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# Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako Newsletter

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Term 2 2024

## Better together

The theme "Better Together" perfectly captures the spirit of our Kāhui Ako, emphasising the strength and potential we have when we work together.

Our highlights this term have been the opportunity to visit and meet with Kaitiaki as well as connecting with kaiako from all sectors at the combined Teacher Only Day.

Our Kāhui Ako thrives on active engagement from everyone involved. Please keep up to date with information from your within school leads and across school liaison.

Together, we can achieve extraordinary things. By continuing to support one another, share our knowledge, and work towards common goals, we are building a stronger, more resilient Kāhui Ako. Let's celebrate our successes and look forward to the many opportunities that lie ahead.

*Matt White*

*Andrew Osmond*

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## Welcome Andrea

Ko Tararua te maunga  
Ko Ruamahanga te awa  
Ko Solway te kura  
Ko Taratahi te kainga  
Ko Andrea Harvey taku ingoa



Kia ora, my name is Andrea Harvey, and I have just completed my first term as Across School Lead. I have been married to my husband Stu, for 16 years, and we have two awesome teenagers, Sam and Kate. I work at Solway Primary School where I teach Year 2 and 3 students. I am a Wairarapa local, I have spent the majority of my 21 years teaching in the South Wairarapa. I have a passion for building connections with others and fostering collaborative work. It is a privilege to be in this role, striving to achieve our vision of collaboratively building potential across Whakaoriori.

My focus is in the Teaching and Learning space, which is part of the curriculum workstream. I have a particular focus on literacy. This term, I've been gathering feedback from various stakeholders and creating a plan for our workstream. Our ultimate goal is to continue to empower our Kaiako so that our young people have the best teachers who ensure that our learners are successful in their learning journey pathway. I am excited to see what we can achieve by working together.

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# What is the Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako?

Kāhui Ako Vision - **Collaboratively building potential across Whakaoriori**


The Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako believes that 'together' is better. We have a clear purpose to improve educational outcomes for all students in the Whakaoriori area. That means that we have a collective responsibility for all learners - not just for one school or centre.

We boast a large group of 35 members. We are diverse and look at this as a strength and opportunity, rather than a challenge. We currently have 21 member schools, 17 Early Childhood Centres plus Te Pukenga Wairarapa.

Our identified pathway begins from Early Childhood Education (ECE) all the way through to school leavers. Our current workstreams focus on attendance and engagement, progressions, curriculum, hauora and Wairarapatanga. We aim to draw on one another's skills, knowledge and experience wherever we identify that students' learning pathways may be challenged.

## Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako Learning Framework Revised

Tu Mai Ra - Stand tall and be Proud



**AKO:**  
We are inclusive and have high expectations for all. Learning is ongoing for our Kāhui Ako - akonga, kaiako, hapori.  
We honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi by developing mana honouring curriculum which enhances the potential of all

**MĀRAMATANGA:**  
We navigate knowledge with our heads and our heart. We have developed literacies across our curriculums and continue to progress within these. We are empowered to face challenges, solve problems individually and collaboratively.

**KO AU ko koe ko koe ko au:**  
I will be me and proud of my heritage and identity. I will be courageous, confident and curious and collaborative. I will know that I have a support team that will help guide me to be successful in whatever I choose to do. I will feel connected to this place and I can communicate my learning

**TURANGAWAEWAE:**  
We are the Kaitiaki and guardians of our community - our people our place and our stories. We honour Te Ao Māori and foster inclusive learning environments that are vibrant equitable and contribute to our community.

**HAUORA:**  
We have a collective responsibility to take care of our well-being and the well-being of others. We have a sense of belonging and support our people to be the best that they can be.

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# Curriculum

Some good news! Something we're doing well as educators compared to the rest of the world:

## Teaching Creative Thinking

Kiwi secondary students have scored in the top 5 countries for creative thinking according to the most recent 2022 PISA testing. It's the first-time creative thinking competencies have been assessed by PISA. The assessment asked 15-year-old students to generate diverse ideas (many ideas which differ from each other), creative ideas (ideas which are novel and useful) and evaluate and improve ideas (improve an idea's originality).

Key findings include:

- 86% of NZ students performed at or above baseline proficiency
- New Zealand students' creative thinking scores were high relative to their maths and reading scores compared with the other top scoring countries.
- Access and use of technology is positively related to students' creativity. Students who spend more than an hour a day using digital resources (laptops, tablets, etc.) for both learning and leisure performed better on the creative thinking assessment even after accounting for student's socio-economic background.
- NZ students' creative self-efficacy and openness to intellect was slightly lower than the OECD average, their openness to art and reflection was higher. A smaller proportion of NZ students have a growth mindset towards creativity than intelligence. Half think that their creativity is something they cannot change very much.

