



MEET OUR 2026 HEAD BOY & GIRL



MARLEY THOMPSON

HEAD BOY

Ko Tongariro te maunga
Ko Whanganui te awa
Ko Taupo-nui-a-tia te moana
Ko Tainui te waka
Ko Kakahi te marae
Ko Taumaihiarongo te whare tupuna
Ko Ngati Tūwharetoa me Tuhoē te iwi
Ko Ngati Manunui te hapu
Ko Te Kura Tua Rua O Taumarunui te kura
Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa

My name is **Marley Tutemahurangi Thompson**, and I am honored to serve as the 2026 Head Boy of Te Kura Tua Rua O Taumarunui. It is a privilege to represent our school, and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to support and uplift our kura community.

Our kura is built on integrity and pride, shaping and guiding the next generation of strong leaders who will make a positive impact within our community and beyond. We are committed to equipping our tairua with the tools they need to succeed — fostering academic excellence, strengthening cultural identity, and encouraging active participation in all aspects of school life. Through these opportunities, our students are empowered to reach their full potential.

From the moment I first walked through the doors of our kura to now stepping into the role of Head Boy, I have always carried a deep sense of pride in being part of this school. I am excited to be working closely with our Year 9 advisories — communicating, listening, and building meaningful connections with each of them. They are our future leaders, and whether in the classroom or through shared moments of laughter and learning, those relationships are invaluable.

As Head Boy in 2026, the legacy I hope to leave is one of positivity, unity, and leadership by example — ensuring every student feels valued, supported, and inspired throughout their journey at Taumarunui High School.



EMILY OWEN

HEAD GIRL

Kia ora, my name is **Emily Owen**, and I am your Head Girl for 2026. This is a role I have strived so hard for since walking through Taumarunui High School's doors in 2022. As a year 9 I was always a much quieter student and preferred the spotlight to be aimed far away from me. But observing the previous Head Girls of this school, I realised I wanted to be who they were. A female role model who inspires young girls to be the best they can be. All of the Head Girls prior to me exerted confidence, kindness, and intelligence. I have always worked hard to hold strong to these qualities as I look back towards these young women regularly and their inspiring presence they had on 13-year-old me.

Attending Taumarunui High school for the past four years taught me valuable lessons in being myself and holding onto my own values and opinions. I want to make sure all students are also given the opportunity to learn this. Being different in any way, especially in opinion or belief, does not make you any less valued at our school. I believe our years at High School are where we should be learning and sharing our individual opinions safely without any negative influences.

As Head Girl, my goal is to help our school environment stay caring, inclusive, and supportive to all, and encourage our students to enjoy education and the experiences they receive while attending our Kura. I aim to play a large role in listening to and supporting our younger students as they are introduced into the adult world, and be a strong role model towards all students. I want to display the importance of caring for and understanding those around us, at the same time as prioritising our own education and wellbeing.

Achieving this long-term goal of mine has opened up new opportunities for me to enhance my own knowledge and confidence in many areas such as public speaking, planning, and leadership. Being the introverted person I am, sets me a little back from the more confident leaders, but it also gives me a drive to push myself to be better every single time. I believe it can show others similar to me, that nothing is impossible and those dreams and goals that people call unrealistic, are in fact achievable, you just need the drive to commit to it.

I look forward to working with the Student Leader team, as they are all very strong, smart leaders, and we aim to enhance the student wellbeing and participation in our Kura and community. We will encourage school pride and dedication to learning, and inspire more young leaders for the future.

Meet our Deputy Head Students in the next newsletter...



ATHLETICS DAY 2026

A great turnout with lots of enthusiasm & competitive spirit on show. A stunning day with sunscreen to hand and plenty of water down at the school field. Events included javelin, shot put, discus, high jump, long jump, triple jump, track events of 100m, 200m 300m, 400m, 800m, mixed relays. 1500m and 3000m events were held on separate days.

All athletes should be justifiably proud of their achievements, we certainly are as a school. Athletes meeting the qualifying distances or times have been offered the chance to attend the King Country South Waikato Athletics Championships at the Te Awamutu Stadium on the 10th of March 2026.

Entries close at 11am on this Friday 6 March.



ATHLETICS DAY TOP RESULTS:

Junior Girl Athletics Champion 2026

Jayde Willetts

Alylah Taumata 2nd

Gin Schormair 3rd

Junior Boy Athletics Champion 2026

Steven Kino-Martin

Louis Sonsona 2nd

Royce Hughes 3rd

Intermediate Girls Athletics Champion 2026

Chavi Thomas

Cailin Owen 2nd

Ruby Walker & Charlotte Gibb 3rd equal

Intermediate Boys Athletics Champion 2026

Tangaroa Cooper

Urijah Kawau 2nd

Shalveesh Achari &, Puku Stratford 3rd equal

Senior Girls Athletics Champion 2026

Emily Owen

Raiha Kereama 2nd

Erica Oliphant 3rd



Seniors Boys Athletics Champion 2026

Tyson Turu

Jay Fraser 2nd

Nicholas Wiggins 3rd

16 Juniors, 21 Intermediates and 20 Seniors gained one or more placings (a total of 57 athletes).

ATHLETICS DAY HOUSE POINTS:

NGARUHOE

1st - 40 pts

RUAPEHU

2nd - 30 pts

HIKURANGI

3rd - 20 pts

TONGARIRO

4th - 10 pts

SWIMMING SPORTS 2026

On 3 March 2026 we had 26 dedicated and keen swimmers (from the nearly 50 who put their names down). Results and Swim Champions are as follows:

SWIMMING SPORTS CHAMPIONS

JUNIOR GIRL	Alylah Taumata
JUNIOR BOY	Clayton Fife
INTERMEDIATE GIRL	Charlotte Gibb
INTERMEDIATE BOY	Levi Faneva
SENIOR GIRL	Matisse Hosking
SENIOR BOY	Nicholas Wiggins

All swimmers who completed can now enter the King Country Swimming Event on 20 March 2026. Entries close midnight Friday 13 March.



