

## Mauri Tu, Mauri Ora An active soul is a healthy soul

"Come and watch me be a ninja!" From one end of the garden to the other, Eljae is devising a ninja course involving cartwheels, spins, jumps and roly-polies. The energy is electric and bottom-less. To finish off in style, Eljae jumps like a panther onto a cable wheel, in full control of his body. As I watch, my eyes turn slightly googly and my heart shrinks to the size of the pea, watching all these thrilling tricks. Wow, wow, wow!

**Mātauranga...** Eljae, you are a force to be reckoned with, a tamaiti with huge mana who is absolutely thriving in this place. When I told your mama about your ninja play, she showed me of video of your papa creating obstacles at home for you to tackle. He is obviously one of your learning heroes who deeply knows your fascinations and how to nurture them. As I reflect back on your ways being and learning here, I think your wairua is truly encrypted in your name: Huriwhenua, a little tornado who pulls no stops when it comes to following your plans. Your mama quite often says that you live up to your name. To me, this means that you are deeply passionate about learning, brave and willing to embrace opportunities. Eljae, I entitled this story mauri tu, mauri ora because I think there is a such a deep connection between your Taha Tinana and Taha Hinengaro. When your body is active, exploring its limits, then



your mind and soul are nurtured and in balance. So, e te hoa, thank you for showcasing me your ninja tricks. They gave me a deeper insight into your learning identity.



How can we all stretch this learning further? Eljae, listening to your plans is vital if we are to genuinely grow your learning further. We shall ensure that the right resources, alongside time, space and freedom are in place for those ideas to take hold and eventuate. Because your brain, my friend, is a powerhouse.

Cu afecțiune/Arohanui, Cat

November 2022





