

Opening gateways,
expanding horizons.
Rural leadership
shaping tomorrow.

NZEI
TERIU ROA

Rural and Teaching Principals' Conference
Tāmaki Makaurau / 27–29 May 2026

Tāmaki Makaurau Haerenga Options

Wednesday 27 May 2026 | 11.30am – 4pm

Haerenga registrations are open now.

A link to register for your haerenga has been sent to all registrants email.

Please email events@nzei.org.nz if you have not received this link

Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Option 7
School Visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Te Hihi School • Mauku School • Puni School 	School Visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maangere Bridge School • Otahuhu Primary School 	Te Ihu o Mataoho A living classroom experience	MOTAT and Auckland Zoo	Coast-to-Coast Walkway	Wero Whitewater Park	Explore Tāmaki Makaurau your way

School Visits: Te Hihi School, Mauku School, Puni School



Puni School
Effort Brings Reward

This school visit option showcases three proud Franklin schools – Te Hihi School (1914), Mauku (1866) School and Puni School (1878) – all part of the greater Franklin area in South Auckland.

Each school has a strong rural heritage, with histories spanning over 150 years, and continues to serve small to mid-sized rural rolls (U 3-4), while adapting to the increasing pressures of Auckland's urban sprawl.

The schools reflect a rich mix of single-cell classrooms, older heritage buildings and modern learning spaces. Te Hihi School, a full primary, highlights this blend particularly well with its modern classroom developments alongside historic structures. Mauku School and Puni School are contributing schools to Pukekohe Intermediate, maintaining strong pathways for learners within the local community.

All three schools celebrate their unique rural identity, working hard to preserve traditions such as Country and Agricultural Days, while embracing change and diversity. Their communities represent a wide range of cultures and rural livelihoods, from horse studs and market gardens to traditional beef, dairy and sheep farming.

A strong emphasis is placed on Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC), with learning grounded in local environments and authentic experiences. The schools also actively embrace PB4L approaches, fostering positive, inclusive school cultures.

Following the school visits, the aim is for participants to travel to Karioitahi Beach, a dramatic black-sand west coast beach near Waiuku. The area highlights both natural beauty and industry, including proximity to one of the region's largest employers, the steel mill at Glenbrook.

Join us for an inspiring rural learning journey that celebrates heritage, innovation and community.

School Visits: Maangere Bridge School, Otahuhu Primary School

Maangere Bridge School | We would like to warmly welcome Tumuaki from the Rural Principal's Conference to Maangere Bridge School. At MBS we are proud to uphold and promote Te Reo Maaori me oona tikanga, giving effect to Te Tiriti principles, embracing Maaori, Pacific and other cultures and languages.

Our school is located at the base of Te Pane o Mataoho, Maangere Mountain where we proudly serve a diverse and multicultural community for students in Years 1 - 6. We are surrounded by the rich cultural heritage, providing a unique environment for learning opportunities and we pride ourselves in our strong connections with whaanau, paapori and mana whenua.

We have a whaanau of committed kaiako, teachers and staff who see the potential for our tamariki to achieve their goals and moemoeaa, dreams and aspirations. As a school we are deeply committed to the values that shape who we are 'Maanakitanga, Rangatiratanga, Kotahitanga and Kaitiakitanga'.

Our Maaori Ruumaki Reo and Bilingual and Bi-literate unit 'Te Hiaroa' is a significant initiative that was established together with whaanau and the community. Maunga Pikitea Years 1 - 2, Te Ara Puueru Years 3 - 4 and Te Pane Mataoho Years 5 - 6 are our three akomanga composite classes. We are also very proud to have opened up our first Pacific Samoan Immersion Unit or Lunita Samoa with the support of our Pacific community.

This year our Pou Tuuhono Inquiry Theme for 2026 is 'Dare to Dream' where we integrate our core curriculum areas allowing students to learn a range of skills and dispositions using our MBS Student Inquiry Framework 'Connecting our Curriculum'. Our Vision 'Aroha, Ako, Angitu' 'Together we care, we learn, we succeed' is heard through the waiata and haka of our tamariki which we hope you will feel when you enter our school.

Otahuhu Primary School | Talofa! Welcome and warm Pacific greetings to our rural principals visiting Otahuhu Primary School! We are thrilled to host you and share the vibrant learning environments of Tafa o Ata and Lalanga Mo'ui, our Samoan and Tongan bilingual hubs. Here, you'll witness firsthand the power of full immersion education, supported by deeply engaged parent networks who are vital to the success of our tamaiti. Prepare to see learners thriving within rich cultural competencies, where their language, identity, and heritage are celebrated and valued by our entire school community. It is a privilege having you visit our school and allowing us to showcase learning in our bilingual environments.





Te Ihu o Mataoho: A living classroom experience

For principals who want more than a trip, this is curriculum brought to life.

Te Ihu o Mataoho is a place-based experience led by Te Ahiwaru, on our own whenua. We are the home people who hold the stories, the history and the responsibility of this place and we welcome you to step onto ancestral land and move through more than 800 years of lived history.

