

CHINESE LANGUAGE WEEK



New Zealand Chinese Language Week, held from 31st August to 6th

September, is a Kiwi-led initiative launched in 2014 to promote Chinese language learning. As the first event of its kind in the Western world, it aims to bridge cultural and linguistic gaps between China and New Zealand through engaging, practical activities. Participants include school children, government officials, business owners, and politicians, including past Prime Ministers.

Here are a few mandarin words/phrases to help you interact with our Chinese members:

Hello	Nǐ hǎo
Goodbye	Zài jiàn
Thank You	Xièxie
You are Welcome	Bú yòng xiè
How are you?	Nǐ hǎo ma
Ok/Good	Hǎo/hǎo de
Not OK/Good	Bú hǎo
I'm sorry	Duìbuqǐ
You're awesome	Nǐ zhēn bàng
Let's go together	Yìqǐ qù ba
Wanna watch a movie	Kàn diànyǐng ma
What time shall we meet?	Jǐ diǎn jiàn?

NZ RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS DAY



September 1st marks New Zealand's official Random Acts of Kindness Day. Established in 2005, New Zealand is the sole nation worldwide

to observe a national day dedicated to random acts of kindness across all regions.

For two decades, organisations, educational institutions, faith communities, and individuals throughout New Zealand have participated in Random Acts of Kindness Day on September 1st. Through their collective efforts, the concept of "random acts of kindness" has become an established part of New Zealand's culture and is now recognised annually.

RAK Day encourages individuals to engage in acts of giving. On Monday, participants can choose to be kind to people they have not met before. Upon arriving at work, consider various ways to show kindness to colleagues anonymously.

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY



World Suicide Prevention Day is recognised annually on 10 September to highlight the

issue of suicide as a global public health concern and to promote the understanding that prevention is possible. The observance, established in 2003 by the International Association for Suicide Prevention and the World Health Organisation (WHO), aims to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and inform organisations, governments, and the public about strategies related to suicide prevention.

The 2024-2026 World Suicide Prevention Day theme, "Changing the Narrative on Suicide," focuses on fighting stigma and promoting open dialogue. The goal is to move from silence and misunderstanding to greater openness and support around this issue.

Suicide is a leading cause of death and affects people regardless of age, gender, or background.

Stigma prevents many from seeking help. Suicide and attempts have far-reaching effects on families, friends, and communities.

Suicide prevention involves both crisis intervention and fostering supportive communities. The 2025 sub-theme, “Creating Hope Through Action,” highlights how small acts of kindness and open, non-judgmental conversations can make a meaningful difference.

MĀORI LANGUAGE WEEK



Te Wiki o te Reo Māori will be held from 14 to 20 September 2025. On 14 September 1972, a petition with

over 30,000 signatures supporting the Māori language was presented to parliament, making that day Māori Language Day.

Born of activism, the week grew from a single ‘Māori Language Day’ set up in 1972. The seeds of a full week dedicated to te reo Māori were planted in 1974. By 1975 Te Wiki had found its footing and was off! Its growth and gains are what we celebrate 50 years on.

The 2025 theme for Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (Māori Language Week) is “Ake ake ake - A forever language,” celebrating 50 years and the lasting significance of te reo Māori. Held in September, this milestone supports ongoing efforts to revitalise the language in Aotearoa.

Join Aotearoa for the 50 Wero Reo Māori and complete any of 50 language challenges throughout the week. Everyone can take part, no matter their fluency—try one or all, alone or with others. Every challenge matters!

<https://www.reomaori.co.nz/50-wero>

Here are some phrases to get you started:

Hello (informal)	Kia ora
Hello – formal	Tēnā koe (to 1 person)
	Tēnā korua (2 people)
	Tēnā koutou (3 or more)
Welcome	Nau mai haere mai
Good morning	Mōrena or atamarie
Good afternoon	Ahiahimarie
Good night	Pōmarie
Goodbye	Haere rā
(If you are staying)	

Goodbye	E noho rā
(If you are leaving)	
Goodbye (informal)	Hei konā rā
How are you?	Kei te pehea koe?
I am fine	Kei te pai ahau
I am tired	Kei te ngenge au
Don't worry	Hei aha atu
Drink/Thirsty	Inu/ Hiainu
Family	Whānau
Food/Hungry	Kai/hiakai
Friend/close friend	E hoa/Kare
Friends	E hoa ma
Happy birthday	Rā whanau
See you	Ka kite
See you again	Ka kite ano
Student	Tauira
Teacher	Kaiako
Work	Mahi
Worker	Kaimahi
You got this	Koia kei a koe

INTERNATIONAL EQUAL PAY DAY



International Equal Pay Day, observed on 18 September, highlights efforts to achieve equal pay for work of equal

value and supports the UN's commitment to human rights and non-discrimination, especially for women and girls.

Globally, women earn about 20% less than men. Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls remain limited due to ongoing unequal power dynamics, poverty, and restricted access to resources and opportunities.

As of June 2025, New Zealand's gender pay gap is at a record low of 5.2%, down 3% from last year. However, the gap is higher for wāhine Māori (12%), Asian women (10.2%), and Pacific women (15.8%). The disparity stems from occupational segregation, work arrangements, and historical undervaluation of women's work, though gains are being made with more women in higher-paying roles and rising hourly earnings.

