



Please take one

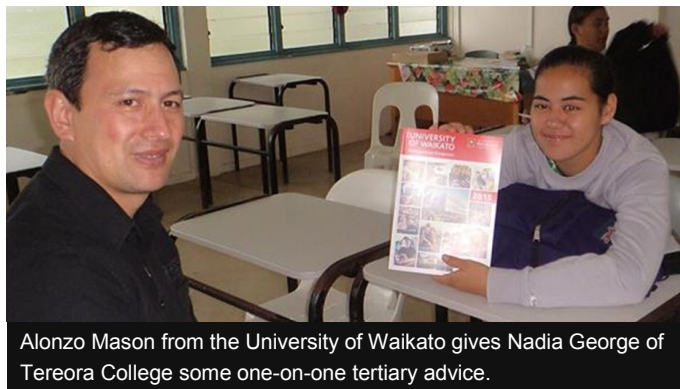
# EDUCATION



Cook Islands Ministry of Education

September 2014

## Atoroanga Apii Na Te Au Taeake Apii Tuatoru O Aotearoa



Alonzo Mason from the University of Waikato gives Nadia George of Tereora College some one-on-one tertiary advice.



Pa Enua students listen intently to the NZ Fashion Tech presentation.

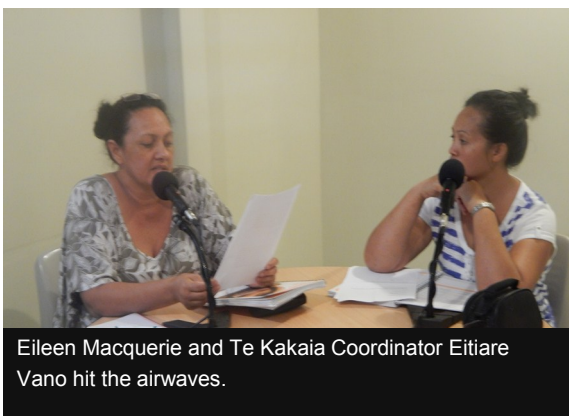
I te 11 o te epetoma o te Tau Rua o te apii i teia mataiti kua atoroia mai ta tatou anau apii i Rarotonga nei e tetai nga taeake no roto mai i te NZ Fashion Tech e pera katoa te Whare Wananga o Waikato. Ko te akakoroanga koia oki no te akamaramaanga ki te tamariki apii no runga i ta ratou au porokaramu apii, e pera katoa tetai au tauturu tuketuke te ka rauka i te tamariki ka apii ki ko ia ratou. Kua akamarama katoa ratou ki te au tamariki no runga i te au puapinga te ka rauka mai me apai mamao atu ratou i ta ratou pepa apii ki te tuanga tuatoru. Kua rave katoaia tetai nga tuatau akatakapatoaanga ki te au tamariki no nga apii Pa Enua Tonga tei piri mai ki te porokaramu akamatauanga oraanga angaanga. Irinaki te Taunga o te Oraanga Angaanga e e au mea puapinga tei rauka mai i te anau tamariki apii no roto mai i teia au Taunga Apii Tuatoru. Ko te nuti mataora koia oki ka oki akaou mai teia au taeake a teia mataiti ki mua no te akakoroanga o te Careers Expo i roto i te marama Aperira.

## Radio—Definitely a Medium for Delivery

In an effort to reach as many parents as we possibly can in the Cook Islands, we found that one of the most enjoyable and successful ways has been the use of the radio. It has become a very useful tool for delivery and one confidently used by the Early Childhood Education (ECE) teacher broadcasters and advisors responsible for the Ministry of Education's ECE parenting programmes.

ECE community parenting programmes involve face-to-face meetings or workshops on school premises, in church and community halls, health clinics, and social gatherings – 'over the tea cups'.

...continued pg3



Eileen Macquerie and Te Kakaia Coordinator Eitiare Vano hit the airwaves.



Students were just as excited as guests when it came to revealing the newly refurbished workshop area.

### CITTI Welcome in Era of Change

Much focus has been on CITTI as the continuing development of the Tertiary Vocational Training Institute has seen an influx of varied learners. The institute's registration as a Private Training Establishment by NZQA in July was just the of gust of wind needed to its sails before revealing the institute's big upgrade.

A modest ceremony was held in early August to welcome in an era of change for CITTI as invited guests were given the chance to view the vocational training institute's new look. The institute has been kitted out with bold new entrance signage, while class spaces and office areas were also given refurbishment touches to accommodate student and staff.

## "Outstanding achievement" for CITTI



CITTI Students put the finishing touches to a class project.

The Cook Islands Tertiary Training Institute has officially been granted registration as a Private Training Establishment under Sections 232-235 of the NZ Education Act 1989.

Since its inception in July 2013, the Cook Islands Tertiary Training Institute has been working with two international accrediting bodies so as to become registered and be in a position to deliver internationally recognised qualifications. These include London City & Guilds & NZQA. In October 2013, CITTI was registered and accredited to deliver a variety of programmes and courses in the hospitality sector through London City & Guilds. The focus then was to ensure that CITTI gained registration and consent to assess with NZQA.

In reporting back to the Secretary of Education and Senior Management group, the team who had been assessing the Institute's readiness for NZQA Registration provided a "glowing" report.

*"this is an outstanding achievement in such a short space of time, and on the first attempt."*

With an overwhelmingly positive NZQA final report, CITTI has met all the requirements for registration. "This is a momentous achievement and to have this achieved from the first visit is outstanding. There are many such institutions in NZ who would not and have not met the high standards expected to gain this acknowledgement," says CITTI Director Owen Lewis.

In the assessment report, auditors stated, "We experienced a very positive collaborative atmosphere amongst the management and staff with tutors sharing best practice teaching ideas and knowledge around students relating to their academic and pastoral care needs."

Secretary of Education Sharyn Paio offered CITTI her congratulations, "This is an outstanding achievement in such a short space of time, and on the first attempt."

"The next step is to gain "Consent to Assess" and approval from the Industry Training Organisations but we can now say we are well on track to achieve this," says Lewis, "as it will enable CITTI to provide New Zealand recognised and accredited training programmes in the Cook Islands."

