



# St Matthew's Primary School Annual Report 2014

The school still manages to fit so much into each school term ! 2014 was no exception.

A major focus for us across the year was to develop a shared understanding of our school's Pepeha. It was important for the children not to just 'know it' but to understand why it was important.

Ko Te Mata o Rongokako te maunga  
Ko Ngaruroro te awa  
Ko Heretaunga te kainga  
Ko Waiapu te pihopatanga  
Ko Ngati Kahungunu matau  
Ko Hato Matiu te kura

It was exciting 'walking' the pepeha – visiting the sites mentioned and helping the children to understand what an important area we are based in for our learning.

We were also able to perform as a whole school at the Kapahaka festival in Napier and the children performed brilliantly.

We continued to have strong governance by our Board of Trustees, with excellent leadership from our Chair, Simon Evans. Our BoT provides an excellent vision and direction for our school.

Our Professional Development programme continued as a major focus for our staff, along with our cluster of 3 schools. A highlight of this was a two day conference in Rotorua on Inquiry Teaching, which dovetailed into our PD so well.

One of our staff had study leave to complete her Masters at Massey University and we are looking forward to seeing this learning feeding into the school.

Our relationship with the Anglican Parish of St Matthew continues to grow, with more school families and staff becoming actively involved in both the worshipping life of the parish as well as activities that based on site.

Our site wide fairs twice a year also show this relationship – good sources of school fundraising. Our major fund raiser is the Cape Challenge marshalling and timing – an annual event that makes a big difference to our bottom line.

Our senior school biannual excursion to Camp Kaitawa happened during the last term, a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with God's Creation.



**Ash Wednesday School Service.**



**On Lake Waikare-iti during our stay at Camp Kaitawa.**



**The site wide Fair is a regular highlight.**

