



*Kia ora koutou katoa,*

I want to thank everyone for their support of Murupara Area School, in what has been a difficult year dominated by COVID-19. As we look forward to 2021, there are some changes that we want to let you know about.

To better meet the learning needs of our youngest students and those in the middle years of their schooling we have made some changes to the make up of our learning hubs. Nīoreore will now include students in Years 1 – 6 and will be in the bottom two learning spaces. This will allow us to deliver a learning programme with increased support for the development of oral language and reading. Kārangaranga now includes students from Years 7 to 10 and will be in the large learning space in what was the Year 9 and 10 space. We know this will let us deliver the best learning opportunities for our rangatahi in the middle years of schooling and this is why we are adopting this structure at Murupara Area School. Rangipō will now include Years 11 -13, our senior students who are focused on gaining their NCEA qualifications and on developing the skills and self-management needed for success wherever their future pathways take them.

I want to thank all my staff for the hard work, dedication and passion they put into supporting our ākonga. Teachers and support staff work together to support the learning of every child here at Murupara Area School and they often go above and beyond for our tamariki. I want to acknowledge the passing of Jude Robinson earlier this year, it is both a professional and personal loss for me but I take comfort in knowing she had a strong faith in god and will be safe in his arms. I am sad to say we are farewelling Brooke Aramoana-Arlidge, our Technology teacher, and Justin Timoti a teacher in Kārangaranga, both of whom have taken new jobs in Rotorua. They will be really missed and we wish them all the best.

I want to acknowledge and celebrate a very special person in this school - Miss Joan Toe Toe. Whaea Joan is retiring after 41 years of teaching and we are going to miss her enormously. She has been in the teaching service since 1978 and making a difference in lives of children for 43 years. I know that we have parents who were taught by Miss Toe Toe and whose children she is now teaching. It is an incredible contribution by any measure.

I will see you all on day one of 2021, Tuesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February, in uniform, relaxed, and ready for a great year of learning.

*Meri Kirihimete me Ngā Mihi o te Tau Hou ki a koutou katoa,*  
**Dr Angela Sharples**  
**Principal**

## KEY DATES

Don't forget you can look at the key dates and your child's attendance, NCEA achievement, and reports through the KAMAR Parent Portal. Ring the office if you aren't sure how to do this and they will help you get started. If you are using the app, enter [kamar.mas.school.nz](https://kamar.mas.school.nz) in the portal address box.

### December

- 7 Last day of school for juniors
- 8 – 11 Teacher Only Days

**2021 SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS**  
**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

## Niorea News

Mahi tuakana taina has been a major focus in Niorea this year. Our older kids leading the way by helping and role modelling to our younger ones the expectations of behaviour and Uara as well as learning. Here is TJ helping Hinepukohurangi to count using the Ipads and our older students sharing and helping with the younger ones. Ka mau te wehi whānau.



Niorea's end of year 2020 Amazing Race, Treasure Hunt and BBQ. An awesome day of whanaungatanga and tuakana taina mahi. A special shout out to Matua

Truby, Matua Meihana, our amazing parent helpers and our on to it Teacher Aides Whaea Audrey, Whaea Rosana and Whaea Allannah for your guys mean tautoko today. Ngā mihi e te whānau.



**Nā Whaea Miriama  
Niorea Hub Leader**

## Kārangaranga News



Ngā mihi Whaea Mere Mclean and Whaea Awhina Chapman for setting up the Reading4Plenty Summer Reading programme with our MAS tamariki. They came away pleased with their goodie bags and it is hopeful that they will make use of the library over the holidays. Whaea Mere said there are a few tamariki who do use of the library in their own time. The Goal of this programme is to help our tamariki become engaged readers who will be able to enhance their love of reading using the amazing resources available to them at the Library.

### Reflection on my Year 6

The highlight of my year as a year 6 student was playing basketball for the year 7 and 8 team that played in Rotorua every Wednesday night. Miss Tawhara was our coach. In Term 4 along with others from Karangaranga we got to go on a Swim safe programme with Whaea Kay. We learned a lot about water safety. Week 1, we started at the aquatics- using life jackets and learning how to turn people over in the water and drag them back to safety keeping their heads above the water. Week 2, we went rafting we learned a lot about being in a team and looking after each other. I missed Week 3. Week 4 was about having a bit of fun at the beach in Ohope, boogie boarding, eating and swimming.





Synnove Howden - Yr 6

I learned a lot this year especially my maths. I didn't know that it was fun learning my 10x tables, I learned about 3D shapes and used this in my art as well. I have new friends like Nevaeh, Tyrell and Mariah. Whaea Ang always taught me new things as well. She helped us learn how to login to Sunshine books online and to make maths fun! I am getting better at looking after myself and not letting others tell me what to do.



Nicole Tupe - Yr 5

Meri Kirihimete me Ngā Mihi o te Tau Hou ki a koutou katoa!

**Nā Whaea Jo Ann**  
Kārangaranga Year 5-6 Teacher

## Rangipō News

### Senior Prize Giving 2020

This year's prize giving was held in Kaiwhitiwhiti and attended by many parents and caregivers. Students accepted tohu with pride and some were surprised to hear their names announced.

An emotional speech, delivered by Pita Warena-Rurehe Head Boy, all in Te Reo Māori, calling for the revitalization of the reo in our school was greeted with applause by all.

Sporting and Academic awards were presented to Juniors and Seniors and leaving certificates to our Year 13 students.

Top students for years 9 - 13 were announced before the two top awards.

The Dux 2020 and Prime Ministers Vocational Excellence Award awarded to Sunni - Mei Duff-Halkett (YR 13)

Top All Rounder awarded to Eden Te Aho (YR 13)

Our congratulations to all recipients and we look forward to working with you all again in 2021.



Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! Stay safe and be kind to each other.

Mā te Atua e manaaki i a koutou katoa.

**Nā Whaea Teri**  
Rangipō Hub Leader

## Sports News

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November we had the last sports event for the year the Weetbix TRYathlon. We had 19 kids from the Murupara region take part in this years event and each one of them did a wonderful job representing their whānau and making them proud. Each student was awarded a gold medal on the completion of their race and Murupara Area School was the winners of a \$400 voucher from St Pierre Sushi.

Big mihi to all the staff who helped out on the day and to the Beamsley whānau for their continued support in helping not only their kids but all kids involved.



Hope you all enjoy your Christmas break and we'll see you all in the new year. Ngā mihi tino nui kia koutou katoa!

**Nā Matua Tanetiki**  
**Sports Co-ordinator**

## Learning Support 2020



We have experienced many challenges throughout the year with the impact of COVID 19 upsetting our life styles and the way we manage changes in our daily life. As SENCo I would like to thank everyone, staff, whānau, tamariki and the agencies and services who have supported myself and my team throughout the year. I wish everyone a very enjoyable and safe festive season and look forward to working alongside you all in the new year. Let's hope that it is a much more settled year for one and all.



**Nā Whaea Kay**  
**SENCO Officer**