TE KURA TAKIWA O MANGAKAHIA
MANGAKAHIA AREA SCHOOL
1480 Mangakahia Road, Titoki, Whangarei, 0172
www.mangakahia.school.nz
Email: admin@mangakahia.school.nz
Phone: 09 4331702

TERM 1 2026 NEWSLETTER

Tēnā koutou katoa e te whānau o te tātou kura,

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the many successes, experiences, and achievements that have strengthened our school community. This term has truly reflected our vision: "From seed to strength we grow together – Mai i te kākano ki te kaha, ka tipu tahi tātou."

It has been a pleasure welcoming new staff members to our school. Their enthusiasm and commitment have already made a positive impact.

Our Rangatira leaders have taken their place and are as follows: Head Rangatira: Arihia Marsh and Teijah Rewita, Student Council Rangatira: Axel Fox, Hauora Rangatira: Amy Tribble, Academic Rangatira: Kredence Mitchell-Tobin, Cultural Rangatira: Cora Berry, Arts Rangatira: Desmond Wass and Sports Rangatira: Samara Marzellin.

I have enjoyed witnessing the learning which is taking place across the school and hearing the passion from the students about what and how they are learning. My personal highlights are the moments which showcase the tuakana-teina relationships which are so special in an area school. The Teddy Bear's Picnic was a fabulous example of this as the year 11 students hosted the event for Ngā Kākano, as part of their health assessment. I have also enjoyed hearing students talking about homework, aiming for high achievement and contemplating studying at university.

Sport and physical activity have been a strong feature of the term. Athletics Day showcased determination and resilience while our swimming programme supported students to build confidence and vital water safety skills. We are proud of those students who represented us at Area School Sports Trials, demonstrating courage and commitment beyond the classroom. This year our region is hosting the National Area Schools' Sports tournament in Whangārei, which will take place in week 11 of term 2.

Our kapa haka rōpū have been busy practising for the upcoming Te Tai Tokerau Festival. We are all behind them and wish them well. Thank you to the whānau who have supported the weekend wānanga, enabling the rōpū to practice their bracket.

Our recent community hui reminded us of the importance of partnership between school and whānau. Your whakaaro, support, and engagement help guide our direction and ensure we continue to grow together as one learning community. The Board will be considering all of the feedback received at the next Board meeting in order to determine next steps.

I would like to thank our dedicated staff for their ongoing commitment to our students, and our whānau for the encouragement and support you provide each day. Most importantly, I acknowledge our students – your effort, enthusiasm, and willingness to learn make our school a special place.

I wish everyone a safe and restful term break and look forward to welcoming you back refreshed for another exciting term ahead.

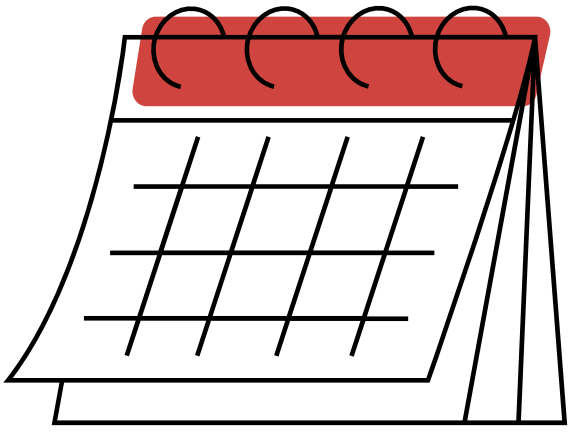
Ngā mihi nui,

Whaea Rachel Clothier-Simmonds

Tumuaki

UPCOMING EVENTS / IMPORTANT DATES

2nd April - Last Day of Term 1
3rd April - Good Friday (Public Holiday)
20th April - First day of Term 2
27th April - Anzac Day (Public Holiday)
21st April - School Fun Run
1st June - Kings Birthday
26th June - Matariki Conferences



2026
TERM DATES

TERM 1

2ND FEBRUARY - 2ND APRIL

TERM 2

20TH APRIL - 3RD JULY

TERM 3

20TH JULY - 25TH SEPTEMBER

TERM 4

12TH OCTOBER - 11TH DECEMBER

2026 Powhiri



















New Teachers 2026



Ko Fleur Marr tōku ingoa. Ko kaiako ahau ki te kura takiwā o Mangakahia.

