



TE KURA O MIMITANGIATUA

**Where the Country,
Coast and Classroom meet we **Think,**
Ask, Do, Discover Together.**

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

TERM 4, 2025

Korihi te manu
Takiri mai i te ata
Ka ao, ka ao, ka awatea
Tihei, mauri ora!

The bird sings
The morning has dawned
The day has broken
Behold there is life

Te Pepeha o Mimitangiatua

Ko Taranaki te mounga
Ko Mimitangiatua te awa
Ko Tokomaru te waka
Ko Tamaariki te tangata
Ko Ngati Mutunga te iwi
Ko Te Kekerewai te 'apu
Ko Mimitangiatua te kura

Taranaki is the mountain
Mimitangiatua is the river
Tokomaru is the canoe
Tamaariki is the captain
Ngati Mutunga is the iwi
Te Kekerewai is the sub-tribe
Mimitangiatua is the school

Kia ora students, teachers, support staff, the board, families and the wider community of Mimi School. We have arrived at the end of another wonderful year in Mimitangiatua and it has been a pleasure to lead the school through the first year of my time as Tumuaki, principal, of Mimi School. The support of the entire Mimitangiatua community this year, not only for the school but for myself and my whanau, has been incredible. Our kura is extremely fortunate to have such a kind, caring, and supportive community who give up their time and expertise to ensure that our students have the best learning experiences they can.

It is with fondness that we look back on this year and all of the exciting opportunities and challenges that we were able to participate in. The Tainui Cluster Events are always a highlight and the students of Mimitangiatua represented our school with pride and great sportsmanship throughout these events. From Swimming Sports to Speeches, Cross Country, Athletics and so much more, it was a pleasure to be able to watch our tamariki compete throughout the year. This term, we were fortunate to participate in the Tainui Tabloid Sports hosted at Uruti School and this was a fantastic way to finish out Tainui events for the year. Our students had a blast participating in a range of games and activities, capped off by a paint powder fight to end the day.

A big highlight for our kura was the success of our Pets Day which we hosted early in Term 4. It was a fantastic celebration of not only the hard work of our students at school but also the incredible effort they put into raising and training their pets to be ready for the big day. The

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odd shower throughout the day was not enough to dampen the spirits of the tamariki or the rest of the community, with a great show of support throughout the course of the day. The quality of the work produced for the class projects was extremely high, the many hours put into the works of art were clear to see and the support of our wonderful staff paid off massively. Once again a huge thank you goes out to the entire community for all that was done to make the day a success. The students, staff, parents, Home and School, and the community that came out to support played a crucial role in ensuring the day ran smoothly.

Our akonga have also participated in a range of extra-curricular and interschool events over the past term and a half, in particular the EPro8 events and the Waitara touch competition. The entire Matai class had the opportunity to participate in the EPro8 technology challenge and thoroughly enjoyed it, with the top team selected to represent our kura at an interschool challenge. We have also had two teams entered into the Waitara touch competition which has been great to see. Once again they have played hard but fair and have had some great success along the way. Each week they have improved, listening to the feedback of their coaches and having fun along the way. Thanks to all of the parents who volunteered their time to help out with the teams and consistently getting their children to the games, it wouldn't happen without you.

Last week we had our school EOTC week for both our junior and senior classes...

Finally, a huge thank you to all of the staff at Mimi School. Your dedication to the school and our wonderful students does not go unnoticed. Our akonga are fortunate to have such hardworking and caring educators who go over and above to ensure that every child receives a quality education. It is a pleasure to work alongside the staff each and every day and see what they do to make a kura the best it possibly can be. Thank you once again for the work you do for our Mimitangiatua community. Of course, a special thank you must go to Connie, our administrator extraordinaire. The effort you put in above and beyond your expected role shows how much you care for our kura and our students benefit from it greatly.

To our wider community, enjoy your summer, enjoy your time with whanau, friends, and those most important to you. I hope you have a safe and relaxing holiday break, we look forward to doing it all over again next year.