NZ WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE DAY



On **19 September 1893**, New Zealand became the first self-governing country to grant voting rights to women. Women's suffrage began in the

late 19th century, with Kate Sheppard as a key figure in the movement in New Zealand. The Kate Sheppard Memorial Wall in Christchurch features six notable women.

Helen Nicol – Dunedin campaigner
Kate Sheppard – Suffragist
Ada Wells – Campaigner for girl's education
Harriet Morrison – Advocate for working women
Meri Te Tai Mangakāhia of Te Tai Tokerau – Te Kotahitanga (the Māori Parliament)
Amey Daldy – Auckland Woman's Christian Temperance Union

These women delivered their suffrage petition to Parliament in a wooden cart. The memorial, unveiled on 19 September 1993, marks 100 years of women's suffrage in New Zealand.

Several years after the vote was secured, an editor from the Women's Christian Temperance Union reflected, "*we, the mothers of the present need to impress upon our children's minds how the women of the past wrestled and fought, suffered and wept, prayed and believed, agonised and won for them the freedom they enjoy today.*" These sentiments remain pertinent; it is important to continue advocating for women's rights, particularly as current governmental changes are disproportionately impacting many women.

WOMEN'S DAY OF ACTION



Saturday, 20th September marks a significant occasion in the ongoing pursuit of pay equity. On this day, 132 years and one day after women achieved the right to vote in Aotearoa, individuals are gathering to demonstrate their commitment to equitable compensation.

Recent changes to pay equity legislation by the Government have altered measures that aimed to address the cost of living and improve remuneration for over 182,000 people. Additionally, claims intended to enhance vital public services such as schools, libraries, hospitals, aged care, disability support, and others have been cancelled.

This Day of Action serves not only as a demonstration but also as an acknowledgement of the women who nurture, lead, and advocate for change. It recognises the legacy of suffrage and seeks to enhance collective efforts towards shaping the future. The occasion invites all individuals who support women to express their solidarity. Participants are encouraged to wear purple, green, and white in honour of the Aotearoa suffrage flower—the camellia—and attend planned events throughout the country.

Scheduled actions include marching in Auckland, gatherings in Porirua and Christchurch, vocal advocacy in Wellington, craft-focused sessions in Invercargill, as well as online support activities.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE



The International Day of Peace ("Peace Day") is observed around the world each year on

21 September. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to Peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace.

This year's theme is **Cultivating a Culture of Peace**. During periods of instability and change, taking practical steps to promote peace is encouraged. Various individuals, including peacekeepers, community members, and students globally, can contribute through different roles. The theme includes standing against violence, hate, discrimination, and inequality, encouraging respectful behaviour, and recognising diversity.

The International Day of Peace is not only for ceasefires, but also a reminder to recognise our shared humanity—essential for global survival.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SIGN LANGUAGES



The United Nations International Day of Sign Languages is on 23rd September. Around 72 million deaf people worldwide use

over 300 sign languages, with more than 80% living in developing countries. The International Day of Sign Languages is designated to recognise and promote the linguistic identity and cultural diversity of deaf individuals and sign language users.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities affirms sign languages as equal to spoken languages and requires states to support their use and promote Deaf culture. As an official language in New Zealand, sign language deserves our recognition and effort to learn it.

Have a go at New Zealand Sign Language

Source: Deaf Aotearoa



Basic sign language.

If there are other words you would like to know, go to this website: <https://www.nzsl.nz/>

TUVALU LANGUAGE WEEK



This year marks the twelfth year that Tuvaluans in New Zealand celebrate their annual language

week from the 28th September to the 4th October. The 2025 theme for Tuvalu Language Week is 'Faipati mo te mautinoa kae amanaia tou fakavae – Speak confidently and respect your foundation'.

Speaking your native language or dialect strengthens cultural ties, builds pride, and helps preserve traditions. Keeping a dialect alive also

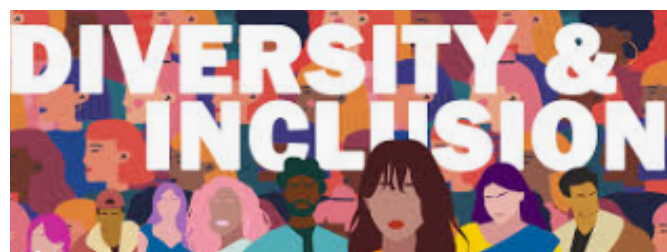
maintains unique speech patterns and adds to cultural diversity.

Tuvalu is a small Pacific Island nation that lies midway between Australia and Hawaii. Tuvalu means eight islands standing together. The total land area is around 26 square kilometres.

Tuvaluan is the spoken language of Tuvalu and is closely related to the language of Samoa. It is distantly related to most of the other Polynesian languages.

Here are some useful phrases:

Welcome	Ulufale mai
Hello	Tālofa
Goodbye	Tofa
How are you	Ea mai koe
Please	Fakamolemole
Good luck	Manuia
Have a nice day	Manuia tea so
Excuse me	Tulou
Sorry	Fakamolemole au kō 'sē
Thank You	Fakafetai/Fāfetai
Reply to thank you	E 'lei



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