

# Te Kura o Mimitangiātua

Where the Country, Coast and Classroom meet we

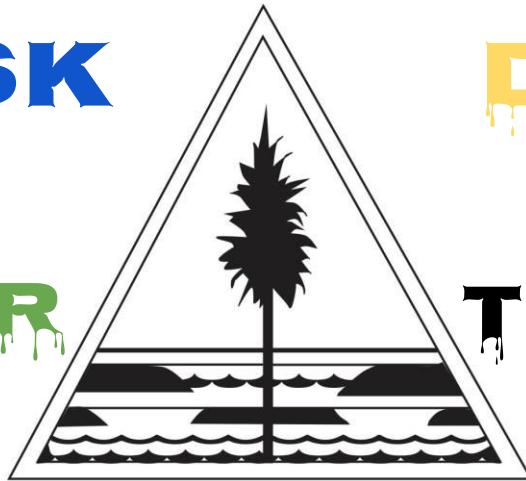
**THINK**

**ASK**

**DO**

**DISCOVER**

**TOGETHER**



**MIMI SCHOOL**

**INFORMATION BOOKLET**

*'Kia Manawanui Kia Manawa Piharau - Keep Honour  
Bright*

MIMI SCHOOL  
URENUI, TARANAKI

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# *Mimitangiatura School*

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*"The school's learning and teaching environments are characterised by respect, cooperation and teamwork"*





# Principal's Welcome

Tēnā koutou katoa, nau mai haere mai ki Te Kura o Mimitangiatua ki raro i te korowai o Mounga Taranaki. E rere ana te awa o Mimitangitua ki te moana o Te Wairoa. E noho ana te kura ki runga i te whenua o Te Kekerewai, te hāpū o Ngāti Mutunga.



Kia ora and a very warm welcome to Mimitangiatua. I feel extremely lucky and privileged to be working collaboratively with the Board, Staff and Whānau to lead teaching and learning at Mimitangiatua. We are a small U2 rural country school and currently operate three classrooms catering for the learning and social needs of students from year one to year six.

Our school values **Ngākau Māhaki - Respect**, **Kia Manawanui - Perseverance**, **Kia Maia - Courage**, **Mana Motuhake - Independence** underpin all that we do across our kura and the curriculum.

Our kura is a place of feeling that is strong in manaakitanga, whakawhanaungatanga and kotahitanga. It is where individuals are encouraged and supported to go outside their comfort zone socially, physically and mentally.

A 'give it a go' attitude is promoted throughout the school. We work tirelessly to provide the best possible opportunities, experience and outcomes for our ākonga. We want all our learners to leave Mimitangitua with memorable experiences during their primary years.

At Mimi School we work closely with other schools in the area to provide the students with a wide range of learning opportunities. Please read more about us and if you have the opportunity feel free to come and visit.

## Ngā manaakitanga ki a koutou

### Tiaki Pokere

Tumuaki o Te Kura o Mimitangiatua  
Principal of Mimi School



Ko te ahurei o te tamaiti, Arahia o tātou mahi  
Let the uniqueness of the child guide our work

# Why enrol with Mimitangiatua kura:

Our School Board and staff endeavour to make your child's years at Mimitangiatua as successful as possible, by providing a proficient learning environment enabling students to have a good sense of belonging, ownership of their learning leadership opportunities, building relationships with peers and teachers and a good sense of wellbeing. We aim to cater for diverse learning needs for all students.

Our school has many activities and programmes to extend children's learning and advance their education. Students are encouraged to embrace every learning opportunity available to them and participate fully in all aspects of school life.

Parents and caregivers are very welcome at our school. We are very aware the link between home, school and the community is essential to help students achieve the learning goals and achieving the skills with confidence.

There are many opportunities for parents and caregivers to support the school by providing transport for school trips, coaching and assisting with sports teams, cultural activities, sharing your knowledge, areas of expertise and helping with the Home and School committee or our School Board.

Janine Vollebregt  
Presiding Member

**Is committed to giving effect** to Te Reo me ona Tikanga where we ensure it has a place that is pono and tika (true & valued) across Mimitangiatua.

**Values whakawhanaungatanga.** Being a rural school, we enjoy the atmosphere of a large and caring w'ānau (family) where everybody is known to each other and people are valued individually.