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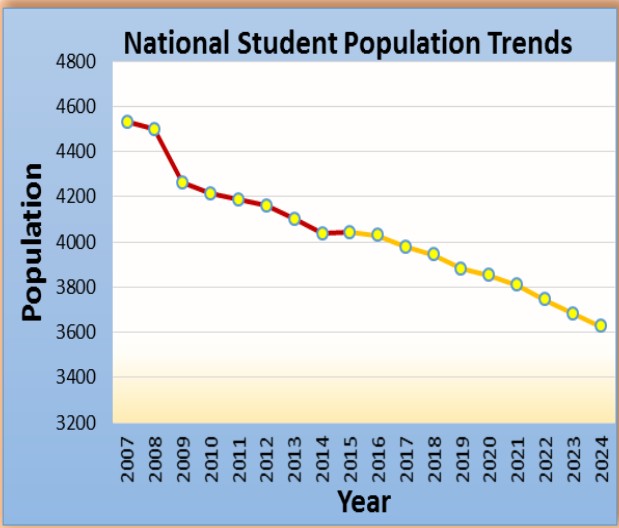


# National School Population and Workforce Projections

Faced with declining populations in the Pa Enua and significant out-migration by the under 30 age group nationwide, the Ministry has carried out a study of the school population and teacher demand trends.

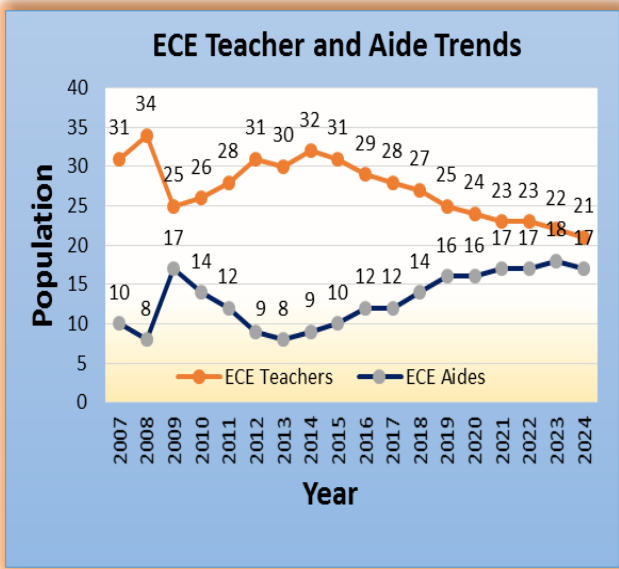
> From 2007 to 2014 the school population dropped from 4361 in 2007 to 3893 in 2014, a decline of 10.73% over the seven year period.

Current trends suggest the student population will decline a further 10.15% over the next decade falling to 3749 in 2019 and to 3498 by 2024. These figures take into account policy changes including: funding for ECE for children from age 3, and raising the school leaving age to 16 years.



> ECE staffing shows some interesting trends with a decline in the number of ECE teachers required, but an increase in the number of ECE aides needed as classes decline in size.

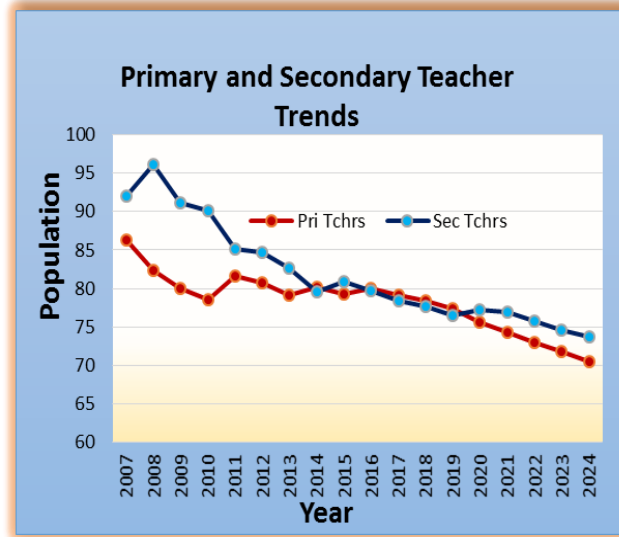
In 2007 there were 31 ECE Teachers and 10 ECE aides with 32 teachers and 9 aides in 2014. If there are no policy changes, 25 teachers and 16 aides will be needed in 2019, and by 2024 there will be a need for 21 teachers and 17 aides.



> As one would expect, staffing trends tend to mirror the student population trends.

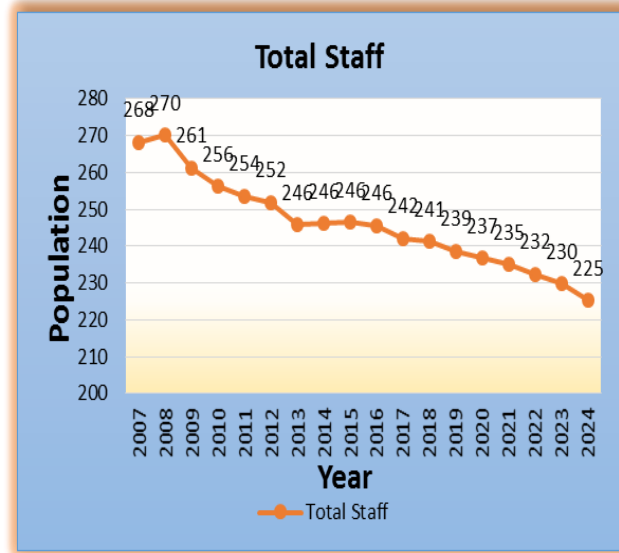
From 2007 to 2014 the number of Primary Teachers fell from 86 to 80, and that number will likely decline to 77 in 2019 and 71 in 2024.

The number of Secondary Teachers fell from 92 in 2007 to 80 in 2014, and that number will likely decline to 76 in 2019 and 74 in 2024.



> Total regular school staff, including ECE teachers and aides, primary and secondary teachers and administration allowances, but excluding special needs aides, lead teachers, fast track teachers and special placements, shows a similar pattern of decline falling from 268 in 2007 to 246 in 2014.

The decline is projected to continue with a total regular staff of 239 in 2019 and 225 in 2024.



Although the projections predict a current system-wide decline of 1.5% per annum declining to an average of 1.2% by 2024, there are significant variations by school.

A copy of the Workforce Plan, including school by school projections, can be found on the MoE webpage.

