



‘Ā TĀTOU KŌRERO’ I ‘OUR STORY’

RIVERVIEW SCHOOL

THE STORY OF OUR 'Ā TĀTOU KŌRERO' MURAL as told by THE MURAL TEAM

Our mural is called 'Ā Tātou Kōrero : Our Story'. We had two criteria for our mural; we had to showcase:

1. Riverview School's connection to our area.
2. Riverview School's HEARTWISE values (Honesty, Excellence, Aroha, Respect, Tolerance, Whānau, Inquiry, Sustainability, Effort).



Making the mural took a lot of time, stamina, and determination from all of us, but one of the most important jobs was scaling it up. Sadly, we didn't have any 'scale up machines' that could accurately scale up our ideas, so we had to do it ourselves. Firstly, we drew our ideas onto a small piece of paper with squares (this is called a grid). After that, we got the giant boards and put them on the wall in an empty classroom.

We then had to see how long and wide one square on the small piece of paper was, then scale that up onto the giant boards. Next, we used rulers to draw an enlarged grid on all four of the giant boards. We had to be accurate in our measurements. It was great Maths in action! Finally, we carefully drew our pictures onto the mural boards, using the grid to help draw the pictures bigger. And then the painting began.

OUR PEPEHA



Ko Kororipō te maunga. Kororipō is our mountain. *Ko te Awa o ngā Rangatira te awa.* The Kerikeri inlet is our river that flows down to the basin. Lastly, *ko Riverview te kura.* Riverview is our school; the mural shows some of our Kapa haka rōpū, in their Riverview School jackets, singing at Kororipō Pā. All of this (e.g. the maunga, the awa), we included in our mural To represent our pepeha.

OUR KARAKIA

We included our karakia as it is an important part of what we do at Riverview School; we like that it asks that the sea “be like greenstone”.



Kia hora te marino

Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana

Hei huarahi mā tātou i te rangi nei

Aroha atu, aroha mai

tātou i a tātou katoa

Hui e! Tāiki e!

May peace be widespread

May the sea be like greenstone

A pathway for us all this day

Let us show respect for each other

For one another

Bind us all together!

OUR PEOPLE AND PLACES

Hongi Hika and **Rewa** were chiefs of the hāpū, Ngāi Tawake, which was part of the Ngāpuhi iwi. They both supported the European missionaries when they first arrived in New Zealand. In the mural, they are depicted talking to Thomas Kendall, who they knew well.

Hongi Hika (on the right), a rangatira of the Ngāpuhi iwi, was born around 1772 and died in 1828; his mother, Tuhikura, was Ngāti Rēhia. Hongi Hika was famous as a warrior and military leader, and for recognising how useful European weapons like muskets were in wars. He was also famous for building relationships with the missionaries, and putting the Māori language into writing.



Rewa (also known as Mānu) was considered to be Hongi Hika's successor when Hongi Hika died in 1828. Rewa signed the Declaration of Independence in 1835 and, later, in 1840, he signed the Treaty of Waitangi but, shortly after, he withdrew his support and tried to persuade other chiefs not to sign.



Tareha, the visionary Ngāti Rēhia rangatira, played an instrumental role in shaping the history of New Zealand. He bravely led his people through times of conflict and change, fiercely protecting their sovereignty and independence. Tareha's unwavering beliefs drove him to refuse to sign the Treaty of Waitangi and, instead, to sign *Te Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Niu Tīreni* (the Declaration of Independence of the United Tribes of New Zealand) on October 28 1835. His most significant legacy is *Te Kara*, the symbol of Māori balance and harmony, originally designed by Henry Williams. *Te Kara*'s white field with a red cross embodies Tareha's vision of strength, unity, and respect for tradition. Even today, *Te Kara* stands as a vital symbol of Māori identity and culture, serving as a testament to Tareha's remarkable leadership and enduring legacy. For us, Tareha represents **Honesty**, as he was true to himself and his beliefs.

