



## Paeroa Community Support Trust Term 2 Newsletter 2026

Welcome back to Term 2! We hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable break and that families are settling back into the school routine. As always, PCST is looking forward to another busy and positive term supporting our Tamariki, families, and the wider community. We hope all of our families had a safe and enjoyable break and that the children are feeling refreshed and ready for another busy and exciting term ahead.

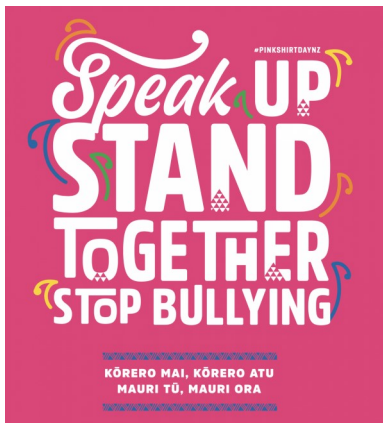
Term 1 was full of fun activities, and great moments together, and we are looking forward to building on that in the coming weeks.

Term 2 brings a number of important dates and opportunities to come together as a community. One of these is **Pink Shirt Day**, which promotes kindness, inclusion, and standing up against bullying. It is a great chance for our children to learn about respect, empathy, and supporting one another. There is also **International Day of Families** on 15 May. This day celebrates the importance of families and the role they play in supporting children and strengthening communities. It is a great opportunity to acknowledge the many different kinds of families that make up our community. The **King's Birthday** long weekend will also provide a chance for families to take a well-earned break and spend time together.

As always, we would like to sincerely thank our wonderful staff, volunteers, families, and supporters for their ongoing commitment and support. Your encouragement helps make our programs a welcoming, safe, and positive place for the children and the community.

We are looking forward to another fantastic term ahead and to sharing many more activities, celebrations, and achievements with you all throughout Term 2.

PINK SHIRT DAY 16/05/2026 / INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES 15/05/2026



## NEW PROGRAM—Soup and Rolls

Our **Soup and Rolls Program** is launching in Term 2, starting **23 April 2026**. Join us every Thursday from **12:00–1:00pm** for a warm, welcoming community lunch where everyone is invited to come together and enjoy a simple, hearty meal.

As this is a brand-new program, it's a great opportunity to get involved from the very beginning and help build a strong, friendly community space. Whether you come on your own or bring a friend along, you'll be welcomed with open arms. It's a wonderful chance to connect with others, meet new people, and enjoy some good company over lunch.

We look forward to seeing you there each week—please feel free to spread the word and invite others to join in as well. Everyone is welcome!



<https://www.facebook.com/carehouse.paeroa/>

## Hauraki Resource Centre

The Friendly Faces of Hauraki Resource Centre. Here at the office, things are busy as always. One of the things that brightens the day is seeing our regulars stop by for a coffee and a chat. It's always nice to see friendly faces here at the Hauraki Resource Centre.



Chris and Robbie are two of our regulars who pop in most days to take a break, unwind, and enjoy a cup of coffee with us.

Chris is always turning up in a different hat and usually has a good story to tell. Robbie enjoys being involved in lots of community activities and often pops in to take a break from his jobs delivering the *Valley Profile* and working with the Hauraki District Council picking up rubbish at the Domain.



We would also like to extend a big thank you to the ladies at Great Bitches Bak-

ing for providing delicious home baking that we can share with members of our community alongside a cup of coffee. It's an amazing service and something our visitors truly appreciate!

## Holiday Program

Our recent two-week Holiday Program was a fantastic success, filled with fun, laughter, and plenty of memorable moments for the kids!

One of the highlights was our trip to the Morrinsville Cow Walk, where the children loved exploring the colourful cow sculptures around town. Back at the program, the days were packed with scavenger hunts, baking, arts and crafts, and lots of creative activities to keep everyone engaged.

We also enjoyed a trip to the park with a classic sausage sizzle, along with some extra fun through Crazy Hair Day and Fancy Dress Day, which brought plenty of smiles and laughter.

It was wonderful to see the children making new friends, building confidence, and having so much fun in a safe and supportive environment.

A big thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the program such a success—we're already looking forward to the next one!

## Thames Valley Alternative Learning

2026 is the start of the fourth year with TVAL

Current Students: 8

It is great to be back! We have got off to a busy start with mostly senior students attending. We started off the year with all our senior students having the opportunity to do advanced first aid.

Matua Normie started at Paeroa College at the start of the year and is our pedagogical teacher for this year, he joins Paeroa College from Hauraki Plains.

Upcoming courses: ITS, our senior students along with Paeroa College students are doing a 2-day ITS course that covers time management, communication working as part of a team and diversity in the workplace. Our Yr 12 student along with one work ready Yr11 student joined a small Gr8 jobs group for a foundation for work course. RYDA road safety are in later in the month, our students along with 81 PC students will be learning everything road and driving safety.

