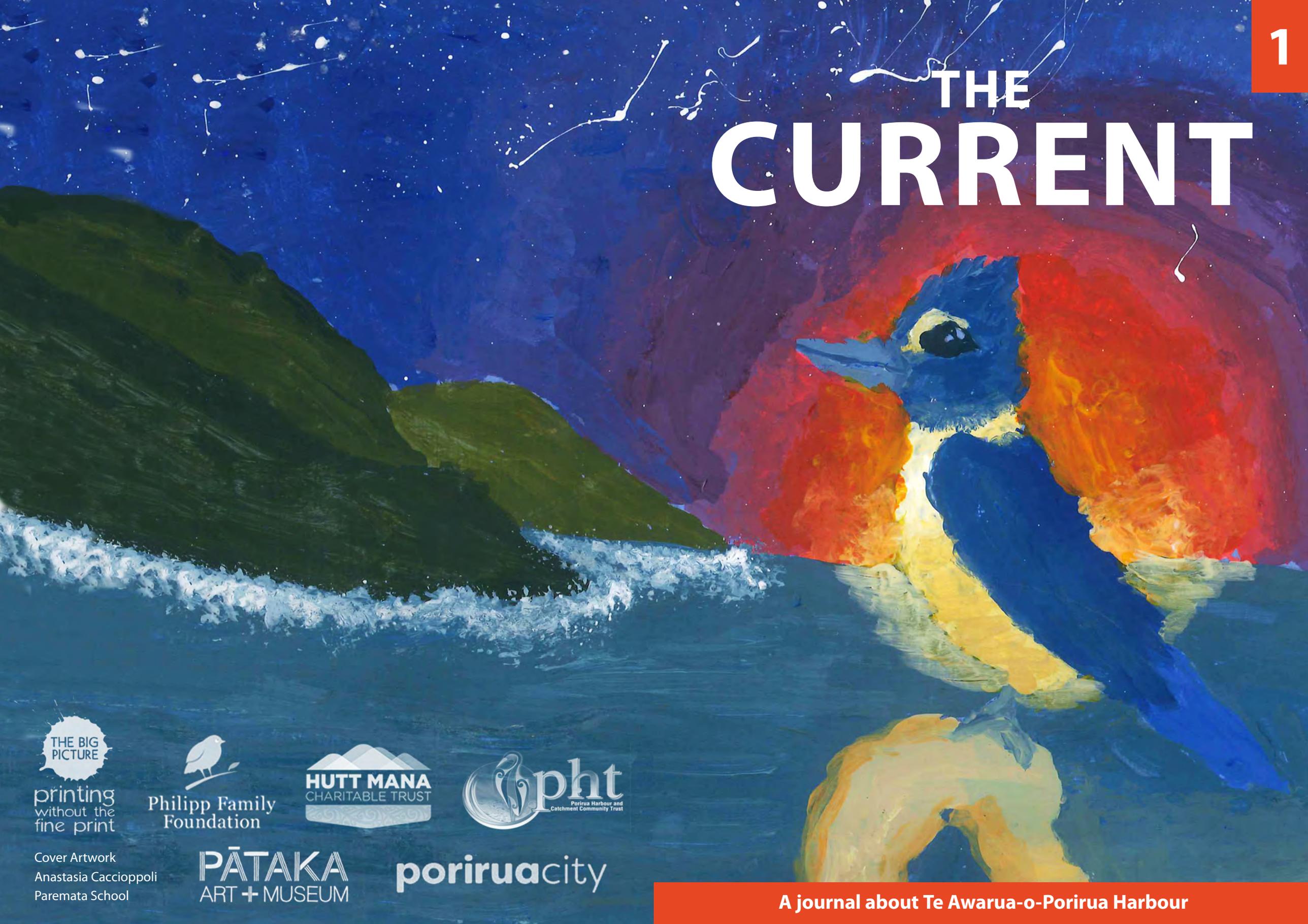


# THE CURRENT



printing without the fine print



Philipp Family Foundation



Cover Artwork  
Anastasia Caccioppoli  
Paremata School



A journal about Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour

Clean our harbour

wind rocking the trees side to side

The Waves

THE FUTURE

Schools Can participate by giving us good decisions and choices. And by helping the environment and the harbour.

WE are kaitiaki

1. encouraging others
2. helping the environment and taking care of the harbour.
3. taking care of sea animals/ animals habitats.

HELP OUR HARBOUR!

The harbour can make up a difference. PICK UP YOUR RUBBISH

Birds descending in the sky like a flock.

The harbour has never got over Farming. Animals live there

Seaweed looks like sea cabbage

The wind

Blowing

We can still make a change

There is no such thing as "away", when you throw something away it simply must go somewhere. Please make that place the bins, don't litter.

Porirua harbour is the only harbour with roads going right around it and roads so close to the water. POLUTION!

Ngati Toa tried their hardest to make Porirua the way it was.

We should think about stuff before we do it because it might infect our water

There is NO Planet B

Moana

Don't kill the whales

they are my favs

pipi shells

Salty and spray grasses

LOVAL

our harbour is our native fish's home

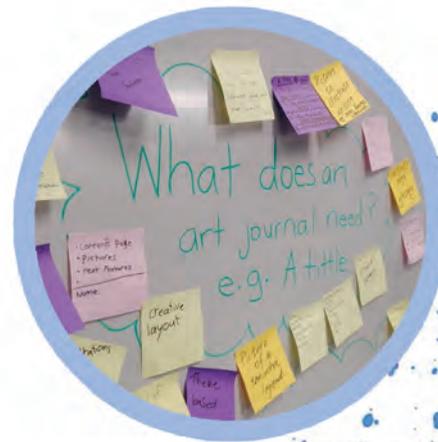


# We can still make a Change

Kia ora koutou,

This is a student led journal made for students by students. This journal has been lovingly created by six local schools; Titahi Bay School, Porirua School, Rangikura School, Paremata School, St Theresa's School and St Brigids School. A group of students from each school were chosen by their teachers to become the leaders of 'The Current' journal and to feed back their knowledge into their class activities. We met every Wednesday afternoon and we really enjoyed meeting other students from different schools. In the club we had expert artists, writers and historians work alongside us. We learnt all about the harbour and how through action we can help change people's hearts and behaviours to help Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour. In this journal you will find a mixture of creative projects by our different classes.

Yours faithfully,  
'The Current' leaders team.



