

AKO PANUKU

Inspiring Learning

PĀNUI - TERM 2, 2026

Matariki Herenga Waka

HE MIHI

This year's Matariki theme 'Matariki Herenga Waka' celebrates the voyages that bring people together. As we reflect on the year and the various workshops and resources we've delivered and curated, we also acknowledge every kaiako who continues to invest in our mokopuna by investing in your own learning and growth. Your commitment

strengthens not only your own practice, but also the futures of the tamariki and rangatahi you support every day.

Matariki reminds us of the importance of coming together, sharing knowledge, and strengthening the relationships that carry us forward. We value the connections we build with kaiako through Ako Panuku, and those

formed amongst kaiako through wānanga, the sharing of resources, mātauranga, and manaakitanga.

We acknowledge the influential rangatira who have passed since the last rising, and the enduring legacies of their leadership and contribution to education and te reo Māori that continue to shape, guide, and inspire us.

Ko te tira mātai pō ki a rātou, ko te tira mātai ao ki a tātou. Mānawatia a Matariki.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

[REGISTER ONLINE](#)



AKO PANUKU
Workshop
Te Ara Whakaterere
Ngā Whetū me te Urungi
5-6 August 2026
Auckland
[ENROL NOW](#)
FIND OUT MORE
akopanuku.education.govt.nz



AKO PANUKU
Workshop
Te Whakaako i te Pāngarau
12 - 13 August 2026
Auckland
[ENROL NOW](#)
FIND OUT MORE
akopanuku.education.govt.nz



AKO PANUKU
Workshop
Tiakina te Taiao
Pūtaiao Workshop
2-3 September 2026
Rotorua
[ENROL NOW](#)
FIND OUT MORE
akopanuku.education.govt.nz

TE ARA WHAKATERE

Ngā Whetū me te Urungi
5 - 6 August | Wellington

Te Ara Whakaterere – Ngā Whetū me te Urungi is the second workshop in a three-part Te Ara Whakaterere - Navigating Leadership wānanga series. Grounded in the ancestral metaphor of voyaging and navigation, you'll gain the knowledge, skills, and tools to lead with courage, moral clarity, cultural integrity, and intuitive intelligence within complex educational environments.

TE WHAKAAKO I TE PĀNGARAU

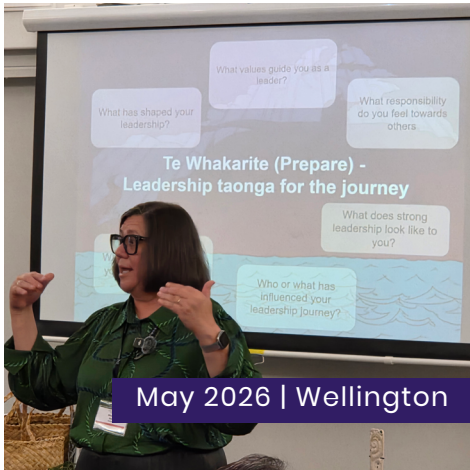
Pāngarau Workshop
12 - 13 August | Auckland

If you missed the first intake earlier in the year, here's your opportunity to secure your place for the next intake. Over two days, you'll unpack the key concepts within Pāngarau and explore how learning progresses across the five tūāre, while gaining practical strategies and tools to help you teach Pāngarau with confidence and purpose.

TIAKINA TE TAI AO

Pūtaiao Workshop
2 - 3 September | Rotorua

Take a deeper look into our natural world and explore how mātauranga Māori can be applied through authentic learning experiences that help preserve the environment. Designed for kaiako teaching Pūtaiao and/or Science, or have an interest in mātauranga Māori, this two-day wānanga brings together expert knowledge, research, and lived experience grounded in te ao Māori.



May 2026 | Wellington



June 2026 | Auckland



June 2026 | Wellington

TE ARA WHAKATERE

Te Waka me te Moana

Through the navigation elements of waka and moana, kaiako participated in the first Te Ara Whakaterere leadership workshop, a transformative leadership wānanga designed for aspiring Māori education leaders. The workshop focused on identity, whakapapa, leadership origins, as well as navigating systems and complexity.

