



PLANTING DAY REPORT 2025
Papatoetoe Intermediate School
with Ventia
and Royal Auckland and Grange Golf Club



Together, we grew and planted 615 native plants!

Thank you for your commitment to environmental education and the growing and planting of native trees. Together our actions are having a positive impact on environmental restoration.





PLANTING DAY SUMMARY:

27 May 2025 at 57 Grange Road, Papatoetoe

After a night of heavy rain, we were greeted with clear blue skies on Papatoetoe Intermediate School's planting day. Before the students arrived, holes were dug, and trees were counted and laid out. Thirty-nine Year 8 students, three staff members, and one parent helper walked from school to the Royal Auckland and Grange Golf Club. Cate Jessep, a Sustainable Schools advisor, two sponsors from Ventia, and three Golf Club staff assisted with the planting. Selwyn Screen the kaumatua for the golf club and Mark Hooker the Director of Agronomy were there to welcome us.

Fortunately, the golf fairways near the planting site were closed, so we didn't have to dodge golf balls. We enjoyed finding lost golf balls and other treasures in the grass. The planting site is next to a lake that holds Papatoetoe's stormwater, which is used to water the golf course. It was fascinating to learn about this and understand why we were planting next to the lake.

After a couple of hours of dedicated hard mahi along the lakeside, it was time to put the tools down. We headed to the grounds shed to wash off before we were treated to a delicious lunch at the golf club. The caterers provided a lovely spread, including yummy ice cream and baked goods. Papatoetoe Intermediate was lucky to plant at a site close to school and be rewarded with lunch from the Golf Club. Thank you to everyone who made this planting day possible.

TfS Facilitator: Sarah Franklin-Browne

Teacher: Roshela Stephen & Tracy Prout

39 Students

3 School Staff

3 Parents, Landowners & Others

2 Sponsors

Waterway planted: 1500m and 1500m





160 x Tī Kōuka

(Cabbage Tree / Cordyline australis)

One of our most iconic native plants. Tī Kōuka 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.



100 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.



40 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.



91 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.



40 x Kānuka

(Kunzea robusta)

Kanuka is a larger growing tree than the similar looking manuka, growing up to 15m tall with beautiful white aromatic flowers in summer and leathery strips of bark. It is a great colonizer and provides a canopy for slower growing native species. It provides good perching places for birds.



124 x Pukio

(Carex virgata)

This sedge is widespread in swamps and damp locations in lowland forest throughout NZ. It can grow to 1m in height and long dropping leaves and flower spikes.



60 x Rautahi

(Cutty grass / Carex lessoniana)

This sedge is widespread on the margins of streams, swamps or very wet forest in the North Island and top of the South Island. It can grow to 1.5m in height and features bright to dark green leaves.





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 on 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 and partnership options visit us at

www.tfsnz.org.nz/donate

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With special thanks to our Principal Partners