My name is Fleur Marr, I am a (new) kaiako at Mangakahia Area School. My husband and I live in Titoki, and we have five tamariki. Two of our children currently attend Mangakahia Area School. In our spare time, we love to spend time as a whānau, play sports, swim, get stuck into the gardens, and support our own tamariki with their extra curricular activities.

I have experience in teaching in years 0-8. This year I am teaching Kōhuri (year 7 & 8). I am also teaching the visiting schools for food technology, and I am the Primary Leader. I am a passionate kaiako, who loves getting to know ngā ākonga, their strengths and their individual dispositions. I hope to provide an inclusive classroom environment, where we learn and grow together. I am looking forward to getting to know everyone throughout the year, and finding my place at Mangakahia Area School.



Kia ora koutou!

I te taha o tōku pāpā
Ko Tarawera te maunga
Ko Tarawera te awa
Ko Te Arawa te waka
Ko Te Arawa te iwi
Ko Ngati Rangitihi te hapu

I te taha o tōku māmā
Ko Panguru te maunga
Ko Hokianga te awa
Ko Ngatokimatawhaorua te waka
Ko Te Rarawa te iwi
Ko Ngati Manawa te hapu

Ko Kingi Marr tōku ingoa

I am Kingi Marr, my whānau is from a little place called Matatā near Whakatāne where I grew up. I live locally here in Titoki, and I am the new kaiako for Mātātupu here at Mangakahia Area School. My wife and I live locally here in Titoki with our 5 children. I love sports and having a bit of friendly competition, so you may find us out and about at the Sports Complex during Touch season or out on the netball courts playing socially. I love to watch a lot of different sports, especially rugby league, so every weekend I am watching the Warriors play, and like every year, this is definitely our year!

I look forward to continuing to get to know our students in Mātātupu over the rest of year and am excited for some of the things we have planned through the year.



Kia ora! My name is Liane Cook, and I am absolutely delighted to be joining the Mangakahia Area School whānau as a Teacher and Dean. I thought it would be lovely to introduce myself and share a little about the journey that has brought me here.

I grew up in Whakatane, in the sunny Bay of Plenty — a place that will always hold a very special place in my heart. After finishing school, I spread my wings and headed to Auckland, where I spent a number of years building a career in the business world. Starting out and working my way up through the ranks to managerial positions, it was a hugely rewarding chapter of my life that taught me so much about people, leadership, and how the world works.

When my children reached school age, I found myself drawn towards education in a way I hadn't quite expected. I completed my teacher training and landed my first teaching role at Whangārei Boys' High School — a place that would become very much my professional home for the next 22 years. I worked in the Social Sciences Department and had the privilege of serving as both Dean and Head of Department.

Those years were filled with incredible experiences, wonderful colleagues, and most importantly, the privilege of working alongside so many young people as they grew and found their way.

And now, here I am at Mangakahia Area School — and I have to say, I am so excited about this new chapter. I am looking forward to getting to know our students, their whānau, and this fantastic community. Please do come and say hello if you see me around!

Ngā mihi nui,

Liane Cook

Teacher & Dean, Mangakahia Area School











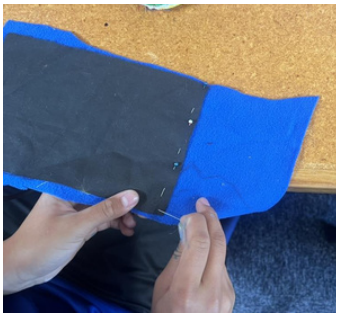
As a follow on from our Fast Fashion unit, we pulled out and dusted off the sewing machines! We are still learning the basics and getting better at threading needles, but our abilities to sew in a straight line have vastly improved!

