



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



NGAHERE NEWSLETTER

Term 1 2026

ELIM EXPLORATION: IDENTITY | TUAKIRI

FOCUS: SOCIAL SCIENCES - How do our STORIES | PURAKAU shape our community?

ARISE Profile: We are ACHIEVERS

Special Character Programme

Identity – Tuakiri

This term, ākonga in Ngahere tīma are learning that Identity (Tuakiri) is about understanding who we are, who we belong to, and how we live out our values. At our kura, identity is shaped by our faith, our relationships, and the unique stories that influence us.

We are exploring how to:

- **Recognise** our worth as individuals created by God with a unique purpose.
- **Reflect and grow** by making intentional choices that shape our character.
- **Build belonging in a community** where everyone's strengths and heritage matter.
- **Connect with the past** using Bible stories to guide who we are becoming.
- **Influence others** by ensuring our actions and attitudes positively shape our world.

By focusing on Tuakiri, ākonga are discovering how their faith and personal stories provide a strong foundation for a life of purpose and responsibility.

Study Scripture

Proverbs 21:5 (WEEKS 1-2)

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

1 Peter 2:9-10 (WEEKS 3-4)

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.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 (WEEKS 5-6)

Whatever work you do, do your best.

Psalms 78:1-4 (WEEKS 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

Theme / Integrated Inquiry

Theme Focus: IDENTITY – TUAKIRI

This term, our ākonga in Ngahere tīma are exploring how our relationships, culture, and stories shape who we are and how we belong. We are learning that identity is a journey that connects our past to our present and influences the choices we make for the future.

Year 4–6: Stories of our Past (NATIONAL)

- Explore how people and events from the past are remembered through stories.
- Understand why specific stories are important to Aotearoa New Zealand.
- Reflect on how learning about history helps us make better choices today.
- Action: Share how past stories encourage us to do our best and grow our own identities.

Year 7–8: Culture, Tradition, and Global Identity (GLOBAL)

- Investigate how cultures and traditions are shared, adapted, or passed on over time.
- Analyze the choices people make regarding their heritage and how these affect others.
- Evaluate how personal identity and values shape our actions on a global scale.
- Action: Communicate complex ideas on how our unique identities help us contribute to the wider world.

Key Idea: Our identity is a gift shaped by our history and our faith that empowers us to act with purpose and belong to a wider community.



NGAHERE NEWSLETTER

Term 1 2026



ELIM EXPLORATION: IDENTITY | TUAKIRI

FOCUS: SOCIAL SCIENCES - How do our STORIES | PURAKAU shape our community?

ARISE Profile: We are **ACHIEVERS**

Mathematics

Maths Focus: Number & Operations

This term, our ākonga are **building strong mathematical foundations through place value and the four operations**. We are using concrete materials and the bar model to move from basic calculation to complex problem-solving.

Year 4–6: Place Value & Calculation

- **Number Sense:** Exploring place value from 10,000 up to 1,000,000, including rounding, comparing, and sequencing.
- **Operations:** Mastering column addition and subtraction, focusing on mental strategies and "renaming" (regrouping) across larger numbers.
- **Problem Solving:** Using bar models to visualize word problems, helping students break down information to find solutions.

Year 7–8: Advanced Operations & Theory

- **Big Numbers:** Working with numbers up to 10,000,000 and applying strategic rounding to real-world contexts.
- **Complexity:** Solving expressions involving brackets and exponents (Order of Operations).
- **Multiplication & Division:** Mastering multi-digit long division and multiplication using number bonds and column methods.
- **Number Theory:** Investigating factors, multiples, and prime numbers to deepen logical reasoning.

Key Idea: We are developing flexible thinkers who can choose the most efficient strategy to solve a problem and explain their mathematical reasoning.

Literacy

This term, Ngahere ākonga are exploring **Recounts and Informational Writing**, focusing on **how we use language to share our stories and identity**.

Writing: Crafting with Purpose

- **Structure:** Developing detailed recounts and reports with clear sequencing and logical paragraphing.
- **Sentences:** Moving from simple to complex sentences, using varied openings to improve flow.
- **Precision:** Choosing specific vocabulary and mastering punctuation (commas and speech marks) to ensure clarity.
- **Accuracy:** Building handwriting fluency and using morphology (roots and prefixes) to spell technical words.

Reading: Comprehension & Critical Thinking

- **Decoding & Fluency:** Developing the ability to read complex, multi-syllable words and subject-specific vocabulary with ease.
- **Making Connections:** Identifying main ideas and supporting evidence across texts, connecting Bible stories and ancestral narratives to personal identity.
- **Critical Literacy:** Analysing how authors use language to influence the reader, recognising different viewpoints, and evaluating the reliability of digital sources.
- **Synthesis:** Combining information from multiple texts to build a "Knowledge Rich" understanding of our term theme, Tuakiri (Identity).

Key Idea: By mastering the tools of language, our ākonga are becoming confident communicators who can clearly share their own stories and critically understand the world around them.