



ROOM 73

Wednesday 4th February
MI TEACHER

Kia ora, Talofa lava, Mālō e lelei, Ni sa bula vinaka, Namaste, Fakalofa lahi atu, Ni hao, Kia orana, and Warmest greetings to you all.

To our new whānau starting with us in 2026 - I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new students, parents, and caregivers joining the Room 73 whānau. I look forward to meeting with you, getting to know you, and working together to inspire your child to succeed. My warmest greetings and salutations to each and every one of you and welcome to our AMAZING school!

To our returning students and whānau, it is a joy to see you all again for another year full of fun, excitement, laughter, and success! Ko Kalen Chase tōku ingoa - My name is Kalen Chase, and it is an absolute privilege to have your child in my form class for 2026. I am extremely excited for the year ahead and I cannot wait to share some awesome experiences that will lead to everyone creating lifelong memories in Room 73.

ABOUT ME:

I am from five beautiful iwi - Ngāti Kahu ki Whangaroa, Taranaki Tuturu, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Tuwharetoa, mē Ngāti Kahungunu. My whānau means the world to me and this reflects my teaching practice and the culture I will create in Room 73. South Auckland has always been home from the day I was born, and I will forever call Manurewa home!

I strongly believe in the saying 'Home is where the heart is' as this reflects the love, support-filled and nurturing atmosphere I strive to create within my classroom for ALL students and their whānau.

Manurewa Intermediate is such a great school, personifying an inclusive environment for your child, with endless activities and opportunities that encourages EVERY child to participate. Please do not hesitate to contact me about any questions or concerns you may have. I will be in touch through text and call very soon. I look forward to meeting you all!

Nāku noa

Matua Kalen

CONTACT ME:

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Module 1:
MI School Life

Module 2:
MI Survival

Module 3:
Risk Taker - MI Way

Subject Teachers:

Humanities: Miss Laura Gafo'i

Math: Miss Julie Misa

Science: Matua Kalen

PE: Mr Cian Byrne-Hansen

Te Ao Māori: Whaea Alazae

Malava-Tulono

Art: Whaea Shar Hardwidge

Form Time Subjects:

Hauora: Graduate Profile

Monday Magic: Foundation Basics

Life Skills: Civics

Friday Frenzy: Languages

Important Dates:

6th February: Waitangi Day

17th February: Swimming Sports

9th February: Mini Athletics

11th February: MI Night Markets

Week 2 – 4: MI Survival

10th-12th March: Leadership Camp

13th March: All week Uniform Check

24th-26th March: Whanau Leader Camp

31st March: Student Involved Conference

2nd April: Haka Comp

2nd April: Last day of term

Term One Values: Manaakitanga | Respect | Communication | Engagement & Teamwork

ATTENDANCE:

I expect 100% attendance! Your child must be at school every day. If your child is not able to come to school, make sure to contact me in the morning, preferably before 8:25am. I will be contacting you if your child is away without a valid reason as they can not progress with their learning if they miss school. We want and need your child at school everyday!

LATES:

School starts at 8:30 am but we encourage students to be here by 8:20 am. Students who are late twice in a week will be placed on lunch time Community Service. If your child is running late please come into the school with them or write a note to explain their lateness.

UNIFORM:

Your child needs to be in 100% correct school uniform. This includes their whānau band. Refer to the MI Planner for more information. If there are any problems and your child does not have the correct uniform, please send them to school with a note. They can take this to Mr Peilua to receive a uniform pass.