Westlake Boys High School in its Locality

**Our Vision**

To create a rich, collaborative culture that unites kura (schools), pouako (teachers), ākonga (students) and whānau to work collectively on common goals for the benefit of all.

‘Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini’ – success is not the work of an individual, but the work of many.

# **‘RANGITOTO’**

nā Johnny Waititi

# **Rangitoto te maunga**

# **Waitematā te moana**

# **Ngāti Paoa te iwi e**

# **Ko Pupuke te roto**

# **Anei ngā kura o Te Kāhui Ako**

# **E ngā iwi, tēnā koutou (2x)**

**English Translation:**

Rangitoto is the mountain

Waitemata is the ocean

Ngati Paoa are the iwi

Pupuke is the lake

Here are the schools of our Community of learning

Everyone, welcome. Everyone, welcome.

**Lake Pupuke**

**Lake Pupuke** traditionally known in Māori as Pupukemoana is a heart-shaped freshwater lake occupying a volcanic crater (or maar) situated to the east of Westlake Boys High School. The heart shape is a result of its formation by the linking of two circular craters - a larger one forming most of the lake and a smaller one forming the arm in the northeast. Separated from the sea by less than 200 m at one point, it has a circumference of about 4.5 km and reaches 57min depth. It is popular for recreational activities and the lake front property around it.

**Geology**

Other similar craters in the Auckland volcanic field were either buried by later eruptions or breached by erosion as rainwater collected and overflowed the edge of the crater. Lake Pupuke remains a lake because, unlike the other vents, its eruptions produced substantial lava flows; water can thus escape through cracks in the lava reaching under the crater wall, creating a series of freshwater springs along the beaches between Takapuna and Milford. The lava flow at the end of Takapuna Beach enveloped a kauri forest, producing an internationally significant collection of tree moulds, which has been called "New Zealand’s only example of a fossil forest preserved in a lava flow" and which "ranks among the best examples in the world." Some moulds have escaped burial by the boat ramp and car park built on top of the lava and can be viewed at low tide.

**Māori legend**

A traditional Māori legend surrounding the lake tells of a tupua couple, children of the fire gods. After quarreling and cursing Mahuika, the fire-goddess, their home on the mainland was destroyed by Matahoe, god of earthquakes and eruptions, on Mahuika's behalf. Lake Pupuke resulted from the destruction, while Rangitoto Island rose from the sea as their exile. The mists surrounding Rangitoto at certain times are considered the tears of the tupua couple for their former home.

**Human Use**

Close to the Takapuna city centre, the lake is popular not only with wild birds (such as shags) but with picnickers, paddlers, kayakers, rowers, yachtsmen, divers, and windsurfers (lessons have been given on the lake). Free divers (no tanks) have practiced in the lake. College rowing crews use it. There have been boating races. and the Pupuke Boating Club operates there. Takapuna Boating Club hosts regattas.

The Auckland Dragon Boat Association runs an annual regionals race event on the lake, with 200m, 500m and 2 km races. The lake is the venue for Dragon Boat, Canoe sprints, Canoe marathon, and Waka Ama sprint racing within the Canoe Competition at the World Masters Games 2017 held in Auckland.

Lake Pupuke is suitable for swimming but is murky and contains thick vegetation, and there have been drownings. The lake has been tested for bacteria and generally meets safe swimming conditions.

**More info**

<https://phys.org/news/2019-06-firepits-gods-ancient-memories-maar.html>

**Rangitoto Island**

**Rangitoto Island** is a volcanic island in the Hauraki Gulf. The 5.5 km (3.4 mi) wide island is a symmetrical shield volcano cone, reaching a height of 260 m (850 ft). Rangitoto is the youngest and largest of the approximately 50 volcanoes of the Auckland volcanic field, having formed in an eruption about 600 years ago, and covering an area of 2,311 ha (5,710 acres). It is separated from the mainland of Auckland's North Shore by the Rangitoto Channel. Since World War II, it has been linked by a causeway to the much older, non-volcanic Motutapu Island.

*Rangitoto* is Māori for 'Bloody Sky', with the name coming from the full phrase *Ngā Rangi-i-totongia-a Tama-te-kapua* ("The days of the bleeding of Tama-te-kapua"). Tama-te-kapua was the captain of the Arawa *waka* (canoe) and was badly wounded on the island, after having lost a battle with the Tainui *iwi* (tribe) at Islington Bay.

