

Te Miro Enviroschool



Te Miro School Beyond Green Gold reflection 2022

At Te Miro School we have a deep feeling for our environment. Students are actively engaged in making decisions that has effects on our school, community and planet.

We have the knowledge and confidence to think and act to create a sustainable future.

Our school is connected with our surroundings and changes can be seen across all aspects of a sustainable community . These include changes to our local ecology, lifestyles, how decision-making is shared and how we interact and how culture is valued.

Everyone makes decisions and takes actions that are good for people and nature.

Holistic Change-making Connected
Valuing each other and nature
Empowered Visionary
Sustained Creative Courageous

Learning for Sustainability

Learning about sustainability in our day to day life, for our future. We do this at school and in our bush class, and learn from our kaitiaki, Laura - teaching us about worms, trees, our greenhouse and orchard so we can one day teach others. Learning about our environment and how to work with it for sustainability are key skills students have learnt.



Into Nature

Students constantly get to go out into nature and have learned to work with it. When we go down to the bush all the students get chances to learn about and play in their environment. Activities they participate in include pest trapping, survival skill, building fires, shelter making, knot tying, first aid and keeping ourselves safe in the bush. Even meditation!

The curriculum (art, maths, literacy etc) are integrated throughout. We all come like going the the bush and it feels like home.



Empowered students

- Students get a voice, make decisions and get chances to show leadership.
- Students become confident and competent working with adults in equal partnership.
- Students get plenty of opportunity to lead in front of others to make decisions and be role models.
- As part of the year 7 & 8 Pounamu challenge, the Wilderness Camp demands, courage, collaboration and creative problem solving. It is hard and lots and lots of fun! The bush class prepares us for this.



Empowered students.

Every term, for a whole day, a woman named Paula comes into school to teach the year 7 & 8's about leadership. Throughout the day the students attending learn ways to lead and activities to help them. They then bring these skills into school to share and use. Students of all different ages get to show leadership by leading themselves and being responsible. We have many opportunities to work across the year levels in small groups, choosing a different leader each time.



[Tuakana teina relationships in action \(peer learning\)](#)



Sustainable Communities

- Sustainability is about the health and viability of our environment, society, culture and economy.
- Respecting our natural ecosystems, and designing with nature in mind.
- Parents from the community come into school to help guide and teach children in different skills
- We source some of our resources from local community providers like raw honey, Adams nursery, literature experts like Peter Taite and video experts like Mr Slaughter



Planting

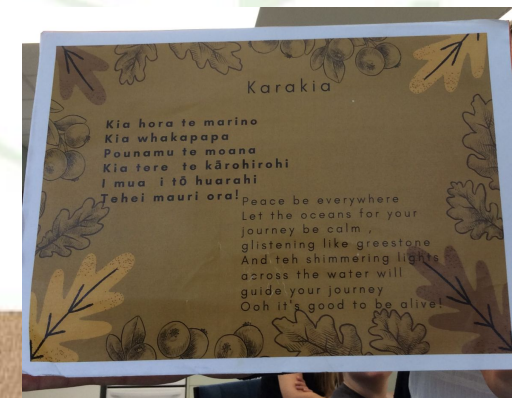
Every year, the school holds a tree planting ceremony where every pupil new to the school plants a native tree to contribute to our beautiful bush. This symbolises the students growing with all the others around it.

Different planting takes place in the shadehouse, where crops are grown for the garden, and succulents and other seedlings that people can buy. We also get native trees from a local nursery to create the vision we have for our school bike track.



Maori Perspectives

- Exploring Māori knowledge, honouring ancestors/tūpuna, Kaitiakitanga, Whanaungatanga, Whakapapa.
- Embracing our sense of place as New Zealanders, our unique heritage, and honouring the status of indigenous people in our country



Maori perspectives

At Te Miro school we include maori perspectives by celebrating events (like Matariki), using Te Reo throughout the classroom and making Te Ao Maori a part of our everyday school life. A group of students go to a Cambridge schools whaanau day every month to learn te ao and titania māori, and bring back knowledge to share in our classrooms.

From the beginning, our class names have all been based of native trees; Rimu, Kowhai, Rata and the Miro room. The miro room was the original classroom for this school but only recently we did a vote to choose its new name.



MATARIKI
Journey Through The Stars

TE MIRO SCHOOL
MID WINTER FESTIVAL
ALL WELCOME

KARAKIA - ELI AND EMOGEN
LIGHTING OF THE BRAZIER
(KAITLYN, FIN, CALUM, JUBERT, DIESEL)
RISE UP FLAME
WAIATA - TIHEI MAURI ORA - RORY
HAERE MAI FROM OUR HOSTS: SOPHIE AND BODHI
STORIES - BODHI AND ELIJAH

WAIATA - PUREA NEI (KAPAHAKA), TUTIRA MAI, PIWAKA E
WHETU NGĀ MATARIKI - KOWHAI CLASS

WAIATA - RONA (KAPAHAKA) - CALUM, PURERHUA (RATA) -
DIESEL
STORIES - ELI AND ARI
WAIATA - MATARIKI E ARA E
NGA MIHI NUI - SOPHIE AND BODHI

LIGHTING OF THE LANTERNS GROTTO WALK
KAI (SOUP) IN THE KITCHEN!

5.30pm Thursday 30th June

Held in our beautiful native bush



Respect for the Diversity of People and Culture

- Key to achieving a sustainable environment – one that is fair, peaceful and co-operative.
- Honouring and including social and cultural diversity.

A Very successful Matariki Festival. Beautiful grottos, made from natural and recycled materials. I looks just beautiful. Thanks again for supporting this lovely Mid Winter celebration!



Respect for diversity

Our students are taught to, and do, respect and accept those that are diverse and of all cultures. We are taught about different celebrations and events like Diwali, Matariki and others. This year a group of year 7 & 8 students called the school reps organised a fundraiser for Ukraine to help evacuate families into Poland and ended up raising over \$1000 and we got in contact with the two families that we saved.

We also have fundraisers including gumboot day (for mental health), pink shirt day (anti-bullying) and red nose day (to help children out of poverty).



Next Steps from last GG reflection:

- Curriculum: linked more closely to Environmental action projects and Maori perspectives woven through learning. Eg. Learning names of manu and rakau as part of bush regeneration

Maori Perspectives & Environmental action are now woven through the curriculum and an integral part of learning at Te Miro

- Sustainable development of schools grounds: with extension of food garden and Library re-vamp

Our kai gardens have been extended with an orchard, bees, veggie beds and a worm farm to feed the soil. We also have a shade house to help grow seedlings

School practices: Monitor decision to send waste home - what happens when it gets home? ***Beeswax wraps are encouraged as we can still do more and students have identified that there is a lot of paper waste - a Next Step for 2023 is to revisit the Zero Waste theme***

Sharing and communicating change: Timeline could be created on Vision map to show changes over time and explore history

Students have created an oak tree to record and share our current journey and actions since 2016 - living and evolving as acorns (next steps) can be turned into leaves. We have a digital timeline with stories shared on our community school Facebook pages