Māhuri Sewing

Our first little project has been to use scrap material to create little pillow case bags. For many of our class it was their first time using a sewing machine and it has been awesome to see perseverance, problem solving and the support they have for each other as they learn from their mistakes.










Do you have any...

Suitable materials, Scrap materials, Spools of thread, Embellishments, Needles, pins, Pin cushions, Buttons, Old patterns etc???? We would absolutely appreciate anything that you think may help us explore this almost forgotten past time. We would happily make you one of our little bag/purse/mini pillowcase in return, (until we get real good at other things!)

What is it?

Fast fashion has become a major part of the global clothing industry. It allows people to buy trendy clothing quickly and at low prices. While it has made fashion more accessible and popular, fast fashion also creates serious environmental, social, and economic impacts. (Serena)

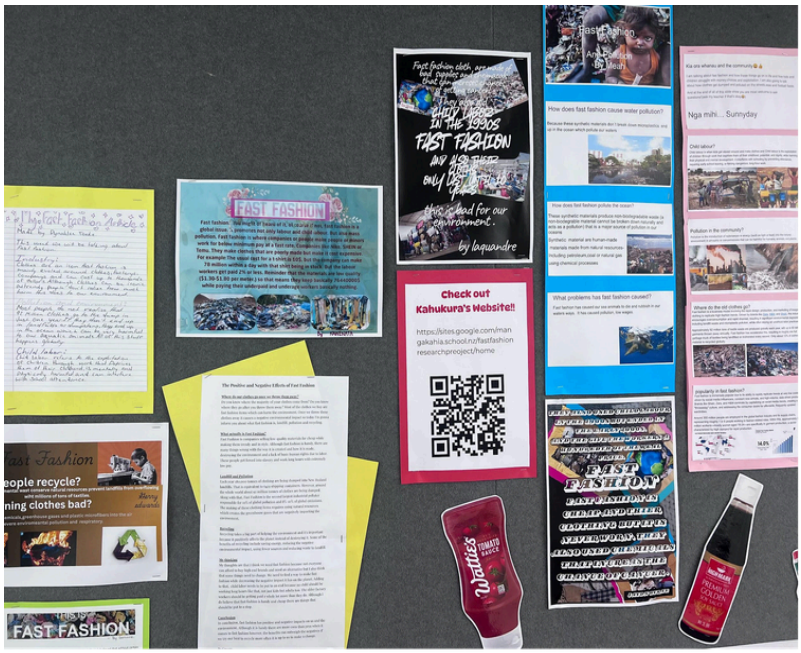
Why should I care?

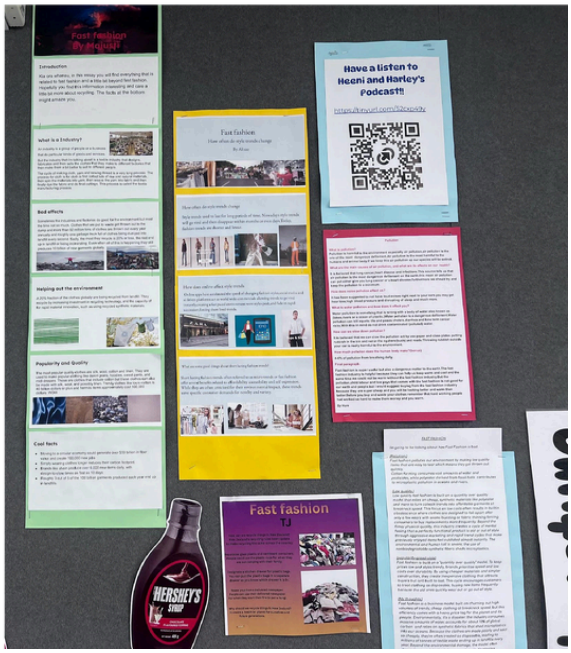
Environmentally,it's a disaster: the industry consumes massive amounts of water, accounts for about 10% of global carbon and relies on synthetic fabrics that shed microplastics into our oceans. (Phenixx)