**Is committed to ensuring that Kotahitanga is valued** where all stakeholders work collaboratively to see all ākonga shine in all areas across the curriculum.

**Believes Manaakitanga is important** where we respect and uphold the mana and dignity of our whānau, ākonga, staff and wider community.

**Ensures that Kaitiakitanga is** at the forefront where we support and engage in a range of projects and/or experiences that uplifts the protection of our taiao. While also displaying kaitiakitanga towards our kura too.

**Is committed to ensuring ICT has a place,** with chromebooks/iPads being used as a tool to support learning across the curriculum.

**Aspires to high standards of teaching and learning.** We work closely with our community to provide the best education possible where tamariki are supported, encouraged and challenge to do their personal best.

**Is committed to Education Outside of the Classroom (EOTC).** We integrate EOTC opportunities across all curriculum areas where appropriate.

**Has close relationships with our neighbouring schools.** Well organised cluster sporting and cultural events are held each term.

**Values the development of leadership** where staff are supported to grow in an area of interest through a range of leadership skills and PLD. .

**Is committed to children starting school well,** with pre-school sessions run each week to allow smooth transition to school for our younger students.

**Has experienced, skilled, and passionate teachers.**

We value our teaching staff highly and encourage them to unleash their passion for learning onto our students.

**Maintains an open door policy** by encouraging families to feel welcome to come in and see what their children are up to at school, as well as ask any questions they may have.

*Ka haere te mātatahi, ka noho te mātāputu  
Youth rushes in where age deliberates*

# *About Te Kura o Mimitangiatua*



Ko Taranaki te mounga,  
Ko Mimitangiatua te awa  
Ko Tokomaru te waka  
Ko Ngāti Mutunga te Iwi  
Ko Te Kekerewai te hapu  
Ko Urenui te Marae  
Ko Mimitangiatua te kura



## *Our History*

In 1911 an application for the establishment of a school at Mimi was made. During this time there were 36 children of school age. The Taranaki Education Board made an application December 1913, which saw the completion of the new building in 1914 and opened with 18 pupils present. The early years of Mimi School were dominated by establishing a sustainable school facility. Breaking grounds into appropriate playing areas, and finding a reliable water source, which is still used today. Mimi is the shortened nickname for the river.

## *What's in the name Mimitangiatua*

The full name of our awa (river) is Mimitangiatua. The best way to pronounce this word is to break it into its three parts mimi-tangi-atua. Literally translated these words mean water, tears and gods. As the story of local mana whenua go, this name comes from a prominent māori leader who resided along the awa, but is also from the sound that is made by the sea meeting the land at the river mouth. As anyone who has spent any amount of time in the area will know, the chorus of the sea echoing up the valley from the Mimitangiatua Estuary is one of the most treasured aspects about daily life at the school.

## *Mimi School*

Mimi School is a small rural school situated six kilometres north of Urenui, in close proximity to the sea on the breathtaking North Taranaki coast. Mimi School maintains high standards and expectations. As a staff we all work together to ensure that this is achieved. We know that your association with our school will be a happy one because we are committed to fostering and maintaining great relationships through open and honest communication. We are pleased that you have shown an interest in our school. We look forward to getting to know you better and welcoming you to our family here. We believe that, by working together, we can give your children the support and encouragement that will help them to thrive.

## *Our Moto - Keep Honour Bright*

The school motto has been in existence since before anyone can remember. Today it is kept alive through the presentation of a Leadership and Empathy trophy that is awarded each year to a senior student who demonstrates the kind of qualities and attributes that this motto seeks to grow in our akonga/students.

*“Leadership has collaboratively developed the school's charter and vision by gathering the perspectives of its community”*

# *About Te Kura o Mimitangiātua Ko Tokomaru te Waka*

Tokomaru te waka

Tokomaru is the canoe

Tamaariki te tangata

Tamariki is the captain

Rakeiora te tohunga

Rakeiora is the navigator

Tokowha nga iwi i puta i te waka tipuna e  
waka

Four iwi formed from this

Four iwi are: Ngāti Tama, Ngāti Mutunga, Te Atiawa, Ngāti Maruwharanui

***Mimi School is lucky to be situated in the heart of two closely related tribes with two marae near the school.***

**Davis McClutchie pupil 1951-59 explains.**

Our local district is divided into two sub tribes; These are Ngāti Tama in the north, whose boundaries are at Whakarewarewa on the banks of the Papatiki Stream, about half way up Pukearuhe Road and the Mohakatino River. The other tribe is Ngāti Mutunga whose boundary runs from the Papatiki Stream to a point south of Onaero River named Te Rau o te Huia.

