

## Amohia te mānuka, ko te tuhi ā-ringa! Take up the maanuka (challenge), that is handwriting!

We are grateful to Shane Te Ruki for providing a beautiful translation from English to Māori for *The Great New Zealand Handwriting* logo. The translation captures the essence of the meaning rather than a literal translation.



## Ensure teachers have access to quality PD

Founded by Helen Walls and Christine Braid we are pleased to support <u>The Great New Zealand Handwriting Challenge</u>. The Facebook page has seen incredible growth, reaching 2,700 members this year. This rapid expansion reflects the strong interest and enthusiasm surrounding handwriting education across Aotearoa/New Zealand. The FB page provides a space for teachers, parents, and literacy enthusiasts to share resources, strategies, and successes, furthering the collective effort to promote effective handwriting skills in schools.

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Cecilia Tarrant Piki Knap Give-A-Little









## Feedback ....



Our whole kura has made explicit handwriting a daily focus, especially in our Junior school. We have seen big changes for all ākonga and in particular ESOL and neurodivergent students. One of my year 1 ākonga proudly shared his mahi with whānau for student led conferences last week.

We have been implementing 10 minutes of explicit handwriting everyday across our whole kura. In my NE/year 1 class I have noticed a huge difference in their ability to write the sounds they need quicker (and neater)! Still, some work to do but that progress with the support of explicit, focussed handwriting is amazing!!

Here we are doing an amazing job school wide. We teach handwriting explicitly every day. We also have intervention groups to help students that struggle with fine motor skills and pencil grasp. We are seeing great progress.

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We explicitly teach handwriting daily and students are tremendously proud of their progress made over the year! They take their handwriting seriously and love showing their work. Nothing beats their smiles when they successfully publish writing in their neatest print or exceptional cursive script. Writing time is focused and purposeful and pride and excellence is at the forefront of their minds. Thank you to Helen Walls and the Great NZ Handwriting Challenge for ensuring handwriting is a priority again in schools.

Source: via FB