



# He Huarahi Tamariki

## SCHOOL FOR TEENAGE PARENTS - TERM 3 2023

### Tuawahine — Book Launch



Left to Right: Paula reading from Tuawahine; Kohine and Helen Weber (previous HHT Teacher in Charge) check out Tuawahine; Gael Ashworth, Le'Aniva So'o and Josie Aitken (WEGC Principal with Head Students) with Paula; Kaitlyn and Bridget (student contributors).

We are very pleased to announce that the latest edition of Tuawahine has now been published! We started our celebrations with an in-house book launch where, in addition to current students and staff, we invited past students who had contributed to the book and staff who taught during the period covered by the book. We also had representation from our host school, Wellington East Girls College. The event was reported in The Post and this led to an appearance on TVNZ Breakfast for our Kaiārahi Paula Hay and student Bree Kie Tonga.

We then hosted members of Zonta Mana for a morning tea at school. This was an opportunity to give back to an amazing organisation that offers our students substantial support. He Huarahi Tamariki's relationship with Zonta Mana was kindled many years ago through Tuawahine and we were very pleased to share this latest edition with them. We will be distributing copies of Tuawahine to our wider community over the next couple of months. If you are interested in your own copy, please get in touch via our Facebook page or email us at [info@hht.school.nz](mailto:info@hht.school.nz).



Far Left: Margaret (ZONTA) looking at Tuawahine

Left: Shrutu offering Ngawai (ZONTA) some morning tea.

During morning tea, our Tamariki performed kapa haka for our manuhiri.



### Student Contribution — Mata

**Statement of Intent:** My prequel is about the character Mata from the New Zealand film *Cousins*. In my piece of writing I'm going to be imagining Mata's life before her mother's disappearance and the importance of the rhyme that Mata carried throughout the film.

Omapere Heke

Newborn cries fill the room. "It's a girl!"

The look of disappointment crosses the man's face as his daughter gets passed up to her mother. "Hello my Mata." The baby knows that voice. That gentle voice. She peers down at the precious baby and sheds a tear. "Hello Mata." she repeats. Mata's cry gently fades away. Although Mata can't properly see her mother yet, she knows exactly who that is.

Days and weeks go by. Mata is growing and finding ways to respond to her mother's love. She giggles and coos, her big eyes light with joy each time her mother sings to her. The bond between these two is unbreakable.

"One is for fun, two find my shoe, three can't see me, four..."

"Stop singing that ridiculous rhyme to that baby!"

Mata's mother ignores the snarky comment made by Mata's

father and carries on. His opinion doesn't matter to her. The only thing that matters to her is forming a special bond with little Mata.

"Four at the door, five stay alive, six pick up sticks..."

For the content, three year old, playing outside among the grass, picking up sticks one by one, her world is filled with certainty and happiness. "Where are your sandals Mata?" her mother calls. Mata hides behind the sheets her mother is hanging up on the line. "Three can't see me," laughs Mata. She continues to run around and pick up sticks, laughing and chanting the rhyme. She brings her collection of sticks to her mother who suggests they count them together. Placing the washing basket on the ground and putting the pegs in her pocket she kneels next to little Mata on the grass in the sun. They reach number six with more sticks to be counted, when a shadow lingers over them (continued on back).

## Tēnā koutou katoa

Kia whakatōmuri te haere whakamua.  
*I walk backwards into the future with my  
eyes fixed on my past.*

This is an appropriate whakataukī for reflecting on the launch of the latest Tuawahine – we carry our past history and stories with us into the future. This edition is an ‘extra-special’ or ‘extra-ordinary’ edition of Tuawahine as it has been five years in the making. The plan to produce this edition back in 2020 was superseded by a little thing called COVID-19. The plan to then publish in 2021 was also paused, due to that little thing called COVID-19. The final proof went to the publisher at the end of 2022, and it has finally arrived!

This collection of our past stories is a testament to the lives of all of our students, and their acknowledgement of their past while they journey into the unknown future. Special thanks for this edition of Tuawahine needs to go to Helen and Deryn, for all their coordination and editing. And to our publishers at Valley Print for their expertise and advice.

We enjoyed hosting a group of members from the Zonta Club of Mana for a morning tea, organised and run by our students. The long standing relationship between the Zonta Club of Mana and He Huarahi Tamariki came about because of Tuawahine and it was a great opportunity for us to honour this relationship. Our students and their tamariki performed for the group, as part of te wiki o te reo Māori.

While this has been another busy term, we are starting to look towards the end of the year - term four is just around the corner. This means we are already preparing for our annual celebration Prize Giving and making plans to finish off school work before the end of the year. Always exciting times to make plans for the future, while looking back at our past and celebrating all that has happened.

*Ngā mihi nui,  
Paula Hay – Kaiārahi*

## Save the Date – Open Day

**Wednesday 15 November – 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

He Huarahi Tamariki has an Open Day planned in Term 4. This is an opportunity for anyone to visit and find out more about our school and what we have on offer here.

