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# Pānui | Newsletter

HE PĀNUI MŌ TE HAPORI: CELEBRATING WHĀNAU, HONOURING JOURNEYS, SUPPORTING SUCCESS

## AT A GLANCE

- Whānau Dinner Event Recap: Celebrations, Connections & Culture
- Hui ā Kura Years 12 & 13s: Inspiring rangatahi Māori
- First-Year Check-In: Supporting new taura for a smooth transition
- C.O.A.C.H Wānanga: Confidence, Connection & Career Pathways

## Te Timatanga



### A New Academic Year

In January 2025, 61 taura from Whakapiki Ake enrolled on a health-related programme in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences: 40 in the Certificate in Health Sciences, 11 in the Bachelor of Health Sciences, 9 in Biomedical Science First Year, and 1 in Bachelor of Nursing. This significant achievement reflects years of hard work, commitment and engagement across the Whakapiki Ake [pipeline](#) (Hui ā Kura, Hui ā Rohe, M.A.S.H. and C.O.A.C.H.).

### Whānau Hand Over Dinner — February 17

As taura began this new chapter, it was important to celebrate. On February 17th, over 170 whānau, taura, and staff gathered at the Arts and Education Building (B201) for the annual Whānau Hand Over Dinner. This event marks the handover of taura from Whakapiki Ake to MAPAS and Hikitia Te Ora, celebrating their achievements and preparation to transition into tertiary study. [See more on the event](#)

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**“It was an amazing evening, the support, the aroha, the sense of belonging. We’re excited for what’s ahead.”**

— Whakapiki Ake Whānau

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**“It’s a great function, good interaction between taura and nice food.”**

— Faculty of Medical Health Sciences Staff

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“

**“I felt proud and lucky to be a part of this. The dinner was perfect”**

— Whakapiki Ake Taura

”



📸 A full house at the 2025 Whānau Hand Over Dinner

## MAPAS Wānanga — February 18 - 21

Following the dinner, taira attended the MAPAS Wānanga in Ngāruawāhia, an excellent opportunity to extend Whakawhanaungatanga with their MAPAS peers and meet others across the various FMHS programmes. Taira participated in kapa haka, sport, pō whakanui, workshops, and whakawātea. They heard from kaumātua, tuākana, and academic staff, and received practical advice for Semester One.

The wānanga helped build a strong sense of belonging and laid the foundation for taira to begin Semester One with confidence and cultural safety. Catch the highlights from the 2025 MAPAS Wānanga here. [🔗 See more on the event.](#)

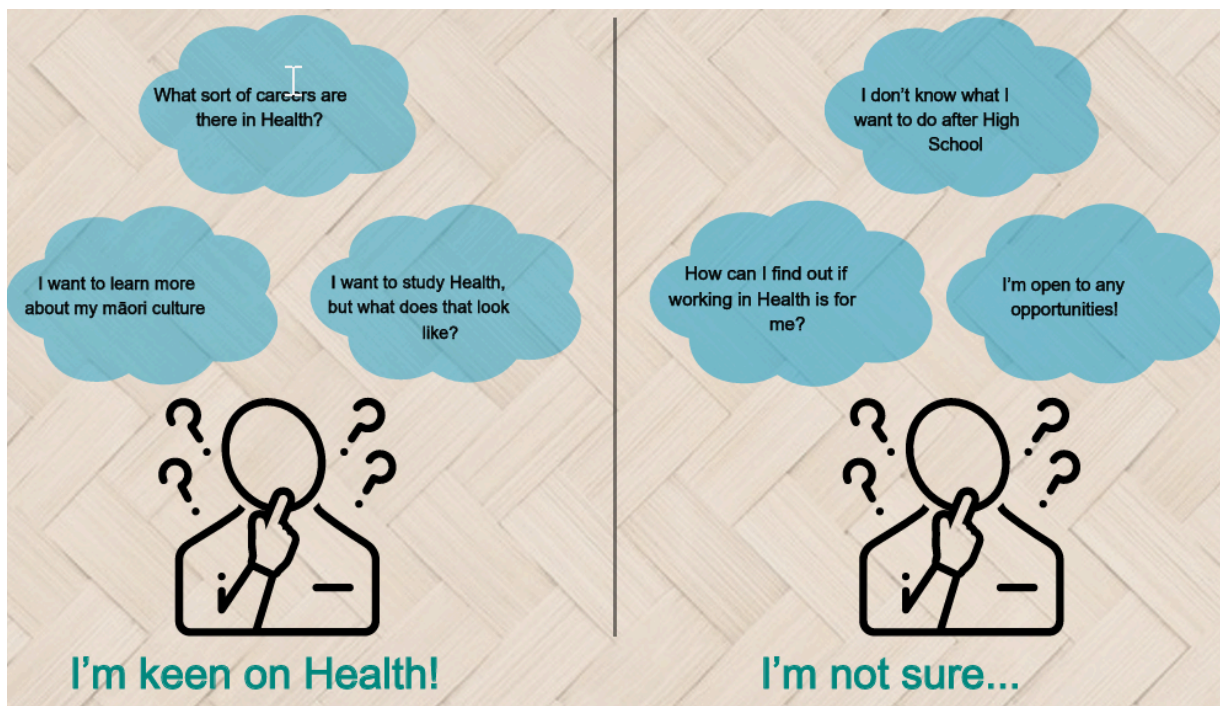
## Focusing on Gen Z: Hitting the Road for Hui ā Kura Yr 12 & 13

