

Te Puna School Year 4 Visit
20th November 2025

Thank you so much for a fun, engaging and educational visit to your museum.

My year 4 class, of mainly nine-year-olds, were kept busy and on task at all times during the visit of an hour and a half. Both of the exhibitions “Echoes of Change” and “Environmental Heroes” align with topics we frequently teach at school and support the NZ curriculum.

The environment is an area we cover every year, integrated throughout the curriculum. The Environmental Heroes exhibit was inspiring and informative and it was special to find one of our class members in one of the photos. The students particularly enjoyed the life-like animals, and it was fascinating to learn about the bittern as nobody had actually seen one. Although the worksheet was a great addition to the session, there was basically no time to actually fill it in. We did bring them back to school and finish them and the class enjoyed doing that.

The highlight for most was the telephone exchange. So amazing to have such a hands-on exhibit, they LOVED it. The students were excited to receive their handwritten postcards in the mail too.

The museum staff were friendly, helpful and engaging. They held the students' interest and the activities had variety and a mix of “listening and doing”.

I highly recommend classes to experience these exhibitions and if the ‘Echoes of Change’ is still available in 2025, there will be classes hoping to visit from Te Puna School as our theme for the year is “Communication”.

Donelle Shilling