Last year’s open day was highly successful and was attended by many different professionals working alongside young people including health professionals, counselling staff in secondary schools and youth coaches. Other community organisations and politicians also visited.

There will be more information sent out closer to the time, but if you would like to know more now, please get in touch.

**We look forward to seeing you!**

## Ngā Whetū Piataata

The stars shone brightly for us when the He Huarahi Tamariki & Kids Count whānau celebrated Matariki together at the beginning of term. We spent time reflecting on those who had passed and our hopes and dreams for the future. Our shared kai represented the different whetū (stars) and was delicious!



Left to Right above: Sara decorating stars with Sharon, Shanaia and Armani writing hopes and dreams.

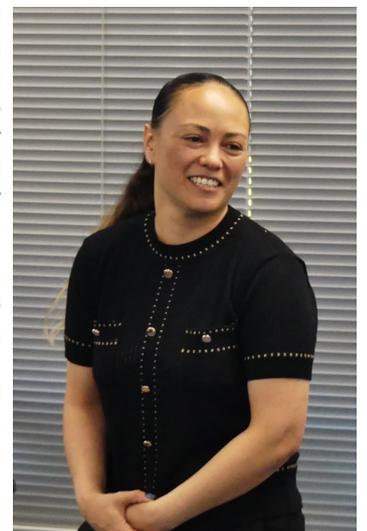
Left to Right: Lisiana offering Helen a colour, Jackie admiring Talia's work, Jaz supporting Manny to make his star fairy bread.



## HHT Trust News

The HHT Trust is very pleased to announce that He Huarahi Tamariki graduate Dr Helen Woolner has come on board to support the work they do for both current students and graduates of HHT and other Teen Parent Units in the regional cluster.

The Trust would also like to acknowledge the contribution of those stepping down: Janette Phillips who has served since the early days of the Trust and Amanda Hillock who contributed over the last 3 years.



## Welcome to our New Babies!



Dezyree, a boy – Zeidyn  
Kayla, a girl – Kamaiya  
Leone, a girl – Kalala  
Omapere, a girl – Analia  
Stormy, a boy – Rihari  
Kirsten, a boy – Jio

# YES – Nature’s Koura

This year, we have had 2 students take part in the YES (Young Enterprise Scheme) Initiative. This was a first for He Huarahi Tamariki and we are super proud of the effort Bree and Bailey have put in and the results they have achieved. Their business is called Nature’s Koura and their kaupapa is outlined below. One of their first products is a Mamuku, Kawakawa and Lemongrass soap and we think it is pretty wonderful. If you are interested in purchasing any, you can contact Bree and Bailey at [natureskoura@gmail.com](mailto:natureskoura@gmail.com) or on Facebook at Nature’s Koura. We would also like to acknowledge the support of their mentors Lambrini Phillips & Yolande Rosario (YES) and Marion Myers (Volunteer), and the other organisations who have supported their business with retail opportunities: Partners Porirua and The Blue Bell Club.

## About Us

Kia Ora, our names are Bree and Bailey. We are two young mums determined to make a change not just for us, but for the generations before us and after us. We have a huge passion for well being: spiritually, physically, mentally and emotionally. What sparked this passion in both of us was wanting to be the best us for our babies. We now want this for ourselves as well. We know an important part of our well being includes what we put on our skin. “The little things matter.”

## Mission

Our kaupapa is to enrich people's lives with natural and sustainable products to nourish the wellbeing of one's wairua and to reduce the footprint of environmental pollution in society. We strive to raise and bring awareness as to why and how natural products are more beneficial for not just ourselves, but the environment as well long term. We incorporate Rongoā ( Māori medicine ) in most of our products to honour and integrate our culture and to also bring more awareness to how this ancient knowledge can heal and serve us.

Left: Nature’s Koura Soap.

Far Left: Bree (right) at the Nature’s Koura stall hosted by the Blue Bell Club (Ramona, left) at the Porirua City Council ‘Love Local’ Expo.

## Vision

We see a future of understanding the impact of what we put on and in our bodies, a future where everyone is educated about where and how these resources are sourced, and the consequences our actions have on ourselves and the beautiful environment around us. We see ourselves expanding into many areas of well being as it is a huge passion of ours, and for our shop to not just be a place to “buy natural” but to find support. We see our business planting seeds of well being for individuals, where they start their own journey in well being.

Bree Kie Tonga & Bailey Taylor-Edwards



# Doc Edge Film Festival

After a few years of stop/start/online only situations, the DocEdge Film Festival was back to “business as usual.” We were once again able to attend courtesy of the Rei Foundation. We continue to be very grateful for the opportunity.

This year we saw two full length documentaries. As always, the team who organises the sessions for schools, were very welcoming and helpful. In the morning we saw Deep Rising which focused on the controversy over mining the very depth of the oceans for the limited and finite resources which contribute particularly to our digital lives. The afternoon’s viewing was Call Me Dancer, a heartwarming and uplifting documentary which followed the life of a young man from India, who was determined to make a career as a dancer.