KIA WANA TE AKO

Reo ā-Waha | Reo ā-Tā

Close to 80 kaiako took part in Kia Wana te Ako workshops held in Auckland, Palmerston North, and Christchurch. Designed to strengthen the teaching of reo ā-waha and reo ā-tā, the workshops supported kaiako to explore a range of language teaching strategies, including vocabulary development and grammar-focused approaches.

TĀKAROKARO KŌHAO RAU

The Alchemy of Play

New to our workshop delivery, *Tākarokaro Kōhao Rau*, facilitated by Wiremu Sarich, brought a fresh holistic lens to tākaro grounded in mātauranga Māori. Through karakia, pao, pūrākau, games, and creative activities, kaiako deepened their understanding and gained new ideas to enrich the teaching and learning of tākaro in kura.

HUI Ā-TAU 2026 - COMING SOON!

HUI Ā-TAU W

HE PEKA TĪTOKI, E KORE E WHATI

6-7 OCTOBER 2026 | AUCKLAND

Preparations are well underway for this year's Hui ā-Tau to be held on 6-7 October in Auckland, and online.

This year's kaupapa '*He peka tītoki, e kore e whati*' references the strength and resilience of our collective as kaiako, and the commitment we have to quality teaching and learning.

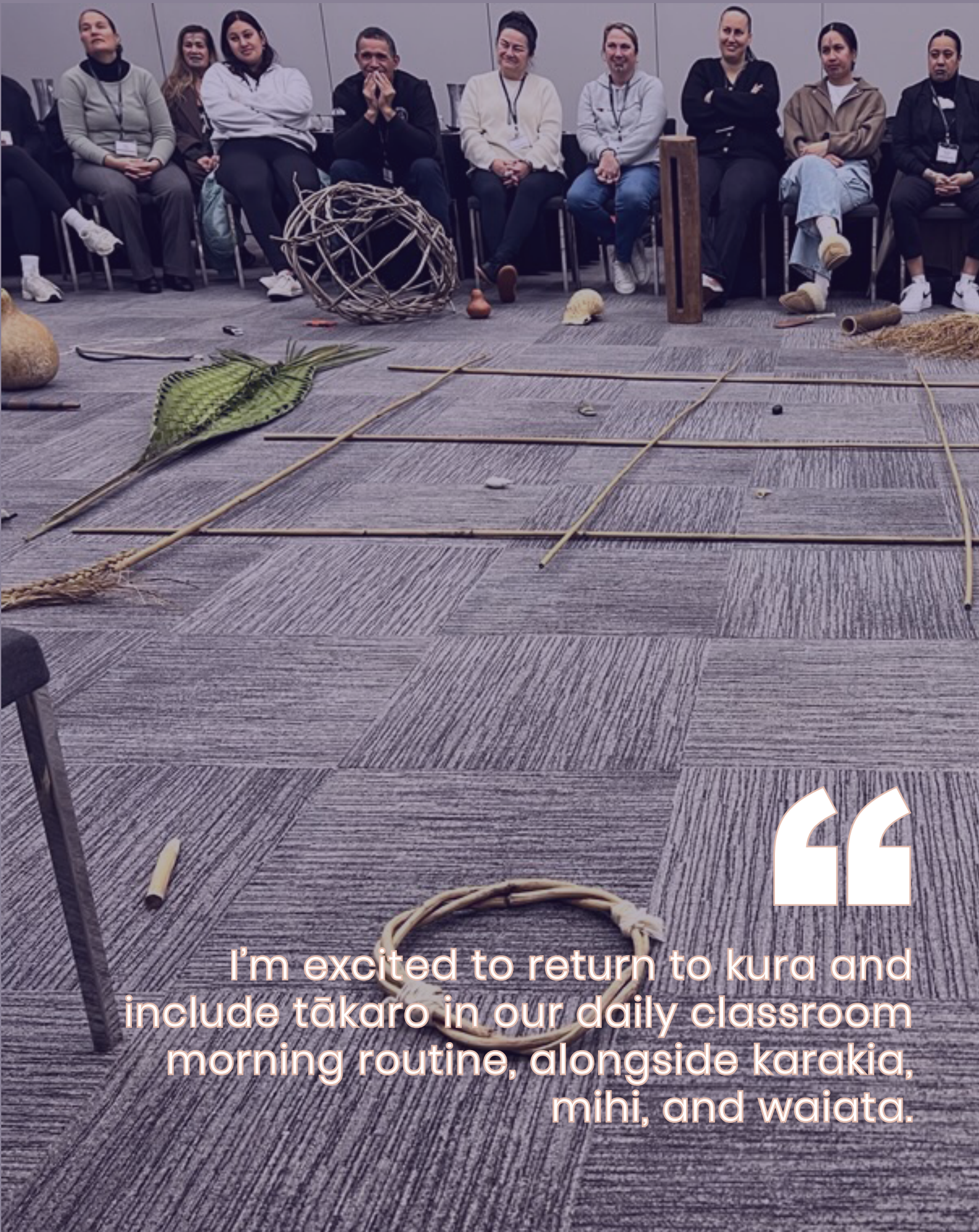
It signifies the legacy of our role as educators - to nurture identity, strengthen belonging, and contribute to the mana of mokopuna and te reo Māori.

