

Tini whetū ki te rangi, mau tonu, mau tonu.

He tātai tangata ki te whenua, ka ngaro, ka ngaro.

Kei ngā huia kaimanawa, e te rangatira e Alan haere i te tai whakaheke tangata ki te whare o Hine-nui-i-te-pō. Ka mutu, honoa atu ki te rārangi a te manomano ki muri i te tatau pounamu, ki reira okioki ai. Haere atu ra i te au hīrere ki te pō. Kāore e ārikarika te tuku atu he whakaaro ki a koe otirā ki te hunga kua moe. Auē taukuri e! koutou ki a koutou, tātou te hunga ora ki a tātou. Kia ora mai anō e te whānau.

Ka rēreere atu tōku anō whakamānawa ki ngā mātua, ki ngā kaumātua hoki nāna nei i tino taunaki mai i Te Wharekura o Manaia i te roanga ake o te tau nei, tēnā rawa atu koutou katoa. Mei kore ake e hoa mā.

He pitopito kōrero ēnei hei whakakapi ake i tēnei kaupeka o te tau.

E hoa mā, apologies for the late circulation of this pānui caused by several pressing matters arising at the end of term 4.

Tino pai Tamariki mā, we've made it to the end of another fantastic school year. Term 4 was very busy indeed! For Year 11-13, it was a particularly challenging term because of NCEA examinations, these combined with the Hauraki Festival, sporting and external activities and trips, as well as a busy schedule of Kapa Haka practices. Yet despite these challenges, they've done a great job.

Hauraki Festival

This was another great event for our 3 Kapa Haka roopū, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. Our tamariki are truly magnificent ambassadors of Te Wharekura o Manaia. I'm sure those watching were also impressed with their skills and confidence during performances. We all know that it's not easy to stand on stage and deliver a 20-minute bracket consisting of whakaeke, waiata, haka, poi, kōrero, and whakawātea, not to mention learning all the words and choreography too. To reach this level, it takes discipline and many hours of practicing. Yet our tamariki made it look easy and a natural part of their identity.

A few weeks later, our groups travelled to Rangiriri to support Ngāti Naho, who were holding their own festival. Despite the weather conditions, our tamariki once again showcased themselves and came away with the added confidence of their first performance outside of Hauraki.

Given the time, energy, and discipline required to get themselves to this high level of performance, perhaps we now need to take the next step and enter the Tainui Regional competitions annually. Mau te wehi e kapa mā!

School Ball

This was a wonderful evening and great time to celebrate our senior students' successes and achievements. From the red carpet to the classic motor vehicles students arrived in, this was going to be a special occasion! Our students' sense of decorum, standard of dress, and pizzazz was impeccable, the gowns, the suits, big hairstyles, all the way to their shoes, our

students carried themselves with dignity and poise.

It was a privilege and pleasure spending a few hours with these young adults. Congratulations to the student organizing committee and staff members who made the event a huge success. This year's Year 13 students, Maata, Jade, Keisha, and Te Kaea have set a very high standard for our senior students in 2025.

2024 Prizegiving

This was another wonderful evening with a lot of support from caregivers, parents, and kaumātua who attended. Prizegiving is a special time when we acknowledge our children's academic and sporting achievements and all-round contributions to our Wharekura. There were tributes to individuals and groups interspersed with waiata, waiata-ā-ringa, and haka.

Te Reo Māori was prioritized and there was a huge expectation that the Te Reo Māori component be increased to 100% in 2025. Although the evening took about 2 hours 10 minutes, the discipline of our tamariki was nothing short of outstanding. Kei runga noa atu tamariki mā!

A special highlight was all of our Year 13 students leaving with a 100% UE pass rate with credits from any external examinations still to be counted. Kua rangatira Te Wharekura o Manaia i a koutou mahi katoa!

Gala Day

What an amazing day this was! The turnout was spectacular and the whānau were all there to buy and spend money to raise funds for the 20th celebration of Te Wharekura o Manaia. The day set to honour this milestone is during Matariki 2025, Friday 20 June.

The total profit for the day is \$9,785.00. Thank you everyone!

TWOM Celebration 2025

2025 marks 20 years since we declared ourselves Te Wharekura o Manaia. It is our 20th Anniversary, and to mark this special event, a reunion is planned, and as part of the celebrations we intend to set a new Strategic Plan for the next fifty years. Whānau will be invited to join the current committee. The reunion date has been set for Matariki next year, Friday 20 June.

Kaiāwhina

Te Wharekura o Manaia is looking for kaiāwhina to work alongside our tamariki and staff. If you are a proficient speaker of Te Reo Māori and interested in working here, please contact me. Applicants must have a very good understanding of our kaupapa and mātāpono.

Office Staff

There exists a position in the school office for a competent support worker who can carry out daily tasks and administrative work. If you are a proficient speaker of Te Reo Māori and interested in working alongside Lorraine and me, please contact me. Applicants must have a very good understanding of our kaupapa and mātāpono.

Education Review Office

The review will take place week 4 (17 February – 20 February) of term 1, 2025. We will have a new team of reviewers, the team leader at this stage will be Niki Edwards and she will be joined by Rahera Keil and Sharlene Teirney. I will circulate more information in the new year regarding scheduling meeting times with ERO reviewers.

School Trips

During the final term there were numerous trips, from daily excursions to trips involving overnight stays and sport. The trips have all been well organised and a wonderful learning experience for all involved.

I'm sure your children have talked and talked about their experiences in the surf at Raglan, or how they played at the National Touch tournament for Secondary Schools in Rotorua, or the animals they got to see and feed at the Whiti Farm, and of course the wonders of water world and all its amusements.

We will ensure these learning and curriculum-related experiences are provided for in 2025.

Te Reo Māori 2025

We have taken steps to ramp up the use of Te Reo Māori in our Wharekura and ask that if you want to speak English, then you must retire to the school office to talk. Everywhere else in the Wharekura will be a Te Reo zone only. Tēnā e hoa mā kia kaha mai tātou ki te ako i te reo, ki te kōrero hoki i te reo.

SIGNIFICANT DATE

2025 Term 1 Start Date Tuesday, 28 January 2025

That's a wrap for 2024, have a safe and happy holiday period. Ka mutu i konei. Hei tērā pito o te tau tātou tūtaki anō ai. Noho ora mai i o koutou kāinga i raro anō hoki i te tauwhirotanga o te wāhi ngaro.