**Māori association**

The volcano erupted within the historical memory of the local Māori iwi (tribes). Human footprints have been found between layers of Rangitoto volcanic ash on the adjoining Motutapu Island. Ngāi Tai was the iwi living on Motutapu, and considers both islands their ancestral home. Ngāti Paoa also has links with Rangitoto.

**Geology**

Rangitoto was formed during a single phase of eruptions that may have lasted only 5–10 years, about 600 years ago. Previous inferences that it was formed by a series of eruptions commencing at least 6000 years ago[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rangitoto_Island#cite_note-7) have been disproved by the most recent research. The first part of the eruption was wet and produced surges of volcanic ash that mantles neighbouring Motutapu Island. The later part of the eruption was dry and built most of Rangitoto, erupting all the lava flows and scoria cones at the apex. The 2.3 km3 (0.55 cu mi) of material that erupted from the volcano was about equal to the combined mass produced by all the previous eruptions in the Auckland volcanic field, which were spread over more than 200,000 years.

In 2013, scientists from Auckland University said new studies showed Rangitoto had been much more active in the past than previously thought, suggesting it had been active on and off for around 1000 years before the final eruptions around 550 years ago (BP= before 1950). In February 2014 a 150 m (490 ft) deep hole was drilled through the western flank of Rangitoto. The same group of university scientists declared that it revealed a long history of spasmodic eruptions going back at least 6000 years, although the bulk of activity post-dated 650 years. Civil Defence officials said the discovery did not make living in Auckland any more dangerous, but did change their view of how an eruption might proceed. These headline-grabbing results have been controversial and not accepted by all geologists. n 2018, most of the original group of Auckland University geologists reported on their latest research and reinterpretation of the drillhole sequence and pronounced that the island did not erupt off and on prior to its major eruption about 600 years ago and is not a unique polygenetic volcano in the monogenetic Auckland volcanic field, as they had previously inferred. While it is possible that Rangitoto buried one or more smaller volcanoes, to date there is no strong evidence to support this idea.

Subsidence back down the throat during the cooling process has left a moat-like ring around the crater summit, which may be viewed from a path which goes right round the rim and up to the highest point. In some parts of the island, fields of clinker-like black lava stones are exposed, appearing very recent to a casual eye. About 200 metres from the top of the mountain on the eastern side visitors can walk through some of about seven known lava tubes — tubes left behind after the passage of liquid lava. The more accessible of the caves are signposted. Lava tubes are formed when low-viscosity molten lava known as pahoehoe flows and cools on the outside due to contact with the ground and air, to form a hard crust allowing the still-liquid molten lava to continue to flow through inside. At Rangitoto the large tubes are cave-like. A torch is needed to explore the caves. The longest known cave is about 50 m long.

**Ngāti Pāoa**

**Ngāti Pāoa** is a Māori *iwi* of the Hauraki region. Its traditional lands stretch from the western side of the Hauraki Plains to Auckland. They also settled on Hauraki Gulf islands such as Waiheke.

Ngāti Pāoa is one of five tribes of the Marutūāhu confederation, the others being Ngāti Maru, Ngāti Rongoū, Ngāti Tamaterā and Ngāti Whanaunga. The Marutūāhu tribes are all descended from Marutūāhu, a son of Hotunui, who is said to have arrived in New Zealand on the *Tainui* canoe. The Marutūāhu tribes are therefore part of the Tainui group of tribes. The Marutūāhu confederation is also part of the Hauraki collective of tribes.

**Early history**

Ngāti Pāoa is descended from Pāoa. According to a Hauraki tradition his father was Rongo-tiu-moe-whara of the East Coast iwi, Ngāti Kahungunu, born at Whai-a-pāoa near Wharekahika. According to Tainui accounts his father was Hekemaru, his paternal grandparents were Pikiao from the Te Arawa tribe, and Rereiao, a high-born Waikato woman descended from Whatihua, and he was the brother of Mahuta, from whom Ngāti Mahuta is descended. On either version, Pāoa lived with his first wife Tauhākari, sons Toapoto and Toawhana, and daughter Koura at Kaitotehe, near Taupiri in the central Waikato. Pāoa moved from Kaitotehe to Hauraki, where he married Tukutuku, a granddaughter of Tamaterā, with whom he had sons, first Haora Tipa Koinaki and second Horowhenua.   
Pāoa and Tukutuku's children lived in and around the Hauraki Plains. Ngāti Pāoa later spread to the western side of the Firth of Thames, from where they also frequented the Hunua Ranges. By the 1700s they also frequented the Tāmaki (Auckland) isthmus, the North Shore and the eastern and northern Coromandel Peninsula.   
In about 1780 Ngāti Pāoa established settlements along the western side of the Tamaki River and at Mokoia (present-day Panmure). In 1790 and from 1793 to 1798 they engaged in many battles with tribes to the north, at least as far as the Mahurangi district. By 1805 they were tiring of war and negotiated peace settlements with many neighbouring tribes. At this time they had settlements along the Tamaki River as far as Otahuhu.