This is where puuraakau meets people. Where whenua becomes the teacher.

At Ihumatao, the longest continual settlement of Māori in Taamaki Makaurau, you will meet Mataoho and learn the shaping of the volcanic landscape. You'll come to know Hape and the arrival of the Tainui waka. From thriving Maaori gardening systems to land confiscations and the protest movements that still sit within living memory, this experience will show these are not distant histories, but intergenerational knowledge systems still practiced, still relevant, still shaping how we live today.

Reaching across multiple curriculum areas, your visit to us will be grounded, local and real.

As part of this experience you will also participate in a hands-on, creative, maker workshop and head home with a taonga of your own.

There is a **\$75 fee** (subsidised) to participate in this activity. An invoice will be sent if you choose this option.

School Visit and Engagement Options: MOTAT and Auckland Zoo

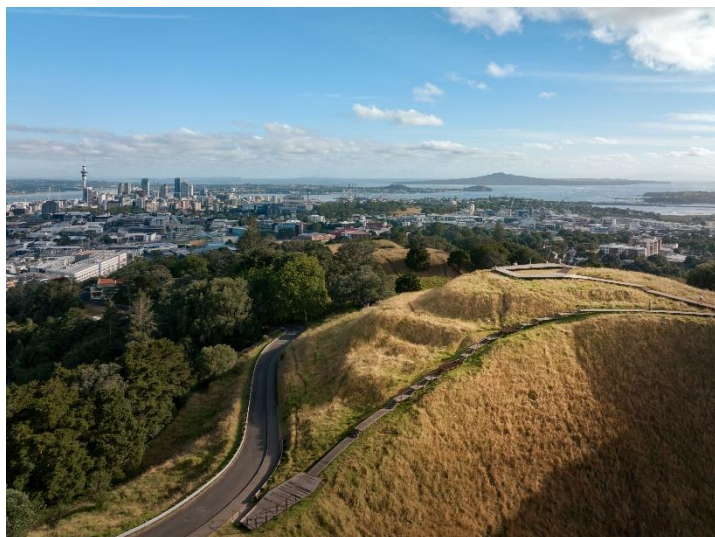
MOTAT education invites you to visit the Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT), where we inspire the innovators of tomorrow. Our two sites, MOTAT and the Aviation Hall, are connected by a short ride in our vintage trams, with Western Springs park and Auckland Zoo to explore nearby. We are looking forward to showing you around!

*Enjoy a short trip on the Tram to visit **Auckland Zoo**. And there is no better time to do so, as we redesign our 2027 education offering. This visit offers a sneak peek at the hands-on, experiential learning we're expanding, based on real-world conservation work.*

During this haerenga you'll take part in practical learning activities that connect students with authentic conservation challenges, and we're keen to hear from you about the realities and needs of rural and teaching principals as we shape our new programmes.

You'll also have time to explore the zoo at your own pace and see how animal welfare (humans included) underpins everything we do.





Coast-to-coast walkway

We would like to offer you a unique 12km (2.5-3 hour) walking/hiking experience from the Auckland Domain to Onehunga.

Transport to and from our hikoi will be provided. You will explore the diversity of Tamaki Makaurau with the taste of our parklands and the heritage built areas, appreciating some of the local history on our adventure; both Maaori and Pakeha.

You can enjoy the opportunity to talk/network with fellow tumuaki, balancing your conference with some mental and physical wellbeing.

You will need very comfortable walking shoes, a reasonable standard of fitness as we are walking up Mt Eden - Maungawhau which is steep, appreciating the breathtaking views of the Auckland CBD, Waitemata Harbour and the surrounding suburbs. Also required is a small backpack to carry your lunch and water bottle (provided) a rain jacket (unpredictable Auckland weather) and comfortable walking attire is also recommended.

Come and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow tumuaki as we walk and talk.

School Visit and Engagement Option: Wero Whitewater Park

Wero whitewater park is a world-class artificial river and water course for recreation, sports, emergency services training, school programmes and youth development.

Come and experience Wero Whitewater park, and hear about the options available for school visits, followed by the River Rush Rafting.

River Rush Rafting: *Is an adrenaline fuelled activity on our Grade 3 River which is designed for intermediate to advanced rafting. These rapids are stronger than our Grade 2 and ends with a splash down the 4.5-meter Pump Waterfall – the world’s highest manmade waterfall for rafting.*

- All equipment will be provided including helmet, life jacket, booties.
- 7 people per raft
- Total activity is 2 hours. This includes a 45-minute safety briefing, 1 hour on water & 15mins for a hot shower.

There is a **\$90 fee** (subsidised) to participate in this activity. An invoice will be sent if you choose this option.



Explore Tāmaki Makaurau your way

Use this time to explore Tāmaki Makaurau at your own pace and style. While no formal activities are scheduled, we encourage you to make your own plans and take advantage of the many opportunities the city has to offer. Transport not provided for this option.