

Media release

For immediate release

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Waitakere schools join forces to create fantastic mural

One hundred children from five Waitakere primary schools have worked together under the auspices of Project Twin Streams to create a 12-metre long, community mural to celebrate the Lucinda Place Community Orchard,

The mural will be unveiled at a ceremony and barbeque at Lucinda Place on Wednesday 24 March at 6pm.

The community orchard is located on a site in Glen Eden where Project Twin Streams relocated a number of residential houses which were within the river's natural flood plane. Last year, the site was planted with a selection of mandarins, feijoas, apples, plums and peaches to provide fruit for the community.

Teremoana Jones, Project Twin Streams Coordinator Glen Eden said, "I really hope that the orchard becomes a resource for the community - not only as a shared kai resource but also a place for learning and workshops and a very special place for families and neighbours to gather. The turn-out for the community fruit tree-pruning workshop showed the high level of interest in community learning and the sharing of skills.

"Projects like this link into wider issues such as car use." Teremoana added, "Supporting initiatives for locally grown food is a very important step towards reducing the number of kilometers we drive."

Mandy Patmore, Project Twin Streams Arts Coordinator worked with the school children and said, "This beautiful and vibrant mural celebrates the entrance way to the orchard as well as the local environment and community. It was exciting to see such a collaborative project come to life, at the hands of so many of our local children. They were all very passionate, and proud of their work."

Students from Prospect Primary came up with the concept of creating a sign that spelt out the letters in the shape of fruit, vegetables, plants and animals. The children wanted massive birds, insects and water creatures on the mural making the point that these creatures lived in our environment and were important.

Kauriland pupils then took over the school staffroom to paint the plywood backdrop before Konini pupils added a stream scene. Greenbay Primary added the large water creatures and Prospect Primary added the bugs, birds and a

lizard. Finally, Glen Eden Primary pupils created the letters.

Project Twin Streams is a nine-year stormwater project delivered by Waitakere City Council in partnership with local community organisations, funded by Auckland Regional Council.

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