<https://www.ngatipaoaiwi.co.nz/history.html>

**Waitematā Harbour**

**Waitematā Harbour** is the main access by sea to Auckland. For this reason it is often referred to as **Auckland Harbour**, despite the fact that it is one of two harbours adjoining the city. The harbour forms the northern and eastern coasts of the Auckland isthmus and is crossed by the Auckland Harbour Bridge. It is matched on the southern side of the city by the shallower waters of the Manukau Harbour.

With an area of 70 square miles (180 km2), it connects the city's main port and the Auckland waterfront to the Hauraki Gulf and the Pacific Ocean. It is sheltered from Pacific storms by Auckland's North Shore, Rangitoto Island, and Waiheke Island.

**Etymology**

The oldest Māori name of the harbour was Te Whanga-nui o Toi (The Big Bay of Toi), named after Toi, an early Māori explorer.

The name *Waitematā* means "Te Mata Waters", which according to some traditions refers to a mauri stone (a stone of [Māori religious](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C4%81ori_religion) significance) called Te Mata, which was placed on [Boat Rock](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boat_Rock) (in the harbour south-west of [Chatswood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chatswood,_New_Zealand)) by [Te Arawa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Te_Arawa) chief Kahumatamomoe. A popular translation of *Waitematā* is "The Obsidian Waters", referring to [obsidian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Obsidian) rock (*matā*). Another popular translation, derived from this, is "The Sparkling Waters", as the harbour waters were said to glint like the volcanic glass obsidian. However, this is incorrect, as grammatically *Waitematā* could not mean this.

**History**

* Prior to European settlement, the harbour was the site of many [Tāmaki Māori](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T%C4%81maki_M%C4%81ori) [pā](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P%C4%81) and [kāinga](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K%C4%81inga), including Kauri Point in [Chatswood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chatswood,_New_Zealand), Okā at Point Erin, Te Tō at [Freemans Bay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freemans_Bay), Te Ngahuwera, Te Rerenga-oraiti at [Point Britomart](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Point_Britomart), and [Ōrākei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C5%8Cr%C4%81kei). [Herald Island](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herald_Island,_New_Zealand) and [Watchmen Island](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Watchmen_Island&action=edit&redlink=1) were both settled by the [Waiohua](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waiohua) confederation. The Waitematā Harbour was traditionally used as a fishery used by [Tāmaki Māori](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T%C4%81maki_M%C4%81ori) for sharks and [snapper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australasian_snapper).
* In the late 18th century and early 19th century, the waters were fished together by [Ngāti Whātua-o-Ōrākei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ng%C4%81ti_Wh%C4%81tua-o-%C5%8Cr%C4%81kei) and [Ngāti Pāoa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ng%C4%81ti_P%C4%81oa). In traditional legend, the Waitematā Harbour is protected by a [taniwha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taniwha) named Ureia, who takes the form of a whale.

The harbour has long been the main anchorage and port area for the Auckland region. Well-sheltered not only by the Hauraki Gulf itself but also by Rangitoto Island, the harbour offered good protection in almost all winds, and lacked dangerous shoals or major sand bars (like on the [Manukau Harbour](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manukau_Harbour)) that would have made entry difficult. The harbour also proved a fertile area for encroaching development, with major [land reclamation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Land_reclamation) undertaken, especially along the [Auckland waterfront](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auckland_waterfront), within a few decades of the city's European founding.

Taking the idea of the several Māori [portage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portage) paths over the isthmus one step further, the creation of a canal that would link the Waitematā and Manukau harbours was considered in the early 1900s. Legislation (the Auckland and Manukau Canal Act 1908) was passed that would allow authorities to take privately owned land where it was deemed required for a canal. However, no serious work (or land take) was undertaken. The act was repealed on 1 November 2010.

Content about Lake Pupuke, Rangitoto Island, Ngāti Pāoa and Waitematā Harbour is from Wikipedia and must be referenced accordingly