

## **TE KURA TAKIWA O MANGAKAHIA**

#### MANGAKAHIA AREA SCHOOL

### Nau mai, pānui mai i tō tātou karere hou mo te wahanaga tuawha, ko Te Kūkupa, ko te ohonga ake o ngā moemoeā, ko te puāwiatanga o te whakakaro!

Welcome to our newsletter, Te Kūkupa, for 2023, Te Kūkupa. A place where the journey to realise the aspirations we have for our students are celebrated and shared with the community.

#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

What a hub of activity we have seen over the past several weeks with the new carpet and autex refurbishment taking place in the high school block. Exciting new developments are underway with recent discussions held with Mayfair Pools and Ministry of Education project staff, taking the first step towards the refurbishment and development of our pool area. Junior block plans are being developed for the refurbishment of a new visible learning space to be followed by the same in the senior block. We must also acknowledge the wonderful work by our gardener, Sarah who is keeping our gardens looking beautiful and Huirua our Caretaker continuing to maintain the school grounds.

There are so many wonderful things happening in our school currently that need to be highlighted and acknowledged. Congratulations goes to all students who courageously put themselves through the rigorous student leadership executive council application process for 2023. We are delighted to publicly announce our leaders who were acknowledged at last week's Special assembly.

Manukura Tane (Head Boy) - Rangiatea Marsh

Manukura Wahine (Head Girl) -Anahera Kaipo

Academic Rangatira - Breh Hetaraka

Sports Rangatira - Lavinia Waa

Student Rangatira - Kalani Petersen

Our leaders are already planning with great ideas for the next term and beyond as noted by our first executive hui held earlier this week.

We also proudly acknowledged at our

special assembly the many students who gained upstanding citizen awards for displaying our school values -Manaakitanga, Pono, Mātauranga and Whakamana. It is always heartwarming to see our students working and acting in positive ways together and making the most of their opportunities to be the best they can be and reach for the stars.

We have recently welcomed several new students and whānau to our community. The positive messaging this brings for the staff, students and community, that we are here and working hard to provide positive learning experiences and an environment that seeks only the best outcomes for our students. As always, the school can not do this alone. It requires the continued support of whānau and caregivers to ensure we are building a strong responsive educational community with our students and the heart of the matter.

We know that attendance is a critical component of educational success. Everyday students are not at school is a lost opportunity to make progress.

We ask whānau and caregivers if students are going to be absent from school that the school is informed. It is a requirement from the Ministry of Education that the school follow attendance rules and regulations for notification purposes. Equally important are the standards and expectations around school uniform, resources to support learning and behaviour.

Reminder for students to provide a note to school signed by a parent, caregiver if they are not in the correct uniform. Our staff are here to help.

We warmly invite caregivers and whānau to a 'Meet the staff' Wānanga event in the last week of this term. This is an opportunity for you to meet with staff and the teachers of your students to check out the wonderful things happening in our school. We will begin this event with our school celebration assembly and then move into meeting the staff wānanga.



Mā te pā ka taea te whakatipu te tamaiti - It takes a village to raise a child Maria Dunn

Tumuaki



# **Rachel Clothier-Simmonds**

Ko Mendips te maunga Ko Avon te Awa Ko SS Great Britain te waka Ko Ingarangi te iwi No Bristol te hapū Ko Jay te wahine matua Ko Rachel Clothier-Simmonds toku ingoa



I started my teaching career in London and then when I moved to New Zealand spent 12 years teaching in South Auckland before heading north to Tai Tokerau where I have worked for the last 10 years. My previous roles have included middle leadership (Head of

My role at Mangakahia Area School is as Deputy Principal in charge of the curriculum. I am looking forward to leading the development of a culturally relevant curriculum which is engaging for all and enables all tauira (students) to develop their potential. This year has started with offering a number of new subjects such as Art History, Horticulture, Media Studies, Photography and Te Ao Haka and then building a timetable around student selections. Our 2023 timetable also includes all students taking part in Te Ao Māori lessons.

