

Results of Whānau Consultation 2013

This term a survey was sent out to all families requesting feedback around the teaching of te reo Māori at Tauriko School. There was an option to fill the survey in online, email the survey back, complete a paper copy or respond face-to-face.

From the survey it was clear teachers are doing the following to encourage awareness of Maori culture: use of correct pronunciation, greetings, commands, mihi, kapa haka, national anthem, handwriting, waiata, poems, counting, myths and legends, Māori perspectives in Inquiry units, signs, art, Matariki, place names, weaving, writing and maths.

Only 4% of respondents were unsure as to whether or not the school were doing enough to encourage an awareness of Māori culture and suggested help or training in te reo Māori for teachers. This has already been put in place, however if courses become available it would be beneficial for teachers to be released.

Suggestions were made as to further development of Māori culture within the school, particularly around making clear links with local iwi. Eg. Marae visits, local kaumatua involved with the school. We have begun a process of building a relationship with the local wharekura (senior secondary school). A marae visit is planned for 2014 and kapa haka has already been running and will continue next year. Hopefully the profile of the kapa haka group will be raised through further opportunities for public performance next year and at the end of year prize-giving. Suggestions were also made around developing Inquiry units which linked with local history, in particular The Battle of Gate Pa which is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2014.

84% of participants feel we have made a positive difference in how students value their own culture. The 16% who felt we hadn't done enough made suggestions about strengthening community links.

80% of respondents believed we had provided opportunities for the students to communicate in te reo Māori and would be keen to see it used even more. 16% were unsure and 4% felt there was always room for improvement, particularly in the senior school.

How much te reo Māori do parents consider is currently being used at Tauriko School?

Lots				
Some				
Little				
None				
	Class	School	Correspondence	School events

From this feedback we can see that some te reo Maori is being used in all areas, however it is clear that little te reo Māori is being used in correspondence home. This may be an area to focus on for 2014, along with continued use of te reo Māori in classes and around the school. Most respondents wanted to see it taught as an incorporated part of everyday learning with only 2 respondents who wanted to see it taught as a separate subject. A conscious effort by teachers to share this learning may be required so parents have a clear understanding of what is being taught and would be able to support it at home.

80% believe te reo Māori is a valued part of the Tauriko School culture. 12% were unsure and 8% felt more was needed to be done, in particular, giving students an opportunity to develop the language they have gained in the junior school into more complex language in the senior classes.

As a whole, the feedback is very positive. Most parents who responded value the use of te reo Māori and could see the benefit of learning about another culture, or more about their own.

60% of our Maori families responded to the survey which showed that they were actively involved in the consultation process and are very supportive of te reo Māori playing an important role in learning at Tauriko School. Of the non-Māori families, 96% were positive in their responses and all were supportive of what the teachers have done so far. 100% of respondents encouraged further development in this area.

From this survey, and comments from staff survey, there were suggestions made which could be actioned as part of PLD process for next year:

- Marae visit
- Strengthening community links
- Kapa haka continued, with a greater visibility within the school
- Keep momentum for staff through regular online and face to face professional learning
- Opportunities for staff to attend off-site te reo Māori PLD, where available
- Correspondence sent from school to include more te reo Māori. Eg. newsletters, homework, website
- Teachers sharing te reo Māori learning with whānau through blogs, class newsletters, homework sheets etc