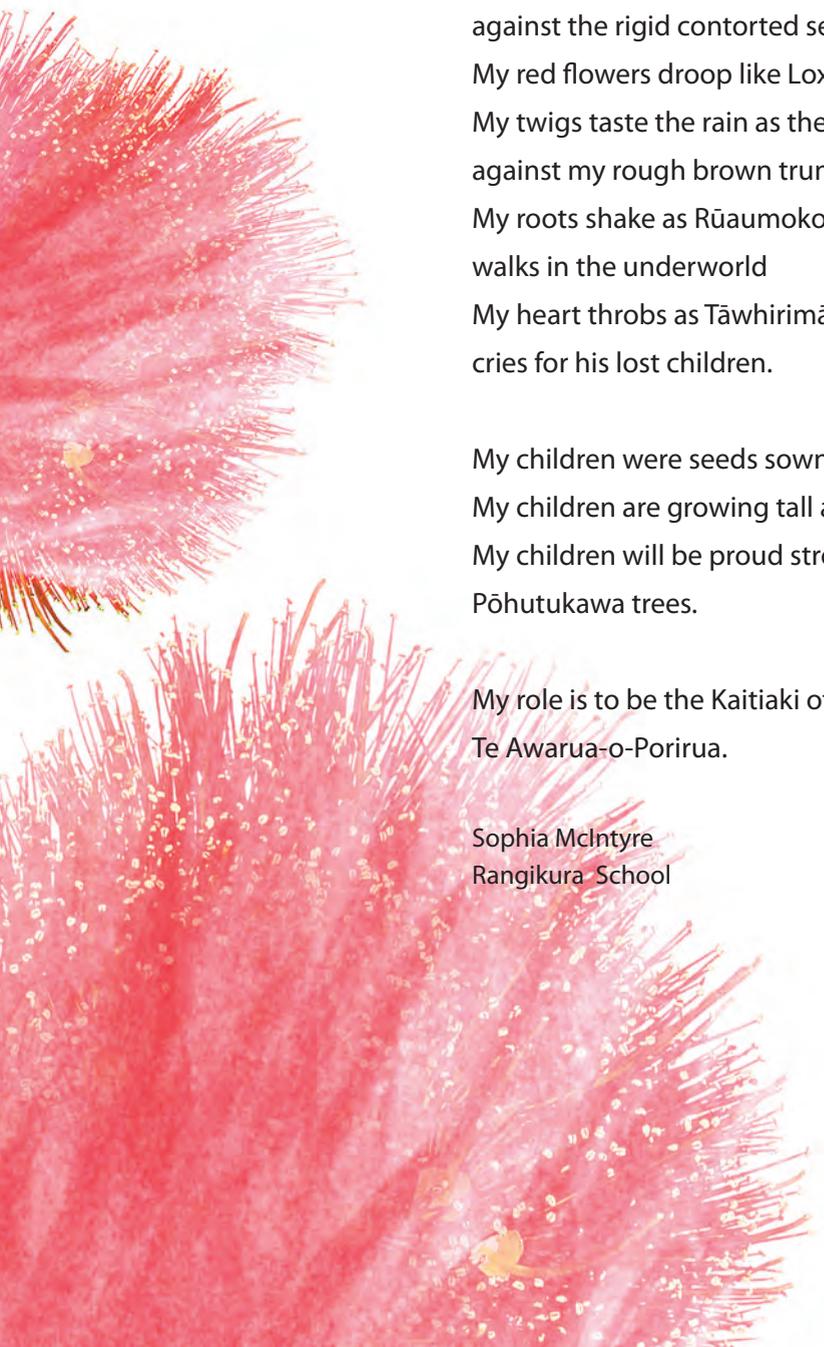
## PŌHUTUKAWA TIPUNA OF PORIRUA HARBOUR

My branches can see the sea foam  
rising on the shore  
My leaves feel Tangaroa's strain  
against the rigid contorted sea  
My red flowers droop like Loxodonta ears  
My twigs taste the rain as the drops smash  
against my rough brown trunk  
My roots shake as Rūaumoko  
walks in the underworld  
My heart throbs as Tāwhirimātea  
cries for his lost children.

My children were seeds sown into the ground  
My children are growing tall and grounded  
My children will be proud strong standing  
Pōhutukawa trees.

My role is to be the Kaitiaki of  
Te Awarua-o-Porirua.