**Kaupapa of Learning:** The start of the year has involved consolidating the school Kaupapa of Learning (included in this edition) which outlines the school's high expectations. Part of these expectations are for tauira to be fully equipped with the required stationery and books for all their lessons, a school bag and a water bottle. Physical Education is compulsory for all students up to Year 10 and an option for senior students. Students are expected to bring a change of clothes for physical education lessons, which shouldn't be worn under their uniform. If there is a medical reason for them to not do PE they need to bring a note.

Rachel Clothier-Simmonds Tumuaki Tuarua - Deputy Principal





In senior art sometimes we make our own art, sometimes we view and appreciate other artists work. In this way we as a class gain perspective and find the essence of why they do what they do. We are currently doing both, with a focus on an artist that whakapapas to Te Tai Tokerau. Shane Cotton, of Ngāti Te Uri Taniwha, Ngāti Hine, Ngāpuhi. His work is an example of narratives created through symbolism and of biculturalism in Aotearoa.





# This term in Ngā Kakānō we have focused on Ko Wai Ahau? Who Am I?

We have worked very hard looking at who we are and what we enjoy doing at home with our Whānau and here at Kura. These are some photos of what we have created so far this term.



# **Student Leadership Team 2023**

Mangakahia Area School principal Maria Dunn said she wanted to make positive changes in the school, which caters to rangitahi from Years 1 through to 13 and has 90 students currently enrolled.

"I came in last term, and I thought to reset this kura and give our young people hope, belonging and identity, and do [things] with [students], rather than to [them]," she said.

Five students form the executive committee - three are in Year 12 and two are in Year 11. To apply for the role, students had to develop a CV and cover letter and carry out a presentation to students and staff. The group meets fortnightly to discuss issues and ideas within the school.

Dunn said the aim was to create a "real" experience for budding leaders and to demonstrate what was involved. "If we want leaders and to empower young people ... we need to start tapping into these things now for these kids to be courageous."

The initiative would also hopefully inspire the aspirations of younger students.

"We want to have the babies in Year 1 to be going, 'One day I'm going to be like her'," Dunn said. "How do we say there's a world out there? This might be the stepping stone [for them] to be innovative and create, and let the world be their oyster."

Manukura wahine [head girl] Anahera Kaipo was excited to help the school improve.

Though she felt "lots of pressure", Kaipo believed she could handle it.

Her heart was "beating so fast" when the leaders were announced at a school assembly last Friday.

"I was so nervous," she laughed. "It was a bit nerveracking."

Manukura tāne [head boy] Rangiatea Marsh was "actually quite surprised" when he was named head boy - but excited.

Marsh said a leadership team in a kura was important because it gave younger students "something to aim for."

Sports rangatira Lavinia Waa enjoys boxing and netball, but said being in her role is much more than sports.

Her hope is that she and her peers' roles will "give students a voice."



The new leadership team is made up of manukura wahine Anahera Kaipo, manukura tāne Rangiatea Marsh, sports rangatira Lavinia Waa, student rangatira Kalani Petersen, and academic rangatira Breh Hetaraka.



NZHERALD 16/03/2023 Brodie Stone

#### Uniform

It is lovely to see most students are coming to school each day in their uniform and boy do they look smart. We have a couple of students who choose to come to school in incorrect uniform. Please can you support your tamariki to make the right choices when preparing for school in the morning.

Regarding our uniform stock, our shirts have arrived, but we are still waiting on the shorts/pants/skorts which have been held up due to the cyclone. I am hoping we will have these in the next week or two. A message will be sent out.

#### **Buses**

Currently, Ritchies have a driver shortage. For the next while, Houto / Tokiri Road students will be travelling on the Valley bus. Unfortunately, it means our students who live right down the valley have an exceptionally long trip home. Hopefully this will be remedied shortly.

Bus Tickets for Town Bus must be pre-paid \$25.00 for a 10 ride ticket, talk to the staff in the office, casual riders must have a note or phone call to the Office staff from Parents and they will pay \$3.00 per ride.

Dean Center & Gateway Office Hours Monday and Thursday 8:00am-8:15am, 8:40am-9:00am Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:15am-9:00am Whaea Shar is also available: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30pm-1:30pm Wednesday: 2:00pm-3:00pm If you have any questions, enquiries or would like to book a time to see Whaea Shar, you can email her at sharleenas@mangakahia.school.nz









# Finding a Praying Mantis