Meri kirihimete me te tau hou ki a koutou
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all

Ngā manaakitanga ki a koutou.

Tom Hardy
Tumuaki - Principal



End of Year Prizegiving

2025



**Betty Blundell Cup
for Junior Learner**
Amelia Newson

**Radcliffe Trophy for
Leadership and Empathy**
Logan Brendon



**Kay Sarten Cup
for Mathematical Achievement**
Logan Brendon



**Whittaker-Phillips Family Cup
for Sporting Achievement**
Taylor Darling



**Baker Family Cup
for Literacy Excellence**
Poppy Gardner

**Evelyn Dryden Cup
for The Arts**
Charlotte Newson



**Lowe Family Cup
for Academic Achievement**
Charlotte Newson



**Chris Wise Contracting Cup
for Diligence**
Oliver Read

**Duffy Mainfreight Award for
Excellence in Attitude**
Devylen Kettle



Farewells

Yr 6 Students

To our wonderful cohort of Year 6 students, I wish you all the best in the next stage of your education adventure. It has been a pleasure to help guide you over the past year and there have been so many people who have been in your corner cheering you on during your time at Mimitangiatua. We hope that you carry with the lessons you have learned and the school values that have been instilled in you as you go on to your new schools. You all have plenty to offer your new schools so be brave, courageous and give everything a go, that's what your intermediate years are for! Charlie, Charlotte, Devy, Rose, and Taylor, all the best for the years ahead, you have been such a big part of our kura and you will certainly be missed.

See you around!



Whaea Lisa

Whaea Lisa has been a valued member of Mimitangiatua School Staff for the past several years. Her expertise as a teacher aide has been invaluable to our kura and countless students have benefitted from her support and education over her time at Mimi School. We wish you all the best, Lisa, on the next stage of your journey, you will be missed and are welcome back anytime. Ngā mihi nui Whaea Lisa

Ms Halcombe

We were privileged to welcome back Ms Halcombe to Mimitangiatua this year, returning to the kura she taught at several years ago. Her experience and passion for teaching has been a pleasure to see and each and every one of the students in Matai class have been fortunate to have been taught by her this year. We wish you all the best, Ms Halcombe, as you continue to teach at Puketapu next year.

Staff for 2026

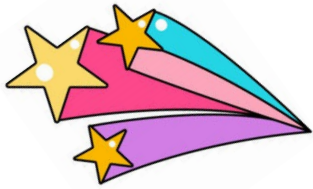
Kowhai Class (Yr 0-3) - Gaye Osborne & Karen Gillett

Matai Class (Yr 4-6) - Alisha Allen & Tom Hardy

Structured Literacy and Learning Support Coordinator - Frances Butler

Support Staff - Connie O'Brien, Beverly Wilson, Jim Vollebregt





Year 6

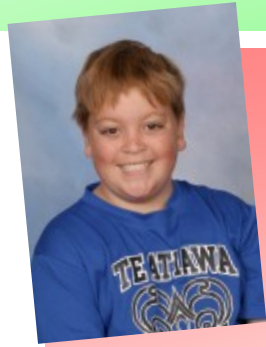


Special memories / challenges / achievements

Charlotte - **My biggest challenge** this year was standing in front of everyone to deliver my speech.

Special achievements are learning drawing skills, nearly beating Ms Halcombe in basic facts and being a good leader

Special memories from this year are pet day, hanging out with Juno and having my good friends with me.



Devy - **My biggest challenge** this year has been handwriting

Special achievements would be improving handwriting and doing my speech in front of everyone

Special memories are our school pet day and Tainui pet day

Charlie - **My challenge** was trying to beat Ms H in basic facts... I was only a few seconds away!!

Achievements are maths and writing

Special memories are our activity week this year... 100 % would do that all over again



Taylor - **My challenge** was trying to beat my basic facts score and beat Ms H

Achievements this year have been being a good leader, getting better at maths and art

Special memories are waiata every morning and activity week.