We have been working through the 'SAUCE' inquiry model to research…

Fast Fashion

We have also explored different ways to communicate our ideas and knowledge with others. This has seen one of us create a website and another two create a podcast! The QR codes are on our wall if you are passing through!





What happens to it?

Approximately 92 milliontons of textile waste are produced globally each year, with up to 60 billion garments thrown away annually. Fast fashion has accelerated this, resulting in roughly one full garbage truck of textiles being landfilled or incinerated every second. Only about 12% of clothing material is recycled globally. (Sunnyday)

So what?

…Fast fashion is still unhealthy for the ecosystem and environment and should not be a thing, But there are some things that are good like,the cheap prices,and the easy access to clothes for the less fortunate. But there are some things that you should be aware of before you buy products from fast fashion. These things include the child labour that goes into making the products and the low pay for the workers and also the bad environmentally effects… (Mason)

Māhuri Social Studies



Up to 25 students attend Chess Club each Thursday lunchtime. Our senior students become the teachers and help coach the younger students. We have a goal to attend the Northland school's competition. If you love playing chess too, please contact me, we would love some extra help (and boards) at the club

andreac@mangakahia.school.nz











Ngā Kākano

Cooking



We have been cooking on a Friday in the foodtech class.

We are learning to take turns at mixing the ingredients, cutting the ingredients safely, grating cheese, and being hygienic. We have to wash our hands, wear aprons, and have shoes on. We all take turns at doing the washing and drying and cleaning up.



















Mangakahia Area School

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

3:15PM 1ST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN THE STAFF ROOM

Our school thrives because of the amazing support from our whānau, and we'd love YOU to be part of it!

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) plays a huge role in supporting our students, staff, and wider school community. From fundraising and organising events to helping create opportunities for our tamariki – every little bit makes a big difference.

Why join the PTA?

- Meet other parents and build connections
- Have a say in school activities and initiatives
- Help raise funds for resources and experiences for our kids
- Be part of a positive, supportive team

Time commitment?

As much or as little as you can give – whether it's helping at one event or coming along to meetings, every contribution counts.

No experience needed – just a willingness to help!



