

Kahautara

A Spelling History (Note some of these quotes will be used again in the full notes)

14th March 1863 Spelt Kahutara in advertisement for Native land block

2nd July 1870 C R Fenwick owned the Kahutara Block shared with B and R Williams

20th July Thomas Benton and John Feast (*Old Featherston names*) *selected sections in the Kahutara block*

31st May 1873 At Kahutara dwelling houses are in course of erection for Mr Richard Williams and Mr John Tucker, who respectively, own land in that locality, and who purpose becoming permanent residents there before long

22nd April 1882 CAUTION TO DUCK SHOOTERS. A NY PERSON found trespassing on Sections No. 7, 9,11,15,16, 40, 44, and Native Reserve, Lower Kahutara, for the purpose of shooting, or in any way disturbing stock, will be prosecuted

22 October 1888 A painful accident happened to Miss Walker at Kahutara (Lower Valley) last Thursday.. While out riding, she was thrown from her horse. The shock to her system will confine her to her room for sometime

10th November 1900 The Kahutara School Committee have appointed Miss M, U, Fellingham to the charge of the School, vice Miss McIntyre resigned. The Committee regret the loss of Miss McIntyre, as she has brought the School on very well.

13th November 1905 On Friday night Mr. C. Buchanan, M.H.R., addressed the electors at Kahutara.

9th July 1907 During the progress of the football (*Rugby*) match, Martinborough v. Kahutara, at the latter place on Saturday a player named Clark had a, small bone in one of his ankles broken.

13th December 1911 The Kahutara School, about twelve miles from Featherston, has at present an attendance of 53 children, in charge of one teacher. Application has been -made for an enlargement of the building, and also for another teacher.

27th February 1915 Miss Ellis, who has been transferred from the Kahutara school to Parkvale, was presented by her late, pupils with a silver manicure set.

KAHAUTARA

18th February 1896 I have also another painful death to record, that of a little boy of ten years old, son of Mr Perkins, of Moroa Plain, His death resulted from blood-poisoning, caused by getting his foot pricked by a plant that grows abundantly on the Moroa Plain known as Wild Irishman." It caused a slight festering at first and then inflammation set in all over the body, and in spite of the best of nursing and the assiduous medical attention of Dr Johnston, the poor lad expired on Thursday afternoon in great agony, with all his faculties bright to the last moment. He even asked his mother to light a candle that he might see when the outer world was growing dim to his sight. Unfortunately, his father, who is employed at Mr Daniell's sawmill, only just reached home in time for his son to recognise him. The school-children of the Kahautara school formed part of the funeral cortege many of them brought wreaths the last tribute to their late schoolmate

28TH October 1896 The question of the site for the Kahautara school was left to the Chairman, with power to act *This means the first school was held in a private house before the Education Board had purchased a site*

The first mention of Kahutara school in Wellington Education Board archives was in 1922 notes from the inspector. I can't find any formal record of a name change

I think the names were inter changeable . It appears that the County called The Bridge Kahautara and the district Kahutara. There was another Kahautara south of Kaikoura and this name was also inter changeable with Kahutara in reports

I was brought up pronouncing the Name Car-Hout-Ra and now get told off for saying it like that

Jubilee Booklet

Kahautara School was opened with Mr James Davidson as first teacher according to Arthur Roydhouse

The school site was donated by W E Bidwell

The roll was increased by four children from out of the district to have the numbers to start a school

Mr Davidson only expected to be at school for a few weeks. He was an outdoor type and spent the day playing rounders with a ball made out of rags bound with sacking twine
Bats were made from Manuka

1896

30th January 1896 Petitions for the establishment of schools at South Featherston and Kahautara were referred to Inspector Lee to make enquiries and to report.

5th March 1896 Wellington Education Board Inspector Lee reported as to the petition for a school at Kahautara that at present there was not sufficient defined settlement to justify the erection of a school

25th March 1896 The Chairman and Mr. McCardle were appointed to act in the matter of the site offered by Kahua at Kahautara

7th August 1896 The committee will also visit Kahautara, near Featherston, for the purpose of enquiring as to the need for a school in that locality, near the new bridge over the Ruamahunga River, near Tuhitarata,

28th October 1896 The question of the site for the Kahautara school was left to the Chairman, with power to act.

1897

1897		Kahautara	Not Yet Open	
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27th January 1897 The question of the erection of a school at Kahautara was postponed till next meeting of the Board

1st April 1897 The chairman was authorised to arrange for the erection of a school at Kahautara on the main road

27th October 1897 It was resolved that the carpenter should go on with the erection of the Kahautara School on the site presented by Mr. W. E. Bidwill.