Not so good:

- There is a relatively high level of socio-economic disparity in creative thinking performance compared to other OECD countries.

Apart from our famous kiwi number 8 wire mentality the success of students in the testing is due to prior and effective implicit teaching of creativity, from ECE, Primary to early Secondary. From international research it's widely agreed creative thinking is best taught by modelling from classroom teachers. If you have any gems to share where you have used simple strategies to provide students with alternative ways of thinking, ideation and invention please share and get in touch with Evan Jones [emj@rathkeale.school.nz](mailto:emj@rathkeale.school.nz)

## Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia conference

Visual Pedagogies 'Ways of Seeing' is the title of Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia's (PESA ) conference at the Christchurch Convention Centre running from 4th – 7th December 2024. Keynote speakers include Jacoba Matapo - the first Pro Vice-Chancellor Pacific at AUT and an Associate Professor in Pacific Early Childhood education - as well as Carl Mika, Head of School Māori and Indigenous Studies University of Canterbury; and Michael Hand Professor of Philosophy University Birmingham (UK).

**Curriculum and assessment changes and timelines for updating NZC** can be found here: <https://www.education.govt.nz/our-work/changes-in-education/curriculum-and-assessment-changes/>

## Middle school transition form

Later next term will see the start of preparations for transitioning students from kura to kura. Our Kāhui Ako online transition form is widely used, and the important information is valued by the receiving schools. Please continue to use this process by logging into the form on our website. If you have forgotten your login or can't access the form, contact Evan Jones [emj@rahtkeale.school.nz](mailto:emj@rahtkeale.school.nz)

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# Wairarapatanga

Another wonderful opportunity to work together as a workstream and with Nathan Riki. Wairarapatanga is working on 4 key areas for 2024:

- Review and refine the Wairarapatanga strategy and action plan, for all to access and use.
- Sharing of how schools have integrated the strategy and action plan – what it looks like in action.
- Whakaoriori graduate profile
- Local stories using an interactive map

Nathan's PLD session filled our kete! He covered Matariki, Aotearoa Histories, Reo Māori and changing community/cultural make up, and teaching to the changing climate. Ka wani kē!

A big thanks to Ōpaki School for showing great manaakitanga and hosting us for the day.







## Hauora

Collaboration between kura and between students in the tuakana-teina style sums up Fab Colabs - and this term has been no exception.

Thank you to Wairarapa College and Solway College for hosting and sharing the skills of their dedicated teaching staff. Year 5-7 students from Masterton schools were able to see the inside workings of a College learning space, taste a bit of College life and learn some new skills in Music (particularly musical instruments), Digital Technology and Performing Arts.

Look out for next terms offerings - rumour has it that Chanel, Solway and St Matthews are going to be offering these wonderful learning opportunities.



## Book Quiz 2024

Our inaugural Whakaoriori Book Quiz took place on Thursday 13 June with 7 schools and 72 Year 5 to 8 passionate children competing for one of two trophies.

The room was buzzing as 6 rounds celebrating New Zealand books by authors such as Des Hunt, James Russell, Stacey Gregg tested the competitors on their knowledge of these books they had pre read. Two authors encouraged the students through video messages and spot prizes of books were awarded between rounds for general book knowledge questions.

Thanks to the schools that showed their support. Thanks to sponsors: Sally Kean Books, Masterton South Rotary.

# GBB giving back

The collaborative efforts of Chanel, Hadlow, MIS, St Matthews and Solway resulted in a hive of activity in the Food Tech room and a box full of goodness to be donated to the Masterton Food Bank. It included chocolate chip cookies, banana chip muffins and chocolate slice! What a fun couple of hours and a great show of manaakitanga. Well done to all schools involved!



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## Attendance and Engagement

### Creating media around positive school experiences

Look out for the upcoming videos starring some of our local tamariki and rangatahi. The ākonga will be telling us about the experiences that make coming to school really enjoyable. The videos will be circulated via Facebook and geo-targeted to Wairarapa.

The intention is to remind everyone of all the wonderful opportunities that are presented at school, that schools are great places to be and that learning is enjoyable. We hope that it will have a positive effect on raising overall attendance.



### Working with Public Health Nurses

This term we have continued our positive mahi with the Public Health Nurses (PHN). We have facilitated a connection between the district attendance service and the PHN that will provide much needed support for those in need. We are working with the PHN to provide support through educational workshops to schools in areas like vaping, for later in the year.