Mangakahia Area School

ENROLMENTS OPEN

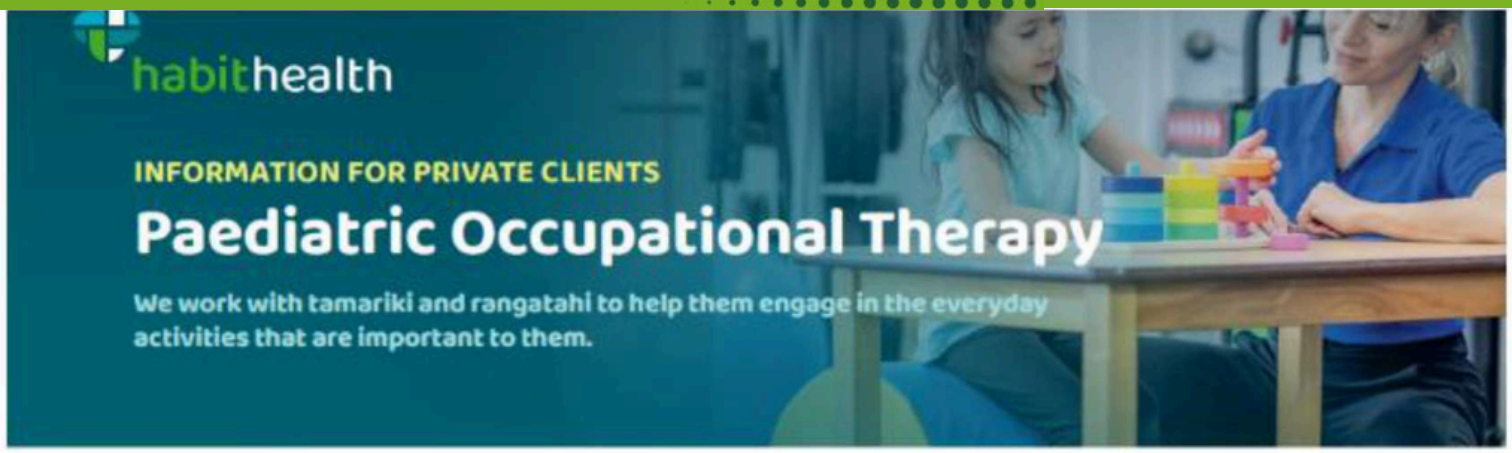
TO STRIVE - TO SEEK - TO FIND

We are accepting enrolments in all year levels - 5 year old's, 2026 year 9 students and all other year groups.

Collect an enrolment pack from the front office today!

Phone to enquire
09 4331 702

habithealth



INFORMATION FOR PRIVATE CLIENTS

Paediatric Occupational Therapy

We work with tamariki and rangatahi to help them engage in the everyday activities that are important to them.

We support children's independence with getting ready for school, concentrating in class, improving handwriting, social participation, or completing day-to-day activities.

What is Occupational Therapy?

Occupational Therapists support people to do the things they want to, need to, or are expected to do, to help them live a health-filled and balanced life.

Our Occupational Therapists are trained to assess children, their environment, and the challenging task. They then work with the child, provide recommendations for equipment and caregiver education, or modify the task to better suit their abilities.

How do I know if a child needs Occupational Therapy?

They may:

- not meet developmental milestones
- have difficulty managing schoolwork or keeping up with peers
- have sensory challenges resulting in difficulty managing everyday tasks (e.g. agitation during grooming tasks, sensitivity to light/ noise)
- appear clumsy or uncoordinated
- have difficulty with fine motor tasks including buttons, shoelaces, handwriting
- have difficulty with emotional regulation (e.g. big outbursts when completing challenging tasks).

We have availability now in the Northland Region for further information, please reach out referrals@habit.co.nz

We try to make our students' learning practical, so when they have to write their NCEA reports, they can really connect to the learning. This activity contributed to a Health Achievement standard, where students learnt about te Whare Tapa Wha and how taking part in activities can influence a person’s hauora. The year 11 students did an amazing job and the Ngā Kākano students had a lot of fun too.



Ngā Kākano

Whanaungatanga

There is a school challenge to create a poster that represents Whanaungatanga for us in Ngā Kākano. We have all created our own individual poster and are also trying to make a combined one. Whaea takes photographs of us working together to hold the ball. We will have the words 'Kind hand, kind words' stuck to the ball for our final choice. Please tell us what you think.



















What's been happening in our Year 0-8 space?

We have been a hive of action! Check out what Ngā Kākāno, Mātātupu, and Kōhuri have been up to! We started our term learning about the school value 'whanaungatanga'. We learnt that showing whanaungatanga means being kind and being inclusive. We learnt that we can demonstrate whanaungatanga by having positive relationships with each other and by learning about each other.