# Young Mangaian Maiden eyes big goals from island home



Mangaia's Jannet Ruatoe gears up ready to shoot her first TV programme after enrolling in CITTl's specifically designed Media programme, Jannet doesn't need to leave her island home to pursue her career dreams.

While young people are leaving their islands for the perceived greener pastures, the young Jannet Ruatoe is determined to prove otherwise.

Freshly enrolled into the Television Production programme through the Cook Islands Tertiary Institute (CITTl) in Mangaia, this 23 year old has got her eye on big goals she will strive for - from home.

Determined and passionate about her island, she believes that she can still achieve her dreams from home.

"We have internet in Mangaia and mentors that I can go to for assistance and support. I do not need to leave the island to do courses I want to take," says the optimistic Jannet.

One of CITTl aims for Pa Enua communities is to deliver programmes specific to the learner's needs and desires. This programme not only promises to pave the way for this budding media professional - it also contributes to the development of the community, wherein an informed society is equipped to make effective decisions about their lives.

*"Determined and passionate about her island, Jannet believes that she can still achieve her dreams from home."*

Jannet is no stranger to the media arena. Since completing high school five years ago, Jannet entered the work field doing part-time work at the Red Cross as a health/marketing officer designated to promote programmes and raise awareness within the community.

In the evening she contributes her time at the community television station twice a week - her role involves ensuring community notices and programs are logged to air for the night. She also received training with Cook Islands TV station in 2012.

The Media Programme offered by the CITTl- Mangaia based office, will provide Jannet with the specific television training - both theory and practical, that requires her to produce five TV programmes by the end of the media programme designed to run till November this year.

Jannet began her Media course last week which has already seen her covering her first TV programme titled 'Learn and Preserve Mangaia Local Medicine'. This is also a community initiative programme under CITTl aimed at revitalizing and preserving traditional knowledge.



Part of the Media Programme is for Jannet to cover five engaging programmes that will air on Mangaia Television. This is her first program titled 'Learn and Preserve Mangaia Local Medicine'.



# Powered for Action

Did you know?

- Renewable energy is also called clean energy because it does not produce pollution.
- Silicon in sand can be used to produce forms of electricity.
- The majority of renewable energy is used as a source of electricity.



Energised Year Nine Tereora College students, their teachers, and leaders from Year Thirteen kick-started research based unit “Sustainable Energy Use” with a conference and series of field trips. Supported by NZ Aid funded project ‘Pacific Science for Health Literacy Partnership Programme’, with the Liggins Institute, Auckland University, and the Ministry of Education Cook Islands, Tereora College students were able to experience such events.

Treated as conference delegates, all 110 Year Nine students marked the beginning of a six week long research based unit at the Crown Beach Resort and Spa. The conference was held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June and attended by invited guest, Master Navigator Tua Pittman, Energy Commissioner for the Cook Islands Roger De Bray, Solar Energy Consultant Bob Riley, Executive Director for Ministry of Education and UNESCO Education Commissioner Gail Townsend, and New Zealand High Commissioner Joanna Kempfers. The unit will be delivered at Tereora College by more than 20 teachers in all core subjects—English, Maths, Science, Social Science, Culture and Art, Physical Education and Health. Students were challenged to explore issues by developing skills to work in groups and learnt to negotiate, reflect, and review decisions made as a team. Invited guests gave each group constructive criticism and acknowledgement of their efforts of the day’s challenges and shared knowledge of their experiences in their roles in the community.

The next day involved a field trip helping the students to collect evidence based information about “Sustainable Energy Use” in the Cook Islands. Fully charged, students and their lead teachers visited Te Aponga Uira Power Station, Muri Beach Resort, Pacific Voyaging, and the Office of the Prime Minister. They were hosted by senior management at each venue and they saw first-hand what had been discussed and learnt from Monday’s conference which they could use for their assessment. The next step will be in the classroom where they will learn and develop skills to assist them to complete their presentations.

Did you know?

- About 16% of our total energy comes from a renewable source.
- A wind turbine converts wind into electricity and the largest one is 20 stories tall.
- One wind turbine can produce enough electricity to power up to 300 homes.

## Radio—Definitely a Medium for Delivery

**...continued** The addition of radio talk-back to our repertoire of delivery strategies has brought great excitement when the term ‘holistic’ jolted us into ‘going local’. It translated into embracing and working together with people in our communities. Subsequently, people from all walks of life have been enlisted in small clusters to share their experiences pertaining to parenting and child rearing.

Throughout May to June a steady flow of people came forward to share their stories on the airwaves, exchanging information and experiences from young generation parenting, to grandfathering/grandmothering, solo parenting e te vai atura. Topics for talk back sharing have included “Parenting – the new and old generators” – focusing on child rearing from a young father and grandfather’s perspective, and “Parenting versus Pastoral Care” - talking on the pros and cons of parenting an only child as a pastor. In late May, a young mother boldly stepped forward to share her experiences of how she found herself parenting solely after her partner and the father of their child passed away.

The response to recent programmes has been informative, encouraging and affirming for both listeners and the Ministry.

For older generation parents, it has been an opportunity to reflect and pass on wisdom affirming old values and culture. While young parents face the challenges of today’s values, it is a test of teachers’ professional abilities and knowledge. This feedback has encouraged more radio programmes to be planned for the rest of the year.

In closing, the Ministry acknowledges and “recognises the wealth of knowledge and expertise at both a local and global level and the importance of the need to work collaboratively and collectively in partnership at various levels.” Guess what? It’s exciting stuff!

## School Visits by NZ Tertiary Education Providers



Papaaroa Adventist Students learn about the wide world of fashion and its career opportunities.



NZ Fashion Tech's Val Marshall-Smith delivers a 'career in fashion' presentation at Nukutere College.

