



MAKURI SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Makuri Makes it Happen

9th October 2025 Term 4 Issue 16

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<https://www.makuri.school.nz/home>

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Makuri School Vision

With strong community support, Makuri children will have the best possible opportunity to grow as confident, self-directed learners.



‘He iti te kopara rerere i te puhi o te kahikatea’
Though the Bellbird is small, it can soar to the crown of the kahikatea

School Values: **M**otivated, **A**daptable, **K**ind, **U**nited, **R**esourceful, **I**nvolved

Principal's Blurb:

Tēnei ngā mihi nui ki a koutou (Many greetings to you all),

I'm back from sabbatical. What feels like a long absence. I have been able to re-energise, reflect and grow a bit professionally. Thanks to all of you who have welcomed me back so far. I trust that term 3 went smoothly although I hear that the winter bugs had an impact on attendance.

After catching up on what the students, staff and community have done last term we have put together an exciting term to conclude 2025. The staff are implementing BSLA structured literacy and Numicon (Maths) in both classes. In the senior room we will continue some initiatives that Ms. Lee introduced. Banqer (financial literacy), Steps web (Spelling) and Kiwikids news (current events). Miss Paton continues with her amazing programme for the junior students. To begin this term we are focusing on athletics training and learning in the classroom in preparation for end of year assessments.

We have the usual events to look forward to such as Pet Day, Athletics, an End of Year Concert, Prizegiving and Beach Day. This term is an 11 week term and our last day will be the 19th of December (Friday). Details of dates can be found in this newsletter and on Skool Loop in the calendar section.

There will be one Bush Day this term. We have reduced the amount of Bush Days per term to fit other learning in. However we have an exciting unit of integrated work in store called "My Bush Kitchen Rules." More information to come.

As of last term we shifted Mrs Burn's days of work from Wednesday to Friday. This has enabled the school to save half a day per week for a support staff member. Hence saving fundraising money. However this means that newsletters will go out on a Thursday each fortnight.

There won't be a WaiSplash visit this term, however we plan to swim at the beach on Beach Day. We also intend to open the school pool for the summer period in week 9.

Senior student Activities:

There is one more Will Pike challenge this term, date to be confirmed. Technology begins next Friday and VLN classes are continuing. Sam from Sport Manawatu will return as well on Thursday afternoons to continue the leadership sessions with senior students.

Strike Action:

The school will be open on Thursday the 23rd of October. Mr. G will be at the strike as a union member. Lisa Hull will be relieving with support from Mrs Burn.

Teacher Only Day:

The staff will be preparing documentation adopting the new curriculum areas of Maths and English for the Makuri school programme. We have recently made changes to the written reporting. End of year reports will stay in the same format this term however we look forward to changing to accommodate for the new phases expressed in the new curriculum documents next year.

Communication:

We are reviewing the communication procedure between the school and parents. This will involve some changes to the use of messenger and clearer guidelines of how parents are to communicate with staff and vice versa. There will be more detail to follow in the next newsletter.

Heat Ups:

We would like to advise parents that we are not doing heat ups in term 4. Thank you for your cooperation. Heat ups will start up again in term 2 next year.

End of Year Assessments/Reports:

There will be end of year assessments in Writing, Reading and Maths beginning around week 6 and reports going home towards the end of the term.

Pet day:

Attached to the newsletter is the timetable for the day and information for the outdoor section of pet day. Information for the indoor section will come out once everything is finalised.

Adminstrating Medication:

A reminder to parents about the procedure for administration of medication at school. If your child is needing to have medication during the school day the school needs to be informed and parents need to fill out and sign a form. Any medication needs to be handed to a staff member and is kept in the staff room.

Kids' Corner:

Taylor and George's writing about the relief teacher was missed out in the last newsletter and Ms Lee asked for it to go in the next one. This week's writing is about something they did during the holidays. The kids were learning about writing a good recount using adjectives, adverbs and connecting words such as after that, secondly for example.

Angry kiwi, relief teacher, a person skateboarding.

There is an angry kiwi, a relief teacher and a person skateboarding. The teacher was angry at the kid. "You are only meant to go on the bus to school."
"But mum took me off the bus."

"You go to the principal's office now!"

"Never"

"Okay I will take you there."

"Owy look at the kiwi out there."

"Owy it's so angry the kiwi is angry." They never get to the principal office because the kiwi attacks the teacher.

BY TAYLOR

I was hiding from that mean old relief teacher

I was hiding from that mean old relief teacher, she was as ugly as a diseased kiwi and as angry as an enraged ape. Let's go back a bit, the reason why we had a relief teacher is because our old teacher robbed the bank because he wasn't getting paid enough. Later that day he got caught. Our relief teacher isn't really our relief teacher; she was our teacher for three months. Later that afternoon when I was home I had to do 20 pages of homework but I said "I'll do it later," not realizing it was due tomorrow. I skated to the skate park and saw so many people surrounding someone. I pushed through them and saw it was an extreme skater with no helmet or anything, his stunts were so dangerous that he could really hurt himself. Later an ambulance came and he was fine with just a broken ankle. When I came to school in the morning the teacher asked "where is my homework?" I could tell she hated me.

"I thought it was due last week." I said.