In the early 1820s these two tribes joined forces with Te Rauparaha who had left his ancestral lands at ar with the Waikato Māori. When Te Rauparaha arrived in Taranaki he was koki Valley. It was during this time that the battle of Motunui took place and a large war party from Waikato. This battle took place in front of the Okoki e for the and the iup

Iwi boundaries



Poipoia te kākano kia puāwai  
Nurture the seed so that it will blossom



# *About Te Kura o Mimitangiātua*

## *Ko Tokomaru te Waka*

### *Poutama Whiria*

This adze was brought on the Tokomaru waka from Hawaiki with the ancestors of Ngāti Tama, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Maru and Te Atiawa about 45 generations ago. Poutama Whiria was used in the carving of the Tokomaru waka, but was lost for around 400 years until being found by Vincent Wells at Pukearuhe in 1923.

It was said that before the adze Poutama would be found, a smaller adze would first be discovered.

This came to pass prior to Vin chancing upon Poutama at Pukearuhe. Queenie McClutchie had a dream about Poutama before it was found and was able to describe it to her father, Te Kapinga.

As descendants of Tokomaru we are grateful to Vin for returning the adze to us.

Today the adze can be seen on display at the New Plymouth's Puke Ariki Museum alongside the anchor stone from Tokomaru. 'Te Punga o Tokomaru'



*He rau ringa e oti ai*  
*Many hands make light work*

# *About Te Kura o Mimitangiātua*

## *Staff*

Tumuaki - Principal  
Office  
Kowhai Room  
Matai Room  
Rimu Room  
Reading Recovery  
Learning Coaches  
Cleaner

Tiaki Pokere  
Connie O'Brien  
Gaye Osborne & Karen Gillett  
Tara Blyde  
Alisha Allen  
Frances Butler  
Beverly Wilson, Lisa McClutchie  
Linda McGrath & Dawn Brendon

## *Board of Trustees*

Presiding Member  
Finance  
Property  
Health and Safety  
Staff  
Staff Rep  
Tumuaki - Principal

Janine Vollebregt  
Andrew Brendon  
Greg Gillett  
Rene Radcliffe  
Anne-Maree Mckay  
Alisha Allen  
Tiaki Pokere



*“Mā mua ka kite a muri, mā muri ka ora a mua  
Those who lead give sight to those who follow,  
those who follow give life to those who lead”*



# Our Vision and Teaching Beliefs

Where the Classroom, Coast and Classroom meet we,  
**Think, Ask, Do, Discover, Together.**

*How do we believe ākonga learn best?*



- ❑ When ākonga interests culture and personal lives are acknowledged in the learning environment.
  - ❑ **When they have a strong sense of belonging.**
- ❑ When they feel valued safe and heard.
  - ❑ **When relationships with ākonga and whānau are positive and inclusive of culture and identity.**
- ❑ When opportunities to reflect and evaluate are incorporated in learning programs authentically.
  - ❑ **When they are encouraged to make Informed decisions and take action based on reflection.**
- ❑ When they know WHY and understand the purpose of the learning.
  - ❑ **When productive learning partnerships are formed**
- ❑ When learning encompasses the country, coast and classroom (community involvement and local environment a priority)
  - ❑ **When connections are made within and across learning areas (clear learning progressions)**
- ❑ When learning is culturally connected
  - ❑ **When learning is authentic and connected to our vision.**
- ❑ Planning and programmes ensure that ākonga are given multiple opportunities and ways to engage with and practice new learning across different contexts.

