



PLANTING DAY REPORT 2026
Kaiwaka School
with Fonterra
and Jacqui Morritt



Together, we grew and planted 851 native plants!

Thank you for your commitment to environmental education in action!
Together, by growing and planting native trees we are actively involved in protecting
and restoring a more resilient environment.





PLANTING DAY SUMMARY:

9 Jun 2026 at 811 Port Albert Road Wellsford

We had a beautiful day for our planting day with the wonderful students at Kaiwaka School. The trees were in great condition and keen to be in the ground for their forever home. The site was a stream edge on a Fonterra Dairy farm. The site was so well prepared and set up for our successful planting day with much thanks for our lovely landowners Jacqui and Robbie.

The students did such a great job of managing the mud and water and did a great job planting, they should be very proud of their great mahi and the magic of the newly planted site that will be a legacy to them for years to come. We can look forward to seeing this planting area grow into established native bush and create a unique forest corridor. The farm waterways will now be a bit more resilient to erosion and sediment because of your great efforts and care for the environment.

Thanks to Ben from Fonterra for providing the planters with bbq sausages for lunch which was much appreciated by all.

TfS Facilitator: Frankie Hofland
48 Students
15 Parents, Landowners & Others
Waterway planted: 151m and 105m

Teacher: Nik Massey
3 School Staff
1 Sponsors







71 x Mānuka

(Leptospermum scoparium)

Manuka is great for restoration projects as it is common through NZ, hardy and tolerant of a range of habitats from wetlands to dry slopes. It is a good nursery crop, food source for birds and insects and honey produced from its flowers has strong antibacterial qualities.



188 x Karamū

(Coprosma robusta)

Common throughout NZ and easily recognized by its bright orange ripe fruit. This bushy shrub grows to 6m tall and provides food for birds in winter. It easily self-seeds which makes it a great plant for many restoration projects.



80 x Māhoe

(Whiteywood/Melicytus ramiflorus)

Mahoe is a fast-growing small tree, common throughout NZ. It grows up to 10m with distinct serrated leaf margins and violet to dark purple berries in summer which birds are fond of. Mahoe has a high tensile roots system making it an ideal stabilizer, but it doesn't like frost or strong winds.



200 x Tī Kōuka

(Cabbage Tree / Cordyline australis)

One of our most iconic native plants. Ti Kouka trees prefer open wet areas and swamps, and their large taproot helps stop soil erosion. Flowers are enjoyed by insects and birds. It has the fastest growing root system over 5 years than any other species. It belongs to the lily family.



12 x Hebe

(Koromiko/ Veronica species)

There are many different native hebe varieties, they often have abundant flowers which attract many native insect species who are fond of its nectar and pollen.



180 x Harakeke

(Flax / Phormium tenax)

Found throughout NZ, flax grows well in a wide range of habitats but favours wetlands and open riversides. Its flower stalks can grow up to 4m tall, and tui and bellbird are especially fond of the nectar.



120 x Upokotangata

(Giant Umbrella Sedge / Cyperus ustulatus)

Abundant throughout NZ, it grows well in damp open areas like stream sides or wetlands where it makes great nesting habitat for aquatic birds. Growing up to 2m tall dark brown seed heads makes it easy to identify.

Plants supplied by the Landowner

The following plants were provided by the landowner in addition to those grown, nurtured and planted by the Trees for Survival school group:

1x tairere





What is Trees for Survival Charitable Trust?

Trees for Survival Charitable Trust is a Rotary initiated project now supporting over 250 schools and local communities across Aotearoa New Zealand to grow and plant native trees along waterways and on environmentally at-risk sites.

Through action based learning, our environmental education programme provides the opportunity for school communities to have a positive impact protecting and restoring their local environment.

Trees for Survival Donation & Membership

From \$7.00 you can support the growing and planting of a native plant in NZ by a school running our programme. For donation options visit us at www.tfsnz.org.nz/donate-a-tree

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With special thanks to our Principal Partners



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TE RAHI O TĀNE