1898

1898	13	Kahautara	Townsend	Ethel			Female	£80	\$13,704
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18th January 1898 The new school at Kahautara, near Featherston, will also be opened, and will for the present be under the charge of Mr. Davidson, the Education Board's relieving officer

18th April 1898 Inspector Lee to inspect the school on the 31st May

2nd May Head Teacher Kahautara School Average attendance 15 Salary £80

6th July 1898 Mr W E Bidwill has promised to plant trees around the Kahautara School ground
 19th October Miss Townsend while out riding was thrown from her horse and had her right shoulder dislocated

26th October One months leave was granted to Miss Townsend of the Kahautara School

14th December 1898 It was decided that the Clerk of Works should report as to the removal of the Kahautara School

1899

1899	13	Kahautara	McIntyre	R M D		Female	£80	\$14,195
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1966/28900	McIntyre	Ruth Mary Dundas	92Y
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Ruth Mary McIntyre was teaching at Canvastown in Marlborough in 1896 and 1897 and later on was in Auckland area on the Electoral Rolls

30th March 1899 Ethel Townsend (Kahautara) was transferred to South Featherston. Miss F Townsend (South Featherston) resigned

1st April KAHAUTARA- All that portion of the Kaiwairarapa District lying south of Sections 22, 34n, 5, and 6, Maramamau E. and W. Blocks, and the Mangatiti, Stream. KAIWAIWAI. The southern boundary is now amended by the constitution of the Kahautara District

3rd April 1899 Wellington Education Board Boundaries KAHAUTARA. All that portion of the Kaiwairarapa District lying south of Sections 22, 34n, 5, and 6, Maramamau E. and W. Blocks, and the Mangatiti Stream

10th April 1899 'Mr Fleming inspector at Kahautara on the 10th May

11th April Teacher Kahautara School average 15 £80 salary

13th April 1899 Wellington Education Board Kahautara School : average attendance 15. Salary £80

25th Aril 1899 School Committee Messrs W E Bidwill. W F Roydhouse. W Humphries, J Enoka, and H Manihera

29th April 1899 Miss Rose McIntyre as teacher in charge of the Kahautara School has been approved by the local committee [Not her actual Christian name]

30th November The amended boundaries of the Kahautara School were accepted

1900

1900	15	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory		Female	£80	\$13,909
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3rd January 1900 One of the events of the year in South Wairarapa has been the establishment of three flaxmills in the district one by Mr. Toogood at Lower Kahautara, another by Messrs. Toomath Bros, at Pukeo, and a third (Mr. Williams's) between the others on the banks of the Ruamahunga. All are turning out very good fibre, and it is understood that all have six months' contracts at good prices. There is a great quantity of flax to cut out, and if the prices keep up the ventures should prove a success. As about 100 hands are employed at the mills the industry means no little to the district. As one result of the growth of the population it is expected that the number of scholars on the roll of the recently- established school at Kahautara will increase to about 30 when the school reopens

1st March All teachers' salaries were being assessed and R McIntyre Kahautara was listed as being paid £27.10s over scale

29th March 1900 The Chairman stated that he had agreed to the retention of the teacher at the Kahautara School for the present, although it had dropped below the number required by the regulations. The drop was only one below the requirements, and the number might soon be brought up to the standard

16th October 1900 Advertisement Head Teacher Kahautara School Average roll 16 Salary £80

8th November 1900 Miss McIntyre resigns

9th November 1900 Miss Marjory Fellingham, assistant at the Featherston School, is to be placed in charge of the Kahautara School.

10th November 1900 Featherston Notes The Kahautara School Committee have appointed Miss M, U, Fellingham to the charge of the School, vice Miss McIntyre resigned. The [Featherston] Committee regret the loss of Miss McIntyre, as she has brought the School on very well.

1901-1902

1901	14	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory		Female	£70	\$11,817
1902	15	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory		Female	£76	\$12,530

21st March 1901 Proposed New Teacher's salary Rise of £20 salary to £ 100

18th February 1902 The three Kahautara flaxmills are turning out about five tons of flax per day. As flax is getting very scarce, the mills will probably be shifting before long—one, I hear, going to Nelson, and another up the Manawatu.

3rd May 1902 The following were elected to the Kahautara School Committee Messrs W Mitchell, T B Williams (Secretary), W H Manihera, Hemi Enoke and W E Bidwill (Chairman)

1903-1906

1903	20	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U		Female	£92	\$15,243
1904	22	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U		Female	£100	\$16,559
1905	20	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E2	Female	£118	\$18,662
1906	21	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E2	Female	£118	\$18,338

3rd February 1904 Wellington Education Board An application for a grant of £15 for an additional room at Kahautara was not agreed to.