*“Mimitangiātua is working towards achieving equitable and excellent outcomes for all ākonga”*

# *Ngā Uara o Mimitangiatua*

## *Our Values*

*Ngākau Māhaki - Respect, Kia Maia - Courage*

*Mana Motuhake - Independence, Kia Manawanui - Perseverance*

As school whānau we want all our tamariki to live and breathe the values of **Ngākau Māhaki - Respect, Kia Maia - Courage, Mana Motuhake - Independence, and Kia Manawanui - Perseverance**. By instilling these important and strong values our tamariki will thrive in everything that they do both within and outside the school environment. Although we are not a PB4L school, we aspire to build the foundation that positive behaviour can be learned and challenging behaviours can be unlearned. We will ensure that our values are interwoven in everything we do as a kura from the learning environment, during break times, in the community and across all curriculum areas.

### *Teaching our school values*

Students at Te Kura o Mimitangiatua are scaffolded and guided to work collaboratively and cooperatively with one another through a range of learning opportunities.

#### **For Example:**

- Peer, group, whole class discussions
- Bus Stop activities
- Role Plays
- Jingles/Raps
- Unpacking quotes
- Inspirational videos
- Collaborative google slides



These different examples of learning will develop positive social skills, how ākonga interact with one another and strengthen meaningful relationships between learners, staff and whānau.

### *Expectation of Teaching our school values*

At the beginning of each day our school values/school wide goals will be explicitly taught for 15 minutes based on our weekly focus. Our values at the start of each school year are unpacked to ensure our ākonga know how they can achieve and uplift each value across a range of settings. School-wide goals will be selected using our behaviour data (where appropriate) and the needs of our tamariki.

*If a student struggles to read, we teach. If a student struggles with mathematics, we teach.... If a student struggles with behaviour we teach.....*



# Learning Programmes

## Class sizes/composition

At Mimitangiatua we aim to keep our class sizes small. In 2023 we are running 3 classes with each currently having 20 or less learners. This provides greater 1-1 and small group teacher time. We pride ourselves in maintaining small class sizes.



## Learning Coaches/Kaiawhina

Beverly supports our ākonga in a range of interventions to ensure our tamariki are well supported, pushed, challenged and strive to achieve success from; early words, phonics, small group reading, 1-1 reading and oral language for example. Both kaiako and Beverly collaboratively identify learners who require extra support to ensure they are set up for success.

## Reading Recovery

At Mimitangiatua we are lucky to provide reading recovery support. Mrs Butler does an amazing job with our ākonga who are identified. We currently fund Frances to work an hour a day Monday - Friday with 3 tamariki.



Whaia te mātauranga hei oranga mō koutou  
Seek after learning for the sake of your  
wellbeing.



# Learning Programmes



## Kapa Haka

Every Friday, Matua Shane Cassidy supports both Mimitangiatua and Urufi with kapa haka here at Mimitangiatua. Waiata, patere, and haka are composed using the history of our area within Ngāti Mutunga.



## External Programmes

A variety of external programmes contribute to the development of knowledge, skills, good health, and well being.



Whāia te iti kahurangi, ki te tuohu koe me he maunga teitei.

Pursue that which is precious, and do not be deterred by anything less than a lofty mountain.

# Information for Parents & Caregivers

Mā whero mā pango ka oti ai te mahi  
With red and black the work will be complete

The following information will provide you with some understanding of our kura. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with the school to come in and further discuss any areas of interest to you.

We do recommend that our prospective students and their families meet with the principal prior to enrolment. This way we ensure you have the information required to make an informed decision about an enrolment for your child and we can support a smooth transition into our school.

## Attendance

Our attendance registers are electronic and are completed in the morning and afternoon.

Students are required to be in class at 8.55am to ensure they are marked present for the day.

In the event students will be late or absent, we ask our families to contact the school office so this can be noted on the attendance register.

Students who remain absent without explanation will be identified as truant. If absenteeism continues then a referral will be lodged with the Truancy Service to locate and support the students return to school.

## School Hours

8.55am School begins  
11am Morning Tea  
11:30am middle block  
12.40pm Lunch  
1:30pm last block  
3pm School finishes

## Automatic Payments

Automatic payments set up with our school is common practice for our families to assist with contributions for sports fees and trips, and end of year camps/activities.

## School Fees

Mimitangiatua School proudly maintains a fee-free education! There are no annual fees or 'donations' requested for our children to attend our school. We do charge for the direct costs of stationery, sports and camp as they arise.

## Reporting to Parents & Caregivers

Our families are welcome to meet with the teacher and/or principal throughout the school year to discuss academic attainment and achievement.