During Week 11 of Term 2, the ICC was pleased to host Kevin Smith and Val Marshall-Smith of New Fashion Tech, and also Alonzo Mason of the University of Waikato (New Zealand). These people travelled to Rarotonga for the purpose of promoting the programmes of study their institutions offer, explain about funding available to assist potential students, and encourage students to see the benefits of tertiary education as a whole. They gave presentations to the Pa Enea students who were in Rarotonga completing the Work Experience Programme, and also to several Rarotonga schools. These presentations were greatly appreciated by the students and teachers who were present. The schools that participated in this very enlightening programme were Araura College, Enuamanu School, Mangaia School, Imanuela Akatemia, Nukutere College, Tereora College, Papaaroa Adventist School and Titikaveka College. At present NZ Fashion Tech have several Cook Islands students enrolled in their programmes, namely Tiare Beer, Stephanie Tua and Tongia Maora. There are also quite a number currently studying at the University of Waikato – Mere Thomson, Rebekah Tangaroa, Ngametua Unuka, Harry Ivaiti Junior, and Josephine Vaireka, just to name a few. NZ Fashion Tech and the University will be returning next year for the Careers Expo 2015, so look out for them.



Head Girl of Araura College thanking NZ Fashion Tech on behalf of the Pa Enea Tonga Work Experience Programme students.

## Kua Mataora te Angaanga a te au Tamariki Pa Enea



Two students from the Pa Enea wrap up an entertaining WEP placement with Te Vara Nui.

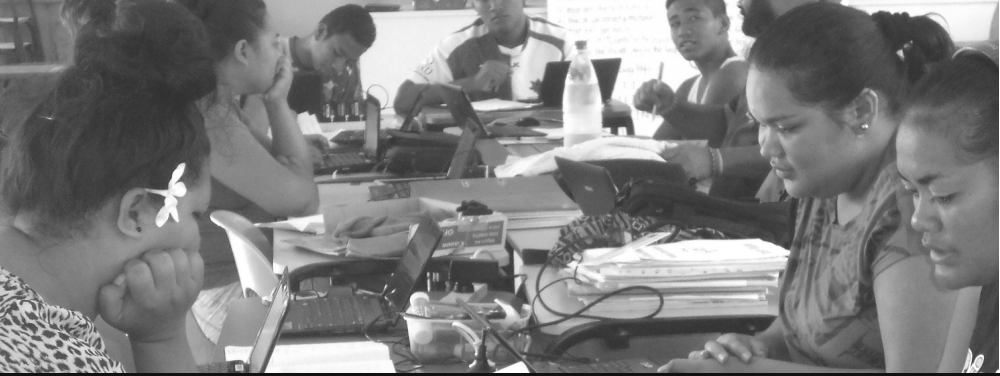
Maata atu i te 30 au ngai angaanga tei ariki i ta tatou anau tamariki no te Pa Enea tonga mai no te akamatauanga ia ratou kit e oraanga angaanga. Teia tetai au tutu no tetai au tamariki tei rave maroiroi atu i te reira.

Ko Mareta teia no Araura Koreti raua ko Rowyn no Apii Enuamanu mai e Mama Vara ki ko i Te Vara Nui. Kua rave teia nga tamaine i ta raua WEP ki ko i te Cook Islands Tourism Corporation.

More than 30 organisations were involved in the Pa Enea Tonga Work Experience Placement programme recently, and inside this issue

we share more student experiences of their work placement and a special insert from our very own Careers Counsellor June Hosea.

# Life Beyond the Classroom



The Individual Learning Plan (ILP) means that for Te Rito o Araura students such as Lucy Daniel and Teokotai Ngapoe the relaxed enrolment procedure is suitable as learning programs are structured around the individual student.

With a roll call of only 21, the young and ambitious students of Te Rito o Araura are on the track to success, and it's free. Intended as an alternative learning option, Te Rito programme centres on an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) to offer comprehensive plans for school leavers and local community members which means "we can create a specific learning programme for each student to work on while also including collective learning," says Te Rito facilitator Shelley Tavai.

At Te Rito o Araura, students are introduced to various academic, life, interpersonal and health skills and modify their understanding of life beyond the classroom. Based out of the Vaitau Primary School Hall, the programme consists of two course options, the CATS course run by tutor Junior Tamati (Carpentry, Automotive, Online learning and Sports) and the Computing & Enterprise course (Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint & Access certification and academic study on Alison-Online learning site) with both courses also including Media Studies and Health & Life Skills. The media class has seen students produce a monthly community newsletter and even dive into the world of social media creating and managing the Te Rito Facebook page.

With a strong response to the programme, Te Rito o Araura facilitator Shelley Tavai is pleased to announce the introduction of a new course running a Webmail training course for the staff of Aitutaki Hospital. Sparked after a conversation with Aitutaki Hospital Manager Tara Toi-Tschan, who was midway through training mature staff about Webmail access, Tavai suggested that Hospital staff join Te Rito o Araura students where she designed a programme specific to Hospital staff, "It is proving to be very successful," says Te Rito's Shelley Tavai, "We have extended the course as the staff I was training asked me if they could go to the next level. They were enjoying the course so much, but they saw how important it was to know the other basic areas of computing, which is awesome! By the end of the training all students will be able to confidently access and use correctly the Webmail facility on the MoH website."

Students who are taking part in the Te Rito o Araura programme have openly shared their in class experience, achievements and goals, here's what they had to say...



"Experience is the name given to our mistakes, so it's a privilege for me to share my experience of Te Rito. I am currently undertaking a Diploma in Business & Enterprise. I have achieved 2 certificates from the GCF Learn Free, an online course for Microsoft Program. We have published and distributed our own Newsletter called Coconuti. I produced the Puzzle & Quote Articles."

**Arerangi Pera**

"I have joined the Te Rito programme and it is the best! I have learnt a lot, and of course it is helping me to gain a lot of skills for my future work. I have achieved 2 certificates for PowerPoint and Excel."



**Lucy Daniel**



"I have really enjoyed the on-site skills training as an automotive mechanic. I have learnt how to work with engines and their different parts. In my time so far I have worked on lawn mowers, motor bikes, cars, trucks, tractors and jet skis."

**Teokotai Ngapoe**

"One thing that I have noticed about my tutor is if you don't improve in your school work they never stop encouraging you. I have 2 certificates in PowerPoint and Excel. I am working on Word and hope to get my certificate for that also."



**Elizabeth Joseph**



"My favourite part about coming to a course here is that I get to learn something that I don't know, and I also get to go to the gym for fitness. I have learnt lots about computing and studying on line."

**Kana Ngametua**

# Moving on Fours

**Part 1** *The Ministry of Education's Te Kakaia Co-coordinator Eitiare Vano discovers the developmental process that "tummy time" stimulates.*

You may ask "Why is my baby not crawling? What age should a baby crawl? Is crawling important?" Crawling is a small but important part of a babies growth, and so to is understanding why parents should show interest.

