



ECCH TEAM NEWSLETTER

Term 1 2026

ELIM EXPLORATION: IDENTITY | TUAKIRI
FOCUS: SOCIAL SCIENCES - How do our STORIES | PURAKAU shape our community?
ARISE Profile: We are ACHIEVERS

Moana Team ENRICH Programme

This term, ākongā are diving into the world of Visual Arts and STEM, exploring how we can use our hands and minds to reflect our identity and God's creation.

Visual Arts: Van Gogh meets Kandinsky Our ākongā are exploring "Responsive Learning Environments" by blending the bold textures of Van Gogh with the symbolic shapes of Kandinsky. By weaving their own cultural narratives and personal motifs into their art, they are celebrating their unique identities—reminding us that each of us is beautifully made in His image.

STEM: The Art of Sewing From Level 1 through Level 4, our learners are engaging in Technological Practice through sewing.

- Junior levels are beginning to understand how materials work and how to plan a simple design.
- Senior levels are investigating complex systems, using stakeholder feedback to refine their prototypes, and exploring how technology expands human possibilities. Through this "purposeful intervention," students develop perseverance as they transform simple inputs into functional, creative outcomes.

What's happening in Term 1

Meet the Teacher & School Picnic – Tuesday 17 February (5:00pm) A wonderful opportunity to connect with our staff and other families. Bring a picnic and enjoy a relaxed evening as we kick off the new school year together!

Life Education Caravan – Week 4 (23–25 Feb) We are excited to welcome Harold and the Life Education team. These sessions support our ākongā in learning about health, wellbeing, and making positive choices aligned to our Term 1 theme of Identity.

Year 7 & 8 Camp – Week 5 (3–6 March) Our seniors head off for an action-packed week of team building and outdoor challenges. This is a pivotal experience for developing leadership and perseverance.

EOT Prizegiving & Celebration of Learning – Week 9 (Wednesday 1 April) Join us as we celebrate the progress and achievements of our ākongā throughout the term. It's a great chance to see the work they've produced in their Enrich Programmes.

Last Day of Term – Thursday 2 April We'll wrap up Term 1 with our final school assembly at 2:30pm before heading into the school holidays.

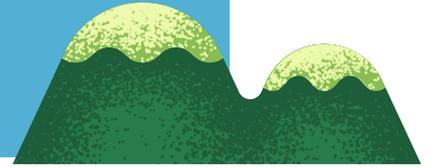
Key Dates for your Calendar

- **20 Feb:** ECCH Olympics & School Assembly (2:30pm)
- **13 March:** ECCH Fundraiser (5:00pm)
- **24 March:** Parent Information Session (5:30pm)
- **30 March:** Whole School Mufti Day



MAUNGA NEWSLETTER

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Special Character Programme

This term, we will explore scripture and Bible teachings that help us understand Identity (Tuakiri) — who we are, who we belong to, and how we live out our faith each day.

Ākongā will learn:

- We are created by God, valued, and have a purpose.
- We belong to whānau, our kura, church, and community.
- Our stories and the stories of the Bible help shape who we are becoming.
- We grow as we plan, work hard, and do our best.
- We can positively influence others through our choices and actions.
- Our strength comes from standing together —
Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini.

Study Scripture

WK 1-2

Those who plan and work hard earn a profit. But those who act too quickly become poor. Proverbs 21:5

WK 3-5

But you are chosen people. You are the King's priests. You are a holy nation. You are a nation that belongs to God alone. God chose you to tell about the wonderful things he has done. He called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. At one time you were not God's people. But now you are his people. In the past you had never received mercy. But now you have received God's mercy. 1 Peter 2:9-10

WEEK 6-7

Whatever work you do, do your best. Ecclesiastes 9:10

WEEK 8-10

My people, listen to my teaching. Listen to what I say. I will speak using stories. I will tell things that have been secret since long ago. We have heard them and know them. Our fathers told them to us. We will not keep them from our children. We will tell those who come later about the praises of the Lord. We will tell about his power and the miracles he has done. Psalm 78:1-4

Theme / Integrated Inquiry

Central Idea: IDENTITY | TUAKIRI

This term, ākongā in Maunga Team will explore who we are, where we belong, and how our relationships, culture, and stories help shape our identity.

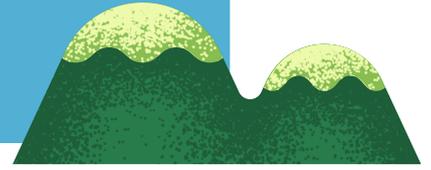
Year 1 Focus: Who am I and who do I belong to?

- I know who is in my family and what makes us special.
- I know that the language I speak and the culture I belong to are part of who I am.
- I understand that I do better because I have people around me — Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini.
- Share things about myself using words, pictures, or actions.
- Show I belong by joining in, helping others, and using kind and respectful language.
- Recognise that people are similar and different, and that everyone has a place in our community.



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Contact:

Sarah de Raat: sarah.deraate@elimhenderson.school.nz (Pīwauwau)

Erin Zhang: erin.zhang@elimhenderson.school.nz (Pūtakitaki)

Literacy

Our classes in the Maunga Team are participating in the Structured Literacy programme (BSLA) Students are working at different Taumata according to their needs. They will work in small groups for reading instruction which will teach them how to blend sounds together to read text with fluency. As a class, students will explore quality picture books to understand vocabulary characters, setting, problems and plot as a means of building reading comprehension skills. They also take part in whole class sessions working with listening to words and separating out sounds as well as blending letters and sounds to read words.

Learning and consolidating single letter sounds and short vowels, including:

m, d, p, t, c, l, n, b, s, f, g, r, w, h, k, v

Short vowel sounds: a, e, i, o, u (ongoing review and consolidation)

Introducing and practising:

- Beginning blends (e.g., sl, sn, st, fl, fr, gr)
- Digraphs: sh, ch, ck, ng
- CVC word building and segmenting
- Reading and spelling simple decodable words
- Ongoing revision and cumulative review of previously taught sounds

There will be a strong focus on applying new sounds in reading and writing, building confidence with blending, segmenting, and retelling oral narratives.

Mathematics

For Maths, we are using the **Maths - No Problem! programme**, a structured maths programme, which is tailored to each year level. The whole-class plan below outlines the general focus, but individual ākonga will be supported in small groups for more personalised learning.

- **Year One Students will explore the concepts of:**
- Counting and recognising numbers up to 20, including one-to-one correspondence and subitising small collections.
- Matching, sorting, and identifying objects by attributes such as shape, size, and number.
- Comparing and ordering objects by length, height, and quantity.
- Recognising and creating AB patterns and other repeating patterns.
- Exploring the composition of numbers up to 5, including making 5, breaking apart 5, and number stories.
- Counting objects in different contexts, including actions, pictures, and manipulatives.
- Identifying, describing, and sorting familiar 2D shapes (triangles, squares, rectangles, circles) and 3D shapes (cubes, cylinders, spheres).
- Using positional language to describe location and movement (e.g., above, below, next to, inside, outside).
- Sequencing events in a day and recognising days of the week.
- Constructing simple models, pictures, and patterns using 2D and 3D shapes.
- This term focuses on building number sense, measurement skills, shape recognition, patterning, and spatial reasoning – laying a strong foundation for confident mathematical thinking.