Sophia McIntyre  
Rangikura School



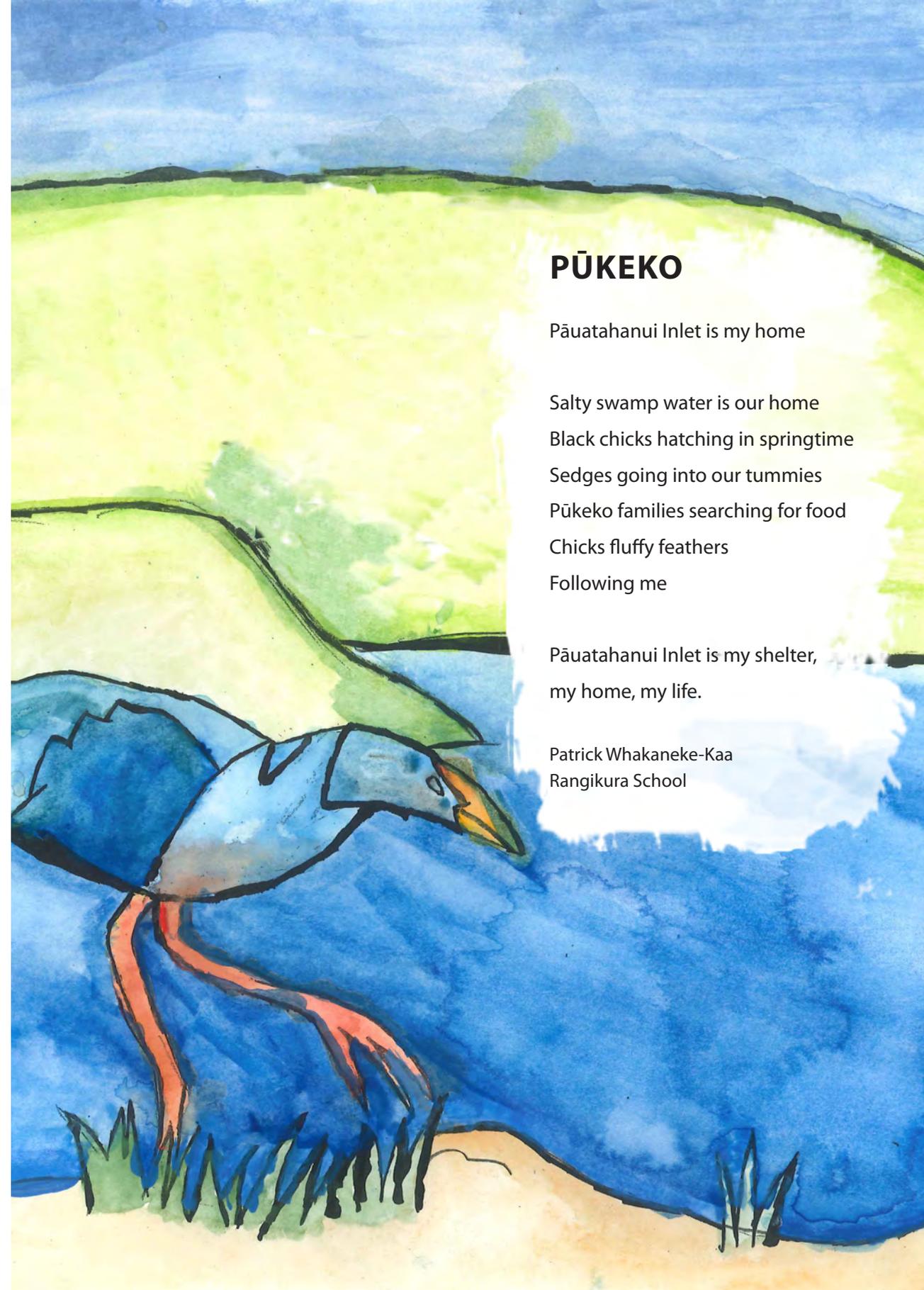
## PŪKEKO

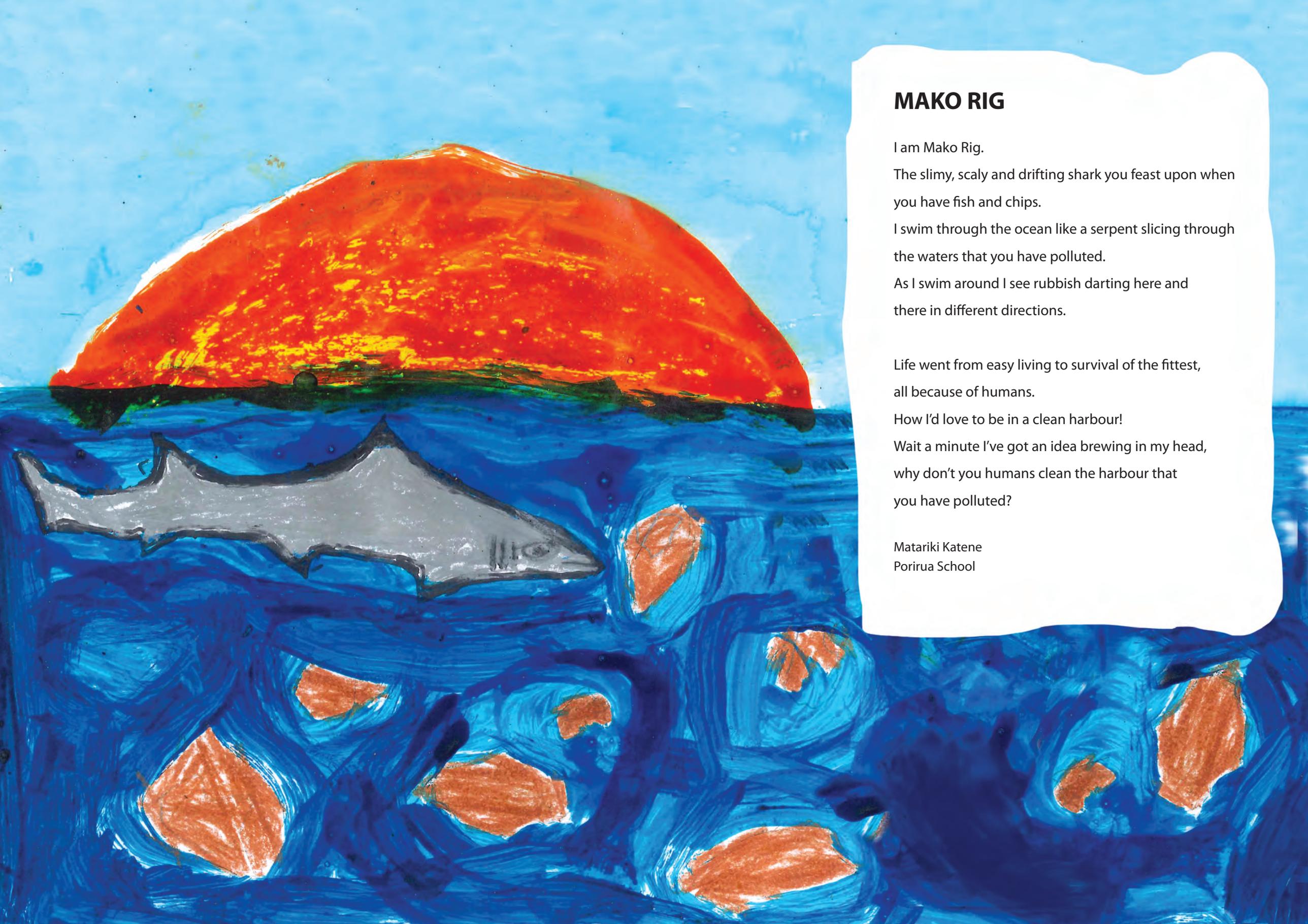
Pāuatahanui Inlet is my home

Salty swamp water is our home  
Black chicks hatching in springtime  
Sedges going into our tummies  
Pūkeko families searching for food  
Chicks fluffy feathers  
Following me

Pāuatahanui Inlet is my shelter,  
my home, my life.

Patrick Whakaneke-Kaa  
Rangikura School





## MAKO RIG

I am Mako Rig.

The slimy, scaly and drifting shark you feast upon when you have fish and chips.

I swim through the ocean like a serpent slicing through the waters that you have polluted.

As I swim around I see rubbish darting here and there in different directions.

Life went from easy living to survival of the fittest, all because of humans.

How I'd love to be in a clean harbour!

Wait a minute I've got an idea brewing in my head, why don't you humans clean the harbour that you have polluted?

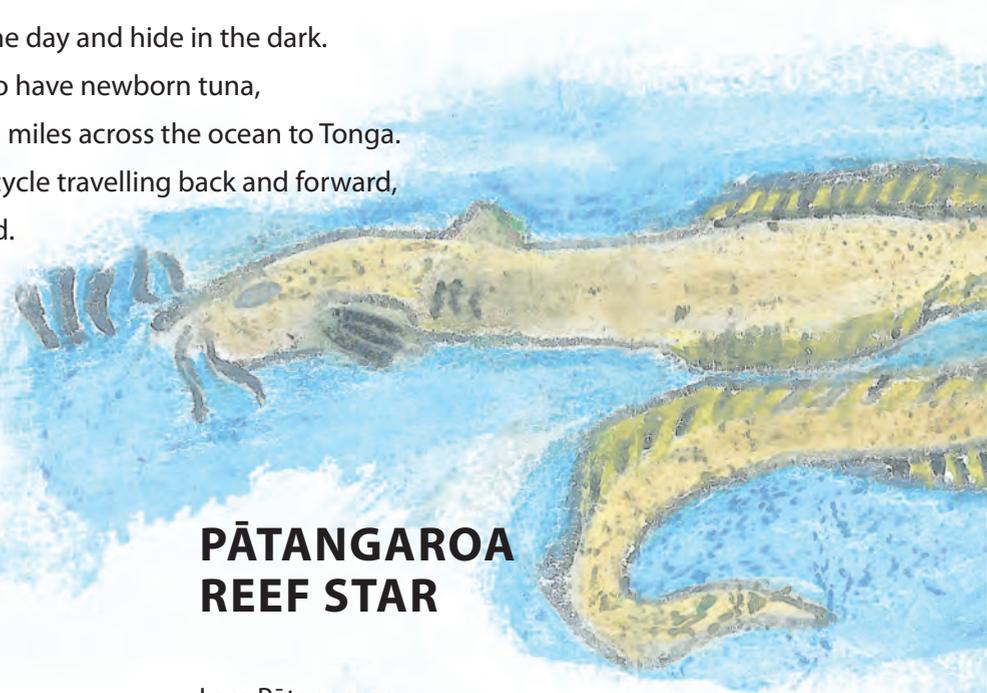
Matariki Katene  
Porirua School



## I AM TUNA

I am Tuna.  
Slimy, slippery, fast.  
I sleep most of the day and hide in the dark.  
When it is time to have newborn tuna,  
I travel miles and miles across the ocean to Tonga.  
A never ending cycle travelling back and forward,  
back and forward.

Cadon Omeri  
Porirua School



## PĀTANGAROA REEF STAR

I am Pātangaroa,  
the spiky, rough and mysterious reef star.  
As I rest on the sea floor, I gaze at the glimmering crystal  
clear water.  
A ray of sunshine expands throughout the  
whole ocean.  
  
I see the ika swim away as I invade their territory.  
I glare at the golden sand melting through the humans  
toes as they walk by. The tiny little drops of water sink into  
skin and drown their frozen toes.

Alina Watene  
Porirua School



## EYES OF A KINGFISHER

Resting on a tree branch, glancing lazily around  
Limitless mountains of green  
Rough tree branches under my feet  
Opening my eyes  
A sky of pink as the sun peeks out of the mountains  
The warm northerly wind wraps around me  
Listening to the whistle of wind  
Taking in the splash of fish as they swim and dive  
Flying into the endless sky of pink  
Closing my eyes  
This is my harbour.