Rose - **My biggest challenge** has been trying to learn my basic facts

My best achievement has been getting better at handwriting and writing

A special memory is getting to go to the movies and staying at the marae.



★ KOWHAI ★

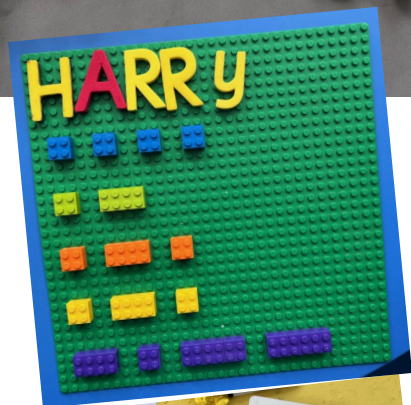
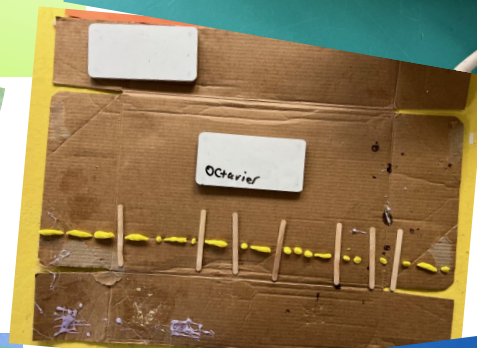
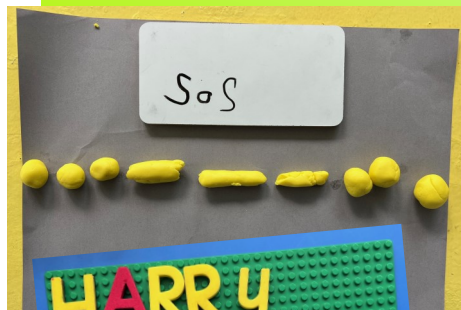
Communication

This term the Kowahi Class have been learning about 'Communication' including the invention of the telephone. The students didn't have much prior knowledge about this and thought that the only way to communicate with others and the outside world was with the cellphone and computer. Over the term we looked at different ways to communicate - from the 'olden days' to present day. This included letter writing, telegraph, and the invention of the telephone.

The children practiced writing letters to someone and inviting them somewhere. They then had fun learning about Morse code and using a telegraph and then how to write their name - using lego and playdough. Mrs Gillett brought in a variety of old to new phones and the children were able to have a turn at ringing on them, and pretending to have a conversation with someone. They had to ensure that they introduced themselves, asked questions and said good-bye. They even made some cup and string phones and realised they actually worked!!



Next they looked at how to communicate with someone in an emergency situation. They practiced learning their parents cell phone numbers and using the 111 service. There was great discussion and teaching of how and when to use the services, and the importance of only using it in an emergency.



Tabloid Sports

On Friday 21st November Mimi School went to Uruti School for the annual Tabloid Sports with our cluster. There were many fun activities for the children to participate in. It was great to see the kids have fun and persevere with the tasks that were unknown and some a bit difficult. To top the day off there was a colour run which the tamariki thoroughly enjoyed.



On Friday it was tabloid sports. There were different activities. There was the colour run, tug of war and the sack race. My favourite activity was the colour run. I got all kinds of colours in my hair. It washed out in one wash.

By Elias



On Friday we went to the tabloid sports. We did the colour run and it was fun. I got coloured with rainbow colours. We had a great time.

By Lily

On Friday I went to tabloid sports. My favourite game was tug of war. I pulled and tried and tried. We won.

By Jimmy

On Friday we went to tabloid sports. I liked the colour run. I got it in my hair. The colours were pink, green and yellow.

By Sammy



Activity Days

This year, leading up to our school-based activity day, Kowhai Class had a big discussion about what tamariki would like to do on the day, to make it lots of fun and really enjoyable. We started with a huge brainstorming session of all their ideas, of which there were many! Then each student had to choose the one thing they would like to do the most, and try some persuasive writing - write to convince the teachers to choose their idea for the big day! We talked about what it means to persuade or convince someone, how to include all the best or most positive reasons, and the kind of language we might use to help our readers be persuaded. We also discussed the idea that who you wanted to convince, may affect the reasons you might include - eg, teachers versus friends!