As with changes and the unknown, it encourages us to be adaptable and flexible, just like the tītoki branch.

Our kaupapa is expressed through three pou:

- **Mana Kaiako** - sustaining the wellbeing and resilience of kaiako.
- **Mana Mokopuna** - upholding the mana of learners amidst change.
- **Mana Reo** - protecting and growing te reo Māori through teaching and learning.

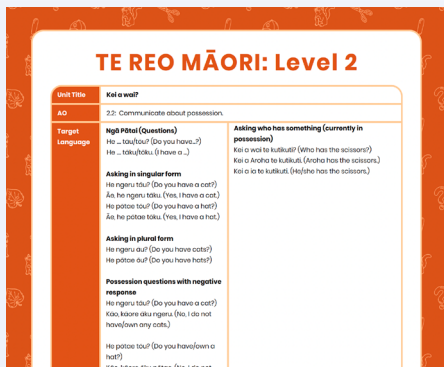
More event details coming soon!



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I'm excited to return to kura and include tākaro in our daily classroom morning routine, alongside karakia, mihi, and waiata.

Te Kāhui Kaiako Reo Māori



TE REO MĀORI KIT

2.2: Kei a Wai?

A te reo Māori teaching kit including unit plan, lesson plans, slides, and activity templates to print.

[View resource](#)

WĀNANGA REO KI ŌTAUTAHI

Register Now!

Our popular Wānanga Reo will be back for a second time this year - register now to attend the wānanga in Christchurch on 26 - 27 November. Specifically designed to improve the quality of teachers' language, these wānanga are popular and book out quickly. Don't miss out - [register now!](#)

Te Kāhui Kaiako Pūtaiao



KO TĀ TE PŪTAIAO

New Poster Resource

A poster outlining some of the key descriptors of Pūtaiao. Available in English and Māori.

[View resource](#)

OBSERVE & EXPLORE

Which manu are in your local environment?

The [Science Learning Hub](#), in collaboration with Manaaki Whenua, have created amazing resources around identifying birds. Encourage your ākonga to observe and listen, and explore local birdlife with these amazing resources.

Te Pōkai Kākākura



TE PAE PUKAPUKA

Legacy: 15 Lessons in Leadership by James Kerr

Legacy outlines the principles that transformed the New Zealand All Blacks into one of the most successful sports teams in history, maintaining a win rate of over 75% for over a century. The book emphasizes that a high-performance culture is built on character, humility, and a deep connection to a common purpose. [Join Te Pae Pukapuka](#) to check out the full review!