# Stories of Impact: Haumi Ē!



## Haumi ē

A course for humanity

Educating teachers about anti-racism to promote equality

Together is Better

### Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako



#### Cultural Awareness

Understanding and appreciating various cultural backgrounds by examining our own, including recognising power, privilege and superiority of other cultures.



#### Historical Contexts

Learning about the historical roots of racism and oppression and the ongoing impacts of colonisation, both nationally and globally.



#### Recognising Bias

Growing self-awareness, recognising and addressing implicit and explicit personal prejudices and bias of dominant cultural values and narratives.



#### Systemic Racism

Challenging 'cultural norms' and discriminatory practices, by empowering ourselves as allies to action equitable change at a system-wide level.



#### Courageous Conversations

Calling in racism using strategies that challenge harmful actions or language while maintaining the mana of everyone involved.



#### Inclusive Practices

Creating Te Tiriti honouring classrooms that embrace diversity and equity by using strategies and practices that challenge the status quo.

90%

Participants have a clear understanding of systemic racism and its impact on society



*It's not enough to be Non-Racist, we need to be Anti-Racist.*  
Angela Y. Davis

I have been doing the Haumi-ē course and it has been absolutely

amazing, eye-opening, informative, soul-searching, emotional & extremely worthwhile.



I thought I had a pretty good grasp on information about Te Tiriti but this course has shown me that there is so much more I had no idea about and how much of an impact all the events are still having today. I am proud to say I'm Tangata Tiriti and am working towards becoming a true ally with our Tangata Whenua and treaty partners.

true ally

Suzie Locke, May 2024

## Teachers as Allies

Tauiwī (non-Māori) addressing inequity - one courageous conversation at a time

Māori and Non-Māori working together - to achieve Kāwanganatanga & Tino Rangatiratanga

Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako - an enduring commitment to honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi



91%

Participants feel confident to call in racism with family, friends and colleagues



Whakaoriori Kāhui Ako  
whakaoriorikahui.co.nz

rikiconsultancy.co.nz

# Stories of Impact: Haumi Ē!

## Haumi ē A course for humanity

Educating teachers about anti-racism to promote equality



I have learned so much about Te Tiriti but also about myself through this course. I have gained a new pride for my own whakapapa and realise that to move forward we need to know where we have come from, all of us.

Suzie



We need to work together to support Aotearoa to a better, Tiriti honouring future. This requires us to be brave and honest and that is easier when you know there are others.

Lauren



It has improved my understanding of the injustices and racism Māori have experienced and continue to experience. I am 100% Toitu Tū Te Tiriti.

Stone



This course has provided me with the confidence and courage to instigate and engage in conversations that previously I would have shied away from. It has also helped consolidate the absolute importance of being an upstander and ally for Māori, and not a bystander and passive citizen of Aotearoa.

Jo



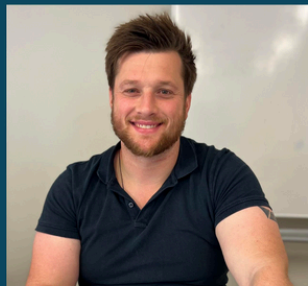
I can confidently say this course was a transformative experience. It not only broadened my understanding but also equipped me with the tools to be a more effective and proactive ally. I have left the course with an increased understanding of my role as an ally and how important the mahi we have ahead of us is!

Sophie



One of the most positive, mana-enhancing, knowledge-building professional and personal learning opportunities I have ever been fortunate to have been part of. I am very sad this course is ending.

Nikki



It is very educational, thought-provoking and at times confronting. This is what we need more of, becoming comfortable being uncomfortable.

Michael



The course is beautifully built. It takes you from a place of perhaps blissful ignorance, down into the uncomfortable depths of truth, then back out the other side to empowerment. The course has a future focus...where can we drive to, rather than a negative backward looking stance.

Gareth

Haumi ē focuses on empowering participants with the tools and insights to foster culturally respectful spaces - one courageous conversation at a time.

 **36%**

Increase in participants' confidence to 'call in' racism with family, friends and colleagues

### Emerge as Better Treaty Partners

Participants who have undertaken this course experience a profound transformation, developing a deeper understanding of cultural dynamics and becoming more effective allies and advocates for equity.

rikiconsultancy.co.nz





# Progressions



Term Two has been actioned packed for Progressions!



