



2026 MAY WHĀNAU PĀNUI

*Matariki, te mātahi o te tau, mānawatia.
Puanga, te maru o te tau, mānawatia.
Mānawa maiea ngā whetū kōrekoreko i te pō!*

*Tangihia ngā mate tāruru nui o te wā nei.
Koia tēnei te maimai aroha ki te tōtara haemata kua hinga, ki a Tā Tāmāti Reedy. E kore e wareware i a mātou, i tō taunaki mai i te kaupapa nei, i a TŪ TOA i tōna orokotīmatanga mai. Ko Tā Hirini Moko Mead hoki tērā kua riro nei, auē, kua pōhara te iwi Māori i tō kōrua wehenga atu. Koutou rā ko te tini makehua kua ngaro atu i ngā rangi, i ngā wiki tata nei, rere atu rā ki tua o te ārai, whakangaro atu rā. Rātou ki a rātou, tātou ki a tātou.*

Mauri ora ki a tātou, e te whānau!

Many thanks to the whānau who attended our Matariki celebration last Thursday. It is important for us to continue to encourage our rangatahi to participate in and learn from kaupapa Māori such as Matariki and Puanga, and to continue those conversations and experiences at home amongst their own whānau, hapū and iwi.

The sports season is in full swing now with weekly fixtures for codes. We have already held multiple exchanges onsite with Matsuura High School from Japan (Girls Rugby), Hato Pāora College (Boys Rugby) and St. Mary's College (Girls Netball, Basketball and Rugby).

We hosted the Ngā Manu Kōrero Regional competition once again at the Regent Theatre and came away with three of the four sections that will represent the Manawatū-Horowhenua region at the Nationals in Kaikohe, at the end of Term Three.

Next month, we look forward to another mega exchange with Hasting Girls onsite, the start of our Super Rugby Aupiki tour in the Hurricanes region for Girls Rugby and the stand of our 54 member strong kapa haka at the National competition in Tauranga, during the final week of this term.

Ngā manaakitanga.

*Nāku nā Nick Fonotoe
Tumuaki Taupua*



IMPORTANT MESSAGES

Kia ora, e te whānau. We are now into week 6 (week 7 on sending this out) of Term Two and there are many students still asking for the whereabouts of their belongings. If students choose to bring expensive or unnecessary clothes, shoes, jewellery, phones, bags and products to school all UNNAMED, then leave them unattended around the kura, then the chances are your child is simply not looking after their gear.

They can say, 'I left it here or there, but the reality is.... they've left it.

If you're picking up after your child at home then it certainly doesn't stop at kura. Each student has a locker, which they simply choose not to lock!

They'll leave school on a Friday afternoon oblivious to the fact they don't have their belongings in order. Students are asking about their missing items four to ten days after the fact.

Pā Gav's solution: The Three Ps

1. Print their names on their items
2. Purchase a padlock or
3. Pay wave your next purchase.

Nā Pā Gav.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JUNE?

2 June Y10 Option Sem 2 Begins

Sexwise Programme for Y9/10

5 -7 June Kapa Haka Wānanga #5 - Te Pūtahi-a-Toi

Hurricanes Poua Girls Rugby vs St Marys

6 June MSS Youth Rugby Starts

11 June Regional Sports Awards

17 June MEGA Exchange - Hastings Girls (Home)

19-21 June Kapa Haka Wānanga #6 - Te Pūtahi-a-Toi

29 June Kapa Haka Nationals - Tauranga

1 July 1st XV Girls Exchange vs Hawkes Bay U18s

2 July Term Two Ends

3 July Staff Only Day



ADMINISTRATION

PHYSIO

We are fortunate enough to have Dean and his team from **Movement IQ Physiotherapy** onsite at MANUKURA.

Injuries must be reported to code leads/coaches, who will arrange an appointment with Whaea Tania in the office.

Some requests that are coming through are associated with muscle soreness rather than injury, so keep encouraging your child to stretch, roll, hydrate and eat well to help with this.

Office: 06 354 9531

APPOINTMENTS

Please endeavour to book doctors/ dental appointments outside of school time, so your tamaiti/mokopuna does not miss out on important learning instructions / classes.

Haircuts and personal care/ beautician appointments are not an approved reason for missing classes.

COUNSELLING

Te Wakahuia Counselling Services is a Kaupapa Māori holistic counselling service for rangatahi/tamariki, whānau, local schools, and groups within our community.