Each child started with a plan, writing down the activity they'd chosen, and bullet points around 3 reasons that their activity would be the best choice for our day. They then used a template with some sentence starters, to write their full piece. It took us several days from start to finish, and the children showed a lot of perseverance/ kia manawanui over this process. We chose most of our activities for the day based on the children's writing, and even those we couldn't do because of logistics or safety, the authors did a very good job of convincing us their idea was a good one! You can see some of the ideas that were included in our fantastic Activity Day, from the writing and surrounding photos below.



For our activity day I would like to build a spaceship. Firstly this is because we can use boxes and paints and glue that we have at school.

Secondly, building a spaceship will help us feel relaxed. We can pretend we are flying to space.

Lastly, when we build a spaceship we share and take turns. This is why I think we should build a spaceship for our activity day.

Jarvis



For our activity day I would like to swim. Firstly this is because on a hot day, it cools us down. This keeps us calm.

Secondly, swimming is safe because we can use noodles and kick boards to help us float.

Lastly, swimming is fun, because you can float and do games in the pool. You can swim around.

This is why I think we should swim for our activity day. It will be fun, keep us cool and calm, and we can be safe.

Lily



For our activity day, I would like to make pizza. Firstly this is because if you are hungry, pizza will fill you up. It gives us lots of energy. Secondly, pizza tastes good to eat. Except for one person, everyone in our class likes pizza. It is delicious!

Lastly, pizza is healthy for you. Heaps of vegetables are good for you, they are nutritious. We can put vegetables like capsicum, mushrooms and tomatoes on our pizza.

This is why I think we should make pizza for our activity day. It will be great to fill us up, it is healthy for us and its delicious!

Octavier



For our activity day I would like to read books in the sun.

Firstly, this is because it is very relaxing. We can be in hammocks. Everyone can read their favourite book like Harry Potter.

Secondly, we can have snacks and drinks. It helps us learn more things.

Lastly, we can watch the movie after the book, if there is a movie. If it is wet we can still do it.

This is why I think we should read books on our activity day. It will be relaxing, we can have nibbles and learn, and we can do it even if it rains

Norton



For our activity day I would like to make pizza. Firstly, this is because everyone gets to choose the toppings so they can make what they like.

Secondly, we can all have lunch together under the trees.

Lastly, everyone in our class likes pizza, except Lily, so she might like to have pasta. So everyone will get a lunch they like.

This is why I think we should make pizza for our activity day. We can choose our own toppings, have lunch together under the trees, and everyone will get a lunch they like.

Leo



For our activity day I would like to make pizza.

Firstly this is because pizzas are healthy. We can put pineapple and hot chillis on the pizzas.

Secondly, pizzas are yummy. The kids all like pizza.

Lastly, we can share them for lunch or morning tea together.

This is why I think we should make pizza for our activity day.

Bella



Marae Visit

On Wednesday of our activity week, Kowhai Class had the opportunity to visit and be welcomed onto Pukearuhe Marae. For many akonga, and some staff too, this was their first visit inside the marae. It was great for them to experience walking on in formation, listening to the karanga over the wind, taking part in hongi or shaking hands, listening to the whai korero from both sides, and standing up to sing their own waiata in response. They also learned about some of the tikanga involved in such a visit, such as taking off their shoes, and filling up tables when going through to the wharekai. The highlight for many was the amazing morning tea provided that the tamariki were allowed to share! Thank you to Ngati Tama, and everyone at the marae, who made us feel so welcome!