What's one book you think everyone should read, and why? [Email the tari](#) with your suggestions.

FROM THE RESOURCE VAULT



Loopy Cards

Loopy Cards are like dominoes. They are a fun activity for students to learn Māori phrases in pairs or as a group.

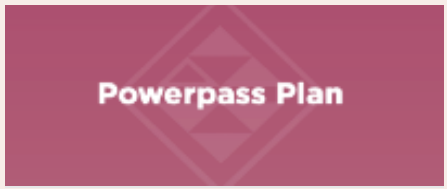
[View resource](#)



Kōrerotia | Say it!

A speaking activity where students reflect on themes they've been learning, based on pūtaiao (science) concepts.

[View resource](#)



Leadership Strategy Stack

A set of strategies to support the development of culture, managing your team, running engaging workshops, and self-development.

[View resource](#)



It was great to spend time unpacking each activity, allowing us to build confidence in implementing them effectively within the akomanga.

Te Kāhui Kaiako Reo Māori



Te Kāhui Kaiako Pūtaiao



Te Pōkai Kākākura

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Ako Panuku offers a range of professional development sponsorship opportunities to a number of kaiako from across our national communities. Three kaiako from each community will be attending the Kura Reo ki Ōtaki, Kura Reo ki Rotorua, Te Māngai Kaiārahi, and Rongoā workshops - check out the workshops below.

We acknowledge and celebrate their commitment to ongoing learning and look forward to seeing the impact of their professional growth within their kura, hāpori, and wider educational communities.

KURA REO

KURA REO

Advancing Fluency, Accuracy, and Cultural Depth

Intensive, high-quality wānanga focused on advancing fluency, accuracy, and cultural depth. You'll be immersed in te reo Māori, but also in tikanga, whakawhanaungatanga, and a shared commitment to the revitalisation and normalisation of the language in everyday life.



RONGOĀ MĀORI

Step into the World of Rongoā Māori

Deepen your understanding of rongoā Māori, and its tikanga. Learn to navigate the ngahere, confidently identify native plants, and follow appropriate harvesting practices. You'll also gain practical tools to help you retain and apply your learning in meaningful ways.



TE MĀNGAI KAIĀRAHI

The Voice of Leadership – Growing Influence, Inspiring Change

This two-day event brings together middle and aspiring leaders from across Aotearoa to strengthen leadership capability, build meaningful connections, and be inspired by those leading bold change in education.

CLUSTERS



UPCOMING CLUSTER HUI

The next West Auckland Cluster hui will be held on 3rd July 2026. If you're in the region and you're interested in joining, [contact](#) the tari to let us know.

Primary Settings Cluster

Are you a kaiako teaching Te Reo Māori in a primary setting?

We're looking to set up a new cluster dedicated to supporting kaiako who teach Te Reo Māori in a primary setting. If you're interested in planning support, pedagogy, resources, and shared learning opportunities, [contact](#) the tari to let us know.



This wānanga provided the time and space to reflect upon my own leadership capabilities, challenges and successes. It also provided practical day-to-day scenarios to wānanga with others in similar leadership positions.

ORDER RESOURCES ONLINE

You'll need to be logged into your Ako Panuku account.



EXAM PREP BUNDLE

Ready, Set, Revise

A carefully curated bundle of resources to support ākonga as they revise, consolidate learning, and build confidence ahead of exams.

[View resources](#)



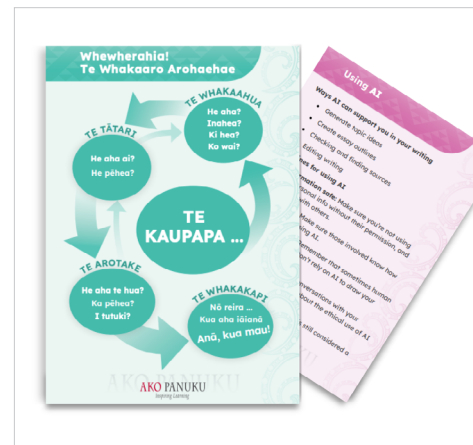
HĀKINAKINA POSTER SET

New Resources

Check out the refreshed posters for rugby | whutupōro and football | poiwhana have been added to the hākinakina set.