Whaea Kelly Jarvis is available each Monday and Thursday. Students can book an appointment through Whaea Tania at the office admin@manukura.school.nz

DENTIST

New Zealand high school students entering Year 9, up until their 18th birthday, are eligible for free basic dental treatment.

Below are two options available in Palmerston North, but you can search for others online.

Lumino

0508 881 481

Carpenters Dental

06 355 8218

ABSENCES

A big thank you to all whānau who have kept up with notifying the office regarding absences.

Office:

admin@manukura.school.nz

Ph. 06 354 9531

Cell: 021 573 690

Yr 9 Lead:

awhina@manukura.school.nz

Yr10:

kristina@manukura.school.nz

Yr11:

toni@manukura.school.nz

Yr12:

renee@manukura.school.nz

Yr13:

tanu@manukura.school.nz



2026 TERM TWO BUS ROUTES

Levin

6.40am Bath Street, Levin Intercity Stop
6.55am Foxton iSite Information, 92 Main Street
Foxton
7.10am Shannon (Near the Foxton/Shannon turnoff,
(by the 70 k traffic sign)
7.20am Tokomaru - Williams Rd/Makeura Rd Turn off
7.21am Tokomaru Hall
7.25am Linton - Tennent Drive (just past Linton
Camp Rd)

7.40am MANUKURA

Our Levin bus this term is at capacity so it is really important that students who are not entitled to take that bus do not jump on when they feel like it. Any changes or requests **must** to come through to the office.

Feilding/Kelvin Grove

6.55am Feilding Intermediate
7.10am Stonebrook Lane (on Stoney Creek Rd)
7.15am 26 McLeavey Drive Bus Stop
7.17am 124 Roberts Line
7.20am 84 Roberts Line (Woolworths)
7.23am 45 Rata Street
7.24am Vogel Street (Opp Oceans Takeaways)
7.25am 157 Vogel Street
7.26am Memorial Park on Main Street
- Opp Weston Ave
7.28am Cnr Ferguson and Stewart Cres
7.30am Albert St (past Hokowhitu School)
7.32am St Albans Church, Albert St
7.33am 78 Te Awe Awe St
7.34am 8 Te Awe Awe St by Wallace Park

7.40am MANUKURA

Town

6.55am Cnr Seddon & Liverpool Sts
6.57am 181 Featherston St
7.02am Ruahine St, Hospital Stop near Puriri st
7.04am 1 Fairs Rd
7.05am 70 Langely Ave
7.06am 37 JFK Dr bus shelter by Langley Ave
7.08am 112 Benmore Ave
7.10am 72 Benmore Ave
7.11am 109 Gillespies Line
7.12am 198 Tremain Ave
7.13am 156 Tremain Ave
7.14am Cnr Turakina & Halswell Sts
7.17am 24 Pembroke St
7.18am 120 Monrad St
7.19am 580 Pioneer Highway
7.20am 5 Maxwells Line
7.23am 77 Slacks Rd
7.25am 36 Pitama Rd
7.26am 12 Pitama Rd
7.29am West End School, Botanical Rd
7.30am 35 Park Rd
7.32am 156 Park Rd
7.35am 301 Fitzherbert Ave Harringtons Lodge
7.37am Massey University Stop

7.40am MANUKURA



HIGHLIGHTING



Staff Profile:

Whaea Nicky Ruwhiu brings a wealth of knowledge as an educator and has been supporting our kura as a reliever since the start of Term Two. Students have responded positively to her clear tikanga and expectations, which encourage learning with purpose rather than simply completing tasks. As a kaupapa, we are grateful for the care, consistency, and commitment she continues to offer our rangatahi.

New Signage

New parking signage will be in place for events such as pōwhiri, Matariki, and our End of Year Ceremony to support safe traffic flow. With support from Massey, **No Parking** signs will also be placed on nearby grassed areas. Please note these spaces, including areas near the kindergarten, are restricted.





NGĀ MANU KŌRERO

Our connection to the regional speech competition, Manu Kōrero, reflects the strength of the opportunities available to our rangatahi. We acknowledge the legacy of Koka Irene, whose guidance has seen many speakers of the past reach the podium and set a powerful foundation for others to follow.