Matai Class

Pet Day 2025

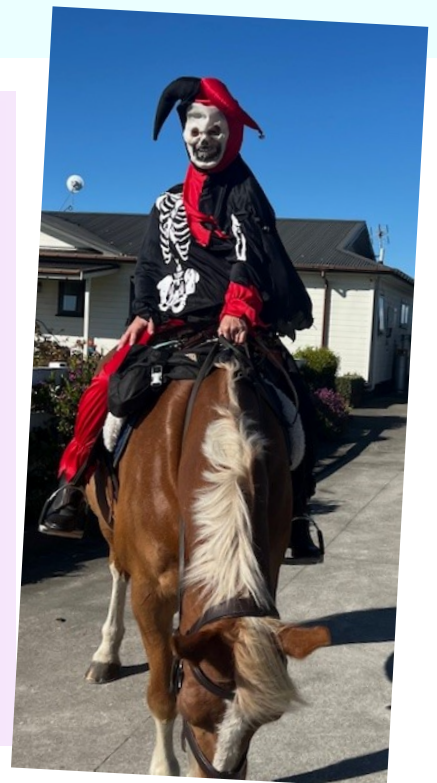


On the 18th of October we had Mimitangiatua Pet Day which was fun and exciting. The animals that were there were lambs, goats, calves, dogs, rabbits and a little kitten which belonged to Octavier. Shortly after people arrived the leading and rearing for the lambs, calves, and goats started. Finally the nerves started to kick in and people started to crowd round the pens. First up was the lambs and everybody was amazing and did a good job. Second was the goats, but there was only one goat that participated. After the goats it was lunch. There were steak sandwiches, sausages, drinks and ice blocks. There were raffles, home baking and donuts. It was a really good day, but it was stinking hot. After lunch it was the calves and we all did an amazing job. Finally it was prize giving. Matthew Newson got overall lamb champion, Oliver and Devy tied for first place with their calves. Whakaturi got first with his goat. Lastly the end of the day we all packed up the barbecue, the posters, took home our art, put our pets in the trailer and finally went home.

By Poppy and Payton

HALLOWEEN - CHARLOTTE AND POPPY

On Friday the 31st of October it was Halloween. Poppy, Lily, Angus and Logon came to my house. Mum had set up all of the Halloween decorations and lollies for dad to give to kids. Shortly after that we started to walk up the hill. When we got to the top of the hill we met Jaxon, Leo and some others. The cool thing is that our teacher Ms Halcombe was riding her horse dressed up as a very scary jack in the box from a horror movie. Lots of us didn't even know it was her. In the saddle bags Ms Halcombe and her two friends had loads of lollies. As they rode around the village they threw all the kids lollies. It was a good thing that the horses didn't mind their scary looking riders.



Maths - Symmetry / Tessellations By Jasper

This year we have gone hard out learning our basic facts. Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division. Everyday we do 100 basic facts questions and the aim is to do it under 5 minutes, plus you need to have them all correct to beat Ms Halcombe. Charlie and Taylor are just seconds off beating her. We have all improved amazingly. For geometry we have explored symmetry, tessellations, rotations and 3D shapes. We learnt about shapes like cylinders, circles, spheres, triangles, rectangular prisms, triangular prisms, octagonal prisms and other shapes. Lastly for tessellations we learnt the degrees in a quarter turn, half turn and a full turn. To help make our maths learning stick we did symmetry art. We did our own butterflies. We put random paint on one side only and then folded the paper and it came out beautiful with colours. I chose a bit of blue and some white. I added some red and white too. We all choose different colours. For tessellations we did dog and cat faces then Ms Halcombe put them all together on a piece of card. It made a big picture. Ms Halcombe put it on the wall in the printing room because it looked blank and boring just white. It looks way better now.



TABLOIDS By Taylor and Angus

On the 21st of November Mimi School participated in Tabloid Sports. Firstly at school we were each numbered by Mrs Gillett, then the roll was taken. We left at around 9:15 and we travelled to Uruti in cars. Once we got to Uruti we had morning tea. After morning tea we were put into our teams. The numbers were 1 to 12. We were in teams 10 and 9. The games were Tug-O-War, Egg and Spoon, Sponge and Bucket, Sack race, Dodgeball, 3 Legged Race, Rob the nest, Clown pants, Tic Tac Toe, Parachute with balls, Head basketball and ball run.