We will continue to review our methods of communication to meet the needs of our community.

We deliberately plan incremental opportunities of communicating this achievement with our families while students are enrolled with us.

**Term 1**  
Learning Conferences  
(with student & family)

**Term 3**  
Learning conferences

## Home and School

The Home and School is open for anyone to join. Their purpose is to help organise our school social fundraising events through the year

## Summer Swimming

Mimitangiatua is one of very few schools around Aotearoa who still have their pool operational. Our pool is open from Labour weekend through to the end of the easter holidays. Keys are available for purchase at a small cost. Tamariki have timetabled swimming everyday too during term 1 & 4.

## Smoke-Free School Policy

Our school is SMOKEFREE and follows the Smoke Free Environments Act 1990. Our school has in place a smoke - free policy which maintains that our school buildings and grounds are smoke - free.

## Board of Trustees

This is the community elected governing body of our school. Elections are held every three years. Meetings are held once a month and are advertised in the newsletter. All are welcome to attend. Copies of minutes, financial statements and the school charter are displayed in the staffroom or held in the school office for parents to read.

BoT Policies, Procedures, and the school charter are available online also at [www.mimi.school.nz](http://www.mimi.school.nz) and School Docs (BOT policies)

## Friday School Lunch Day

Most Fridays we place orders with Urenui Four Square. A price list is available at the office. Pupils are required to bring their money in a named envelope on Friday mornings.

# Information for Parents & Caregivers

## ❑ Accidents and Sickness

It is inevitable that there will be accidents, or that a student will fall sick at school. There are facilities for ill children at school. However, in more serious cases the first priority is to get the child's parents or caregivers to collect the child. If that is not possible it is the school's responsibility to care for the student. In the case of a serious accident, the BoT will be informed in order to attempt to reduce the risk of future accidents.

## ❑ Homework

Homework is seen as a consolidation and extension of your child's learning. In the junior class, homework will take the form of daily home readers and spelling words. Senior students are encouraged to read daily and practice the recall of basic multiplication facts.

## ❑ Tainui Cluster

Mimi School is part of the Tainui Cluster. This cluster has a rich history of working and playing together and we often join in with this cluster for events as well as teacher training and professional support. Schools in our cluster are; Mimi, Uruti, Ahititi, Mokau, and Whareorino.

## ❑ Uniform

At times our students are required to wear a sports uniform. Our uniform is made up of a red T-Shirt and black shorts. The school provides the shirt, while children are expected to wear black shorts. Each of the sports shirts has a number. We ask that parents please wash the clothing their child is issued with at any event and return it to school promptly.

## ❑ Scholastic Book Club

Families are able to purchase books through the Scholastic Book Club which usually runs two offers per term. Leaflets giving details of available books are sent home and closing dates for orders are published in the school newsletter. Online ordering is available as well.

## ❑ Religious Instruction (Launchpad)

Religious Instruction is carried out at Mimi School each week for half an hour in each classroom by visiting instructors. The programme is non-denominational and instructors work to different syllabus such as 'Religion for Life', or 'Connect'. Instructors follow a 'Code of Conduct' agreed to by the School Trustees Association. Parents have the right to have their children excused by request. Exempt children are supervised.

## ❑ NPDC Library Bus

Puke Ariki provides an excellent service to our community through running a library bus out to us every two weeks. The library bus outside our kura for one hour. At this time the students and staff visit the bus to borrow books. Books are issued for four weeks at which time they need to be returned either to the bus, or any public library. It is our policy that students leave their borrowed books in the classroom. However, if families wish for their children to bring borrowed books home, please make arrangements with your child's teacher.

## ❑ Library

Our kaiako are encouraged to use our Library with our tamariki throughout the year as there is so much valuable learning that can happen.

## ❑ Dental Care

A local dental nurse will make contact with you about appointment times for your children during the year. Our children presently receive their dental care from Manukorihi Community Dental Clinic, 754 8077

## ❑ Bus Transport

To be eligible for Ministry assisted bus transport, children must live beyond 3.2km of the school. Please enquire at the school if you wish to use this service.

## ❑ Stationery

Students are issued with stationery at the beginning of each year and as the need arises. An account is sent home at the beginning of each term.