25th March Various small grants were made for the assistance of needy School Committees, including one of £15 to the Kahautara Committee, which had expended £42 subscribed by its members in providing accommodation for the teacher

1st June 1906 Leave of absence was granted to Miss M Fellingham (Kahautara)

28th September 1906 That the following be reserved for decisions by the (full) board Kahautara subsidy on playshed (There are two playsheds) £20, The Committee contributing £20 and Board £5 for a large bell The board agreed to subsidies

1907

1907	24	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E2	Female	£130	\$20,380
1908	24	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E2	Female	£130	\$20,380
1909	23	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E2	Female	£135	\$21,453
1910	26	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E2	Female	£140	\$21,948

1911	38	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E2	Female	£150	\$23,723	
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9th March 1907 Wellington Education Board Kahautara Painting and erection of shed
22nd March 1907 W Benton and son awarded Painting Contract and erection of bell £17.19s
2nd December 1907 Kahautara School defeated Featherston school in a cricket match on Saturday by two runs. The scores being 88 to 86
13th April 1908 The Kahutara Gymnasium is to be opened this evening with a dance. [The gymnasium was on the school site]
16th April 1908 gymnasium, erected at Kahutara by the residents, was formally opened on Monday night, by Mr W. C. Buchanan, in the presence of a good attendance. The ceremony was followed by a dance, and during the evening, Miss Fellingham, schoolteacher, was presented with a gold watch as a mark of esteem from the settlers.
28th October 1908 Some fifty electors assembled in the Kahutara Gymnasium last night when Mr W. C. Buchanan delivered an address in support- of his candidature
31st August 1910 Leave of absence was granted to Miss Fellingham (Kahautara) and Miss Fellingham (Manakau) for the death of their mother Annie on 18th August . Marjorie at Kahautara and Rebecca at Manakau
26th April 1911 Messrs W E Bidwill (Chairman), John Sutherland, James Coe, S Flutey , K P Matenga, W Fenwick and J McGarvie (Secretary)
27th June 1911 Wellington Education Board The inspector to report on increased accommodation at Kahautara
29th November 1911 Wellington Education Board to apply to Department for immediate erection of buildings at Silverstream, Aohanga and Kahautara
13th December 1911 The Kahutara School, about twelve miles from Featherston , has at present an attendance of 53 children, in charge of one teacher. Application has been -made for an enlargement of the building, and also for another teacher.

1912-1915

1912	41	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E1	Female	£180	\$27,605	
1912	41	Kahautara	Caverhill	Kathleen I		Assistant Female	£90	\$13,802	
1913	36	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E1	Female	£185	\$27,750	£25.00
1913	36	Kahautara	Ellis	Frances E	D5	Assistant Female	£115	\$17,250	
1914	32	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E1	Female	£195	\$27,918	£25.00
1914	32	Kahautara	Ellis	Frances E	D4	Assistant Female	£120	\$17,180	
1915	30	Kahautara	Fellingham	Marjory U	E1	Female	£205	\$27,460	£25.00

1st January 1912 Miss Fellingham and her sister (Kahutara) are visiting Dannevirke .
7th February 1912 Applications called for Kahautara (Featherston) £90 to £120 Assistant Mistress
27th February 1912 Wellington Education Board £295 for Kahautara (Building)
11th March 1912 Miss K I Caverhill appointed assistant mistress
29th May 1912 Wellington Education Board t was decided that the conditions of the work required at Kahautara should be re-advertised.
17th June 1912 WELLINGTON EDUCATION BOARD. KAHUTARA— ADDITIONS TO SCHOOL. TENDERS for the above work will be received at the Education Board Office,

Wellington, up to noon of Saturday, 15th June. Plans and specifications may be seen at the school, Kahutara and at the office of Messrs Varnham and Rose, Masterton. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. G. L. STEWART, Secretary. The tender of Messrs Rose and Mason, of Masterton, at £320, has been accepted for the work at the Kahutara State school.

27th June 1912 Leave of absence for various terms ' has been granted to Miss Fellingham of the Kahautara school, Miss Kelliher, of Kaituna, and Miss Caverhill of Te Whiti.

29th January 1913 Miss K Caverhill resigned

12th February 1913 Assistants position advertised £80 to £120

29th March 1913 Wellington Education Board Kahautara, grading, subsidy half cost, £6;

4th September 1913 The misses Fellingham of Kahutara (Wairarapa) are visiting Nelson

1st October 1913 The Kahautara School Committee was granted the sum of £20 for metalling and grading. The committee expended £65 on the work, and in the opinion of several members it .was entitled to a bigger sum than that .granted.

2nd October 1913 It was decided to apply for a residence at Kahautara (*Wellington Education Board*)

20th December 1913 Miss Fellingham (Kahutara) is visiting Wellington and later leaves for Nelson and Auckland.

30th March 1914 Miss Fellingham (Kahutara) is spending a few days in Wellington

10th September 1914 Mis M Fellingham (Kahautara) is visiting friends in Wellington

11th September 1914 Ambulance equipment fund Wellington Education Board Kahautara 1s 6d

27th February 1915 Miss Ellis, who has been transferred from the Kahutara school to Parkvale, was presented by her late, pupils with a silver manicure set

1875/8102	Fellingham	Marjory Urquhart	Annie	Joseph
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In 1894 Marjory started teaching as a pupil teacher at Waihenga [Later named Martinborough] and in 895 at Kaiwairai and in 1895 back to Waihenga, from 1896 to 1899 she was at Featherston still as a Pupil Teacher. She then had from 1901 to to 1915 as Teacher at Kahautara. In 1917 she was head of Korokoro North school in the foothills by Petone and in 1919 saw her last spell of teaching as sole teacher at Bideford

1920/9397	Marjory Urquhart	Fellingham	Arthur	Tait
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1955/24923	Tait	Marjorie Urquhart	74Y
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29th December 1920 Taihape Daily Times TAIT--FELLINGHAM. A wedding of local interest took place on Monday afternoon in the Presbyterian Church, Featherston, the contracting parties being Marjory Urquhart, elder daughter of Mr F.. Fellingham, "Highlands/" Featherston and Arthur, Tait, Tiriraukawa, Taihape.....

