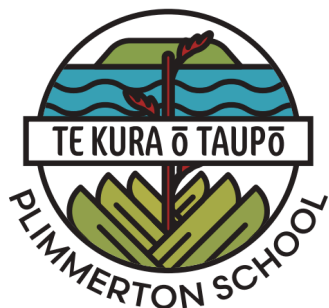


Plimmerton School - “Weaving our narrative”



Whakatauki

Hutia te rito o te harakeke
Kei hea te kōmako e kō?

Pull out the shoot of the flax bush
Where will the bellbird sing?

Plimmerton School - Te Kura ō Taupō

Our original school logo was designed by Barbara Smith in 1989 and served the purpose of connecting the school with its location. To give respect to people past and present, it was important we created a strong logo that everyone in Plimmerton sees themselves in, connects us to the land and community and the rich history of our area. It is the visual identity and symbolic representation of our shared values, goals, and aspirations.

The harakeke (flax) plant represents 'Taupō'. Taupō being a name for the area spanning Paremata to Otaki. It captures the history and whakapapa of the whenua and the name adopted by the Kura. Harakeke plants were abundant in the Plimmerton area, used not only for medicines, tools, ropes, clothing, and storage but also for trade. In the Māori worldview, the harakeke plant represents the whānau (family). The rito (central shoot) is the child. It is protectively surrounded by the awahi rito (parents). The outside leaves represent the tūpuna (grandparents and ancestors).

Like our Strategic Plan, students are at the centre of our decision-making. We protect and care for our learners to enable them to thrive and flourish.

It also supports the design by Brian Gunson, who, on behalf of Hongoeka Marae, gifted the Korowai design to our school that features prominently on our school library and soon-to-be-renovated Admin block and School Hall.

The second element of our design is the sea. The sea conveys various meanings and symbolisms that align with the values and mission of our school.

The vastness and depth of the sea symbolise the depth of knowledge and learning opportunities the school provides. The ocean is often associated with exploration and discovery. So in our school logo the sea reflects the idea that students embark on a journey of exploration, learning and self-discovery during their time at school.

The sea is known for its adaptability and resilience, with its ability to weather storms and constantly change. This becomes a metaphor for our school's focus on preparing students to adapt to challenges, be resilient in the face of adversity and navigate through the changing currents of life.

The last landmark element of our logo is Mana Island. The island has a rich history within our region and is a major landmark when you first arrive in the Plimmerton area. Legend has it that explorer and navigator Kupe first touched land at Mana on his journey to New Zealand (Aotearoa) from Polynesia. The island is named Te Mana O Kupe Whakawhiti te Moana Nui a Kiwa ki Aotearoa, or "the courage of Kupe to cross the ocean to Aotearoa".

For centuries, Mana served as a stop-over for Maori canoes making their way from Porirua to the South Island. Explorer and Navigator Captain Cook, meanwhile, is said to have named Mana "Table Island" because of its flat shape and "Warspite Island" referencing one of his vessels.

We relate the navigational experience and risk-taking of these explorers to our school value Whitireiatanga (Life Long Learners). It signifies that our learning content and contexts support self-discovery, continuous learning and empower our learners to navigate the path that leads to success.

Tying the whole logo together is the circle surrounding the drawings. The circle signifies guardianship (kaitiakitanga). It is everybody's responsibility to nurture our place, people and environment. We value what is inside the circle, so we take care of it, not just for now but also for the future.

"Plimmerton School... Empowering learners through respect, fostering meaningful connections and nurturing a deep connection to the whenua"



R.E.A.L Values

EMBRACE THE R.E.A.L YOU

RESPECT

Manaaki:

Inclusion, treatment of self and others



ENGAGED

Karawhia:

Curiosity, active involvement, taking a chance.

ADAPTABLE

Manawa tīti:

Bouncing back, not giving up, managing self

LIFE LONG LEARNERS

Whitireiatanga:

Asking questions, communicating, and critical thinking.

WE ARE ALL KAITIAKI



To enhance and support Te Korowai Manaaki we have created R.E.A.L. The four values are intertwined into the acronym, brought together through kaitiakitanga. It is all of our roles to grow, nurture and look after our people and place.

This design, Te Korowai Manaaki, was designed to represent our school values.

- Whitireiatanga - Aiming High: the cloak is a Kakahu worn on significant occasions
- Manaakitanga - being kind: A cloak embraces and warms its wearer. The work of making a cloak involves long and selfless labour of many for the benefit of others.
- Karawhia - engaged: Giving it a go and giving it everything you have
- Manawa tīti (adaptability) - resilience: a cloak provides the wearer protection against the elements, symbolising enhancing ones ability to endure and overcome challenge
- Kaitiakitanga - looking after our place/world: Cloak were made of natural fibres, gathered sustainably and acknowledging the source from the natural environment. They are made with great care and looked after and revered. They are handed on to others. This embodies kaitiakitanga and environmental care.

R.E.A.L enables our community (students, families, staff and community members) to maintain high standards. For example, if a child calls out in class they can be prompted to show Manaaki/Respect. “In our space, we respect the rights of others by waiting our turn”. They also create learning dispositions to support our learners to learn and develop as an individual at a pace appropriate to them. We develop the whole child, not just the academic element. We want our learners to be curious, actively involved in decision-making, ask questions, get things wrong, bounce back when things don’t go their way and build an inclusive environment for everyone.

In 2024 we have created a Mascot, “Ray”, that we want to use to tell our story, bring unity and celebrate success. Whai is the Maori word for stingray. In certain areas of Aotearoa New Zealand the whai is believed to be kaitiaki - Protector. They are often seen gliding effortlessly through the water at the beach and are synonymous with a healthy environment. You will see whai aplenty in the sea around Hongoeka Bay. Whai has also been used as one of the designs in the whareniui.

Ray will be used to share messages and celebrate. Instead of students hearing the message from 8 different staff, they hear the same message from one voice e.g. “At Plimmerton School we walk down the hall”. Ray will be used for quick rewards and to support PB4L (positive behaviour choices).

