



# SCHOOL TALK

July 2017

## Magnificent Manioroa Marae

Powhiri, korowai making, matariki stars, sports, hangi, story-telling of our wharenuui, urupa and Marae - what a lovely coming together and community experience the Mokau School Marae sleepover was. Thanks to staff, parents and students for making this the wonderful experience that it was, but particularly thanks to Merepaea Rauputu and her (extended) whanau who put in many hours work prior to and during the sleepover.

It was purely coincidental that the new sports uniforms arrived the day before the Marae sleepover and although it was probably not an ideal match with the piupiu the students put the shirts to good use.



Students dressed in their piupiu welcomed visitors into the wharenuui with a Powhiri. All speaking roles were taken by students supported by waiata from their peers. This was followed by karakia and kai in the wharekai.



Students then prepared the vegetables, stuffing and steam puddings for the hangi and observed the team of men putting the hangi down and later in the day being taken up.

During the day students enjoyed a workshop of korowai (cloak) development with Miss Karati, weaving of matariki stars with aunty Anna Kete and aunty Kapua and outdoor games lead by Whareorino School

staff. Students had the opportunity to share their pepeha and tried their hand at string games.



The men - Piripi Dargaville, Mirco Nommensen, Newton Warren, Shane Warren, Evan Kete, Kevin Mattock and Mark Smyth did a wonderful job with a superbly cooked hangi enjoyed by a large community gathering.

After dishes students prepared for bed and listened to Merepaea tell stories of the wharenuui, urupa and Marae site. Thanks for the parents who slept over in the wharenuui with the children - never the best night sleep in the world but an authentic Marae experience!

Next morning leaders from Sport Waikato & Taranaki took the students for Maori games, visited the urupa, scaled Puketapu and reflected on their Marae experience.

**Whakawhetai koutou mo tou mahi pakeke**  
Thank you for all your hard work!