After we did the games we had lunch. There was sausages and bread with onion, there were also ice blocks and drinks. The drinks cost \$2 and sausages cost \$2 the ice blocks cost \$1. After lunch we had a little play then we went to the field for the colour run. We all got a half of a 250ml bottle then the people would fill it up with powdered color. We would run around throwing it at other people. It was a fun day and it was pretty cool to come home looking like a rainbow.

Airport

By Rose and Poppy

On the 12th of November we were arranged into cars and travelled to the New Plymouth Airport to learn about Puketapu and their stories which in turn influenced the new airport design. We saw beautiful patterns in different parts of the inside and outside of the main terminal which told stories and represented the journey of the local hapu. Then we watched the planes go out of the Airport and back with people on board. We also saw a massive jet plane flying. After morning tea we watched some more planes take off until it was time to go check out the lookout. Following that we went to go look at the new fire truck because Mrs Allen's dad works for the fire department at the Airport. Out of nowhere we got to have a ride in the new fire truck which was such a special treat. We got clearance from the watch tower to race along the main runway. We also got to see the spray of water and hear the siren is well. Finally we went back to the same cars we came to the airport in and we went back to school.



JUNO



A year with Juno

This year I have made a 4 legged friend named Juno. I am his favourite student in the class. One day in term 1 we went swimming and when we went back inside I sat next to Ms Halcombe and then Juno came to me and sat on my lap. It's a bit funny because he is not a small dog, he nearly weighs 40kg. Juno is a golden retriever red setter cross. He is so fluffy, golden and cute. Juno's favourite spot is behind the white board as it is nice and quiet down there. One day while we were practicing for touch rugby Juno went missing. We went everywhere, even down on Cooper's farm, but we couldn't find him. Suddenly Juno made a little bark and the bark came from under the library deck. We went straight to the deck and finally found JUNO!!!. Did you know that in the winter Juno got lots of kindling out of the kindling bin. He then proceeded to shred it all over the carpet. We are going to miss Juno and Mrs Halcombe.

By Ruby

This year we had a class pet. His name is Juno and he is a friendly dog. He sits behind the small white board and brings sticks in the classroom. He then makes a mess in the classroom when he chews the sticks to pieces. Several times we had to find him! He was missing somewhere at school? Where could he go to? He was in the swamp, but most of the time he was in the staff room hoping the staff will drop food. His favourite day of the week is Friday because it's 'Fish and Chip Day'. He patiently sits waiting for a chip to drop, but no chips drop.... poor Juno. He is a playful dog and he is funny. The funny thing was we lost him, we thought he was in the swamp. I was looking for him but he was under the library the whole time and most of the time he was happy. When Ms Halcombe leaves an avocado in her bag Juno always finds it and eats it when she isn't looking. Then she is fuming, but Juno is always happy.

By Taylor and Devy



EDTC WEEK

Mega bounce Swim day

One of our December activity week days out consisted of a morning at Mega bounce having fun on the trampolines followed by lunch and a play on the new playground at Kawaroa. The afternoon was spent in the Aquatic centre riding the hydro slide and enjoying the wave pool inside.

At Mega bounce it was fun because the trampolines were really bouncy and you could do the timed challenge. I did the challenge but found it hard on the Monkey bars. By the end I was really hot and sweaty. My favourite part of the new playground was playing in the water. It was a hot day so the water felt cold and cooled me down. At the aquatic centre I went on the top hydro slide that goes the fastest. I did the fast slide once and spent the rest of the time on the family slide. It was great day out.

By Devy



Movie Day

On the first day of activity week we went to New Plymouth to watch Zootopia 2. We left school at about half past 9 and drove to the Rewarewa bridge for a class photo. We then drove to the movie theatre, parked in the secret free parking spot and got ourselves organised. We had to wait a little bit while our popcorn and drinks were getting sorted. We started out with small combos ordered but then we decided to go with the medium combo. We had a whole movie theatre to ourselves. The movie was really good. I liked the way the bunny and the fox had to solve the crimes. After the movies we came back to school for a swim. The water was refreshing and cold. It was a great first day of our activity week.