Learning to crawl is a key milestone for a baby. When baby is sitting up without support and can roll around, crawling is the next step. Crawling is a movement skill of lifting, grasping, turning, rolling, reaching, sitting, touching and so much more which most babies will learn between 6-10 months. Good strong head control and tummy time (times which baby spends daily with stomach on floor, back upwards with hands and legs in support) are major contributing factors in helping baby to crawl.

## Crawling helps a baby to:

- Develop their motor skills
- Establish security in getting to know the environment they live in
- Build their physical strength
- Improve their visual skills

## As parents as first teachers we need to understand that babies:

- Reach milestones differently
- Develop and coordinate skills differently
- Acquire skills during their crawling stage which support their learning in later life

Some skills and tips identified below encourage a baby to grow, develop and support their crawling skills to prosper.

## Grasping

Babies grasp objects around 3-4 months. This is a fine-motor skill that requires the development of hand and eye coordination. This also requires lots of stimulation and support for them.

Tips: Ensure baby has age appropriate, soft toys to practise grasping.



## Sitting

Sitting requires core strength and coordination. This has been developed through regular tummy time.

Tips: When baby manages to sit up unassisted, keep in mind safety and space. Ensure there are no sharp and hard objects around in case baby loses their balance and falls which can cause serious injury.

## Rolling

Rolling over and about requires core strength. When this rolling skill is practised more often this develops greater strength and coordination for sitting and crawling to progress.

Tips: Give baby regular tummy time so they become familiar with being on their stomach.





# STUDENTS' CORNER



Takitumu Primary School students travel back in time with a visit to Highland Paradise.

## A STEP BACK INTO OUR PAST

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May, Takitumu Primary School's Grades 1, 2 and 3 had the privilege of going to Highland Paradise. As students are studying the topic of tourism, Highland Paradise was an ideal location where students could get the 'hands on' educational tourist experience.

On arrival Tutu Pirangi and her daughter, Anne Herman gave a small induction of Highland Paradise (Maungaroa). Students were then welcomed by Danny Mataroa who was to be our tour guide for the next 4 hours. The tour started off at the Sacred Marae of Tinomana called Maungaroa ki Tai ki te Openga o te Ra. Danny had performed the takai marae where children had the opportunity to experience how the different ranks of our history worked on the marae.

The children got to see an example of a replica home that was lived in during traditional times and why certain materials were used to build their homes. The children were also fascinated how children and adults were disciplined. This was done by carrying a specific rock across a designated distance. These rocks were called the 'guilty rocks', males had their own rock as did females to carry. It was the Chief's discretion to give the discipline to those that committed the crime (adultery, theft and assault), and this would vary between hard labour, banishment or execution. The children saw the famous 'Compass stone' that was used to direct early voyagers. This stone points directly towards New Zealand. We also saw all the different stones that were used by the person who kept watch over the tribe.

Everyone had such a wonderful experience especially the students, their teachers and also some parents who had joined them on the excursion. This gave the children an insight into their past and they got to learn a few things which they found made them thankful they live in today's era, e.g. the guilty rock. After the tour around Highland Paradise, the children enjoyed refreshments put on by the team at Highland Paradise then it was back to school for the end of the day.

On behalf of students, teachers and parents we would like to say another big meitaki maata again to all the staff at Highland Paradise for the wonderful experience.

**-Mr Jeremiah Teokotai, Yr3, Takitumu School**



## FROM SEAWATER TO DRINKING WATER

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June is a day that we will never forget. We, the school children of Mitiaro, were invited to see how seawater can be changed to drinking water. A man named John Nell brought a big box with a machine in it. There are two hoses connected to the machine. The biggest hose draws the seawater into the machine, the water then travels through the machine and comes out through the small hose on the other end of the machine. John asked the children to taste the water but we were too shy. At first we didn't believe that the water was good to drink but after Jan Marie tasted it everybody wanted to have a taste too. John and Ody Tangianau said that the machine is good for the dry season when we don't get enough rain. The machine was working using the solar panel that was hooked up to the machine. Mrs Nooana asked John how much the machine cost and John said it cost \$15,000.00.

When we returned to school all the children couldn't stop talking about this amazing machine.

**-Athena Murare and Anne Marie Tereva  
Year 6, Mitiaro School**



## TREE PLANTING

On Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> May, Papa Orometua Nooana gave us a lesson on how to plant tiare maori. The first step was for Teinakore, Tumatangi and Brandon to dig some holes. While the three boys were digging the holes, Papa Orometua Nooana cut off the dead branches. Pre-school teacher, Mama Porima, was the first to plant her flower. When she finished putting the flower in the hole I took photos of Mama Are planting her flower and Koronui putting some rocks around the plant to keep it steady.

At the marumaru tree Mrs Murare, Mrs Pukeiti and Vincent were getting ready to plant their tiare maori.

## APII TE UKI OU KORU SHOW

Last night I was 50% excited and 50% nervous because my whole class had to perform a song called Kua Riro Koi to roughly 200 people. Behind the stage, which was glitzed with sparkling lights, was also written in violet splendour "Happy Birthday". While I was performing my fabulous dance, my Dad took 2 cool videos and 10 awesome pictures. In the darkness of the night people applauded, my knees were banging together to the beat of the enormous drums. The girls' hips swayed from side to side, the boys' knees smashed together like island warriors, the colossal beat echoed throughout the school. It was the best birthday any school could have.



APII TE UKI OU: Koru McDonald in dancing costume

## Celebrating 21 years of Apii Te Uki Ou

At a celebration to mark its coming of age, current Principal Simon Drewery, Foundation Principal Kathy Nooroa, Foundation Parent Jessie Sword and Current Board President Nadine Newnham raise a toast to Apii Te Uki Ou's 21st year.

A school that started from a garage has been transformed to a full range of classrooms. It has been a 21 year journey full of colourful experiences and enjoys the full support of students, staff, families and friends.

Mrs Tararo and Mrs Nooana were also getting ready to plant their tree in front of the admin block. Alongside the hedges, on the village end of the school, were some senior students with their junior buddies who are also waiting for the boys to dig more holes to plant their tiare maori. Three students brought kaute and two brought tipani to be planted too.