Ronita Kuaoni  
Rangikura School



Artwork  
Alina Watene  
Porirua School



## IHUMOANA

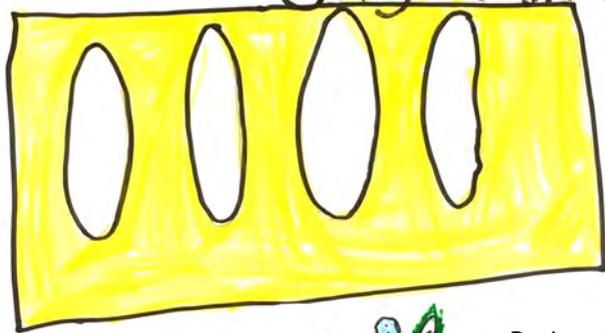
I am Ihumoana,  
the dangerous and frightening jelly fish.  
I roam the shallows and attack the nosy humans.  
I hide beneath a blanket of velvet blue  
and creep towards the golden shore.

The sights I see are always in front of me.  
I see joyful humans running towards the sea  
I experience the bronze sand  
as I explore the ocean floor.  
I see radiant grey rocks as I slither  
through the ocean like a snake.

I am Ihumoana, I am a bluebottle.

Serenity Martin  
Porirua School

Only rain down the Storm  
d rain! ♥



**People need to be more aware of their actions especially when around water because it is precious.**

Porirua harbour is special to everyone for different reasons. We're lucky to live so close to the harbour we need to take care of it. Some people live in landlocked countries and have to go through other countries to get to the sea. I'd like for the harbour to be cleaner in the near future and to achieve that we need to take good care of our water systems like our drains. What goes down the drain goes straight into the harbour. Drains are only designed for stormwater but all kinds of litter finds its way down there and the main reason behind that is people who litter. People need to be more aware of their actions especially when around water because it is precious.

Poppy Albertson  
Titahi Bay School



Drain Art Designs  
Ayla Hamer  
Nivayah Collins  
Matilda Hoerara-Hunt  
Titahi Bay School



**Don't Be MEAN KEEP it clean**

Porirua harbour is important to me because sea animals live there so we need to take care of it and make it clean for everyone. I want the harbour to be how it used to be in the past when people could enjoy the harbour without finding pollution. It used to be clean clear shiny and had lots of kai moana. I think planting trees, like I did with my classmates, would provide more shelter for the creatures in the water. More plants will also prevent landslides and dirt from contaminating our harbour.

Cullen Leatherby  
Titahi Bay School

Porirua harbour is a lovely place to go fishing, do waka ama, paddle board, kayak and sail. I'd like to see healthy clean water, more fish and of course, less rubbish. To keep our harbour healthy for our future we can do a clean up each week, plant trees for shelter and help make the banks more stable along the streams. Everyone should make sure they put their rubbish in the bin, it's not hard.

Emi Dawson  
Titahi Bay School



Once upon a time there was a piece of rain who wanted to see his river. First it slid down the roof. It was dirty when he got down to the ground. There was grass, paint, oil and rubbish. The grass was soggy. Then it went down the drain with all that yucky stuff.

Felix

The rain came down from the clouds to the gutters. Then it went down into the storm drain. It met some oil dropping from the car. It was bad. It went into the ocean. All of the fish felt sad. Then more rain came down and washed the oil away. Then the fish felt better.

Tiare

Porirua harbour is important to everyone in the community and the creatures that live in there. In and around the harbour there are lots of beautiful things but there's also many things that are not so beautiful like trolleys, glass, cigarettes and the worst is plastic bags and oil/run off. Everyone I know loves the harbour, especially those that do waka ama and people that love kaimoana like kina, paua and pipi's.

My connection with the harbour is that I have lots of happy memories that come from there. I remember one time, when my cousin Haven and I went down to the beach to go on her seabiscuit. Haven was going to jump back onto the boat but then she fell off the biscuit. I want to keep on having more memories like that. If we don't look after our water, the harbour will become a place we are no longer proud of or even want to visit.

Milly Crawford  
Titahi Bay School

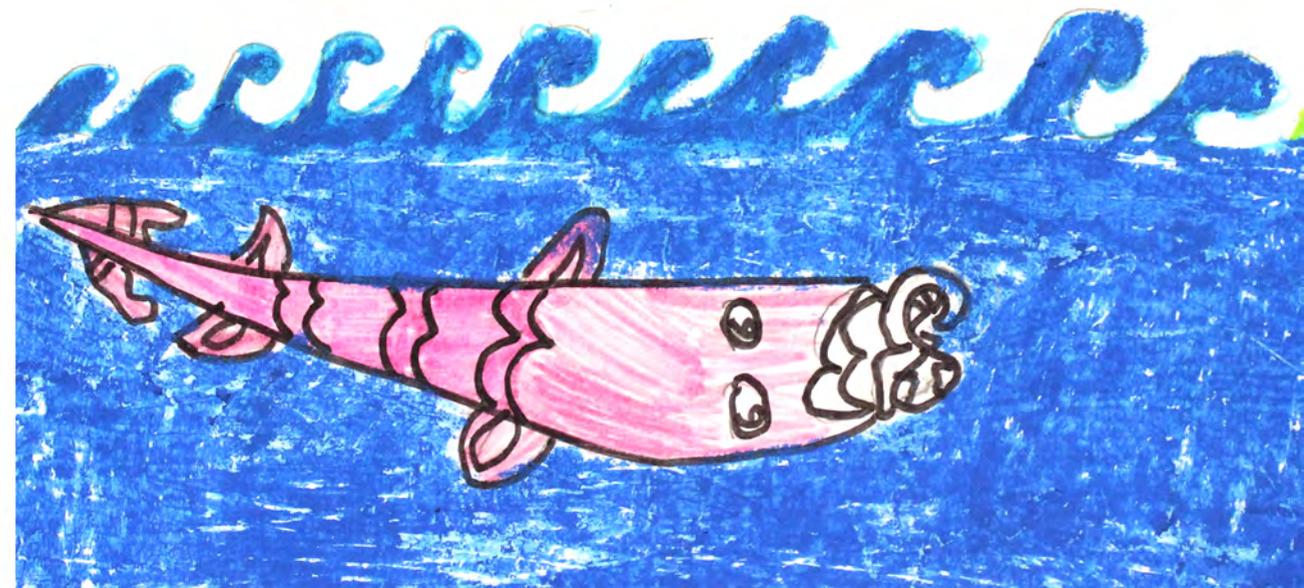
If we don't look after our water, the harbour will become a place we are no longer proud of or even want to visit.



## AWARUA THE TANIWHA

In the middle of Porirua Harbour there once lived a taniwha called Awarua. He dreamed of zooming through the sky with the air brushing past his face. As Awarua watched his friend Rereroa, the Albatross, fly through the sky Awarua became more and more jealous. So one day he asked Rereroa to teach him. Rereroa said okay and that evening Awarua could fly like his friend. Awarua wanted to show all his fish friends. As he showed them he got so excited he crashed into a tree and tumbled onto Mana Island. So that is how Mana Island became flat forever.

Georgia Collins  
Titahi Bay School



## NATURE STORY

This year, our class have been trying to reduce the amount of pests in New Zealand, starting with our school. We looked out for native birds, to see which species we could find and see how many we could see. Next we put out tracking tunnels to see what pests we have in our school. We had lots of rat and mice footprints. Next we set the traps out in different areas, a decent distance away from each other. At first, we caught many pests, but then as the weeks went by, the amount of pests slowly reduced. Then we counted the birds again and we saw an increase in the native bird population living in our school.

Then we went to Zealandia (a native New Zealand Wildlife sanctuary) and saw lots of native birds and plants. We learned heaps about how we need to protect our indigenous life. After we went to Zealandia, we went to Otari Wilton's bush to look at the different types of birds and plants that were there. There were many kereru and some kingfisher.

