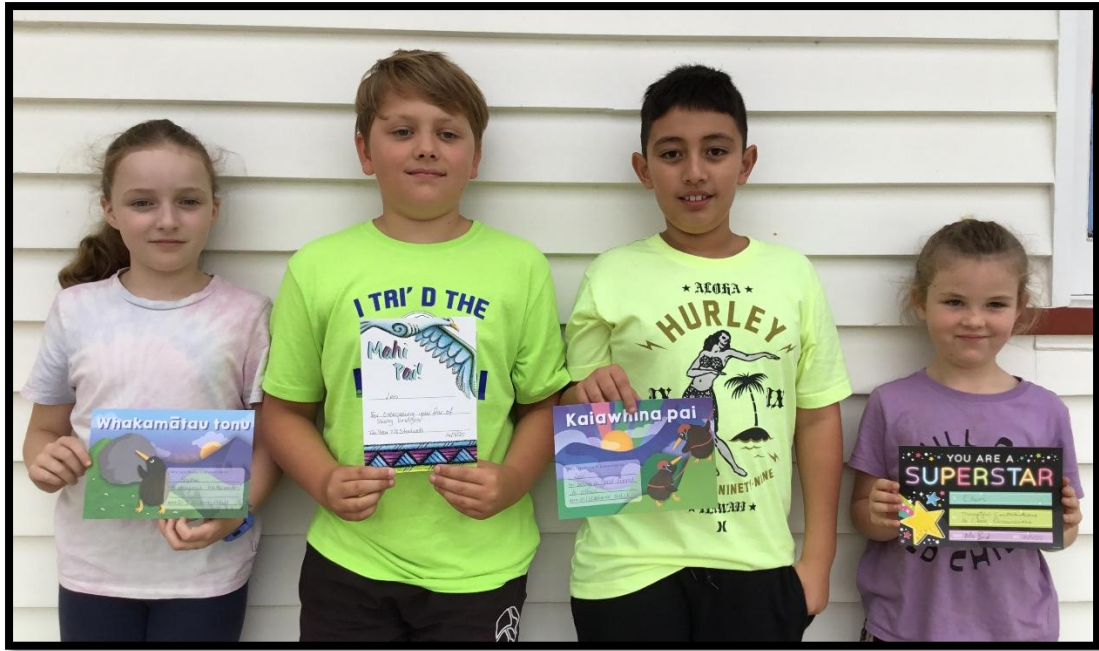
Readers of the Week





## CERTIFICATES – 21<sup>st</sup> March Assembly

### Classroom Awards



### Readers of the Week



## ASCA

**AGM Date Tuesday 13th May 7pm**

Emma is stepping down as Treasurer so we will need someone to fill this role. Mark the date in your diary.



## SPORTS NEWS

The registrations are now open for the **2025 Junior/Intermediate Winter Hockey Season.**

Trainings will be on a Tuesday from 3.00pm to 5.30pm at the BMS Turf Pahiatua

Our teams will be entered again on a Friday Night and Sunday comp at the twins Turfs in Palmerston North.

Starting First weekend in May

The Age groups are as follows

Year 7/8 on Friday night

Year 5/6 Sunday Morning

Year 3/4 Sunday Morning

Year 1/2 Sunday Morning Depending on Numbers

If you are interested in your child/children playing this year, please email me for more information

**Kind Regards**

**Ceri Treder** Account Manager

**Aon New Zealand** | Pahiatua

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Kids age 4—13yrs  
We want you!!  
Season starts May**

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RUGBY SEASON  
2025**

**For more info contact Sarah Meehan:  
sarahmeehan.sm@gmail.com or Kirby Duffy: lance-  
andkirby@inspire.net.nz**

**Check out our facebook page: @Eketahuna Jab Rugby**

**EKE JAB REGO DAY AND BOOT SWAP  
@ the rugby club Alfredton Road  
Wednesday 26th March  
4pm – 5:30pm All Welcome!**



Wairarapa  
**BALLOON**  
*Festival*  
EASTER 2025

**FAMILY CARNIVAL**  
SATURDAY 19 APRIL

TICKETS AND DETAILS  
[www.nzballoons.co.nz](http://www.nzballoons.co.nz)

5 hours of action-packed entertainment for the whole family. Plus live music, food trucks and much more.



**WASTE-ED**  
*with Kate*

FREE EVENTS

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TARARUA DISTRICT COUNCIL

**REUSE - REPURPOSE - RECYCLE**  
Can I reuse it??  
Can I repurpose it??  
Can I recycle it?? ...

Come along to one of our events, be sure to bring us ALL those recycling questions, theories, myths, assumptions, and comments. We simply cant wait to tell you what REALLY happens to all that recycling Tararua District Council picks up!

8 APR	DANNEVIRKE TOWN HALL	10.30AM - 12PM
8 APR	WOODVILLE SPORTS STADIUM	1.30PM - 3PM
9 APR	PAHIATUA TOWN HALL	1PM - 2.30PM
10 APR	EKETAHUNA COMMUNITY HALL	1PM - 2.30PM
11 APR	NORSEWOOD WAR MEMORIAL HALL	10AM - 11.30AM

**MORE INFORMATION AT**  
[www.facebook.com/wastefreewithkate](http://www.facebook.com/wastefreewithkate)