Last year we planted tiare maori, tipani, kapaie, tamanu and uto along the main road from the school towards Oponui, our adopted beach. None of the plants are growing except four utos. Most have been ruined by the pigs. The four uto survived because they were growing among the grass and weeds.

This year we decided to plant within the school grounds so we can keep an eye on the pigs and the flowers too. We planted 35 tiare maori plants, 3 kaute plants, 2 tipani plants and 5 ara amoa plants.

**-Athena Murare  
Year 6, Mitiaro School**

# New Appointments

The Ministry is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Alexander Davis, Learning & Teaching Advisor in the Curriculum & Pedagogy Line. Alex's speciality is in the areas of Social Studies, Geography & History, English and IT integration across the curriculum. In Alex's words he comes with, "an open mind and with a willingness to learn and give his best." He is a teacher at heart with a commitment to quality teaching, pedagogy and growing excellent relationships with students to effect quality learning and achievement. He has worked in leadership roles and across various groups of teachers, educators and institutions to create networks and opportunities for professional relationships and capacity building.

Alex's most recent experience at Ormiston Senior College, with its focus on 'modern learning environments', is of keen interest to the Ministry as it engages in consultation, research, discussions and planning for the eventual construction of the new Apii Nikao School. Ormiston Senior College is a recently established 21<sup>st</sup> century school in NZ, where Alex was a founding member.

Kia orana Kōtou,

I am excited to be here in Rarotonga to work with the teachers and students. I have an English and Social Science background and have taught at Manurewa High School, Pakuaranga College and Ormiston Senior College in Auckland and the United Kingdom. My last school was a modern learning environment and I have learnt much about collaborative and personalised learning. I am as passionate about learning about your culture and experience as I am about sharing mine and I look forward to working with you. No reira, tena koutou katoa.



ALEXANDER DAVIS



MARIA TANNER

Also jumping on board with the MoE this month is Maria Tanner who joins the ITC division as the new Media and Communications Coordinator. Maria hails from the villages of Takitumu and Puaikura respectively, with roots from Atiu. Previously based as

a senior news reporter for Cook Islands Television Maria says she's, "right at home behind a camera and really enjoys the creative freedom that media and communications offers."

Maria has worked with a range of different platforms from print to radio, and of course television that has progressively, "given me the chance to brush shoulders and work with some really talented people within our region," she says.

More recently, she has just returned from a once in a lifetime opportunity spending the past three months in Indonesia representing the Cook Islands as the recent recipient of the Indonesian Arts and Cultural Scholarship (IACS). "Indonesia was crazy amazing but, I'm just as excited about being home and starting my new role with the MoE."

# WEP gives student confidence to grow



Tereora College student Chelsea Hunter talks about her time at CITC.

Students across the Cook Islands have been engaging in some exciting careers activities namely the Work Experience Programme. One such Tereora College student, in her own words, gives us an account of her placement with CITC.

"Kia orana my name is Chelsea Hunter. I am sixteen years of age and currently a student at Tereora College - Year 12. Part of my business study assignment is to complete work experience at one of the businesses on Rarotonga for 8 weeks. I was lucky enough to be given a position at CITC in Administration as a Receptionist.

This is my first experience in such a position and I thoroughly enjoyed it. In this position I answered and directed all incoming phone calls, took messages, sorted mail and greeted customers. I was also taught to receipt lay-by payments, hire purchase payments, account payments, adjust balances and cash up at the end of the day. I thoroughly enjoyed this position and the work that was involved.

My supervisor over this time was Angie who currently holds the position of CITC Receptionist. She has been an excellent teacher and really made a difference all round for me. I was very nervous and shy in the beginning, especially when answering the phone. However she consistently remained understanding and kind, which allowed me to gain a lot of confidence in this area. Angie was helpful and directive for me, while always remaining happy and caring to customers, which in turn made attending work experience something I really looked forward to.

Meitaki maata Angie and the Admin Crew; it has been a pleasure. Meitaki maata for training me to gain confidence in everything I do as a Receptionist especially dealing with those hard case customers.

I hope that I will be the next receptionist of CITC."

# Documentary Making at Apii Te Uki Ou



Apii Te Uki Ou Students interviewing former student and business owner Vaianna Dance.

Showcasing their school and its students, Sarah Reddish and her grade 3 and 4 classmates of Apii Te Uki Ou decided to interview successful past students to celebrate Apii Te Uki Ou's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Focussing on the areas of business, sport and community leadership, students developed a set of questions in class and then arranged to meet each person to conduct the interviews using Ministry of Education iPads.

Once back in class and with some help from senior student 'tech experts' the interview footage was edited into a 15 minute documentary. The documentary was screened to members of the school's community and was shared with other classes within the school. The completed documentary showcases three successful young Cook Islanders that today's students can look up to as role models.

Reddish said the activity was engaging for the students on several levels as they collaborated throughout the various steps of the project. They developed new skills in interview technique and film editing and even learnt to manage the unexpected challenges of outdoor interviewing such as planes flying overhead during interviews!

# App Spotlight



Multiflow

A game based app for practicing multiplication at all levels. Players' skills are challenged with short, fast paced games like Enter the Flow, Mad Minute and Reversals. The app remembers your results and adjusts the questions as you go. This means the questions you get wrong are the questions that get repeated more often next time, filling gaps in your knowledge. Also available are the companion apps Divisionflow and Flowplus (addition and subtraction).



Rocket Speller

A game based spelling app for early childhood and primary aged children that is fun, interactive and promotes self-directed skill progression. Students work through levels to help Zip the alien buy parts for his rocket. Once completed the rocket launches into the stars, conveniently giving the child a short break before starting the next level. At the easiest of the five levels, letter recognition is the focus and audible and visual hints are given. As students move through to more difficult levels, words get longer and fewer hints are given. Suitable for ages 3 to 12.



# Participation Programmes Approved



Gal Townsend (center) pictured with the Pacific group at the inter-regional meeting.

The first round of 2014/15 Participation Programmes have been approved. Participation Programmes are a source of small grants available to any organization to run a project that contributes to the goals of UNESCO. Projects can come from any of the UNESCO programs areas: education, science (including environment and marine), social science (including youth and sport), culture and communication (including media). This year UNESCO had a particular focus on gender and youth.