Our highlights from the term were:

- **Using the food space to learn to cook food and make playdough**
- **Getting our new duffy books**
- **Our trip to the Wairau Māori Art Gallery**
- **Athletics**
- **Swimming sports**
- **Our weekly Wednesday Wheels Day**
- **Getting our new wheels which were paid for by a donation of $2000 - Thanks Mangakahia Lions! We have been riding them everyday!**

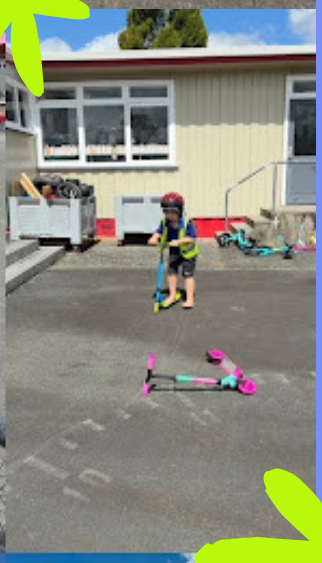
















Drivers License

Congratulations to seven students for completing their learners drivers course, and for the 4 eligible 16 year olds who passed their license on 10th March. Thank you to Neil from the New Zealand Police who took them through the course and paid for their tests!!



TRADES & GATEWAY (work placements) UPDATE

We are proud to share that two of our Year 13 students have been accepted into Trades Academy courses at NorthTec for 2026.

- Ziaha – Automotive Engineering
- Arihia – Cookery

These programmes involve students attending NorthTec to complete tertiary-level study while still at school. Trades Academy courses provide clear pathways into further study, apprenticeships, or employment, and their participation also contributes towards NCEA Level 3.

We look forward to hearing about their learning experiences and achievements throughout the year.

Courses

On 19 March, our Year 13 students attended an Adventure Tourism course, where they experienced the thrill of parasailing above the beautiful Bay of Islands.

Our year 12 Biology students which was planned for this term will take place later in the year. This will involve participating in a problem solving course, rocky shore study and jet boat experience in Paihia.

On 2 April, year 13 students will take part in a Customer Service course, developing skills in conflict resolution, communication, and professional customer interactions.

Throughout the year, we will also be offering additional opportunities including driver licensing courses, possum control training, and many more hands-on learning experiences.

It's fantastic to see our senior students embracing real-world learning and building valuable skills for their futures.

Mangakahia JMB Rugby - NOW RECRUITING



Mangakahia JMB Rugby - NOW RECRUITING



Mangakahia JMB Rugby Club is gearing up for the upcoming season and is on the lookout for new players to join their teams. This is a great opportunity for tamariki to get involved, build skills, make friends, and enjoy being part of a fun and supportive team environment.

The club is currently looking for players across all grades, with a particular need in U7, U8, U9, and U10 teams. However, all tamariki are welcome, and the club will do their best to cater for everyone who is keen to play.

Trainings: Thursdays at 4:30pm

Location: Mangakahia Complex

Season starts: Saturday 3rd May and runs through to the end of August

If your child is interested in playing, you can register online using the link below:

https://myaccount.rugbyxplorer.com.au/choose-registration?name=Mangakahia

For more information, parents and caregivers can visit the **Mangakahia Rugby** Facebook page or get in touch via email at **rugbymangakahia@gmail.com**.

Come along and be part of the team – all skill levels welcome!



Primary Trip - March 2026



























Wairau Māori Art Gallery with Nikau Hindin

Ngā Kākano Art Trip

















We had a great trip into town to see Nikau Hindin and her art. She helped make kites and paint them with natural paints made from ash, local clay and dirt. We also had time to play with the bricks and at the playground. It was an amazing experience.



















WHOLE SCHOOL SWIM



Ngā Kākano Athletics









We all had a go.













It was a fun day with lots of activities to try. We had a swim after and got to eat ice blocks and sausages. A great time had by all.

Senior School Maths @ MAS





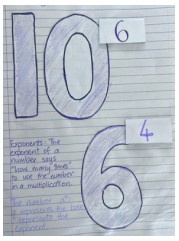


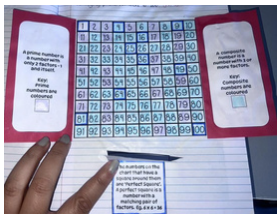
Kōhuri: One afternoon a week we have been developing Mathex skills. Problem Solving, Persistence, Resilience, Logic, and Team work!

