

## Supporting school libraries

Enthusiastic teachers and librarians published **168 reviews** on The School Library to help others curate their own school libraries.



## Growing a national resource

We created **17 new Writers Files**, profiling amazing Aotearoa creatives, were compiled for our website: and we continued to maintain the existing **700+ files**.



Te Kahu Rolleston at Iona College

## Transforming tamariki

Writers in Schools reached **62,672** tamariki and rangatahi with **382 transformational visits** from **111 authors and illustrators**, across 16 regions. **32% of these visits were to high EQI schools**, and 100% of all schools said they would recommend the programme to others. DATA FROM 2025

*“He was funny and I liked his writing activities and that he liked my story that I wrote”*

PARTICIPANT, WRITERS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME



## Providing data for informed conversations

We conducted a National Reading Survey to equip people talking about reading with robust and relevant data, including that **39% of 18-24 year olds told us they ‘don’t like reading’**; and those under 35 are more likely to engage with e-books and audiobooks.

We deliver programmes that incentivise reading and writing in schools and communities and champion New Zealand storytelling in all its forms.

We increase exposure to Aotearoa’s writers, illustrators, and stories, honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi by amplifying voices of te ao Māori and the use of te reo Māori.



## You can help support reading in Aotearoa

Become a Read NZ Te Pou Muramura member and help our community of readers and writers grow.

We offer memberships for individuals, corporates, and schools. You’ll enable us to **keep delivering impactful programmes, resources and campaigns** for thousands of Kiwis, transforming lives through reading: and you’ll access some bonus **supporter perks** like our special membership pack.

[read-nz.org/membership](https://read-nz.org/membership)



[www.read-nz.org](https://www.read-nz.org)

Join us on social



@readnz



## What We’ve Been Up To In the last twelve months



# Our kaupapa

Reading makes life better. We promote the joy of reading and the diversity and excitement of homegrown literature to everyone in Aotearoa New Zealand, growing generations of readers.

Reading has been proven to improve social, cultural, well-being and economic outcomes. We create opportunities for everyone in Aotearoa to share in these transformational benefits.

We run campaigns to encourage New Zealanders to read; research our reading habits and barriers to reading; and advocate for the importance of reading on a national level.



## Profiling local lit stars

We developed fun and fresh posters that highlight **five Aotearoa authors** in a way that is bold, informative, accessible and highlights the broad scope of our bookish landscape.



## Keeping teens hooked on books

We published **27 keen teens' reviews** of NZ authored books on our website though Hooked on NZ Books



## Challenging school staff to read more



Our third Teachers Reading Challenge was a hit, with **1,860 school staff participating from 218 schools** reading over 18,500 books and writing over 9,800 reviews.

## Growing Māori and Pasifika kaituhi

With funding support from the Mātātuhi Foundation, we continued our Pōkai Tuhi initiative to get more Māori and Pasifika authors into Writers in Schools. This year, **11 new Māori and Pasifika authors** joined Pōkai Tuhi. **40% of Writers in Schools visits in 2025 were by a Māori writer and 9% Pasifika** – this represents both new and existing authors.

*"It was cool cause he was telling us cool stories that we can relate to"*

PARTICIPANT, WRITERS IN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME



Pōkai Tuhi hero video with Ina and Dani

## Making content that shows our why

We sat down with four Pōkai Tuhi, Writers in Schools authors: **Inangaro Vakaafi, Danielle Kionasina Dilys Thomson, Olivia Aroha Giles and Pita Mei** to talk about the importance of reading, and of connecting more tamariki to Māori and Pasifika writers so they can see themselves in stories. These videos are in the writers own kupu, and you can see their passion come to life. Pōkai Tuhi is made possible thanks to the support of the Mātātuhi Foundation.

## Ngā mihi nui

These amazing organisations enable our mahi:



We also thank our donors  
**James and Helena Brow**