**We had lots of rat and mice footprints.**



**We learned about how we need to protect our indigenous life.**

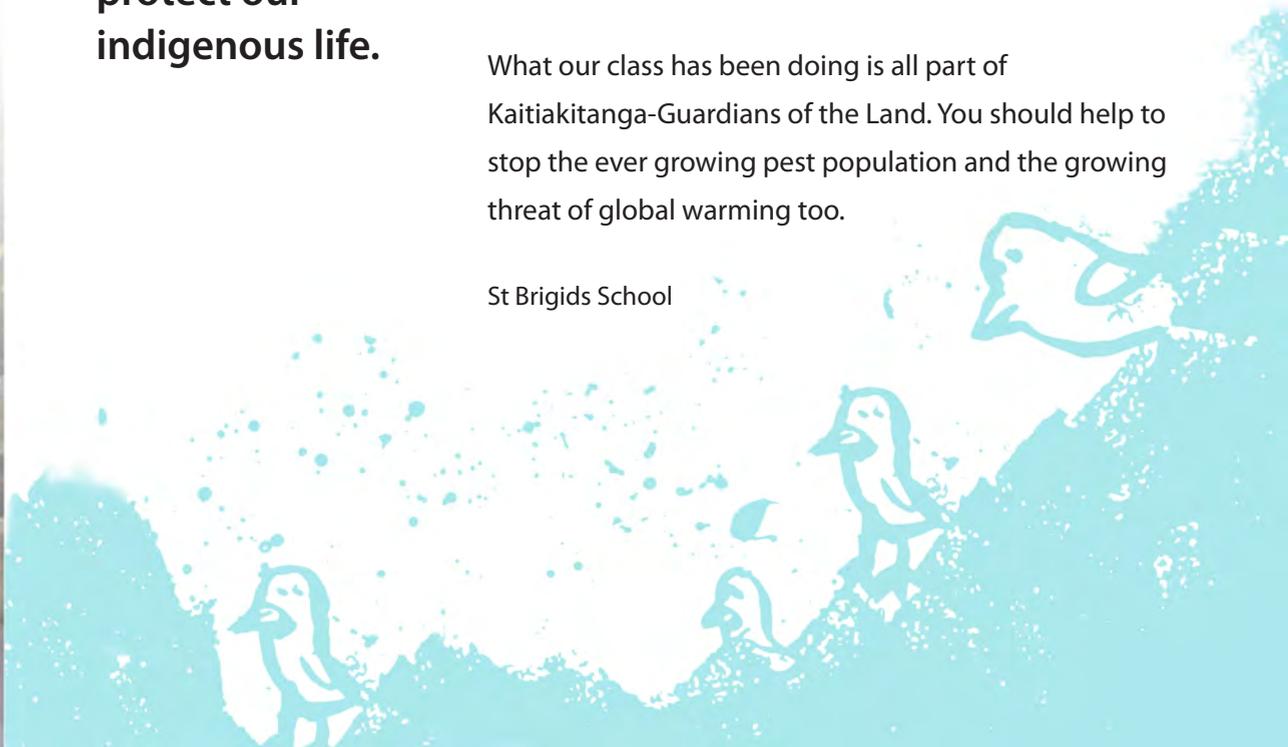
Next we went to Ngā Hau e Whā o Paparāangi marae where we learned to identify different plants. We also did some weeding, planting and got told the legend of the two taniwhas of Wellington harbour.

As we mentioned before, we started doing this to encourage native birds to come to our school but also to make our stream that connects to the Porirua harbour cleaner. From term 2 our school has had this rule that each week, 2 classes go around the school picking up rubbish to make our school cleaner and so that the rubbish doesn't go into our stream. This is killing many sea animals. To reduce this problem, we are going to make beeswax wraps for the school fair for people to use instead of plastic and gladwrap.

We are also bringing tree wetas which we will create homes for them at Onslow College and bring them here. We are getting leafcutter bees that do not sting and should encourage more native bush to grow here.

What our class has been doing is all part of Kaitiakitanga-Guardians of the Land. You should help to stop the ever growing pest population and the growing threat of global warming too.

St Brigids School



## PĀTIKI RORI

I am Pātiki rori, a peaceful, staring, floating fish that dwells on the ocean floor.

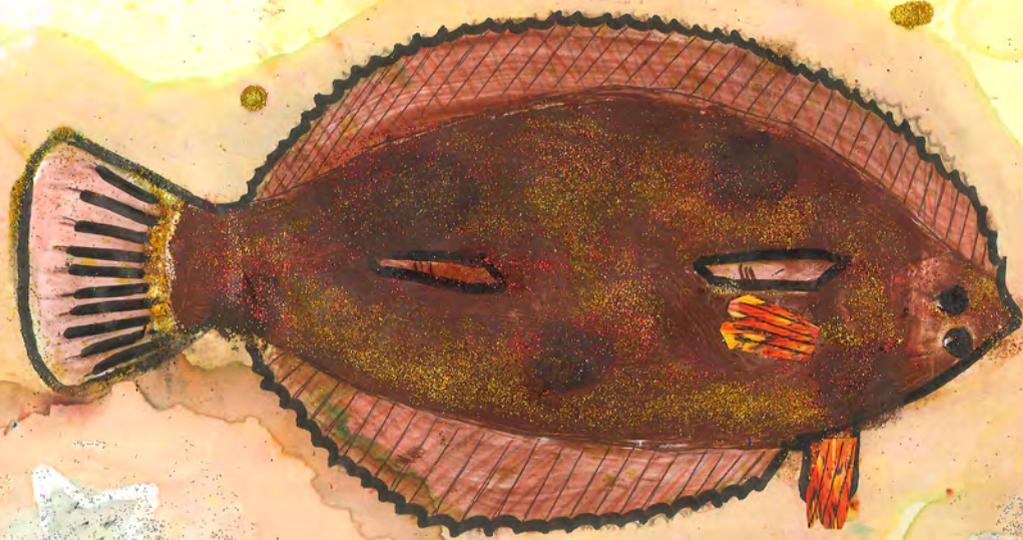
I gaze at miniature sand flakes floating in the water as if they were moving in slow motion. A shark swims by, I freeze with horror, a frightened body and a frozen spine. A raw dark place, I lay there for hours.

The coast is clear. I slowly creep out. The moon is piercing through gentle ripples of water. Gazing upwards, I discover a star in the sky, and another, and another. They appear second after second until a whole glittery carpet shines above me. I relax and melt into the soft beige sand. A shadowy sky, a cold night and a peaceful slumber.

I rest on the seafloor until a cramped glance of sunlight signals a new day.

Ko Pātiki rori ahau, I am a common sole flounder.