## Māori Forms of Giftedness

*Ever wondered what it would look like if our whole ECE community were ALL focusing on the same aspirations for our Māori tamariki?*

**Would you like to see?**

*This term, as an ECE community, we embarked on a journey with the guidance and support from Nathan Riki. Our ECE community is uniting in 2024 to focus on the aspirations for our Māori tamariki by enhancing our understanding of 'Māori forms of giftedness.'*



## Success as Māori for Māori

*Our goal is to implement this knowledge into our practices and spaces, ensuring a supportive and enriching environment. Together, as an ECE community we will support and celebrate each other's successes, creating a place where our Māori tamariki can thrive, feel valued, and connect deeply with their culture and identity. We look forward to sharing this journey with you!*




# Transition Hui

## TERM TWO

Masterton Primary School - Mākoura ELC - Puawānanga Wairarap Young Parents

*This term's Transition Hui was a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and share valuable insights on the transition process. We had the pleasure of hearing from Paula, our new entrant kaiako from Masterton Primary School, and Carissa from Makoura ECE about their transition processes. Prue Harawira-Smith, the head teacher at Puawānanga Wairarapa Young Parents, also shared insights on how young parents with the support from their kaiako navigate transitions. It was an enriching session that strengthened our community connections.*








## Transitioning from ECE SUPPORTING EARLY LITERACY

Progressions workstream, in conjunction with Curriculum - Teaching and Learning workstream, are looking at how we can work with, ECE, Kura and community organisations to support and foster early literacy skills within our ECE community.

- Build Early Literacy Skills
- Work with and support community organisations
- Build across sector relationships



Kaiako Rosie from Solway Primary School at Mākoura ELC



## Upcoming events



Term 3 2024

# YEAR 0-3 LITERACY HUI SERIES

### Term 3 Dates:

Thursday 25th July at Solway Primary School

Wednesday 28th August at Douglas Park School

Thursday 19th September (Venue TBC)

Each hui will begin with time to connect from 3:15 pm before the main content from 3:45 - 4:45 pm.

During the term, there will be three sessions featuring visiting experts and examples from across Whakaoriori. It will offer teachers opportunities to share their knowledge and experiences while making connections.

Keep an eye out for further details coming soon

Please RSVP if your school is interested in being involved. We will gather numbers early Term 3.

[andrea@solway.school.nz](mailto:andrea@solway.school.nz)

## Upcoming events

Come And Join Us For The

# WHAKAORIORI KĀHUI AKO ATTENDANCE CODING WORKSHOP

- OVERVIEW OF THE NATIONAL ATTENDANCE AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY AND THE THREE NEW MEASURES
- DEFINITION OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CODES PRESENTED BY NATIONAL OFFICE
- WHAKAORIORI KĀHUI AKO DEFINITIONS, NARRATIVES, CHALLENGES, COMMONALITIES, SPECIFIC TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CODES
- WHAKAORIORI KĀHUI AKO AGREED INTERPRETATIONS OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CODES.

**THURSDAY 25TH OF JULY  
1-3PM  
CHANEL COLLEGE HALL-HERBERT STREET**



**Whakaoriori  
Kāhui Ako**

VISION STATEMENT:  
We work together to ensure that all Whakaoriori students are successful and all ākonga will achieve to their potential.

The attendance coding workshop is open to principals, office staff, WSLs or people at your school in charge of tracking attendance. This is a fantastic opportunity to have your coding questions answered by the MoE and to ensure consistency throughout our Kāhui Ako. We are hoping to have someone from each school attend.

# Transition Hui

Hosting  
**Lakeview School**  
**WEEK 7**  
**Wednesday 4th  
September**  
**4:30 - 5:30pm**

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**Nathan Riki's  
ECE  
MĀORI FORMS OF  
GIFTEDNESS HUI**  
**Thursday August  
22nd**  
**REAP HOUSE**  
**9am-12pm**



Save the date

**Whakaoriori  
Kāhui Ako**



## Upcoming events



We will be completing the Wellbeing@Schools with Whakaoriori Year 4 – 10 students in Term 3. We are aiming to complete the survey and analyse by Thursday 12th of September. Detailed information will come out at the beginning of term 3.

Term	Kaitiaki Group	WSL
THREE	15 August 3.30pm Reap  5 September 3.30pm Reap	1 August 3.30 - 4.30pm Lakeview School  5 September 1.00 - 3.15pm Chanel College
FOUR	24 October 3.30pm 28 November 3.30pm	31 October 3.30 - 4.30pm 21 November 1.00 - 4.00pm

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*Thank you for reading!  
Have a well-deserved break!*

WHAKAORIORI KĀHUI AKO

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