



# SCHOOL TALK

March 2017



## BEACH EDUCATION

Mokau, Uruti, Ahititi, Mimi and Whareorino Schools converged at Mokau School for the biannual Tainui Cluster Beach Education Day.

During the morning Life Guards from East End and Fitzroy Surf Clubs delivered key messages to students about surf safety including how to identify a rip and how to be sun smart.

The key sunsmart message is to:  
 SLIP on a shirt  
 SLOP on some sun screen  
 SLAP on a hat  
 and WRAP on some sunglasses  
 whether it is sunny or overcast.



Students learned that most rips appear as calm spots on a beach where currents meet and are sometimes identifiable with floating debris.

Key surf safe messages were

1. never swim alone
2. children under 16 should ALWAYS be supervised by an adult on the beach
3. Don't use air filled floatation 'toys' in the surf
4. If in doubt STAY OUT
5. KNOW YOUR LIMITS - don't go too deep
6. get out of the water if you are getting tired.

In the afternoon all students enjoyed activities on the beach. Senior students competed in capture the flag, surf sprints and body surfing. Junior students gained water confidence splashing in the shallows and running through the surf.

## SWIMMING SPORTS

The annual Tainui Schools' Swimming Sports has been held at the Waitara town pools where Mokau, Whareorino, Ahititi, Uruti and Mimi students competed in a range of events catering for all abilities.

Students 7 years and under enjoyed a variety of water confidence activities in the learners pool. There were splendid starfish, ring retrieving scuba divers, big splashes as

well as floating, kicking with flutter boards and tennis ball blowing races. More confident swimmers completed one width freestyle and backstroke.

There were 50 age races for older students ranging from flutter board races and underwater swims to 3 length medleys for students aged 12.

Individually students earned points towards age group trophies which cumulatively counted towards the overall 'Top School' crown which was won by Mokau School for the fourth consecutive year.

The interschool relay is also a furiously fought competition that Mimi School have won for several consecutive years. Each school entered a 6 person squad whose combined ages added to 56 or less. This year Mokau were the victors with their squad of: Grace Lovell, Sophia Smyth, Connell Hagenson, Rico Pryor, Reece Omelvena and Billy Smyth.

Mokau results were as follows:

|                    |                 |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 8 Year Old Boys:   | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Billy Smyth                 |
|                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Jackson Telfer              |
| 8 Year Old Girls   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Jessica Lovell              |
| 9 Year Old Boys:   | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Rico Pryor                  |
|                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Reece Omelvena              |
|                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Matua Tupu-Ngahere          |
| 9 Year Old Girls   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Dannielle Hamblin-Manderson |
| 10 Year Old Boys:  | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Connell Hagenson            |
| 10 Year Old Girls: | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Sophia Smyth                |
|                    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Grace Lovell                |
| 11 Year Old Boys   | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Merekara Tupu-Ngahere       |
| 12 Year Old Girls  | 1 <sup>st</sup> | Ocean Kete                  |
|                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Heidi Pease                 |