Cartier Graham  
Porirua School



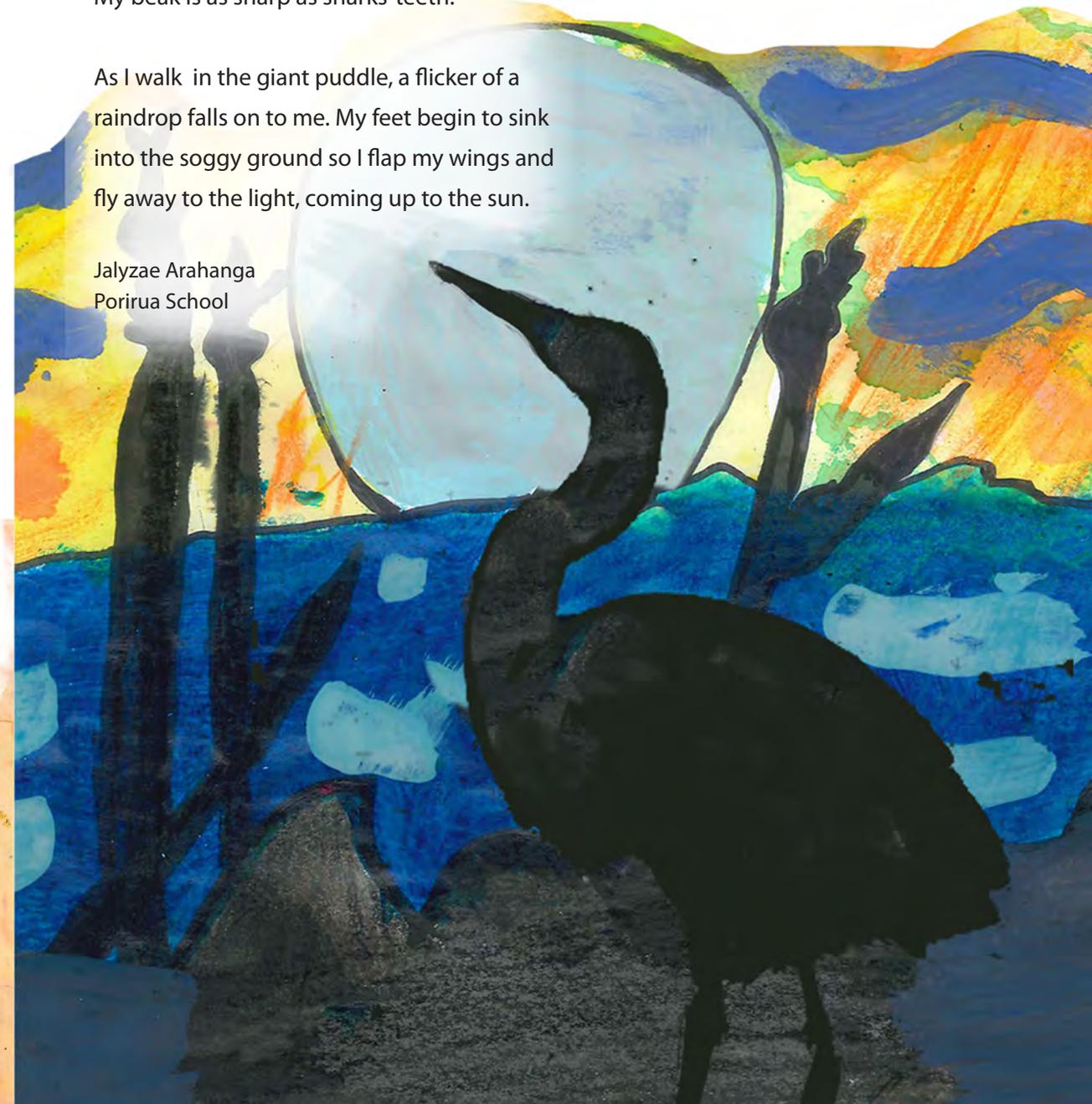
## MATUKU

I am Matuku, a small friendly bird, harmless to the humans but frightening to the crabs.

My wings are like a dark cloudy day and my face is white as snow as the sun shines on me. My beak is as sharp as sharks' teeth.

As I walk in the giant puddle, a flicker of a raindrop falls on to me. My feet begin to sink into the soggy ground so I flap my wings and fly away to the light, coming up to the sun.

Jalyzae Arahanga  
Porirua School





## THERE IS NO PLANET B TAONGA AOTEAROA!

In Room 7 at Paremata School, we were all doing sustainability projects in Term 2. Our group decided that we needed to save our ocean. Our mural's purpose was to send a message out to the community that we need to treasure our moana. During the process of designing our mural, we tried to visualize what our oceans should look like- without any plastic or other pollutants. We would like this mural to be what the future oceans around Aotearoa look like. Something to strive for. We would like to acknowledge and thank Esmé Dawson for her wonderful support with this project. We had so much fun and learnt heaps.

Alex, Anastasia, Harry and Maia  
Paremata School





come  
explore with  
me.

## COME AND EXPLORE WITH ME

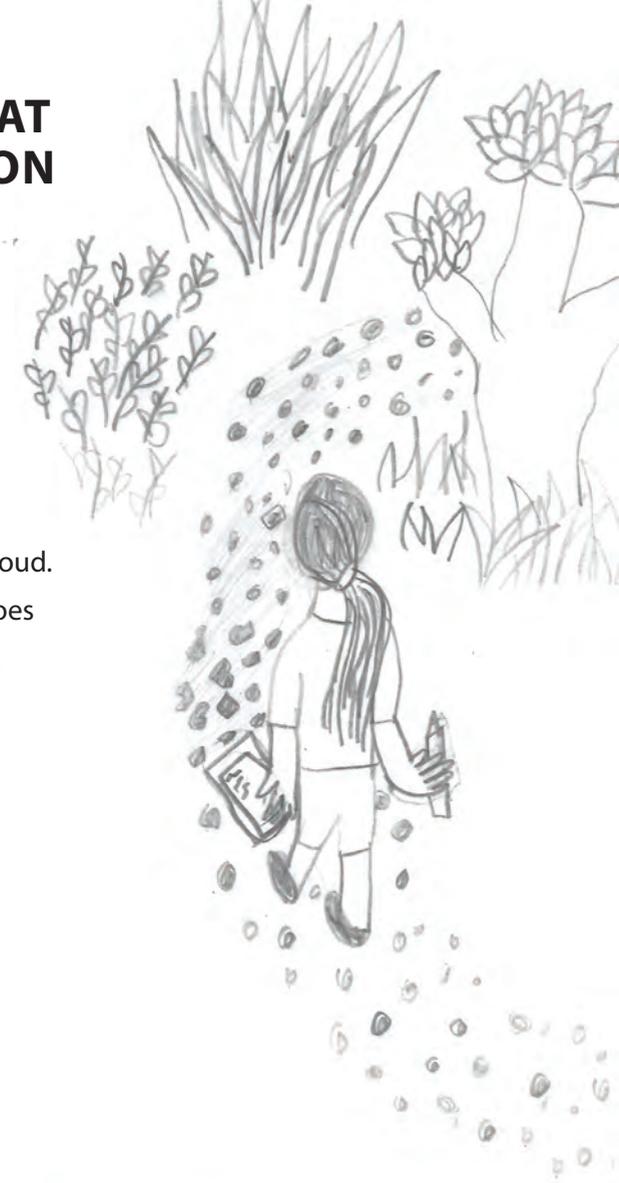
Buses barely miss me  
I walk along the motorway  
Homeless in a busy world  
Okowai reserve, my home the dump  
Dirt travelling into the home of our taniwha  
From the homes of Aotea on the hillside above.

Tasting the tears of my short lived children  
I nest on plastic bags  
The polluted ground of silt  
When will humans notice us?

Chattering voices, spades and buckets  
Suddenly it's clear  
Warm sun shines upon my feathers  
Blues greens purples shine highlighted with red  
Long legs now for wading and running  
Smooth glossy water washes along the shore  
Okowai wetlands revitalised once more.

Molly Beek  
Rangikura School

## WHEN THE WIND BLOWS AT BOWLER'S WHARF LAGOON



Fresh grasses flow gently in the wind.  
A magical tui song reaches my ear as it soars  
through the sunny sky.  
Water rippling under the shade of an ancient  
macrocarpa tree.  
Clouds fly by with birds chattering amongst  
themselves as they surf through the wisps of cloud.  
Remembering, wishing, wondering my head goes  
as we walk back along the dark concrete street.

Charlotte Instone  
Paremata School

## PORIRUA HARBOUR

Waves surfing across the smooth water  
Rocks shining in the shallows  
Birds diving and swooping for food  
Ducks resting on the water with the black  
swans and pūkeko.