The Cook Islands is allowed to submit up to 7 projects for consideration. The projects go through a series of panels (both programme and regionally focused) before being selected. The three projects approved in the first round were:

## **"Networks – Leadership and Development for Girls, Women and Youth through Sport".**

This was a submission by Netball Cook Islands to run a range of community based events. The panel has asked permission to share this project with other UNESCO members as they consider it a great approach to getting women involved in the community (with the intention they carry that involvement beyond sport).

## **"Learning by Doing".**

This submission came from the Te Ipukarea Society (TIS) to set up and run an environmental youth camp. The considerable cost of set-up will be covered by this grant and the camp should then become self-sustaining in future years. TIS have been asked to liaise with the Ministry of Education on this and tie in some of the work of the Sandwatch Programme that has been done in schools and is part of UNESCO.

## **"Maroro – Flying Fish Spawning in Mitiaro".**

This was a submission from the Mitiaro Fishing Club to make a short documentary to record this phenomena of flying fish spawning which has been lost from other islands.

There will be a second round of approvals in September so we will remain hopeful that some of our remaining submissions may still be approved.

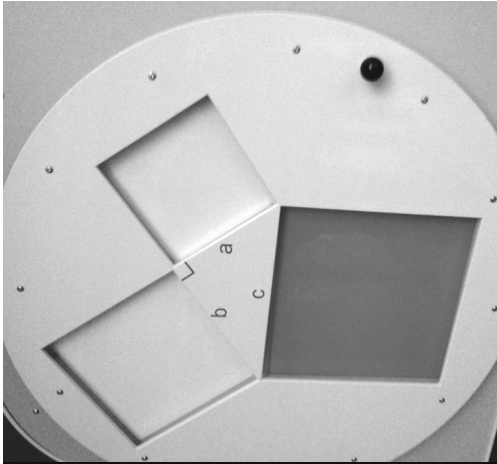
More UNESCO News

We should hear within the next few weeks that the nominations of three young women to attend the global youth meeting on Education for Sustainable Development at the end of the year in Japan have been accepted.

All the paper work to confirm last newsletter's story on the British Proclamation onto the Memory of the World register has now been received, and the framed copied can be sighted at the Library and Museum.

Gail Townsend recently returned from the inter-regional meeting of National Commissions which was particularly looking at the working processes between UNESCO headquarters and country National Commissions. Quite a bit more work to be done on this before they decide the way forward before the next round of budgets!

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$



The Pythagoras theorem wheel at the Centre for Teenagers in Astana demonstrates a new teaching approach to both teenagers and adults alike.

The "Centre for Teenagers" in Astana remained open one night so that people who were attending the inter-regional meeting of National Commissions could have a look around. The centre is a huge building that is open, generally free of charge, to teenagers who can participate in a wide range of activities. There was a gym, a pool, an ice rink, movie theatre and then amazing workshops with movie cameras and a range of digital technologies, art rooms, science labs, computer labs, it seemed never ending. Of course, Gail headed to the Science and Math's section which was full of interactive puzzles. This photo shows a great way of teaching Pythagoras' theorem - the circle turns and the blue liquid moves between the boxes so it shows that the volume of the square under 'a' plus the volume of the square under 'b' (the two sides) equals the volume of the square under 'c' (the hypotenuse). There were at least 30 different puzzles to try and yes, they did have to come and get her before the bus left.

## Mitiaro's Young Vet in the Making



TKU student Tiana Haxton (centre) is flanked by EHF staff enjoyed having extra hands onsite.

Te Kura Uira – Digital School of the Cook Islands continues to provide meaningful and rich learning experiences to its remote Cook Islands students. Year 9 student, Tiana Haxton of Mitiaro School, has recently wrapped up the final days of a clinical placement with the Cook Islands only animal clinic, Esther Honey. Tiana had been granted the opportunity to learn the ropes of the veterinary world and get hands on experience in a real 'work' setting supported by Esther Honey's Senior Veterinarian and Clinic Manager, Dr Amy Compton.

At only fourteen years old and fluent in both Cook Islands Maori and English, Tiana was recognised as having both the ability and drive to participate in a 5 week online Introduction to Vet Science Course. The course was offered by open learning course giant 'Coursera' and was facilitated by lecturers from Edinburgh University, England. TKU Principal Mrs Kristina Crouch spoke of the opportunity. "By enrolling Tiana in this course we achieved two things. We now know that our internet infrastructure can cope with the delivery of these courses and that many of our students from Apii Pa Enea (*outer island schools*) are both ready and able to access them. In Tiana's case we built a range of support scaffolds that ensured the course content linked to our context here in the Cooks. A clinical placement with Esther Honey made sense."

***"At only 14 years old, Tiana was recognized as having the ability and drive to participate."***

Weekly videos, webinars, quizzes and readings were provided as well as Skype Conferences with American born senior veterinarian Dr Compton. "She helped me stay on track," says Tiana in her appreciation speech. Compton, in turn spoke highly of Tiana's talents, "she's bright, smart and I enjoyed our weekly calls." The Ministry of Education's Itinerant Careers Councillor June Hosea was an invited guest at the farewell kaikai, she praised Tiana, Esther Honey Staff and Te Kura Uira, commending them on their efforts. Mr Christopher Story of TKU beamed with pride and expressed heartfelt thanks to all who made this experience possible. "Being able to speak both Maori and English will make her a great vet here in the Cook Islands. Being able to communicate with our people who need her help is an invaluable skill. I'm very proud of Tiana."



What's included

Get the latest Office, business-class email, document sharing, and web meetings—rich productivity services for modern users with the IT flexibility and control you need

Available 2014!

See your school for application forms

An outstanding ITC offer still stands for all Cook Islands students. The MoE, who partnered with global software giants Microsoft, have been and are still offering top of the line software product Office 365 Proplus free for all students.

A valuable take home resource, students are armed with the familiar and user friendly office suite which means access to the latest versions of Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and Publisher, OneNote, Access and Lync to put that finishing professional touch to projects and assignments.

The ITC department of the MoE is offering each individual student the chance to install Office 365 Proplus on up to any 5 devices. From tablet to laptop or android to iPhone, primary and secondary school students can install free Office 365 proplus to 5 chosen devices.