## ❑ Parent Assistance

A school is always in need of help. Cars are needed for sport and educational trips. Helpers are needed to help coach and manage sports teams or provide supervision on camp. Our teachers like to have parents help in the classroom at different times.

If you would like to help at the school in some way, please let your child's teacher know. If you have any queries or problems, let us know.



# Information for

## Parents & Caregivers

### Special

#### Missing Clothing/Lost Property

We never cease to be amazed at the unclaimed, unnamed children's clothing left at school. Please arrange for all of your children's clothing to be named clearly and ask to see any unclaimed clothing periodically. Don't assume that your child will recognise their own clothing.

#### ❑ Newsletter

The school sends out a regular newsletter. Check with your child each Thursday for the school newsletter as it is an important means of communication. In addition to our weekly newsletter, we also send out a community newsletter each term. The newsletter is also available on our school website, Hero and our Facebook page.

#### ❑ Outdoor Education

Frequently our classes are involved in educational visits, performances, and cultural or sporting events. A permission slip is included in your child's enrolment pack. This covers all of your child's trip outside of school. Parents are often asked for help by providing transport for such events.

#### ❑ Principal's Open Door

You are always welcome to meet with our principal to discuss any school matter in confidence. It is vital that your views, opinions, and concerns are heard to ensure that we have an effective school that continues doing its best work for your child. Just keep in mind that Tiaki is in the classroom on Monday's and Friday's. We ask that meetings are avoided before 3.15pm. This allows Tiaki to focus on teaching and learning in our classes. Please do not hesitate to ring Tiaki or Connie.

## School Events &

### Programmes

#### ❑ Pet Day

During September or October a Pet Day is held each year where children bring their pets (calves, lambs, goats, chickens, etc). This is an important part of our special rural character and one which we value highly. Indoor activities include displays of work and judging of various items prepared by students. Certificates are awarded and we encourage parental support on this day.

#### ❑ Tainui Swimming Sports

Hosted by Whareorino School at the Waitara Pools, all levels from our cluster schools participate in this event.

#### ❑ Tainui Athletics

Hosted by Ahititi School, all levels from across our cluster schools participate in this event.

#### ❑ Matariki Celebration

Hosted by Mokau School, this event sees all cluster schools and levels participate in different activities relating to Matariki and Te Ao Māori.

#### ❑ Speech Competition

Hosted by Whareorino School, this competition is open to the top two students in each of the senior age groups of our cluster schools.

#### ❑ Tainui Cross Country

Hosted by Mimi School, all levels from our cluster schools participate in this event.

#### ❑ Tabloids Sports Day

Hosted by Uruti School, all levels participate in this fun sports day where children are encouraged to participate in mixed age groupings.



“Wānau and community are actively encouraged to be involved in the life and work of the school”

# Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)

The school has established a strong tradition in this field. We are fortunate in having enthusiastic teachers and supportive parents who bring this about. We try to keep contribution costs to a minimum by organising fundraising activities during the year. The success of these depends on parent involvement. The school has a camp area on site that is suitable for initial Outdoor Education experiences.

During their time at Mimitangiatura students will enjoy a week of activities within the Taranaki province. The following year all classes plan and attend a camp outside of the region. This camp destination is determined in Term One with input from the parents and caregivers of each class.



He rau ringa e oti ai  
Many hands make light work



# ***B45 Pre School Transition to School***

The transition from Early Childhood to Primary School, and the first few years are crucial to success in education. In order to make this transition as smooth as possible for families, we run weekly pre-school sessions on Friday mornings.

During these sessions, the children are taken through a variety of activities that are specifically designed to develop early literacy and numeracy skills.

We encourage parents to be full participants in these sessions as their children are introduced to early school routines like mat times and reading sessions, counting, movement, and the all important 'book bag'.

In addition to these sessions, four-year-old children are provided with our Pre-School B45 bags that are full of activities and resources that support children in the development of the skills that they will need to become competent readers, writers, and mathematicians (and let's not forget that they're also a lot of fun for the kids).



*Poipoia te kākano kia puāwai  
Nature the seed so that it will blossom*



*Kia Manawanui Kia Manawa Piharau - Keep Honour Bright*



**MIMI SCHOOL**

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URENUI, TARANAKI

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