SWIMMING SPORTS HOUSE POINTS:

HIKURANGI

NGARUHOE

RUAPEHU

TONGARIRO

1st - 52 pts

2nd - 33 pts

3rd - 30 pts

4th - 28 pts

Thank you to Takahe and Totara advisories for timekeeping, and to Carmel, Rosina, Miss Gilbert and Mrs Moffett for running the event.

TRADES// TAUMARUNUI SHEARS



Taumarunui Shears took place on Friday 27th February at Hikurangi Station. Trade Academy students from Taumarunui High School helped the organisers and competitors by acting as sheep handlers behind the shearing stands. Students had a busy day from 7 am to 6 pm, moving sheep and ensuring a ready supply were available to shearers competing for titles on the day.

Students were able to gain primary experience, undertake practical work that will contribute to their learning, gain credits, network with potential employers and enjoy the atmosphere and competitive spirit. It was also great to see so many former students compete and succeed. This is an annual event for Trade Academy students at THS.

Allison Annand

Trade Academy Director - Taumarunui High School

PEER SUPPORT CAMP

Last month on 12 February, our Student Leaders headed to the school's mountain lodge for a two-day trip focused on building stronger connections and growing as a team. From the moment we arrived, the energy was high. The trip was full of laughs, challenges, and plenty of moments that pushed us outside our comfort zones in the best way possible.

Over the two days, we took part in a range of team-building activities that helped us strengthen our communication, trust, and teamwork skills. It was awesome to see everyone stepping up while leading discussions, encouraging each other, and making sure no one was left out. Each activity reminded us how important it is to listen, support one another, and work together.

As Student Leaders, we work closely with our Year 9 rangatahi throughout this term, so this trip was a great opportunity to prepare ourselves for that responsibility of teaching those core aspects to our year 9 rangatahi. The skills we develop will help us create positive, welcoming spaces in our Year 9 sessions and lead us to more confidence.

One of the best parts of the trip was seeing our friendships grow even stronger. By the end of the two days, we felt more connected as a group and more confident in ourselves as leaders. We really began to understand what it means to be positive role models within our school community.

Overall, the trip was an amazing experience that brought us closer together and reminded us why leadership and teamwork matter so much. We're excited to take what we learned and put it into action with our Year 9 students this year.

Marley Thompson
Head Boy
Year 13



YEAR LEVEL UPDATE // 12 & 13

The Year 12/13 students have launched into the new school year with real momentum. Tutorials are already in full swing across English, Maths, Science, Psychology and Health, giving seniors plenty of opportunities to extend their learning and build strong study habits early on. Alongside classroom work, programmes like the Seeds initiative are underway, offering students hands-on experience in customer service and workplace skills. A highlight on the horizon for many is the upcoming SCUBA programme, which always brings excitement and challenge.

Trades classes have also kicked off, with students enthusiastic about getting back into practical learning and developing industry-ready skills. It's been equally impressive to see so many seniors stepping up in school life, competing at Athletics and Swimming, supporting their peers, and showing strong leadership around the kura.



NOTICES & UPCOMING DATES

SPORTS NOTICES

AFTERSCHOOL PRACTICES

Kapa Haka | Mondays 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Junior Netball Practices | Tuesdays 3.30pm - 5pm

Rugby Practices | Tuesdays & Thursdays
3.30pm - 5pm

Basketball | Wednesdays 3.30pm

Girls Basketball | Wednesdays 3.30pm

Soccer | Thursdays 3.30pm - 5pm

Badminton | Thursdays 3.30pm - 5pm

WHATS ON:

Active As Golf Academy | Every Monday

Maui Thai Rise Up | Every Monday

Girls Rugby Tackle Pad | 5, 12, 19 March 4 -
5.30pm

CONGRATULATIONS!

JUNIOR NETBALL TEAM

These players have been selected:

★ Adams, VJ F Kauri 9	★ McCready-Wallwork, Nibraskah F Totara 9
★ Carter, Courtney F Kauri 9	★ Peeti, Nivea F Totara 9
★ Cooke, Nicci F Rimu 9	★ Perez, Joana F Kauri 9
★ Gibb, Charlotte F Kereru 10	★ Smith, Piata F Tui 10
★ Josiah, Julia F Kauri 9	★ Taumata, Alylah F Kauri 9
★ Lorosio, Mela F Kauri 9	★ Tressler, Tia F Kereru 10
★ Marsden, Brooklyn F Tui 10	★ Willetts, Jayde

PRACTICES: TUESDAYS 3:30 - 5:00PM

Go Girls!

UPCOMING DATES

10 March - King Country Athletics

13 March - Young Enterprise Spark Tank

16-20 March - Scuba Trip

20-26 March - Kiwi Forever

20 March - KCSS Swim Sports

24 March - BOT Meeting

25 March - Culture Celebration

26 March - NZQA NCEA Parent Evening

26 March - Exhibitions of Learning begin

30 March - Whio Class Trip Kiwi House

1 April - Kereru Class Trip Kiwi House

2 April - Tui Class Trip Kiwi House

2 April - Last Day of Term 1

20 April - First day of Term 2

9 June - Photolife Class & Sports Photos