Available in English and Māori.

[View resources](#)



STUDENT RESEARCH GUIDES

Improve Student Writing Skills

A set of 8 guide cards that supports students in their research projects. Ready to print, cut, laminate and hand out to students.

Available in English and Māori.

[View resource](#)



SHARE YOUR STORY!

Inspiring Kaiako in Our Communities

Supporting kaiako Māori to grow and thrive in their profession is at the centre of Ako Panuku. If Ako Panuku has made a difference in your journey, we would love to hear from you!

By sharing your experience, you will help other kaiako Māori in our communities discover the support available, showing the incredible, positive impact we can create together.

Ready to share your story?

Please answer a few pātai in the [online form](#). Thank you in advance for taking the time to share your story.

PCT RESOURCES AND SUPPORT



NEW TO THE TEACHING PROFESSION?

Enrol in our PCT Workshop

Explore the art of teaching, strengthen your understanding of the professional teaching standards and build confidence in your role as a beginning teacher in your school. Enrolments close on 22 July 2026. Travel requests close on 8 July 2026. [Register here](#)



RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS!

Bundled PCT Resources

Check out our bundled resources specifically curated for PCTs. You'll find a range of resources such as the PCT 2-year planner and the induction and mentoring programme. You'll also have access to our online interactive resource - Te Tēpu. [View bundle online](#)



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As the only kaiako reo Māori at my kura, I value these wānanga, and come away feeling more confident, inspired and motivated.

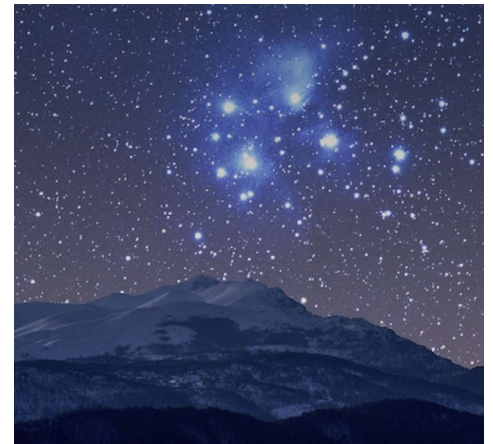


Mānawatia a Matariki

AKO PANUKU
Inspiring Learning

He Rotarota

Mahuta mai, Matariki, te kāhui tapu o te tau
Ka hoki ngā mahara ki ngā rā kua pau.
Ka kai ō tātou mata ki a Waitī, ki a Waitā
Kia hiwa ki ngā tohu o te awa me te moana.
Ko Tupuānuku, ko Tupuārangi e taukapo mai ana
He tūtohu nō te māra me te manu mōmona.
Kōpatapata ko te ua, āwhiowhio ko te hau
Waipunarangi, Ururangi tohu huarere ki a tātou.
Tuakana, teina, Pōhutukawa, e Hiwa, ē



ON ITS WAY!

New Matariki Board Game

We're so excited to release the refreshed Matariki Board Game in both te reo and English - a great way to celebrate and learn more about Matariki. Keep an eye on your pigeonhole for it, along with your new resources.

MĀNAWATIA A MATARIKI

Teaching Activities

Celebrate Matariki in your classroom with three engaging learning activities that spark curiosity, creativity, and cultural understanding. Ready to use, with practical suggestions for different year levels and settings.

[View resource](#)

MATARIKI REO ACTIVITIES

Student Activities

He kohinga rauemi tēnei hei āwhina i ngā ākonga ki te ako i te reo Māori i roto i te horopaki o Matariki. Māori language activities based on Matariki.

