

PRINCIPAL'S PĀNUI #11

12 NOV 2025

WHĀNAU CONSULATION

Throughout this year, we have engaged in two different consultations with our whānau and community. In early Term 3, during our whānau conferences, we asked three questions about right **now**, up **next** and in **time**, specifically:

- **RIGHT NOW** — What makes you proud to be part of our school community?
- **UP NEXT** — If you could propose one opportunity or next step we could take, what would it be?
- **IN TIME** — What's your boldest hope for the legacy and future of our school?

As we have sifted through your desires and requests, it's evident that our community is united in ways we can continue to build opportunities and facilities for our ākonga. In time, our Senior Leadership Team and other key parties will share plans that move us towards a future that reflects your boldest hopes for our kura.

Today, I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge and share what made you proud to be part of our school community. The responses were heartfelt and thoughtful, painting a picture of a school environment grounded in values, connection, and care. Here's a snapshot of what you shared:

- **Strong values and character** – Many of you highlighted pride in our Christian foundation, the way values are lived out daily, and the emphasis on kindness, respect, and doing what's right
- **Positive relationships** – You mentioned the warmth and approachability of our teachers, the strength of the staff-student connection, and the genuine care shown across the school
- **Supportive and inclusive culture** – Several responses celebrated how children are accepted for who they are and encouraged to grow in confidence, identity, and independence

- **High expectations and a love of learning** – From uniforms worn with pride to students' positive attitudes toward learning, it's clear that high standards are embraced here, with discipline and enthusiasm going hand in hand
- **A sense of whānau** – Whether it was seeing children happy and settled, or knowing that your child is valued and known, the word "family" came through loud and clear

Thank you to everyone who took the time to share your thoughts. Your feedback affirms what we're building together and helps guide where we go next. We will continue to engage with all key individuals and groups to better understand how we build something that impacts our current ākonga and builds something for those still to come. In the meantime, continue to reflect on who we are becoming and what we can contribute to this community and God's kingdom.

OUR COMMITMENTS TO YOU

In addition to the consultation we undertook during whānau conferences, we invited you to our **hui/fono** to shape something foundational: **the environment our ākonga grow in**. We call these our **School Commitments** – the soil from which learning, character, and connection flourish.

While the **ARISE Profile** describes who our ākonga are developing into, our **School Commitments** reflect who we, as a school, are, and who we are committed to being. These **commitments** are:

- **Faith-filled** – grounded in biblical truth, shaping character and worldview
- **Personal Excellence** – enabling every learner to pursue their unique God-given potential
- **Connection** – building strong, respectful relationships across our kura, whānau, and community

We asked: what should these commitments look, sound, and feel like across different parts of school life – in learning, leadership, service, and even online?

Your feedback was thoughtful, practical, and deeply encouraging. Here's a glimpse of what you told us:

Faith-Filled

Looks like students confidently voicing their values, standing firm in challenges, and leading with empathy and grace. It also means being ready to serve and making wise choices online — grounded in truth and compassion.

Personal Excellence

Takes shape when students set meaningful goals, feel proud of their learning, and strive to grow their gifts — not just for themselves but in service to others. You highlighted the importance of interpersonal skills, collaboration, and finding purpose beyond competition.

Connection

Is seen in students supporting and standing up for one another, parents modelling connection and empathy, and staff leading with humility and care. You highlighted the importance of recognising everyone's story and being open to building bridges — across cultures, communities, and generations.

We're so grateful for the richness of this kōrero. Your input is helping us define the kind of environment we want to continue nurturing — one where every learner can thrive, rooted in strong, faith-filled soil.

THANK YOU FOR GROWING WITH US

As we draw this edition to a close, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to every whānau member who has contributed to these recent kōrero and consultations.

Your insights — shared through surveys, hui, and fono — are helping to shape not just our direction, but the daily experience of every learner in our kura. We know that building a strong, values-led school community doesn't happen by chance. It takes trust, shared purpose, and a willingness to journey together. We're incredibly grateful to be walking this path with you.

Thank you for your partnership, your honesty, and your hope for what we can build together.



Andy Lawrence

Tumuaki | Principal