1916-1923

1917	31	Kahautara	Bodell	Florence A	D-72	Sole	£150	\$16,812
1919	38	Kahautara	McRae	Nellie Mrs	D	Sole	£180	\$16,261
1921	43	Kahutara	Turner	Mary E Mrs	D	Head	£360	\$30,992
1921	43	Kahutara	Turner	Louisa		Assistant	£190	\$16,357
1923	45	Kahautara	Turner	Mary E Mrs	D-118	Head	£343	\$31,525

1923	45	Kahautara	Wilson	Agnes H	D-225	Assistant	£213	\$19,577
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Florence A Bodell 1909-1912 Assistant at Belvedere.

1913 Akatarawa, 1914-15 Ohariu, after 1 year at Kahautara went to Pahautanui for 1919 to at least 1921 and by 1923 was back at Ohariu

Mrs Nellie McRae only taught for the Wellington Education Board at Kahautara

1919/1859	Nellie	McKenzie	Duncan	McRae
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Mary E Turner taught at Whareama under her married name from 1912 to 1919 and thrn at Kahautara until at least 1923 when my records end. Louisa Turner is only recorded as teaching at Kahautara for the Wellington Education Board . I cannot find whether the two Turners were Mother and daughter

26th January 1916 Wellington Education Board Miss Fellingham's transfer to another school was approved

19th April 1916 MISS F A Bodell has been appointed sole teacher at the Kahautara School

8th July 1916 Help for impoverished Belgium children Kahutara School £25 0s 9d

27th April 1917 In a piece about Maori children in Wellington Education Board schools was the comment; In Gladstone, Kahautara and Ohau about one-third are Maoris, which was the largest ratio of Maoris in their schools

10th April 1919 The election polling booth was the school gymnasium at Kahautara

2nd May 1919 Sole Teacher Kahautara —£160 to £220, and £30 H.A

2nd July 1919 Assistant Teacher £140 to £160

10th December 1919 Mrs M E Turner appointed head teacher

4th February 1920 Assistant Teacher £140 to £160

19th February 1920 Miss I Miller appointed assistant

13th August 1921 The settlers at Kahutara, Lower Valley, are at present erecting a public hall, the framework of which is already up

Post 1923

11th February 1926 Infant Mistress appointed Miss C C T Peters

23rd August 1926 Wellington Education Board annual report Remodelling was undertaken at Kahautara. Land was donated by Mr Bidwell for land for the school

21st June 1923 Miss D E Henderson Infant Mistress at Kahutara

27th February 1923 Thee death of Mr William Bidwell was recorded. He had been chairman of the School Committee for twenty two years

5th June 1940 The Junior Red Cross Circle at the Kahutara School, near Featherston, has collected 82 garments for refugees in England and the children hope to send further garments later on.

Material from National Archives Wellington

Buildings

1897 432 Square foot building

1912 Addition 432 square foot

1956 2 1380 square foot

Residence 1925 4 rooms Moved from Tablelands east of Martinborough

1941 1 room added

Residence site donated by WE Bidwell esq.

14th May 1921 Fire damage

1956 Learners pool

1909

School Gymnasium 25 feet x 19 say 7 meters x 5.79 Meters

Tender was £68 15s Builder Henry Humphries Greytown Timber Floor £10.15 extra

1912

26th January Roll 1909 23, 1910, 26, 1911 38

No of teachers 2

4 over 14 years of age

Average attendance for last quarter 43

Nearest School Dyer 5 ¼ miles, Kaiwairai 5 ¾ miles Featherston South 7 ½

Miss Fellingham has been obliged to refuse entry of children to the school

Application from Wellington Education Board to Department for additions

Wanting a special grant of £295.7.6 for the erection of one room

There is a considerable portion of Maoris amongst the pupils and experience has shown that in such circumstances not less but more than the ordinary regulation space is required both for efficient work and health reasons

6th February approved

1913

22nd October Education Board make a claim for a residence at Kahautara The school now has 2 teachers and for years the Head Teacher has been under obligation to Mr Bidwill for the small house which she occupies but he now requires the house for one of his employees

He has offered moreover an acre of ground at the back of the school site on which to erect a residence

I must add that locally chiefly to Mr Bidwill ground improvements have been effected here so that the school merits consideration

8th December From Secretary of Education The Head teacher would probably be able to get accommodation with one of Mr Bidwill's employees

The Minister would be glad to restrict expenditure on Teacher's residences as much as possible