James Whale  
Paremata School



Artwork  
Jade Hanrahan  
Titahi Bay School

## SINA'S JOURNEY

This year was the year we had our production which meant we had to design costumes for our dance and the main characters. I designed the butterfly costumes with some help from Anna Bailey and some other classmates. I also helped Anna with the dragonfly head which we spent most of the time doing papier mache. We used papier mache for a lot of our costume. The outcome of the Dragonfly head was unexpected but it worked!

Eden designed the big dragonfly which we included in our dance. It looked really effective when you're looking at it from the auditorium and we even put lights in the eyes. Some of the other designers designed the ant, bee, ruru, the list goes on!

The big butterfly puppet was created by a team of people and also included a lot of papier mache. The fabric wings were sewed, painted and operated by a team of puppeteers. It looked also really effective on the stage. Our mini butterflies were fun to make and were made in the same way as the big butterfly and were made to fly through the air by dancing puppeteers.

Working with a puppeteer, Anna, was awesome as she gave us lots of ideas and techniques to use. She taught us how to hand stitch, sew and make glue out of flour and water.

Rachel and Eden  
St Theresa's School



# SINA'S JOURNEY

## ACT 1 SCENE 5

CHILD #2: Don't stand too close to the edge. Who knows what's in the water?

CHILD #1: Clears throat, puts up hand Well actually, ... there's a good chance there are koura, torrent fish and different sorts of bullies.

CHILD #2: Bullies? Oh no, all those other poor little fish must be so anxious.

CHILD #1: Bullies are their names. Not their personalities.

CHILD #3: Prodding the water Where are the eels?

CHILD #1: They'll be hiding under logs and boulders.

*GRANDFATHER and GRANDMOTHER arrive.*

CHILD #3: Shouts I've found some! Come and see!  
They're massive!

CHILD #2: I'll come if there are any baby ones ...  
cute baby ones.

CHILD #1: There are no baby eels here, only adults.

CHILD #2: What happened to the baby ones? High voice Did they all die? Higher voice Did the big ones eat the little ones!  
Highest voice How could they do that to the poor little baby eels!  
Pulls out tissues, blubbing

*GRANDMOTHER puts arm around CHILD #2*

GRANDMOTHER: There's nothing to fret about. It's the tuna's life cycle. Only the adults live in these streams. They stay until they're between 25 to over 80 years old.  
Then, they swim downstream, out of the estuary and into the ocean.

CHILD #2: Where do they go? And why?

CHILD #1: Nearly all the way to Tonga, to breed.

GRANDMOTHER: The eggs hatch and the larvae drift in the currents where they turn into glass eels.

CHILD #2: Glass? That sounds dangerous!

GRANDMOTHER: They're called that because they're see-through.

CHILD #1: When they get back to New Zealand, they find their way to freshwater and grow into small eels, called elvers.

GRANDMOTHER: They become adults and stay until they're ready to return to the sea. And the story starts over again.

CHILD #2: So no babies are eaten by the adults?  
That's ok then.

*CHILD #2 skips off to see the fish and eels*

CHILD #1: You missed out the part about the adults dying once they breed.

GRANDFATHER: Too sad, that's why.

GRANDMOTHER: Exactly.

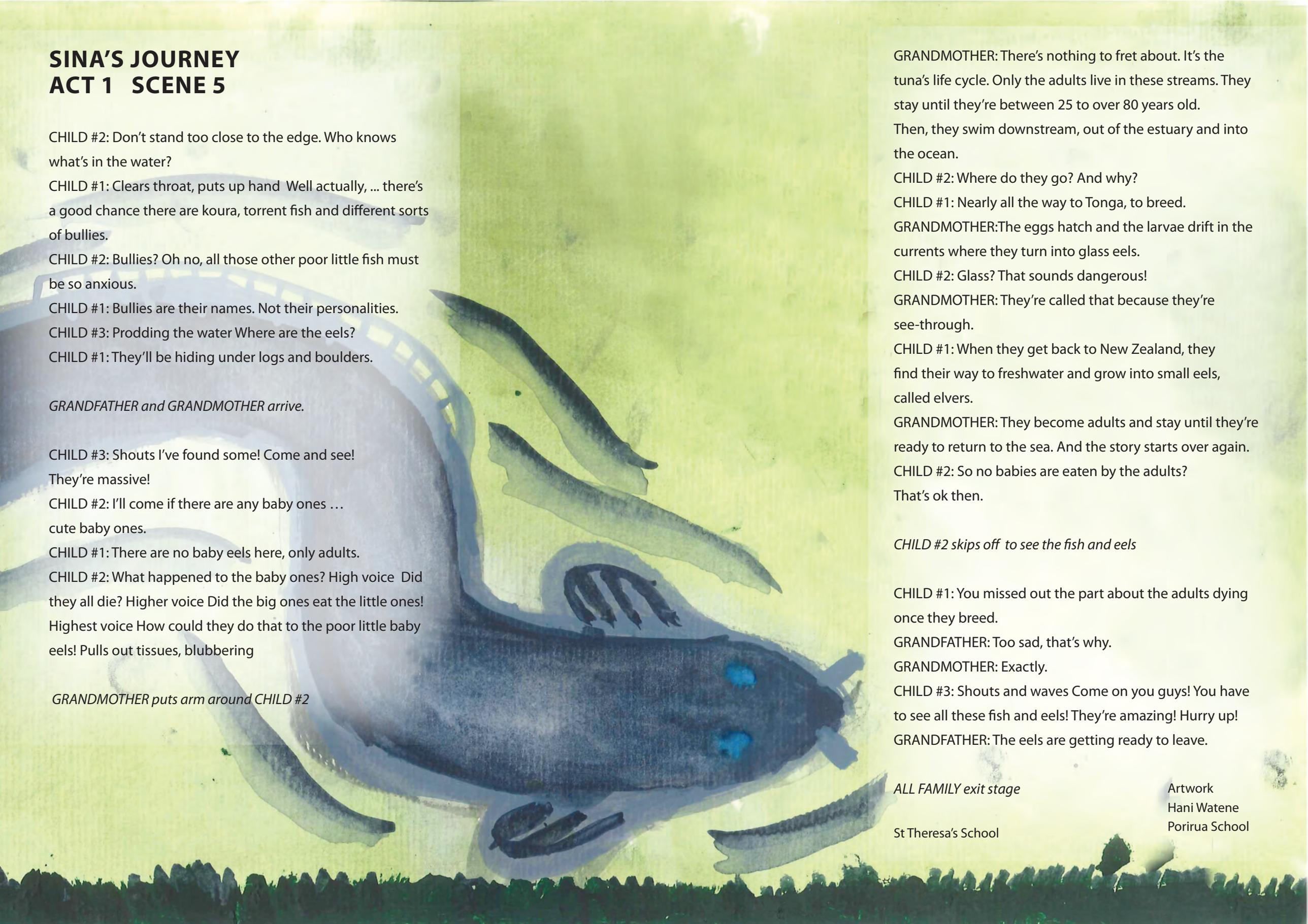
CHILD #3: Shouts and waves Come on you guys! You have to see all these fish and eels! They're amazing! Hurry up!

GRANDFATHER: The eels are getting ready to leave.

*ALL FAMILY exit stage*

St Theresa's School

Artwork  
Hani Watene  
Porirua School



## SILENT WATERS

The clouds are scattered over the sky like pieces on a chessboard.  
The sun reflects golden light off the surface of the water.  
The blackbirds spring from tree to tree searching for insects.  
The trees rustle swiftly as the wind rushes through them.