By Matthew

MARAE STAY

A special highlight for our activity week was our overnight Marae stay at Pukearuhe Marae. On Wednesday the 3rd of December we all met at school and got all our gear into cars. The whole school including the juniors travelled down the road to Pukearuhe Marae. We were then welcomed onto the Marae by Ngati Tama. The powhiri lasted for about 40 minutes then we had the most delicious kai for morning tea Scones, carrot cake muffins, bacon and egg pie, cheese and crackers and fresh fruit. After morning tea we got to play for a bit out on the marae atea. The juniors went back to school and we started doing some rotations. I started with a group doing traditional maori games with Matua Tiaki. The other two groups were inside doing tukutuku and making maori kites or kowhaiwhai art.

When the rain stopped we all went to Wai Iti beach to check the traps. We took it in turns to unscrew the lids and then Ms Halcombe reset the traps and put in fresh eggs. The last trap had a large freshly squashed ship rat. One less rat and slightly safer penguins. We then had time to just play on the beach. We had boat races using sticks in one of the streams. It was heaps of fun. The rain decided to come back so we returned back to the marae. Dinner was delicious. We were spoilt rotten because Tinz came and made the most amazing fried bread. We ate roast chicken, roast spuds with gravy and there was also salads.... But the fried bread was the best.

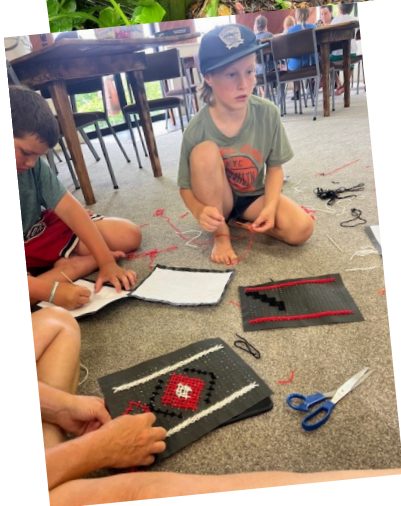
To top off the day we then got ready for bed and watched Moana 2 cast up onto the end wall of the wharenuui. Outside the wind roared but we were all warm in our beds.

By Taylor



On our second day at the Marae we had a big clean up after a yummy breakfast. Everyone helped do the pack up and clean up. Our first activity was visiting Okoki Pa where we got to visit where Rangi Hiroa and his wife lay to rest. Matua Tiaki told us lots of stories and we knew quite a bit as we had been learning about Rangi Hiroa (Sir Peter Buck) at school. Before we got in the cars we rolled down the hill which was lots of fun.

Our next stop was Urenui beach camp where we had lunch and walked to the birth place of Rangi Hiroa. This was out on the golf course by the swing bridge. Our final activity was a sand Pa building competition. The adults thought they would try and beat us but us kids won.



Whats happening in Term 1 2026

Term 1

Calendar

FIRST DAY OF TERM 1	<i>Wed 04th Feb</i>
WAITANGI DAY	<i>Fri 06th Feb</i>
WHANAU POOL EVENING	<i>Thurs 12th Feb</i>
AMERICARNA IN WAITARA	<i>Thurs 26th Feb</i>
TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY	<i>Mon 09th Mar</i>
WHANAU CONFERENCES	<i>Tues 24th Mar</i>
WHANAU CONFERENCES	<i>Wed 25th Mar</i>
GOOD FRIDAY	<i>Fri 03rd Apr</i>
LAST DAY OF TERM 1	<i>Fri 03rd Apr</i>
FIRST DAY OF TERM 2	<i>Mon 20th Apr</i>

* Trips that require parent transport

Please contact Tom or Connie for further information.



MIMI SCHOOL

**FROM THE TEAM AT
MIMITANGIATUA
HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE
SUMMER BREAK,
SEE YOU ALL IN 2026**