While she is currently on study leave, it is inspiring to see our alumni now stepping into this space, carrying that legacy forward and shaping the next generation of orators. Through this kaupapa, our students are not only striving for accolades, but developing the confidence and skill to stand, speak, and one day represent their whānau on the marae and within their communities.

Congratulations to all our students who stood:

Micah Tapsell - in the Senior Māori section; Kahuraki Aumua - 2nd equal Junior Māori section; Shay O'Brien - in the Junior English section; Raivn Matthews - 2nd Junior English section; and Alexcia Pomare - 2nd Senior English section.

Our representatives for the National Competition which will be held in Kaikohe at the end of Term Three:

Tira Mae Arapera - 1st place Sir Turi Carroll Junior English

Maia Moss - 1st place Korimako Senior English

Rewihaukore Himiona-Te Peeti - 1st place Pei Te Hurinui Senior Māori

Special mention to Pā Te Huarahi's son - Paihere who was the winner of the Rāwhiti Ihaka Junior Māori section.





EXTRACURRICULAR

Mana Mokopuna Children's Commissioner

Te Ahu-Potiki Grace was invited by Mana Mokopuna - Children's Commissioner to the opening and blessing of their new office in Wellington City on Thursday the 7th of May 2026.

During the recent school holidays Te Ahu-Potiki had an awesome opportunity to work alongside artist Ariki Brightwell contributing to a mural in the main office of Mana Mokopuna, which was a great experience for him.





LEVEL 1 RIVER REPORT

Year 11 Science students have spent much of the first half of the year completing their “River Report” assessment, a project that has become a staple of the Science programme here at MANUKURA. Each year it is exciting to see the different perspectives and approaches students bring to this kaupapa.

The River Report combines three assessment components, requiring students to evaluate data collection strategies, gather and analyse scientific data, report on the health of local waterways, and provide a social science response to environmental concerns they identify. The assessment includes both practical and written elements, allowing students to apply their learning in authentic, real-world contexts. As part of the project, all Level 1 students travelled to the Kahuterawa Reserve and the Turitea Stream to carry out fieldwork and collect data. Back in the classroom, students analysed their findings to assess stream health and identify both positive and negative contributing factors.

The final stage challenges students to provide

recommendations for local iwi, Rangitāne, focusing on how these waterways can be improved and sustainably maintained. Students have done an outstanding job throughout this process, engaging in thoughtful discussion and critical thinking as they close in on their final presentations.





CREATIVE WRITING

From simple storytelling to powerful, vivid writing...

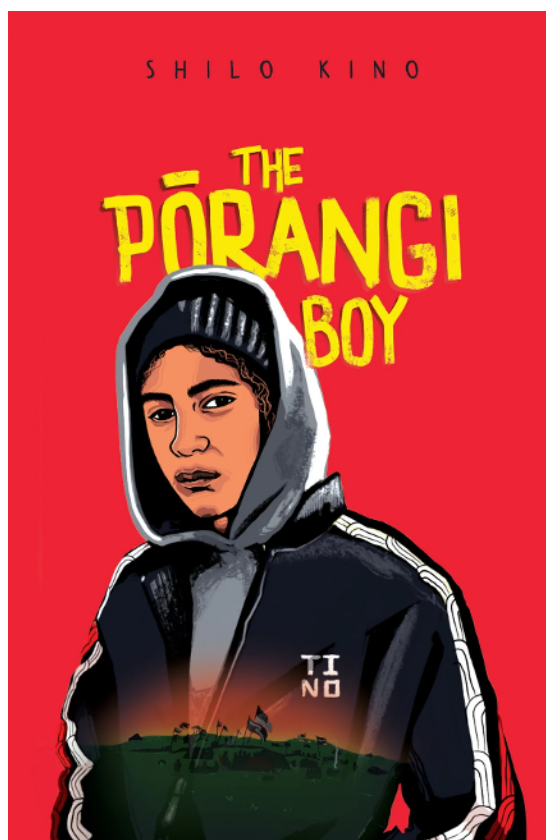


Kasey Ballantyne has demonstrated a clear shift in her writing this term through her beautiful piece, *Pōrangi Boy: The Next Chapter*. She is now crafting detailed and imaginative scenes that bring her characters and settings to life with confidence. Through her writing, Kasey explores themes of wairua, connection to whenua, and the presence of ancestors, showing a growing strength in weaving cultural depth into her storytelling.