1916

28th February McLeod Constable at Featherston Father of Alex McLeod of drapery businesses in the Wairarapa Report included

- a) I have been twice to Kahautara
- b) I cannot find any man named Tom Humphries but a William Humphries lives near the scene of the fire
- c) I interviewed a number but cannot find the cause of the fire
- d) Mr Bidwill is chairman of the School Committee I asked why he did not inform the police of the fire and he replied that he never thought of doing so and did not know the police should be informed
- e) Property destroyed School Gymnasium £90, One Piano £30, One Organ £20, Seating forms £12
- f) Mr Campbell Pearce discovered the fire at 11.30 pm 10th February
- g) Roland Tocher last one to see property before the fire 11 pm
- h) Building insured in Office of Liverpool London Agents Levin and Co Wellington
- i) Constable McLeod came on 26th February
- j) No property saved
- k) The Gymnasium was actually in school grounds and near main road
- l) All doors were locked and windows fastened
- m) The fire started inside but soon broke through the roof
- n) The people of Kahautara think the fire was started by rats igniting by some means matches which may have been carelessly dropped

1920

7th April Application for a residence, Teacher has temporary lodgings only In 1913 application was dropped as the teachers at the school were prepared to occupy the unused school room

The teachers now engaged probably Mary and Louisa Turner are living in very great discomfort in a house where the living conditions are such that cannot belong. The teacher says "the people with whom we are at present staying have no accommodation in fact they are making shake downs for their own family in order to accommodate us and apart from that the distance is too great (Nearly three miles)

Mr Bidwill on a former occasion stated that accommodation with his employees was not to be considered

Mr Bidwill formerly offered an acre of land if a residence was erected and the board is assuming the offer will be renewed 22nd December Hand written, note The school is in Bidwill's Estate and apparently, most of the pupils come from the Maori Pa

The school is barely in Grade III The Head Teacher is Mrs Turner who is near retiring age It hardly seems a case for an expensive residence

30th December Department turns down application for residence

1922

19th April Letter from F Bakewell Senior Inspector

- a) Impossible to get accommodation at Kahutara
- b) Now the school is a grade III it is more serious
- c) A previous teacher resided for some years in Featherston (*Marjorie Fellingham*) in Featherston a distance of 8 miles. A small room was put up to enable her to stay the night at Kahutara in exceptionally bad weather. This arrangement was most unsatisfactory
- d) Mr Cowles now recommends an extra room making 2 in all attached to the school He thinks this will do as the present teacher is a widow
- e) I think the school will get bigger but this will do in the meantime

1924

26th April Minister visited School report included

- a) The present teacher, a widow with no children had great difficulty in getting accommodation
- b) The Minister said they couldn't pay £1240 for a teacher who was practically single
- c) It was also mentioned there was a vacant house at Tablelands 20 miles away
- d) This house was erected in 1913 with 4 rooms
- e) The Minister said he had 120 empty residences as married men left
- f) Mr Playle, Chairman said he had a teacher with him but had a wife and three children

21st July A grant of £265 to remove the residence from Tablelands

8th November After Tablelands people protested about losing the house

Kahutara has an average roll of 45. Tablelands 7

Department doesn't want the house to stay at Tablelands where parents were to pay 7/6 rental per week and maintain the schoolhouse

28th November Board digs in toes and now because the house is made of Totara it will fracture when shifted

4th December Department says doesn't matter shift it as already agreed to

1925

29th January Board now asks for £700 for building a house

27th March Tender for removal from Tablelands Cost £438 Fencing is required for the site presented by Mr Bidwill If it found the bath, tank and range can be used again then the estimate will be reduced The cost of removal would be lower but for the difficulty in transport over the river

27th March The Board had included in quote what was chargeable to them not the Department and extra grant of £89 was allowed

7th May and increase grant of £30 was allowed by the Department to provide a passage from the front door to the kitchen

16th June School is being remodelled

19th November A grant of £14.8.0 for the residence site containing 2 roods 7 perches donated by Mr W E Bidwill After the board had sent all the details a Department officer scrawled on the bottom pay £12.6.0

1929

14th May Outbreak of fire A hole was burnt in the floor at about 8.45. and in the lining of the walls and some panes of glass broke (*Rats are Back*) A Tender of £9.17.6 for the repair of same.

That the school pupil who cleaned that school placed what she thought to be cold ashes into the bucket and had left it in the school overnight This is in direct violation of an instruction the Board conveyed to all schools Viz that the fire should not be carried about or removed but quenched in the fireplace or bucket and the ashes safely removed.