Carehouse being busy with young people: It has been great that the Carehouse has been so busy of late with courses that our young people have been part of. It really helps the students with connection and inclusion.

As always, it's a pleasure to come to work each day. Kath Workman

*"Every child has the right to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreation"*

Please call into the Hauraki Resource Centre or Carehouse and see a staff member if you are interested in volunteering your time to help with any of our programs.

## Paeroa Financial Mentoring

Our Financial Mentoring Program continues to play a vital role in supporting individuals and families across our community, particularly as financial pressures continue to rise. This year we are seeing a noticeable increase in people seeking help, with more families experiencing hardship, food insecurity, and housing challenges.

Recent data shows a growing number of New Zealanders are having to access their KiwiSaver early due to financial hardship, with thousands of withdrawals being made each month for basic living costs. This reflects what we are seeing on the ground — more people struggling to make ends meet, facing tough decisions just to cover everyday essentials.

Our trained mentors work alongside clients in a confidential and non judgemental way, offering practical support with budgeting, debt management, and building long-term financial resilience.

We are also incredibly grateful for the ongoing support from Great Good Bitches Baking, whose weekly contributions bring comfort and care to our clients during difficult times.

If you or someone you know could benefit from financial mentoring, please reach out — support is here, and no one must face these challenges alone.



A goal without a plan is just a wish.

-Antoine de Saint-Exupery,  
French writer

blueleaf.com



Contact Us Today



027 310 4555

[paeroafinancialmentoring@pc.org.nz](mailto:paeroafinancialmentoring@pc.org.nz)

## Kids Can Cook

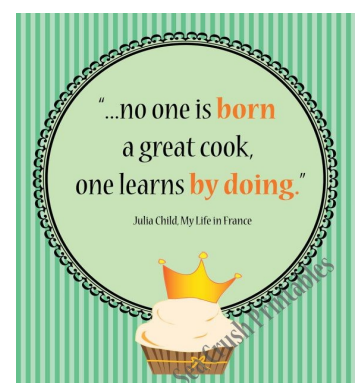
Our **Kids Can Cook** program ran full last term and has a growing wait list—showing just how popular this hands-on activity has become!

We're excited to offer the program again this term, and places are already filling up quickly. This fun and engaging program gives children the opportunity to learn basic cooking skills, try new recipes, and build confidence in the kitchen in a safe and supportive environment.

If you're interested in enrolling, we encourage you to get in quickly to secure a spot, as spaces are limited and in high demand.



Youth Week NZ 2026 runs from Monday, May 18 to Sunday, May 24, with the theme "Our voices matter! We deserve to be heard."



## After School Care

Our After School Care program has had another relaxed and enjoyable term, with a strong focus on **free play, choice, and simply hanging out with friends after a busy school day.**

The children loved having time to unwind in their own way—whether that was building, drawing, playing games, spending time outdoors, or just chatting and connecting with friends. This unstructured time has been a great way for them to recharge while still being in a safe, supportive environment.

Alongside free play, we also offered a variety of optional activities including arts and crafts, games, and reading for those who wanted to join in.

We are also pleased to offer **school pick-ups in our van at a cost of \$2 per child**, making it easier for families to access our program and ensuring a smooth and safe transition from school to care.

It's been lovely to see friendships grow and children feeling comfortable, relaxed, and at home in our space.

A big thank you to all our families for your ongoing support—we look forward to another great term ahead!

## Farewells



### Carol Costello

This term we have had to farewell our General Manager, Carol Costello. Carol has been an important part of our organisation, and we sincerely thank her for her dedication, leadership, and the positive impact she has made during her time with us. Her contribution has helped shape our programs and support our community in many meaningful ways.

While we are sad to see her go, we wish Carol all the very best for the future and know she will go on to do great things.

We appreciate everything she has done and thank her for her service and commitment.

### Pastor Poul Anderson

Join us as we farewell Pastor Poul Anderson and his wife Wilma from the Co-operating Parish. A special morning tea will be held after the service on Sunday 26 April—all are warmly invited to attend. Please bring a plate to share as we come together to thank them for their time, dedication, and service to our community.

Pastor Poul and Wilma will be heading to Taupō, and we wish them all the very best for this next chapter.

### Holly Chamberlain

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and farewell to Holly, our wonderful PCST Administrator at the Hauraki Resource Centre. Holly has been an absolute asset to our team—hardworking, compassionate, and always going the extra mile for everyone who walked through our doors.

Her warm smile and kind nature made a real difference, especially for those doing it tough. Whether it was helping members of the public navigate services or simply offering a hot cup of tea and a listening ear to those experiencing hardship, Holly created a welcoming and supportive space for all.

Holly, your dedication and genuine care for others will be deeply missed. We wish you all the very best for your next chapter—you leave behind big shoes to fill!



