



Titahi Bay North School

Ko Whitireia te maunga
Ko Parirua me Te Moana o Raukawa ngā awa
Ko Tainui te waka
Ko Takapūwāhia te marae
Ko Ngāti Toa Rangatira te iwi
Ko Te Kura o Titahi ki te Raki te kura
Ko Te Whānau o Te Kākano te hapū
Tihei mauri ora!

Our school is situated in Titahi Bay, Porirua. Our school is an English medium school, however we also have a Maori medium unit named Te Whānau o Te Kākano. Te Whānau o Te Kākano was established to support our children coming to us from kōhanga reo. Previously there was no school which catered to their language needs.

For the last two years we have been developing our graduate profile. This began with consultation with our families and the wider community to identify their aspirations for their children. One strategy employed was to pose the following question, “What principles and values do our children need to understand?” Some of the responses we received were kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga, whanaungatanga and ngā mahi a te Rēhia (kapa haka). However the biggest thing that our community wanted for their children was te reo Māori me ōna tikanga.



In analysing the consultation feedback the whare tapawhā emerged as a framework to organise and articulate the aspirations of our community. The whare tapawhā is made up of four elements, the spiritual, the intellectual, the physical and family.



At the moment we are unpacking each side of the whare tapawhā to deepen our understanding of what it could look like in practice. The next step is to look at current classroom practice and ensure it aligns with the whare tapawhā. As an example, each morning our tamariki have karakia and as teachers our job is to think about and align the parts of the karakia with the elements of the whare tapawhā.

Composition of pao is one way we are supporting the children to unpack the whare tapawhā. By analysing a given subject, organising key ideas and articulating their thoughts they are able to deepen their understanding of the four elements of the whare tapawhā. This is a small sample of one of the pao which talks about the physical element of well being;



*Whakaute ngā tinana katoa e,
ahakoa ko wai nō wai kē,
tiaki ngā tinana me whakaute e,
he taonga te tinana e,
Ai*

The pathway forward for us is to continue unpacking the four elements of the whare tapawhā and identify how these elements align with our current classroom practice. Secondly we will look at how effective teaching and learning practices will support the implementation of the whare tapawhā. And thirdly, we will consult with our families and the wider community to ensure that the work we are doing aligns with their aspirations for their children. This will hopefully provide a strong foundation for our whare tapawhā.