Available in English and Māori.

[View resource](#)

MATARIKI 2026 EVENTS

MATARIKI MATATOPA

9 - 11 July 2026

The award-winning Matariki Drone Show returns to Rotorua with a new soundscape and colourful animation featuring 550 drones above Lake Rotorua.

[Find out more](#)



MATARIKI FESTIVAL

4 - 19 July 2026

Come together with whānau to acknowledge the year gone by, plan for the future, and celebrate the present with kai, kōrero, ceremony and entertainment.

[Find out more](#)



NGĀ WHETŪ O TE TAU HOU

18 June - 31 July 2026

In this immersive planetarium experience, you'll journey through the night sky to explore the Matariki star cluster and its importance in Aotearoa and te ao Māori.

[Find out more](#)



GROWING, SHARING, SHINING WITH MATARIKI

16 July 2026

Learn about the Matariki stars and explore objects of the past that relate to the meanings of the Matariki stars and their ties to te taiao.

[Find out more](#)



Te Ara Whakātere:
Te Waka me te Moana
May 2026



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This wānanga helped me to develop a framework that is authentic to who I am and relevant to my current role. I feel confident navigating challenges, knowing that my wellbeing and mindset are grounded and supported.

TE POUTĀHŪ**Curriculum Newsletter**

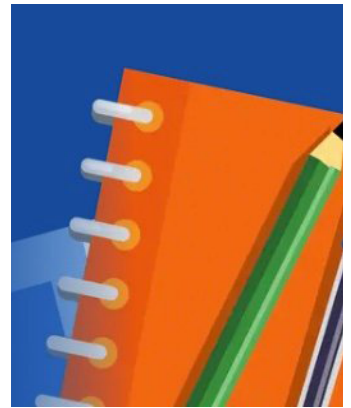
Have you checked out the latest curriculum pānui? These pānui are a great way to keep up to date with the latest curriculum, assessment, and aromatawai news for schools and kura.

[Read the latest pānui and subscribe online.](#)

**PARENT PORTAL****Online Parent Portal**

Learn more about what your tamaiti is learning at school or kura, how they are progressing against the curriculum, and what you can do to support them at home.

[Access the Parent Portal.](#)

**PŪHORO STEMM****Academy expands into Te Upoko-o-Te-Ika**

Rangatahi Māori in Te Upoko-o-Te-Ika will soon have greater access to STEMM pathways, following the arrival of Pūhoro STEMM Academy (Pūhoro) in the region.

[Read the full article.](#)

**HE PITOPITO KŌRERO****School Leaders Bulletin**

MoE has a dedicated pānui for school leaders that covers kaupapa such as curriculum news and updates, resources, professional learning opportunities, school programmes, and any policy changes. [Check out the latest pānui online.](#)

**HEI WHAKAMŌHIO NOA****NGĀ KURA Ā-IWI****Te Pūtahi Nui 2026 Conference**

6 - 7 August 2026 | Rotorua

This year's conference is set to be jam-packed with hot topics, expert speakers, and networking opportunities. Ako Panuku will also be setting up a stall at the event, so drop in for a kōrero and check out some resources on display. [Find out more](#)

**TE TĀWHARAU O NGĀ WAKA****National Secondary Schools Kapa Haka Competition 2026**

The National Secondary Schools Kapa Haka Competition is well underway this week at Mercury Baypark in Tauranga. More than 40 rōpū will take to the stage, sharing powerful performances shaped by months of preparation and wānanga. Good luck to all kaihaka and rōpū performing this week.

**KAHU PŪTOI | KAUAWHITIA Aromatawai | 28 July 2026**

The online symposium will provide practical insights into how aromatawai can support teaching, learning, and reporting for kura and whānau. If you're an existing Kahu Pūtoi member, you can register via [Circle](#). If you'd like to become a member of Kahu Pūtoi, you can [sign up online](#).