Māhuri: With the refreshed curriculum being implemented this year, we are creating as we go a 'Maths Learning Journal' that gives us a reference and interactive tool that supports us with all the new skills and knowledge we need to know use and apply at Phase 4 of the curriculum.



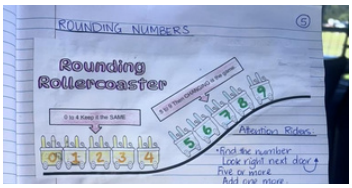


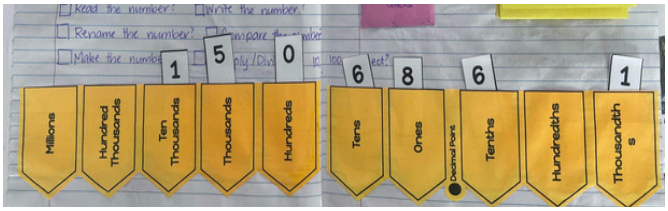












Level One: This term has been about working towards our 1.2 Assessment - Using mathematical methods which relate to life. This could involve exploring measurement, geometry, number and algebra methods to solve problems. For example finding the surface area and volume of complex 3D shapes and then converting this into capacity units. (We checked that the theory worked for real). Use percentage increase and decrease and rates, ratios when shopping or even applying pythagorean theorem and a bit of trigonometry and algebra to build a playground.













Our YES Students Shine at SPARK Day!

What an incredible day it was! On Tuesday 11 March 2026, 13 of our talented YES (Young Enterprise Scheme) students headed to Barge Park to take part in the annual SPARK Day — and they absolutely rose to the occasion!

SPARK Day is one of the highlights of the enterprise calendar, bringing together young entrepreneurs from schools right across Northland to showcase their product ideas to a panel of experienced local business people drawn from a wide range of industries. It is a real-world challenge, and not for the faint-hearted!

Our students pitched their product concepts directly to these business professionals, who put their ideas through their paces — asking the tough questions and offering frank, constructive feedback on everything from product viability to market appeal. It was an intense four hours, with student groups competing for attention and recognition alongside some very impressive young entrepreneurs from across the region.

The experience is truly invaluable. Hearing directly from people who operate in the real world of business — people who understand markets, customers, and what it takes to make a product succeed — gives our students insights that simply cannot be replicated in a classroom. The feedback they received will no doubt sharpen their thinking and strengthen their enterprise projects going forward.

We could not be more proud of the way our ākonga represented Mangakahia Area School on the day. They showed up with enthusiasm, confidence, and creativity — and gave it everything they had. A huge congratulations to all 13 students who took part. Watch this space, because we think these young entrepreneurs have a very exciting future ahead of them!

Ngā mihi nui to our YES students and to all who supported them on this journey.

WEDNESDAY WHEELS DAY IS BACK!



STUDENTS MAY BRING A BIKE OR SCOOTER FROM HOME ON A WEDNESDAY



EACH CHILD THAT BRINGS A BIKE OR SCOOTER MUST ALSO BRING A HELMET

WE HAVE BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO RECEIVE A DONATION TO BUY MORE WHEELS FOR OUR KURA. A NUMBER OF BIKES AND SCOOTERS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL TO SHARE. NGĀ MIHI MANGAKAHIA LIONS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Port to Cove Fishing Competition

★★★★★

27th April 2026

maiplace.co.nz

Port to Cove Rod and Reel Beach Fishing Competition – ANZAC Day

A fun, family-friendly fishing competition will be held on Saturday 25 April 2026 at Bream Bay.

7:00 AM – 3:00 PM (fish anytime)

Adults $10 | Kids (15 & under) $5

Great prizes up for grabs, including junior and mystery prizes.

For more info:

Mai Place Bream Bay

Port to Cove Rod & Reel Beach Competition

Event page

Facebook

maiplace.co.nz