Some of the students’ observations included:

*It was interesting to learn just how many rare minerals etc are used in electric cars and how we don’t really know just what the environmental impact will be, of using these minerals.*

*I liked learning about things that are important and how they will affect the world. We are not always made aware of what is happening.*

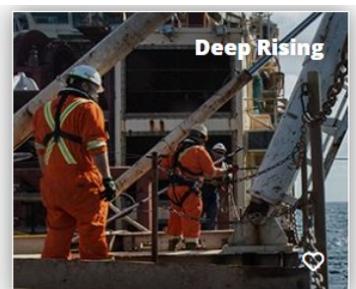
*I loved this film. I am from Mumbai, India and it was nice to see my home town on the big screen.*

*I found Call Me Dancer really inspiring. It made me feel extremely thankful for all the support and help that I receive with my education too.*

*Deep Rising was quite confusing at times, but it left me with a lot to think about.*

*I really liked how in Call Me Dancer, the young man really wants to work hard to get money to help his family, but doesn’t want to stop believing that he can become a dancer. The older man who trains him believes that he can become a professional dancer and supports him all the way.*

*When I watched Call Me Dancer, it made me feel happy and sad about the way the boy fought for his dream as a dancer. I loved the way he wants to help his parents, but they are prepared to help him with his schooling and classes. This film helped me to learn how to not give up on my dream to help my family and my kids. It showed me that even if we grow up in poor families, we can follow our dreams.*



# Graduate News

## Ruth Lauulu

Our congratulations go out to He Huarahi Tamariki graduate Ruth Lauulu who recently presented her Masters Thesis at The 5<sup>th</sup> Pacific Islands Universities Research Network Conference.

The title of her thesis is: Exploring Student Experiences of Covid-19 Home Confinement: Analysing The Impact on Pacific Students Learning and Wellbeing in Aotearoa New Zealand. As part of her research, Ruth interviewed a number of He Huarahi Tamariki students.



## Jasmine Berkland

We caught up with graduate Jasmine Berkland earlier this year (pictured right with her new baby and Régis).

Jasmine has recently started a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Leadership & Management) with the NZ Tertiary College.



## Mata (continued)

“Don’t tell me you’re still teaching that child that bloody rhyme!”

Mata’s mother pulls the grumpy man away from Mata. As Mata counts her sticks she glances over to the two of them arguing and wonders why her mother is never her happy self with this man. He storms off with a furious look on his face. Mata’s mother takes a big breath and smiles over at Mata. She walks back over to her.

“Right darling, what number stick are you up to now?”

Mata flicks up her small fingers trying to make the number seven.

“Ka pai clever girl, let’s continue on from number seven.”

Mata claps her hands and jumps up on her feet ready to explore more of the rhyme.

The next two years pass quickly and the grumpy man doesn’t seem to be around anymore. “Stand up straight Mata, feet up against the wall.” Mata’s mother takes her measurements.

“Wow look how tall you’ve gotten, you big five year old!”

It’s a big week for Mata. She’s starting her first ever day of school. She walks over to her room and pulls out her kete from the wardrobe. She starts packing all her things, not being able to contain her excitement. Mata starts humming the rhyme. Her mother knocks on her bedroom door, overhearing Mata’s humming and starts to sing the rhyme.

“Seven she’s in heaven, eight don’t be late, nine it’s the time, ten start again.”

Mata glances up to her mother. “What’s heaven mama and where is it?”

Mata’s mother pauses and looks down at Mata. Her eye’s start tearing up but not a word comes out of her mouth. She’s stuck on how to reply to that question. She knows her sickness is spreading but how can she explain this news to a five year old that one day *number eight she may be late*. Her mother wipes her tears and lays next to her precious Mata.

“Let’s start from ten start again” she says in her gentle voice.

*Omapere Heke*

**A very big thank you to all the public and private donors who have supported us recently. Your donations are very much appreciated.** Thank you to Gawith-Deans Family Trust, Wellington Methodist Charitable and Educational Endowment Trust, Zonta, Kindness Collective, David Daily Charitable Trust, Janet Gottschalk, Pat Lummis, Kiwi Community Assistance, Beanies for Babies, Parish of Pauatahanui, Arise Church, Pregnancy Help, Loved for Life, The Salvation Army and the many others who donate used equipment and clothing. **Donations towards the work of the school (03 0547 0671844 000) are always welcome and donations to the scholarship fund can be made to the HHT Trust (02 0548 0369188 000). Either of these are tax deductible and a receipt will be sent to you.**

**If you have changed address or would like the newsletter emailed to you, please contact us via [info@hht.school.nz](mailto:info@hht.school.nz)**

**Our host school is Wellington East Girls’ College - Principal: Gael Ashworth**



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Wellington, NZ

# “Of course you can do it”