

Mōrena Jillian,

I have written some information below that will hopefully give a good explanation of some of the opportunities that we have on offer for Ngāi Tahu whānau. I have also attached a few forms that will be useful too. I will just ask that before you send it out, that it's made clear that these opportunities are for the Ngāi Tahu whānau connected with your school.

Please also feel free to pass this information to any Ngāi Tahu whānau who join West Eyreton School in the future.

Registrations:

Are you and your whānau registered with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu? We have a lot of opportunities you and your whānau may be eligible for such as grants, scholarships, and other support funding.

I have attached a registration form, and while it does look daunting, there are plenty of people who can help you with this. There is a number on the front of the form that is for our whakapapa unit, where someone there can help take you through the form. Here is also a link you can follow to find out more: <http://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/ngai-tahu/whakapapa/whakapapa-registration/>

Opportunities:

"Tahua Taunaki Akonga" is a learning support fund that aims to give Ngāi Tahu children access to extra personalised tuition (roughly one term per year per registered child aged 5-18). This may be used for things such as strengthening a child in a certain subject, or interest subjects such as te reo, music etc tuition. Tuhua Taunaki Akonga is approved on a case by case basis, so if you are unsure if something qualifies for your child, feel free to send an email to the coordinator (contact information is on the form). Applications for term 3 and term 4 open in June.

Have you heard of the Ngāi Tahu savings programme called Whai Rawa? Whai Rawa sees Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu distributing a portion of their economic growth to members every year, aimed to encourage savings towards home ownership, education, and retirement. This one is pretty cool, as every year Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu contributes into every member's account regardless of whether they're making their own contributions. TRONT also matches amount saved (up to \$200) \$4 to every \$1 for kids under 18, and \$1 to \$1 for those between 18 and 65, per financial year.

Whai Rawa has an easy to fill out form online. You can find that, along with more out more about Whai Rawa, here: <http://whairawa.com/what-is-whai-rawa/whai-rawa-savings-programme/>

Pūtea Manaaki Sports Application is a grant awarded to tamariki who show achievement in sport through being selected to represent their region or country. This was formed to help out with costs that may be involved, but also as incentive for tamariki to strive towards excellence in their chosen sport.

Other opportunities:

Opportunities are constantly in rotation here at Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu, so to help whānau with keeping track of this, I run a Facebook page called 'Tūāhuriri Education'. On the page, I post about the opening and closing of different opportunities when they pop up, while also creating events that whānau can take part of if they so wish (things like rangatahi wānanga, whānau workshops etc). These are also a great way for many whānau to reconnect, if they so wish. You can find a link to the page here: <https://www.facebook.com/tuahuriri/>

Ngā mihi

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