What is particularly exciting is how Kasey is developing her ideas. She has moved beyond simply retelling events and is now creating atmosphere and emotion that draw the reader in. Her use of dialogue alongside description is becoming more deliberate, strengthening both engagement and the overall impact of her writing.

This shift reflects Excellence at a Year 9 level, as Kasey continues to refine her craft and extend her thinking as a writer.

A snippet of Kasey's beautiful writing piece is shared on the next page.



‘The Pōrangī Boy - The Next Chapter’

By Kasey Ballantyne

Moki and Niko jumped into the river.

“Far, it’s cold, ay!” Moki said as she walked through the knee-deep water.

“Where’s Taukere?!”

“I don’t know, Moki. We don’t really know if it really was him...”

Then they saw a pair of red eyes glowing softly in the water as it rippled with Taukere’s smooth movements. A dark green, scaly body was treading water quickly as he poked his head up and raised it in respect. Taukere was showing his respect to Niko, who was the tohunga of the whenua.

“It’s Taukere! It’s Taukere!” squealed Moki.

“Shush, Moki, you’re being too loud!”

Niko looked up at the big creature as Taukere circled around them.

All of a sudden, Taukere grabbed Moki and Niko and pulled them into a deeper part of the river. Taukere glided through the water with Moki and Niko in his scales. He bolted through the current and into a place that, although unseen, felt homely as they drifted deeper into the hazy sunlight. The kawakawa leaves whistled in the breeze, almost as if they were performing a karakia that mourned the new presence.

“Wow, I’ve never been this far before,” said Moki.

“How come we don’t come here often? This place feels so... nostalgic, but looks so untouched,” said Niko softly as his eyes studied the whenua surrounding them.

Taukere slowed his fins as they stopped at a beautiful spot. Just beyond the river’s horizon, a faint figure sat with his carved tokotoko on rocks that looked too perfect to be placed.

“Koro Tuheitia?” asked Niko, wondering who the other koro must be. Another kaumātua who knew such a place?

“It’s me, my mokos... Koro Tangaroa.”

Koro coughed slightly as he moved to face them.

“Koro?!” said Niko. He was shocked, but he knew he would always be there, even in a form of wairua. Niko and Moki jumped off Taukere and walked along the rocks toward Koro’s ghost-like form.

Koro grinned, his cheeks lifting and his eyes narrowing, as Niko and Moki sat on either side of him. Koro began saying a karakia as he looked at Moki, bowing his head slightly with fondness and a sense of a new beginning. Something stirred within Moki as she looked around. The water was still and calm, but it felt like something was changing, the weather, or perhaps a new path. A power was awakening as time passed.

Koro ended with a karakia for Moki as he slowly faded into the river’s horizon...

*“Whakataka te hau ki te uru
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
Kia mākinakina ki uta
Kia mākinakina ki tai
E hī ake ana te atakura
He tīo, he huka, he hauhū
Tihei Mauri Ora!”*

Who knew Niko would have to share his place?



MORE THAN JUST ART

Currently in Art, our Year 9 students are exploring what defines Māori art and who has the right to create it. Through rich discussion, they are beginning to navigate different perspectives—customary practice, evolving contexts, and kaupapa-driven approaches.

Questions such as whether a person can simply pay to receive a moko kauae, or whether something must “look Māori” to be considered Māori art, have challenged their thinking. While these are ongoing debates in academic spaces, they are important for our rangatahi to engage with as they develop a deeper, more informed understanding of identity, culture, and creative expression.



Credit to Alizay Grant



SGT. HAANE

Level 3 History

Upon the movie launch of the historical feature movie Sgt. Haane, the Level 3 History class was fortunate enough to attend a screening at the Focal Point Cinema. The movie combines anecdotes and dramatic cinematic retelling of Sgt. Haane's bravery during the World War 2 campaign in North Africa. His life is retold by his descendants who hail from Ngāti Whakaue in Rotorua. A member of the famous 29th Māori Battalion B Company, Haane Manahi was revered in Ngāti Whakaue because of his bravery in World War 2, particularly during the Battle of Takrouna where his troop valiantly scaled the towering citadel of Takrouna to battle the German troops who occupied it.

For his bravery, Sgt. Haane was recommended to be awarded the Victoria Cross, the highest honour for soldiers in the Commonwealth. Unfortunately, he was not awarded this honour which was considered a contemptuous gesture by his whānau who had fought against the British Crown to have the honour awarded.



