

Ahuriri Kāhui Ako Update

'Authentic learning and real futures for all Ahuriri ākonga'



A proverb from Sir Timoti Kāretū, about language revitalisation and the importance of maintaining culture.

Tēnā koutou katoa,

It is hard to believe that Term 4 is upon us!

There have been many Kāhui Ako activities happening this past term that aim to bring our Achievement Challenges and 2022 Priorities to life. The 2022 priorities are:

1. Build the **culturally responsive and relational leadership capabilities** of across and within school leaders to support others in their kura;
2. Bring effect to **Te Tiriti o Waitangi** within and across schools;
3. Develop our Ahuriri **local curriculum** through pūrākau, whakapapa/pepeha, waiata and connecting to the whenua;
4. Successful **transition** for ākonga within and between schools, particularly at key points: ECE-NE/Y6-Y7/Y8-9/Y12-13+
5. Develop **strong partnerships** between kura of collaboration and support;
6. Shared decision-making with **hauora/wellbeing** at the fore.

TRANSITION

As we know, term 4 is filled with many exciting opportunities for our ākonga with a particular focus on transition. This can be an anxious time for ākonga and whānau especially if their tamaiti is moving onto another kura. I am proud that our Kāhui Ako takes a considered and thoughtful approach to transition and we have some very sound and effective strategies at the key points: ECE to NE; Year 6 into Year 7; and Year 8 to 9.

Learning Support representatives, along with RTLB and MOE, met to share and review transition practices across our Kāhui Ako (see image on page 2). This process was useful and will be used to measure the effectiveness of our approaches to transition. As a way of building whanaungatanga the Year 7 ākonga from Tamatea Intermediate have visited the schools in our Kāhui Ako and spent time with Year 6 ākonga. Also, the Year 8s have visited Tamatea High School and taken part in their Technology subjects.

All Kāhui Ako across Ahuriri have been working together for some time to create a 'transition form' that can be used by all secondary schools to support the transition of Year 8 ākonga. The kura takawaenga have agreed to use the form which will provide valuable information about the social, emotional and academic needs of each tamaiti. We are now working on having a consistent form for Year 6 students moving to Intermediate. I am proud to say that our Kāhui Ako has taken a leading role in this process.

The ECE and New Entrant kaiako rōpū have planned to get together this term to visit the ECE centres in our Kāhui Ako as a way of further building whakawhanaungatanga and learning more about Te Whāriki - Early Childhood Curriculum in action.

Ahuriri Kāhui Ako Transition Strategies
‘Authentic learning and real futures for all Ahuriri ākonga’



Our Kāhui Ako is committed to working together to improve outcomes for all ākonga, along their learning pathway. We value: **Whakawhanaungatanga** - Relationships & connections; **Ngākau Pono** - Transparency & honesty; and **Mahitahi** - Working together.

| Values | ECE - NE | Y6 - Y7 | Y8 - Y9 |
|--|--|--|---|
| Whakawhanaungatanga Relationships & Connections | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Build relationships between ECE and Schools ➢ Regularly updated school information booklet shared with whānau ➢ Communication with whānau, about visits etc ➢ Mix & mingle mornings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Year 7 students visiting contributing schools (x2 visits) ➢ Open Evening ➢ Sharing of talents (sports, cultural, The Arts) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Year 8 students visiting (x2 visits) ➢ Open Day ➢ Orientation visit ➢ Year 7 & 8 students using facilities (Science Lab, Gym etc) ➢ Visits to Year 8 classes by Year 9 students ➢ Performances in assemblies |
| Ngākau Pono Transparency & honesty | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Information sharing between ECE-School-Whānau ➢ Transition reports and plans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Information sharing between schools ➢ Transition form | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Information sharing between schools ➢ Ahuriri-wide transition form ➢ Enrolment interviews with whānau |
| Mahitahi Working together | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Visits to centres and kura | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ 1:1 chats with teachers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ 1:1 chats with Senco and teachers |

Other key activities include the combined Ahuriri Kāhui Ako Kapahaka Festival, involving all members of the Kāhui Ako, as well as the Tamariki Wānanga Rōpū which involves 32 ākonga from the six kura, in Years 5-10.

BUILDING CULTURAL CONNECTEDNESS

Our commitment and purposeful drive to build the culturally responsive and relational capabilities of leaders and kaiako remains strong. This is definitely a priority and strength of our Kāhui Ako.

The across-school and within-school leaders have undertaken a programme of self-discovery and leadership, immersed in Kahungunutanga, with PLD facilitator Dee Reid and her team. A whakatauki that resonated with the group is:

*E kore au e ngaro, he kākano ahau i ruia mai i Rangīātea.
 I will not be lost, I am a seed descended from Rangīātea.*

This reminds us that we are all descended from greatness and that our whakapapa and culture are what has shaped who we are. We must continue to take strength from our ancestors as we help create a future for our rangatahi.

The Tamariki Wānanga Rōpū have had two spectacular days together, retracing the steps of their tupuna and further developing their knowledge of local pūrākau. There are now 32 ākonga involved from all kura along with kaiako. The rōpū are now working on developing key resources that can be used by all kaiako to support their knowledge and teaching of local pūrākau based on *Te Pepeha o Tamatea Pokai Whenua*.

An absolute highlight of the term, actually the year, is the combined **AHURIRI KĀHUI AKO KAPAHAKA FESTIVAL**. This was a display of aroha (love) and whakaute (respect) for the revitalization and retention of te reo, tikanga, ritual processes and histories. This pivotal event brought people together to connect and share their love and passion for kapa haka.

The organising rōpū overcame obstacles which included the cancellation of the event two years in a row due to Covid and then Queen Elizabeth's national day of mourning clashing with the date! The venue was an unknown entity but ended up being the perfect choice. The evening performance was packed with whānau enjoying this momentous occasion. Ngā mihi nui to all of those involved. The dates have already been booked for 2023 and 2024.

It was a fitting way to farewell and acknowledge Sonya Aifai who has organised the event for many years. A huge mihi aroha goes out to Sonya for her hard work and dedication. It was wonderful to see her performing with Te Kura o Porritt.



Here is a selection of photos from the Kapahaka Festival.



BestStart
Greenmeadows



Te Kura o
Fairhaven



Te Kura o Porritt



Te Kura o Tamatea



Te Kura o Te Taha (Westshore)



Te Kura Takawaenga o Tamatea



Te Kapa o Ahuriri



Even the staff from each kura performed some waiata. Ka Rawe!!!

Thank you to the staff in our Kāhui Ako early learning centres and schools for working tirelessly to support the learning and wellbeing of our ākonga. Wishing you a settled and positive term ahead.

Nicky Anderson - Ahuriri Kāhui Ako Lead