1935

17th April Application Erection of wall between seats in girls closets to form 2 compartments. Construction of door and lengthening of screen wall

15th July Department replies use your own funds and those available by Unemployment Board

Building erected 1897 Additions 1912 Floor span 864 square feet in 2 rooms

Roll

1932-33, 66

1933-34, 62

1934-35, 67

December term 1935 71

May Term 1936 62

Staff 2

5th October After a number of letters and involvement of 2 MPs The Department agreed to pay about half of the cost of new conveniences at Kahutara School. The argument was who had responsibility for paying

1938

6th June Letter from H C Playle to Ben Roberts MP thanking him for his work in trying to get conveniences at Kahutara School

20th June Inspector of Health wrote a report on the conveniences that included

- a) Roll 28 girls and 34 boys
- b) 2 seats for the girls and one seat for the boys together with a poorly constructed urinal with no proper drainage there from
- c) It would appear to me that a further seat should be provided for both
- d) That a "Bored Hole" like privy would be very suitable
- e) The Urinal has no drainage from it
- f) The house drainage needs a new pipe

29th October Letter to Ben Roberts MP re lack of action over drainage

23rd November Reply from Peter Fraser Minister of Education I have asked the Department to go urgently into the matter and get back to you

1939

7th February Board to Department Only tender received at a cost of £124 and this is in excess of the value of the work involved

21st February Ben Roberts MP again writing to Peter Fraser Minister of Ed this has been going on for over 2 years and nothing has been done yet. I feel somewhere there must be an oversight somewhere!

1940

18th March Out Offices started

An extra bedroom had ben added to the school residence

1941

17th December The Outbuildings finished 2 boys, 2 girls plus urinal and fuel shed attached at a cost of £337.14.7

1942

19th October Additions to residence finished

1948

23rd February Letter to say no applicants for Assistant Mistress from Wellington Education Board

1949

28th February Letter from Mr Sinclair Secretary School Committee Mr Pottinger Headmaster of Kahutara that the school has been taken off the Country School allowance. We wish it to be reinstated, as it will go against us in getting a permanent assistant teacher.

4th August The number of schools which receive country salary for assistants has been greatly reduced. Kahutara the Education Department is not prepared to approve country allowance for Kahutara . Present occupier will not have salary reduced

24th March Letter to say no applicants for Assistant Mistress from Wellington Education Board

28th April Letter to say no applicants for Assistant Mistress from Wellington Education Board

10th May Appointment of relieving assistant Miss P Heron Vice Miss Wilson

15th June Mr Pottinger asking for a month's leave of absence for Miss Heron She became very ill, was sent to Masterton Hospital and had an operation for appendicitis

I rang the hospital and that the minimum leave required would be 1 month

I have obtained the services of Mrs R H Mathews (Nee Miss J M Geddes former assistant here)

27th June Letter to say no applicants for Assistant Mistress from Wellington Education Board

23rd June Mrs Mathews is not prepared to relieve after 1st July

I've just received a message from Mrs P Flynn nee Miss Twiss of Pirinoa School that she will relieve here commencing Monday well

19th July From Board asking that Mrs Pat Flynn be asked to stay at Kahutara until end of term if possible as relieving teachers are hard to get

19th July Mrs Flynn agrees to stay until the term holidays

2nd August Letter to say no applicants for Assistant Mistress from Wellington Education Board

16th August Letter to say no applicants for Assistant Mistress from Wellington Education Board

8th September Letter from Mr Sinclair Secretary of Kahutara School Committee objecting to no teacher being appointed The parents of the infant children are considering keeping their children away as long as you (Board) feel fit not to send a teacher. We have had 5 part time teachers since the school started this year

16th September Letter from Wellington Education Board appealing to Department for country salary as Kahutara is isolated. Pirinoa has shops and public hall even though further away

23rd September Mrs Alice Pottinger did duty as temporary assistant from the beginning of term until Monday 19th until relieved by Miss Smith training college student

27th September Letter from board has applied for Country Salary for assistant Extra wage of £30 may encourage someone to apply

21st October I regret to inform you there no applicants for assistant mistress

1950

27th February Appointment of Miss H Kerridge

28th February I regret to inform you there are no applicants for assistant mistress

22nd March Appointment of Mr A G Featonby Grading 147 Service 25 years Presently in Auckland

6th April Mr Featonby declined and we are consulting Mr G W Napier. Grading 107 13 years service Wellington teacher

19th May I regret to inform you there are no applicants for assistant mistress

12th April Telegram from Mr Pottinger to Wellington Education Board Cancelling Scott's Cheque. Pottinger 22nd May Letter from J E Barton Chairman This is to certify that Mr W Pottinger has complied with the Board's bylaw no 66

25th May Miss Molly Pope will undertake relieving assistantship from Monday

9th June A nice letter to Wellington Education Board from Mr Napier thanking board for finding a Reliving Teacher

**28th June Enlargement and rearrangement of kitchen and bathroom. Teacher is a single ma about to get married
Roll 1949. 55. 1948. 63. 1957 48**

Pt Section I Kahutara District Block XI Wairarapa S D

5th July The present house was built at Tablelands in 1913 and moved to Kahutara in 1925 (4 Rooms) and a bathroom added in 1941. It now contains 3 bedrooms, a living room, a kitchen plus small scullery

6th July Director of Education (Assistant) House is hardly urgent compared to providing essential classroom accommodation. The proposal should be deferred at present