Between February and March, we visited 105 schools across 8 regions, connecting with over 255 Year 12 and 13 rangatahi Māori through Hui ā Kura. These visits identify rangatahi who take at least two Pure Sciences — Biology, Chemistry, or Physics — to keep their study options open to enter health pathways. The core focus of the presentations is the applications to Year 12, [M.A.S.H.](#) (Māori Achieving Success in Health) and Year 13, [C.O.A.C.H.](#) (Creating Opportunities for A Career in Health) Kaupapa. Across the motu, we've seen taira gain confidence, ask bold questions, and take the first step in imagining a future in health. Kudos to our rangatahi.

### Key Fact: We need more rangatahi Māori participating and achieving in the Pure Sciences

In 2023, the Year 13 Māori headcount for Chemistry 91389 (internal achievement standard) was 480. Of this, 465 (97%) were assessed, 174 (37%) Achieved, 118 (25%) Merit, 96 (21%) Excellence, and 77 (17%) Not Achieved. Compared to Chemistry 91392 (external achievement standard), 203 of 432 (47%) were assessed, with 75 (37%) Not Achieved, 68(34%) Achieved, 44 (22%) Merit and 16 (8%) Excellence. For Physics 91525 (internal), 653 of 640 (71%) were assessed, with 115 (18%) Not Achieved, 248 (39%) Achieved, 137 (21%) Merit and 140 (22%) Excellence. In Physics 91523 (external), 682 of 438 (64%) were assessed, with 113 Not Achieved (26%), 171 (39%) Achieved, 119 (27%) Merit and 35 (8%) Excellence. [🔗 See more about Hui ā Kura](#)

More Māori in Health means more rangatahi in Bio, Chem, and Physics.



## Semester One Check-Ins

Our Semester One academic check-in with Whakapiki Ake tertiary taura is about whakawhanaungatanga. Creating space for reflection, cultural connection, and support as taura settle into their university journey. This allowed taura to step away from their timetable's academic rigour, albeit a moment to relax and have kaitahi.

Overall, taura felt they have achieved their priority goals to date and have a clear idea of their health careers and study options. This is reflected in the word cloud captured below.

### UoA netball team



The check-in also reminded us of the importance of strengthening visibility and connection between Whakapiki Ake, MAPAS, and broader support systems. We're committed to strengthening what works and creating spaces where taura feel culturally connected and confident. [See more from our Check-Ins on Instagram Reels](#)



# Kei Te Haere Tonu – The Kaupapa Continues



## End of Term 1 & Beginning of Term 2 Updates

- Applications closing for C.O.A.C.H. & M.A.S.H on the 17 April – [Find out more](#)
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - Mid-Semester Check-In on Thursday, April 11
  - C.O.A.C.H. starts on the 15th-18th May at Waipapa Marae
  - June 12, our focus shifts to Te Whē for Year 11s in Auckland
  - M.A.S.H starts on the 1st-4th July at Waipapa Marae
- **Want to be part of C.O.A.C.H. or M.A.S.H.? Haven't attended Hui a Kura?**
  - 📅 Online Zui: Thursday, April 3, 2025, Email: [whakapikiake@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:whakapikiake@auckland.ac.nz)

# Stay Connected



## Noho Hononga

Keen to see more? Follow [@whakapikiake](#) for reels, taura kōrero, and real-time kaupapa updates. Explore more, register, or get involved at [whakapikiake.com](http://whakapikiake.com). Got stories or mahi to share? Let us know – we love highlighting what's happening across the motu.

## Register with Whakapiki Ake



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