

Have you heard about our new goal, and the yearly, 'micro-challenge'?



We now have strong handwriting objectives in the national curriculum, so we can trust that handwriting will soon be taught in every class. This means it's time to set our sights even higher. Handwriting team, let's aim:

- **GOAL:** To establish world-leading handwriting instruction in every New Zealand classroom.
- To support this goal, we want to find as many ways as possible to get people excited about handwriting. *The micro challenge is one such initiative!*

Every year, we will ask teachers to send in (to our Facebook group) samples of a 'most improved' student's work. These will show progress over at least 20 weeks of daily teaching, from term 1 or 2, until the end of the term 3 holidays. A junior, middle, and senior student will be selected as winners. These students will receive a \$100 koha to share with their class, to host a class party in Term 4!

Please help to share the word, by printing and sharing our handwriting challenge posters:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PMgTyUZDWTkVVpbSifVFWnfQKCo0R1rt/view?usp=sharing>

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qNLhZF-ZGQYSicq7pZaeAP_elr5IENaE/view?usp=sharing

Establishing world-leading handwriting instruction in every class is the most important first step we can all take to address low rates of achievement in writing - and in reading too.

Challenge is over 20 weeks of daily teaching from Term 1 or Term 2 until the end of Term 3 holidays!
Send your samples in via the FB page to be in to win!

A junior, middle, and senior student will be selected as winners.
These students will receive a \$100 koha to share with their class, to host a class party in term 4!



OUR GOAL

To establish world-leading
handwriting programmes in all
New Zealand schools.

To achieve this, we need a community of advocates to:



- Share knowledge about the why, what, and how of teaching handwriting.
- Stay informed about professional learning opportunities for teaching handwriting.
- Support the '20 week micro-challenge'
- ◆ Support New Zealand-based handwriting research.

The Micro Challenge

- Teachers will share photos of their most-improved handwriting examples, before and after 20 weeks of teaching. Simply upload these to the drive in our Facebook group - 'The Great New Zealand Handwriting Challenge'.
- Student work that demonstrates strong progress will win that student a \$100 koha, to share with their classmates, to host a class party.
- ◆ This year's micro-challenge entries are due at the end of the term 3 holidays.
- Any photo from 2025 could become your 'before teaching' sample.

Please join us! Visit our website, subscribe to our mailing list and join our Facebook group.

● thegreatnewzealandhandwritingchallenge.net ● The Great New Zealand Handwriting Challenge

All of our work for the challenge is entirely voluntary.
This is a labour of love.

Thank you to the Tui Trust for sharing the vision and providing financial support for website development and marketing.

Thank you to Stedtlér for helping to spread the word.

TE WHĀINGA

Kia whakatūria te kaupapa tuhi ā ringa pai katoa o te ao ki roto i ngā kura katoa o Aotearoa.

E tutuki ai tēnei mahi, me kimi i ētahi kaiwhakatairanga ki te:



- Toha mai i ētahi whakaaro e whakaatu ana i te pūtake, te mahi, me te rautaki o tō whakaako i te tuhi ā-ringa.
- Kimi i ngā akoranga kairangi māu i roto i te tuhi ā-ringa.
- Tautoko i te te kaupapa 'Te wero tuhinga whāiti mō te 20 wiki'
- Tautoko i te ngā mahi rangahau tuhi ā-ringa o Aotearoa.

Te Wero Tuhinga Whāiti

- Ka tuarihia e te kaiako ētahi pikitia o te whanaketanga o ngā mahi tuhi ā-ringa a ana tauira, ka tuarihia hei te timatanga me te mutunga o te 20 wiki. Tukuna ngā pikitia ki te panahiko i roto i te whārangi Pukamata - 'The Great New Zealand Handwriting Challenge'.
- Ko ngā mahi a te tauira e whakaatu ana i te nui o tana whanake i roto i ēnei mahi ka whakawhiwhia ki tētahi koha e \$100, hei tohatoha ki ōna hoa tauira, kia whakahaere i tētahi pāti ā karaehe.
- Ko ngā whakaurunga mō te wero tuhinga whāiti, me tae mai hei te paunga o ngā hararei ā-kura i te wahanga tuatoru o te tau 2025.
- Kōwhiria tētahi pikitia nōu i tēnei tau e whakaatu ana i tō kanohi kia noho hei tauira 'ō mua i ngā mahi whakaako'.

**Tono mai! Toro mai ki tō mātou pae tukutuku, ohaurutia tō mātou
rārangi tuku karere, waihoki, toro mai ki tō mātou whārangi Pukamata.**



thegreatnewzealandhandwritingchallenge.net



[The Great New Zealand Handwriting Challenge](#)

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Feedback



Our whole kura has made explicit handwriting a daily focus, especially in our Junior school. We have seen big changes for all ākonga and in particular ESOL and neurodivergent students. One of my year 1 ākonga proudly shared his mahi with whānau for student led conferences last week.

We have been implementing 10 minutes of explicit handwriting everyday across our whole kura. In my NE/year 1 class I have noticed a huge difference in their ability to write the sounds they need quicker (and neater)! Still, some work to do but that progress with the support of explicit, focussed handwriting is amazing!!

Here we are doing an amazing job school wide. We teach handwriting explicitly every day. We also have intervention groups to help students that struggle with fine motor skills and pencil grasp. We are seeing great progress.

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We explicitly teach handwriting daily and students are tremendously proud of their progress made over the year! They take their handwriting seriously and love showing their work. Nothing beats their smiles when they successfully publish writing in their neatest print or exceptional cursive script. Writing time is focused and purposeful and pride and excellence is at the forefront of their minds. Thank you to Helen Walls and the Great NZ Handwriting Challenge for ensuring handwriting is a priority again in schools.