22nd August Letter from Wellington Education Board to Department

- a) **Wish to install a septic tank to school and residence**
- b) **Great difficulty is experienced in connection with the emptying and cleaning of the sanitary pans**

- c) **No part time cleaners want to include this distasteful work and unless they are done properly and disinfected the tins and floors around them become objectionable**

1951

16th February Quotes for septic tank received after copious notes between **School Committee, Minister of Education Board, MP and Department**

The quote did not allow for a septic tank connection for the house but could get a tank for another £100 . House would get water from new connection

6th April Miss Merlet permanent teacher from Carterton will report for duty Kahutara Monday. Please arrange board Telegram to Mr Barton Telephone 103S

27th June Miss N Saunders appointed Service 2 ½ years . Probationary Assistant

1952

13th August Letter from R Pearce acting Secretary asking for a prompt appointment of a replacement for Mrs Wenden

8th September Telegram to Board Infant room closed until infant teacher appointed

10th September Telegram from Board Miss Hampton proceeding Kahutara at weekend, She will telephone you on arrival

1953

30th January Appointment of Miss J Alley

18th June Letter from Mr Napier School was closed as roads were covered by floodwater, transport was unable to get through

3rd September Miss E L M Jones Vice Holmes starting 7th September

1954

20th January Miss A G Finlay 3 years service appointed as assistant

16th November Appointment of Mr J W McGuinness Teaching for 12 ¾ years. Currently at Rongotai College

1955

22nd June Letter from Board asking Kahutara to release Miss A G Finlay early as she was wanted at home and Miramar North are having staffing difficulties

27th June Letter from Robert E Stout Chairman School Committee School Committee will release Miss Finlay but they want an appointment as of 4th July her age over 70 children in the school

The School Committee would like to express an appreciation of Miss Finlay's work

14th February Letter from Mr Maguinness that the school is going to hold a sports and carnival day instead of a picnic Can they count it as a school day?. Any money raised would go to the school learner pool

1956

20th March Appointment Mr F C Batchelor 7 ¼ years From Wellington

17th July Mr Batchelor states school closed serious flooding

9th August Letter from Brian Batchelor

- a) **Miss Nutting has a dropped a bombshell she is leaving at the end of the term and I want someone to do a grand job like her**
- b) **We have very good board available ½ mile from the school on the main road**
- c) **If we could get a widowed teacher with children of otherwise the chairman has offered a house**
- d) **There is a brand new classroom nearly ready to move into. A school bus runs from Featherston daily and returns about 4.45**

16th September letter from Mr Batchelor the roll has risen to over 71 will I keep my job?

Reply stating that position will be advertised

3rd December Appointment of Miss D L Nester 6 years service

1958

1st January Letter from Mr Batchelor co signed by R Benton Secretary

Current roll 79 with 90 expected by end of year. Could another teacher be appointed?

Answer No

December 1958 Inspectors Report included

- a) **Miss D T Nestor 36 in juniors Standard I**
- b) **Mr Brian Batchelor 40**
- c) **Recommends an extra teacher to Wellington Education Board if possible This school is capably managed and very good progress has been made**
- d) **The school is well equipped Deering the last 3 years a radiogram, a projector, tape recorder and electric clock have been procured**
- e) **All concerned are to be commended on the provision of fine school baths**
- f) **There is a fine community spirit in this area**
- g) **The school is in very good condition under two conscientious teachers**

18th March application for appointment of Mrs C Cross (Ex Featherston District High School) as extra teacher

1960

13th June Letter from Brian Batchelor re salary of Mrs C M Cross

1944 PA Catherine M Bargh

1945 Te Whiti One term

1945-1946 Dyerville 1 year 2 terms

1947 Carterton 1 year Mrs C M Cross

1949 – November Featherston

April 1959 Kahutara

15th November 1960 Appointment of Mrs Catherine Cross as assistant mistress

25th November Letter from a Mr Bargh Secretary of School Committee approving of appointment of Mrs C Cross (Nec Bargh) to permanent staff

1961

20th October Brian Batchelor resigns and states that Mrs Cross is also resigning

30th October Inspectors report include

- a) **Brian Batchelor 34**
- b) **Mrs C M Cross 31**
- c) **This is a school which is functioning effectively and happily**
- d) **The Home and School association takes a lively interest in the school including approximately 400 books in creating a school library**

December 1961 Mr B C Batchelor has left the school premises in good order and the residence

18th December Lionel Keith Clark and Lesley Marguerite Clark dual appointment (*I think Keith Clark not known as Lionel!*)

27th December Letter from W Juno thanking Board for appointment of married couple

1962

29th July Letter from Mr Clark asking that Mrs D Sims (Betty) was available as a third teacher as roll was over 71

13th November As school has held roll of over 75 for four weeks then an additional teacher can be appointed

1964

4th February Mrs Cross relieved for Mr Clark to attend a course in Masterton

15th July Inspectors report included

- a) **Mrs Clark Primers 27**
- b) **Mrs Sims Standard 1-2 14**
- c) **Mr L K Clark 30**
- d) **The school is under thoughtful and capable management by a head teacher who is well aware of the present day needs of his pupils**
- e) **Modern methods are being used**