"The movie inspired me. To see Sgt. Haane's courage and bravery that he used to fight and save people was inspirational." - **Henare Herbert**

"Sgt. Haane really inspired me to learn more about WW2 and it also showed me how brave the Māori Battalion were." - **Te Rira Puketapu**

"I really enjoyed the movie because it taught me more about WW2." - **Taimania Tepania**

"The movie was really inspiring and motivating because it taught me to never quit and that Māori can achieve anything." - **Ashleigh Hape**



YEAR LEADS UPDATES

Year 9 Awhina Rameka

Our Year 9 students have been working hard on their speech presentations this term, selecting meaningful and relevant kaupapa that reflect their world and lived experiences. We look forward to seeing their confidence grow as they share and present their ideas clearly and purposefully as part of their oral assessment this term. Please take the time to ask your taiohi about their speech. This is a valuable opportunity for them to share their thinking, practise their delivery, and take pride in their voice!

Year 11 Toni Manuel

Our Year 11 students have now completed a number of internal assessments and so are well underway in gathering credits towards their NCEA Level 1. The importance of meeting deadlines is an area that needs to be reinforced at school and at home.

Some of our cohort repeated CAA examinations this term in Literacy and Numeracy; we hope we have positive outcomes when results are released.

Winter sports are in full swing. Sleep, balanced nutrition, and good recovery practices are extremely important to make the most of the season.

Year 13 Tanu Aumua

This term is an important time for our Year 13 students, as scholarship applications are due and decisions about their next steps begin to take shape. At kura, we are having ongoing kōrero to help students consider pathways and set short-term goals that strengthen their academic record and future opportunities. We encourage whānau to continue these conversations at home, supporting students to make informed, confident decisions about their next stage.





MUSIC

NZ Music Month is in full swing and our Level 1, 2 & 3 Music students have been hard at work creating their original songs. A huge congratulations to all students for the creativity, passion, and hard mahi being poured into these projects. It has been awesome seeing students develop their ideas into authentic and meaningful pieces of music.

We are also excited to share that many of these original songs have been entered into the NZ National Songwriting Competition. We look forward to hearing the results and celebrating the incredible talent within our kura. Check out Tama McLean-Woon recording.



Te Kauae Runga, Te Kauae Raro

While we are all on a journey to deepen our understanding of mātauranga Māori, we are privileged to learn alongside students from Māori medium kura and staff who speak te reo as a first language. This term, Friday afternoons have been dedicated to this learning. Students explored iwi haka through Haka Anthems—unpacking history, meaning, and purposeful performance—alongside Ki-o-Rahi, a traditional game grounded in pūrakau. These sessions culminated in an interhouse Ki-o-Rahi competition.





SPORTS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Manawatū U15 Rugby League Champions 2026

In a tightly contested match against the Linton Cobras, the team secured a 21–20 victory, sealed in golden point with a decisive drop goal. The result reflects not only composure under pressure, but the resilience and unity built across the season.

This achievement marks more than a win, it signals the strength of the kaupapa, the commitment of our rangatahi, and the collective effort of players, coaches, and management who have driven this campaign forward.





SPORTS ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Riley Cribb U18 White Sox Squad

Congratulations to Riley for being named in the 2026 JWSX squad for 2026. As part of the campaign, she will be participating in regional camps in the off-season, followed by a national camp. From there, the team will compete in local tournaments across Aotearoa/NZ with plans to tour Australia later in the year.



NEW ZEALAND MEN'S & MIXED NETBALL

2026 17 & UNDERS SQUAD

Eastern Pakuranga

Wiremu Taka

Hawkes Bay

Te Koha Rongotoa - Owen

Kirikiriōroa

Nixon Mohi

Manawatū

Cairo Grout

Ihaka Whanarere - Tauri

Max Chase

North Harbour

Eugene McIndoe

Jayden Kaiwai - Peapea

Tavita Tonumaivao

Waikato Tainui

Nathaniel Young

Waitākere

Amiel Dehar - Webster

Benaiah Schuster

Waitara Whānui

Lakein Woods

Wellington

Desire Wilson

Ihaka Whanarere-Tauri

We would like to acknowledge Ihaka on his selection into the U17 New Zealand Indoor Netball squad which is a testament to his commitment and growth. Wear the fern with pride, stay grounded in your work ethic, and continue to lead through your actions.



MANUKURA

NETBALL