If you're a student or the parent/caregiver of a student and want to redeem your free Office 365 Proplus, contact your school or the MoE's ITC department on 29357 or email [ITCDirector@education.gov.ck](mailto:ITCDirector@education.gov.ck)





# Reading Programme Sounds out Rap Rhymes for Success

Over the last term, a group of Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 Nukutere students participated in a catch-up reading programme in order to put their new skills to use in all of their lessons. The students were identified as needing extra teaching in specific areas of reading. Once pinpointed, these students were taken out of class for a short time and given an intensive teaching lesson in the drill and practice of the skills used for reading. The programme also involves using games on the internet and on CD's, You Tube clips to practice letter sounds, and rap rhymes from YouTube. Students are tested every week to make sure that they are improving and so far the results are very encouraging! These young people have shown that they are motivated to learn and to improve their reading, and the progress they have already made is to be commended. The staff who have designed the 6-week program, Valarina Tokoara and Sister Margaret have provided a comprehensive and well-thought out unit plan which also has excellent monitoring systems included within it to track the students' achievements. Once the programme is finished, we will look forward to sharing further results!



Students use the Phonic Board to help them in their understanding of language and reading.

# Porokaramu Angaanga na te au Tamariki Apii Pa Enea Tonga

E 51 au tamariki apii pupu 12 e te 13 no roto mai i te Apii Koreti Araura, Apii Eneuamau e pera katoa te Apii Mangaia tei tere mai ki Rarotonga no te kimi oonu atuanga i te marama no runga i te oraanga angaanga moni. Kua iki teia au tamariki e toru ngai angaanga moni tei manakonakoia e ratou e ka inangaro ratou i te tomo ki roto me oti ta ratou Apii Tua Rua me kare ra Apii Tua Toru. Kua akanoonoo i reira a Hosea Vaine i te porokaramu no ratou katoatoa kia tau ki ta ratou ikianga. Ko te nuti tei tae mai ki iaia no runga i ta te tamariki e kite nei no runga i teia porokaramu, koia oki kua mataora ratou i te reira, e te kite katoa nei ratou i te puapinga o ta ratou e apii ia nei i roto i te are apii. E ravenga akamaroiroi teia i ta tatou au tamariki kia aruaru ratou i ta ratou apii, e kia makirikiri ratou no runga i te au mea te ka anoanoia e rauka'i ia ratou teia au ngai angaanga ta ratou e inangaro nei.

E manganui ua tu te au mea meitaki te ka rauka mai no roto i teia porokaramu no reira te rauka nei ia Hosea Vaine i te akameitaki i te au putuputuanga katoatoa tei ariki i ta tatou au tamariki, e no te tauturu maata ta ratou e oronga nei no te akatukatauanga i ta tatou anau no te au tuatau ki mua, i te pae o te oraanga angaanga moni.



Araura College WEP Students with their Supervising Teacher Ms Tareta Tom at the dedication of their WEP

# CITTI 2014 Prospectus Semester 2



Up coming available courses with CITTI offered throughout semester 2 July—November

Programme	Dates	Content	Fees (NZD)
<b>FIX MY OUTBOARD</b>	09-13 August	Learn to maintain your outboard motor engine to keep it in tiptop condition.	\$50
<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	September	Learn to give your yard a makeover by learning some basic skills in landscaping.	\$50
<b>FIX MY SMALL ENGINE</b>	October	Step by step guide to servicing your chainsaw, grass cutter or mower so that you can learn to service it or fix it.	\$50
<b>SCREEN PRINTING</b>	12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21 August 4.40pm-9pm	Learners to develop screen printing designs from creation right through to a finished product. A print/design is developed ready for imprinting on a prepared screen which will be screen printed on a range of fabrics. Fully booked for 2014 but we are taking enrolments for 2015.	\$50
<b>RANGARANGA</b>	19-28 August Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 5pm-7pm	Weaving kikau making items of significance in Cook Islands Culture. Different baskets from basic to complex.	\$20
<b>UKARERE</b>	16-25 September TBA	To learn to play a Cook Islands song using this musical instrument.	\$20

Enroll today! Phone: 22 628 / [www.facebook/cookislandscitti](https://www.facebook.com/cookislandscitti) / [www.citti.edu.ck](http://www.citti.edu.ck)

# Literacy & Numeracy Assessments for Adults



Literacy students of Mangaia will benefit from access to the Literacy and Numeracy Adults Assessment Tool.

The Cook Islands Tertiary Training Institute (CITTI) has recently gained NZQA accreditation and with this comes a number of benefits for educators and learners alike. One of these benefits is access to the *Literacy and Numeracy for Adults Assessment Tool*. This tool has been developed by New Zealand's Tertiary Education Commission and its use is a requirement for all tertiary institutes in New Zealand.

The tool is an online assessment which provides rich and reliable information on strengths and weaknesses in reading, writing, vocabulary, listening, speaking and numeracy skills. The assessments use adult contexts which is extremely important. In the past we have relied on assessments designed for children, which can be embarrassing for adult learners as well as not providing educators with reliable information.

*"If you are an adult looking at enrolling at CITTI, what does that mean for you?"*

So, if you are an adult learner looking at enrolling at CITTI what does this mean for you?

From 2015 onwards, all enrolling students will be required to have their literacy and numeracy levels assessed using the Assessment Tool. This will give their course facilitators information on whether or not they will need extra literacy or numeracy support during their course. It will also help the tutors to provide a programme of learning that embeds workplace literacy and numeracy into their courses.

The fact that CITTI will be using an assessment tool which is being used in NZ is also of benefit. It means that if students from here end up moving to NZ, there will be consistency across how they have been assessed and what literacy and numeracy support they have been provided with. This is important whether you will be taking up further study or seeking employment.

## From the Tutor

CITTI Mangaia is already running a literacy skills programme with industry-based students who wish to improve writing and grammar skills that will complement their report-writing skills. Access to the literacy and numeracy assessment will be extremely useful in tailoring an appropriate programme for this group of learners. Their first cohort of four students, all middle managers from specialized trade-skill areas, are part of the programme. "The programme model we are using was adopted from the programme used by the Corrections Education programme run at Arorangi Prison in Rarotonga," says CITTI Mangaia tutor. "This has been contextualized to fit the aim and goals of our students. We are focusing on Grammar, Vocabulary, Paragraph Writing, Planning to Write and Reading." The programme is designed to be fun, engaging with a few online activities that are sure to grab these students' attention.