25th October Mrs Sims has resigned (*Betty was teaching at Featherston school with me in 1964 and 65. She purchased from me my Fiat 500 bright yellow for her son, number plate CJ133*)

20th November Mr and Mrs Lonsdale appointed

1966

3rd February Site for new school house purchased Owned by Mrs Isobel Bowers. Nee Isobel Humphries Amount £45 Block XI

22nd February Derek and Betty Ingram arrive (*From Tinui*) Betty to spend a day with Maisie Shankland at Lansdowne School organised by Bill Farland Rural School Adviser

Undated letter from Dereck saying his wife has resigned Mrs McLaughlin wife of Mr McLaughlin who I followed at South Featherston or Mrs Lesley Berryman wife of Pirinoa Head Teacher John Berryman was available

1967

31st January New residence built Top Rental is £3.00 per fortnight

Inspectors Report 1967 included

- a) **D G (Derek) Ingram 24 children**
- b) **T W Poc 24**
- c) **Mrs B E (Betty) Ingram 19**
- d) **The school is under the jurisdiction of a very competent staff headed by a teacher who is energetic**
- e) **Overall the general standard of achievement is high**
- f) **A typewriter, filing cabinet puppet theatre, percussion instruments etc have been purchased**

1970

26th June 1970 Paul Gray head teacher applying for relieving expenses Mr Gray came from Okautete School Not entitled as a reliever to shifting expenses

18th August Note fro District Senior Inspector. Lesley Berryman has ben relieving at Kahutara making a staff of 1 head teacher and 2 assistants but should have only had one assistant

Though both teachers will be male I think we should revert to proper staffing

Note at bottom Thank Mrs Berryman

26th August Nick Ives appointed He is notified that Mrs Berryman will not continue in the the third term

24th September Kay Ives appointed teacher aide until end of term

1971

23rd August Mrs Joyce Bentley appointed teacher aide under instruction from Ivan Hann DSSI (*District Chief Inspector*)

Joyce appointed for 10 hours per week

Junior Room 29 pupils

Senior Room 30

25th November Inspectors Report included

- a) Nick Ives
- b) Kay Ives
- c) Under the guidance of an enthusiastic young teacher ably assisted by a relieving assistant the school is providing a balanced program that cater well for the needs
- d) Interesting and worthwhile educational trips providing valuable first hand experience has been undertaken

1972

31 January D M Campbell Head Teacher

Mrs M J Campbell and Mrs E (Betty) Sims on staff

16th February Betty Sims was an uncertificated teacher and taught

2/42-1/44	Ruakokopatuna
2/44-31/1/45	Akitio
2/45-20/4/45	Wharcama
15/10/62-5/1/63	Kahutara
1/2/63-31/1/65	Kahutara
14/9/65-10/1/66	Featherston
5/9/67-12/68	Kahutara

Then further spells upto 1972 at Kahutara or Farcham House School

18th February Letter to Betty Sims stating they have ben paying her as an uncertificated teacher when he Department had from 1970 agreed to pay her as a certificate teacher

1974

11th February Robin House takes up duties as Mobile Reserve Head Teacher at Kahutara

5th July Eric Baker from Te Whiti School head teacher and Barbara Baker teacher aide

14th November Barbara resigns as teacher aide to go on an overseas trip

1975

18th March Graeme Bennetts is Head Teacher

Inspectors report included

- a) G E Bennetts Roll 29
- b) T R McLean 21
- c) The school is staffed by two young men who although inexperienced in eth multiclass situation are keen to improve their classrooms

11th September Betty Sims appointed reliever

1976

28th June Eric Baker back. I think he went on a one year exchange programme

1977

4th April Miss D P Brown is going on maternity leave. Asking fro Barbara Baker to be reliever. Mrs Baker completed a retraining course in August 1976

1979

18th June Inspectors Report included

- a) Eric Baker Standard 2 Form 2 28
- b) Barbara Baker 20
- c) The school is well served by two hard working and conscientious teachers
- d) The school is set in a very attractive environment

1980

4th February Mrs Lyn M Cole appointed Teacher aid for 5 hours per week

15th August Gillian Luttrell was an uncertificated teacher and could only relieve when a certificated teacher was not available

1981

25th May Graeme Bennetts back as Head Teacher (Ex Te Warau)

1982

A number of letters from locals are on file at National archives complaining about the number of teacher changes in the school as it bounces between a two teacher and three teacher schools. The position had to be readvertised and teachers respected in the area had to leave. Since February 1981 there have been seven teachers at our two teacher school

1983

22nd November Graeme Bennetts Principal, Wayne Froggatt teacher and C J Watson

1984

27th April Two relocatables to come on site from Wellington Education Board

December: 1984 80, 1981 82, 1986, 82, 1987 83

6th June Graeme Bennetts asking for a fourth teacher

1989

15th February I L Woodfield Principal