Alastair Binns  
Paremata School

## PORIRUA HARBOUR

At the bottom of the ocean the sea creatures scurry in the gritty grainy sand.  
You can hear the tui echoing its magnificent song.  
Satiny seaweed dancing in the sea's current.  
On top of the water the fish swim in delight.  
The spirit of Awarua roaming in her sparkly sea home.  
On the beach the shells glide back and forth in the swaying waves.  
The sun slowly laying its glitter cloak onto the sea.

Hannah Mckinnon  
Paremata School

## AROUND THE HARBOUR

Swimming through the smooth fresh water on a hot and sunny day  
The sun glistening on the water while I am swimming  
A school of fish swimming beneath me in the cool fresh water  
Seagulls squawking in the sky above.

Cyrus Brightwell  
Rangikura School

## THE WONDERS OF PORIRUA HARBOUR

The water ripples like little waves coming to say 'hello'.  
The sun gently smiles down at the flowing tide.  
The mist frantically scribbles above the sea like pages and pages of writing.  
The sand scurries away hand in hand with the soaring wind.  
Tui sing with pride like a violinist, in the kōwhai tree.  
The clouds glide over the hills like a white blur smudging the green out.

Evie Griffiths  
Paremata School

Artwork  
Tumanako Waa  
Titahi Bay School

# PLASTIC

In our world we have too much plastic  
I think it's time we did something drastic  
Lots of sea creatures are getting tangled  
Sadly this means they are getting strangled  
Let's all sit down and have a conversation  
So we can decide  
how to change this situation

We can talk about what we can do  
And give each other a useful clue  
We need to write a big note  
So everybody has a huge vote

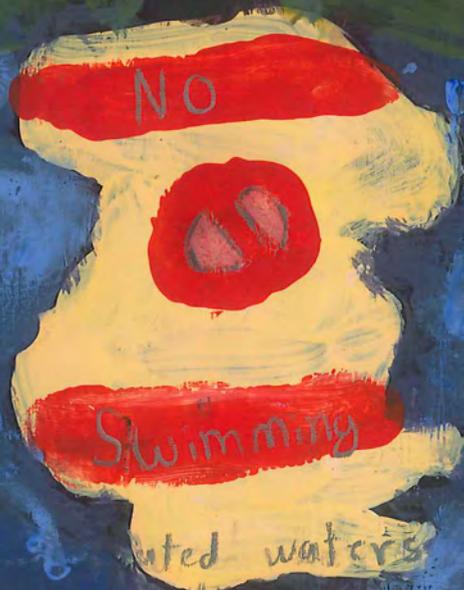
They stick on our fences  
They float in our streams  
Make a change  
It's one of our dreams

There's so much plastic in the sea  
Dumped by we all know...you and me

Now let's make a change  
To STOP using plastic  
So people can arrange  
To do something drastic.

Tanika Lawrence  
Paremata School

Artwork  
Breanna Morrison  
Paremata School



# WETLANDS DESERVE OUR RESPECT

Hey did you know that 30% of New Zealand's fish species live in wetlands across New Zealand? Wetlands are really important because they keep the water fresh and pure when it flows down from upper catchments.

Wetlands act like kidneys because both wetlands and human kidneys filter out contaminants in water. When water comes into the wetlands it slows down and sediment particles settle and are absorbed by the plants and taken out of the water.

Pied Stilts and herons all live in wetlands and they often breed there. Wetlands are great nesting places for many birds because they provide good hiding places.

Sadly people used to drain wetlands to build roads and towns. People thought wetlands were just swampy places and because of this 10% of New Zealand's wetlands remain.

Wetlands were a taonga for Maori because they provided flax and kai moana. Flax was used for clothes, mats and rope.

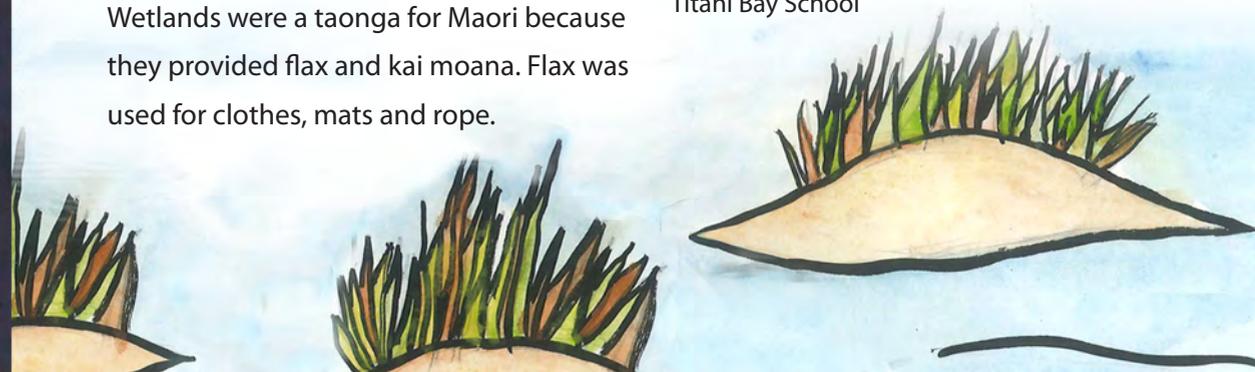
There are lots of wetlands around Porirua. The most beautiful is Pāuatahanui Wetland. This wetland is like a giant sponge when it rains the ground becomes soggy. There are many spider webs to your left and right, spiders are just one of the creatures that live in Pāuatahanui along with inanga (whitebait), tuna (longfin eel), spoonbills, shags, paradise ducks and the recently introduced fern birds.

Wetlands can be an attractive feature of a life style block, help improve water quality on your property and provide a safe place for native plants, birds, invertebrates and fish.

We need to learn to help wetlands and look after them better if we want to preserve the rich life that lives there.

Harrison Mounsey-Smith  
Paremata School

Artwork  
Morgan Berry  
Titahi Bay School





## THANK YOU

A special thank you to the inspiring and talented experts that facilitated workshops with students to support this journal.

Struan Ashby  
Erica Duthie  
Sarah Maxey  
Wiremu Grace  
Anna Bailey  
Gillian Candler

Thank you to the passionate school teachers who committed to this journal and incorporated this project into their school curriculum with stunning results. This couldn't have happened without you.

Thank you to Rebecca McCormack from the Porirua Harbour Trust for weekly catch ups and keeping everything moving forward.

Thank you to the wonderful Pātaka Education Team Margaret Tolland and Linda Fordyce for your ongoing support.

Lastly thank you to the rangatahi whose work shines on these pages. The future is in good hands.

Ngā mihi mahana,  
Esmé Dawson  
Educator, Co-ordinator and Designer for  
'The Current'

A journal about Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour

# Community

Be a hero and  
Save our harbour:

# IT

is our taonga  
Our harbour  
is the solution  
to the problem

We should  
say "stop  
Transmission  
and look at  
our harbour.  
What do you  
see?"

## AOTEA LAGOON

- Hills surrounding
- Awarua the taniwha
- Restless, churning water
- Birds descending in the sky
- Outgoing tides
- Underwater marine life
- Really amazing



Little Villages

## History of Porirua Harbour

## CHANGES



fish are cool

Hospitals were built.



Came From And  
The Coconut.



## TRUCE With the HARBOUR

Care for our animals habitat and keep them safe!

## Whalers over fished

## TANGAROA



WE HAVE

THE PAUA

to change things

Houses cars = More chemicals  
Sedimentation

Oil sewage

No Pain down the stormwater drain.

No Swimming



## Battle hill

Why should we care about the harbour?

- Because of all of the creatures living inside the harbour will lose their home
- Because we would like to make a clean environment for people in the future.

- So we can be even more proud of our country New Zealand.
- Clean up rubbish so the harbour won't look messy and polluted with rubbish.