## Whanau Open Day

We're excited to invite you to our upcoming **Whānau Open Day** at Carehouse on **Saturday 8th August 2026, 10am–2pm!**

This will be a fantastic day for the whole community to come together, connect, and see what Paeroa Community Support Trust has to offer. There will be **fun games for all ages, giveaways, raffles, and delicious food** available throughout the day. It's also a great opportunity to learn more about our programs, meet the team, and explore how we support local whānau.

Bring your family, bring a friend, and come along for a relaxed and welcoming day—we'd love to see you there!

Carehouse building, 21 Willoughby Street or 120 Normanby Road, Paeroa. Phone 07 862 9129 if you require further information.



### Celebrate National Volunteer Week

(NVW) honours the collective energies and efforts of volunteers across Aotearoa New Zealand. It's a time to recognise and thank the millions of people who give their time and skills to our communities.

Dates for 2026: 14 - 20 June 2026

## U3A Hauraki

We have an exciting lineup of U3A speakers over the next few months, offering a wonderful mix of thought-provoking topics and engaging storytelling.

On 21 April, Prof Chris Marshall will present *Restorative Justice Theory and Practice*, exploring a peacemaking approach to crime, conflict, and injustice.

Our 19 May session features journalist Rob Harley, sharing *Life's Most Amazing People*—snapshots from a remarkable fifty-year journey meeting heroes and heroines.

Then on 16 June, June speaker for U3A is now Diane Drummond, NZ Cycleways.

All sessions run from 10:00am–12:00pm at Paeroa Baptist Church. A \$10 donation is appreciated at the door.

These sessions are a great opportunity to learn, connect, and enjoy the company of others in our community. We warmly welcome everyone to come along and be part of these engaging mornings.

Contact [info@u3ahauraki.nz](mailto:info@u3ahauraki.nz) for further information.

Children are our greatest treasure  
they are our future.

### CONTACT US

#### CAREHOUSE

☎ 07 862 9129  
✉ [info@carehouse.org.nz](mailto:info@carehouse.org.nz)  
📍 21 Willoughby St, Paeroa

#### HAURAKI RESOURCE CENTRE

☎ 07 862 6110  
✉ [admin@pc.org.nz](mailto:admin@pc.org.nz)  
📍 2 Mackay St, Paeroa

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

🌐 [www.pc.org.nz](http://www.pc.org.nz)

## Children's Day

Unfortunately, due to poor weather conditions, we made the difficult decision to cancel this year's Children's Day event. The safety and wellbeing of our tamariki, whānau, staff, and volunteers is always our top priority.

While we were disappointed not to go ahead, we'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who helped plan and support the day—our amazing volunteers, stallholders, and community partners. Your enthusiasm and commitment mean so much.



The good news is we're already looking at planning a new indoor event later in the year, so keep an eye out for updates. We can't wait to bring everyone together for a fun-filled day soon!

## Carehouse

Looking for a warm, welcoming space for your next meeting or gathering? The Carehouse offers a beautiful large room and rink area, making it an ideal venue—especially as we head into the winter months and wetter weather.

Whether you're planning a meeting, community group, or special gathering, our spaces provide a comfortable and versatile option for your needs.

For bookings and more information, please contact Debbie on **07 862 9129**. We'd love to help you find the perfect space!



## RYDA (Rotary Youth Driving Awareness)



Students from Thames Valley Alternative Learning and Paeroa College recently took part in the RYDA (Rotary Youth Driver Awareness) driving safety course held at Carehouse, with approximately 75 students in attendance. This valuable program focuses on helping young people develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to stay safe on the road as new and future drivers.

Throughout the day, students engaged in a range of interactive sessions covering topics such as hazard awareness, speed and stopping distances, fatigue, and the responsibilities that come with being a driver or passenger. The course provided real-life scenarios and practical advice, encouraging students to think critically about their decisions on the road.

A huge thank you goes to Rotary Paeroa for generously sponsoring this important initiative, making it possible for our local students to access such a worthwhile and potentially life-saving experience.

## Community corner

As we move further into the year, we're reminded how important connection and support are within our community. Paeroa Community Support Trust, Carehouse and Hauraki Resource Centre continue to be welcoming spaces for whānau to access services, build relationships, and find a helping hand when it's needed most.

Whether it's joining one of our programs, popping in for a chat, or simply knowing there's a place to turn, we're here for you. We're always grateful for the ongoing support from our staff, volunteers, supporters, and the wider community—together, we make a real difference.

Keep an eye on upcoming events and opportunities to get involved. There's always something happening at Paeroa Community Support Trust. Follow us, check in regularly, and spread the word about our programs and events. The more people we reach, the more we can support.



## Holiday Program trip to Morrinsville cow walk.



King's Birthday  
**New Zealand**  
Monday, June 01, 2026

<https://time.now/holidays/new-zealand/kings-birthday/>

**ANZAC  
DAY**

25 April 2026



Art work from Piper during the Holiday Program