Thomas Kendall was one of New Zealand's first Christian missionaries; he was based at the Church Missionary Society Station in the Bay of Islands from 1814 until 1821. Thomas Kendall was born in 1778 in North Thoresby in England; he drowned in 1832 at the age of 53 when his cutter, the *'Brisbane'*, which was bringing a cargo of cedar and cheese to New Zealand, was wrecked in a storm. Thomas Kendall is a good example of **Inquiry** - he was one of the first people to write down the Māori language; he also investigated how Māori understood the universe. Kendall Road was named after Thomas Kendall.



The flagpole at Russell is depicted. Between 1840 to 1913, six flagstaves were built here. The flagstaff that used to be at Waitangi was moved to Russell in March 1840. Some Māori in the Bay of Islands objected to the Union Jack (the British flag); they believed that the terms of the Treaty were not being honoured. The first four flagstaves were cut down by Hone Heke and his friends as an objection to British sovereignty, sparking the Northland wars. Hone Heke Road is named after Hone Heke.

You can see the **Matariki** constellation up in the sky in the top left corner of the mural. We celebrate Matariki every year; we also organise our school events around the Maramataka (Māori lunar calendar).



The **Mataātua** waka, the ancestral waka of Ngāti Rēhia, is at rest in the Takou River at Takou Bay. The **Mataātua** waka was one of the great voyaging canoes; it is believed that the **Mataātua** was able to carry a large number of people and was built to travel across the Pacific Ocean.

HEARTWISE

Our nine HEARTWISE Values are represented in the mural:

Honesty: We incorporated honesty into our mural by featuring Tareha, the Māori chief, who was honest and stood by his own beliefs and refused to sign the Treaty of Waitangi.



Excellence: On the podium, you can see three Cross Country placegetters; that shows excellence.



Aroha: You can see people supporting and helping others in various scenarios in the mural (e.g. the girl helping an injured student).

Respect: This is depicted by the respect being shown between the Māori tangata whenua and the early English settlers.

Tolerance: The signing of te Tiriti o Waitangi / the Treaty of Waitangi shows that they must have been tolerant of each others' differences.





Whānau: The Kapa haka rōpū singing together in harmony shows whānau - people working well together and supporting each other.

Inquiry: For Inquiry, we have these three students researching our local culture and history.



Sustainability: Not only is the 'Garden to Table' programme shown, but so is our local environment (sky, land, and water) that we need to look after. Sustainability is also shown with the Cross Country runners that don't give up, but keep on trying.

Effort: Again, we have the cross country runners putting their hearts and souls into their race.

OUR SCHOOL LOGO



In the mural, the view across the Bay of Islands to the horizon mirrors our school logo.



OTHER EVENTS

Te Tiriti o Waitangi is in the mural as it represents people having patience and **Tolerance** for each other. The Treaty of Waitangi, signed at Waitangi in the Bay of Islands, on 6 February 1840, is the founding document of New Zealand; it's an agreement entered into by representatives of the crown and of Māori tribes and sub-tribes. The treaty promised that Māori would keep their sovereignty and everything else.



Riverview School's '**Garden to Table**' programme has been running since 2014; this amazing programme is all about learning how to grow and cook vegetables. Students get experience in the garden and kitchen, learning valuable life skills, developing a deeper appreciation for the food that they eat, and an understanding of **Sustainability**. It's a fun and joyful way to learn about sustainability and healthy living.

Every year, Riverview School has their Cross Country day and we put a lot of **Effort** into training and running the big course on the day (producing the mural was very similar to this, with lots of effort going into planning and painting it). Riverview School has been going to the Kāpiro Station farm to run cross country for many years. It is always a fun day out. We also show **Excellence**, endurance, and resilience with our run. It is great to be together as a school **Whānau** to cheer each other on.



The mural was designed and painted by Mrs Heather Heihei (teacher), Covan Bowd, Eli Clark, Daisy Connolly, Isaac Flaherty, Georgia Kitchingman, Rome Kriz, Axel Lazet, Isabella Loggia, Alex Mason, Charly Mikkelsen, Tino Nyakudka, Winter Oszajca, Hannah Shepherd (students) during Terms 1, 2, and 3 of 2023. It was unveiled on 26 October 2023 and blessed by Matua Tauga Kemp (Ngāti Rēhia).