I was the only one in detention, I was writing on the board. I will not forget my homework over and over again. Suddenly I heard Crash! I ran out to the hallway. It came from our room. I ran into our room and saw our old teacher. I asked "Where's the other one?"

"In jail because she dressed up as me when I robbed the bank."

By George

Holiday

My Grandfather Tony (we call him Back.) Tony was in Auckland hospital for his gallstone operation. He moved down to Palmerston Hospital. On Saturday we drove to Palmerston North Hospital to see him but on Saturday he was good so they sent him home. Mum, Dad, Jed and I drove to their house in Foxton. We stayed there for a week. We were even allowed to walk down to the Four Square on our own. You should of seen the staples they put in him to hold his tummy together.

By Taylor

Motorbiking At Friends House

My family George, Mum, Dad and myself drove 2 hours. Our friends lived outside of Masterton on a farm. We took Poppy the dog with us. She spewed in the car. When we arrived there we grabbed our bags out of the car. Me and Georgie (our friend) walked down to a creek, we had our gumboots on so we could cross the creek quicker. We kept going. We walked up a little hill and down it. After that we walked back. Georgie had a path the way there but not back. Well we couldn't find it so we found another way. Up a very quiet steep bit of hill. We walked up to the house and a few hours later... I saw the boys George, Harvey and Mac were getting the motorbikes off the trailer. We told the parents where we were going and hopped on the motorbikes we first drove around a little track. Not long after the parents were behind us on 2 quads. They took us on a farm tour. We were out on the farm. Me, Mac, Harvey and George raced up a big hill and raced down going very fast. We drove a few k's and before we knew it we were at a creek. There was an eel right there but the boys made the water all muddy. They also saw a crawly but it swam away. Georgie was looking for crawlies and found one. I came down there and grabbed it. I had never held one before so I

was holding it by the antenna. I also held it by the tail. It bit me, it hurt!! Mum tugged it off me. It gave me a deep cut. The boys were all pussies, that's what Mum said to me. We kept going because the water was muddy so we rode up to the hut site where they were going to build a hut on the top of the farm. The boys and I left early to go and check if the water was not muddy anymore. That's when I fell off. I crashed into Mac. He was going to do a slow turn but I was going quite fast but not that fast. We don't need to talk about it but I did crack my visor. We arrived back down at the creek and the water had cleared back up. Got it!!!!!! Harvey had stabbed it in the head with a knife. They finished him off. When we arrived home we played with Poppy and Jed, it's their dog. We were throwing a tennis ball around for them. We also had a swim in their pool. It was freezing.

By Lucy

Curtainraiser For Turbos

My rugby game was in Palmy at the Arena. I was playing in a curtainraiser for the Manawatu Turbos vs Hawes Bay Magpies. When I was playing my rugby game we played college old boys. We won 1-0. After that we watched them train. When they ran past you could feel the ground shake. We walked round the field to where they ran out. We were handed these weird cheerleader things to cheer on the Manawatu Turbos. We waited for a bit until finally they started running out. Their hands were so sticky. I think they were sticky so they didn't drop the ball.

Kick off! The game started. Try! The Magpies already scored in the first few minutes. I was watching in the crowd and guess what? I was on TV. I was happily eating my hot chips and someone was standing behind me and I heard. "Berg, can I have a chip?"

I said "yes" and he took one. He sat beside me watching the rugby. He took another chip. I said "no more chips." He ran off with a handful.

It was halftime. The score at halftime was 21-0 to Hawkes Bay. At halftime there were these random people in undies. They ran through these plastic poles with sharp ends. They had to try and throw a rugby ball into a concrete maker from twenty metres. It was called the cocky undie run. After that the Turbos had a great 2nd half. They scored two tries and missed both of the conversions. They needed a better first five; he missed them by a mile. His name is Drew Wild. At the end of the game the score was 38-10 to the Magpies. I drove home and watched the All Blacks straight after. I only watched the first half.

By Fergus

HUNTING TRIP

We took off in the ute, travelled 7 hours up to Tiffany's place and slept over. We jumped out of bed knowing a great day was ahead of us. We parked the car, Jed, mum and Taylor were feeling bright, brave and joyful. There was a sign that said trespassers will be shot. What did I do? Of course, I sent Taylor out first. When Jina arrived we put everything in the side by side and started our 45 min trip on the hills to the farm. Let me tell you a fact. If it rained and we get more than 10 mls we would be stuck in there until the river drained out. Later, we were at the house and I was cutting the kindling for the fire. We had the fire roaring then we roasted marshmallows. Since it was my birthday we were allowed to stay up till 9:30 at night. We jumped out of bed at 7:30 in the morning, ate breakfast and hopped back on side by side at 9am. We stayed out the back. On the way we saw some pigs. It was about 12:30 when I saw 3 spikers, Jina and me did a army crawl up the track. She gave me the gun. I aimed and fired. It happened so fast. I shot 2 deer with 2 shots. I started to run over to the deer. We cut off the back legs. One of them were very Ugly and one of them looked very good just like me. We drove home and made jerky. I made the jerky spicy so no one else liked it but they did.

By JED

Moving House

The start of the term 3 break was when it happened. The Hull family put their muscles into four wheel drive to pack up and get out of here! At first we were taking tiny steps but then we gathered enough courage to get up and pack up. We all started packing clothes. Wow, already done packing clothes lets move on. We all started doing trailer loads with a mate's trailer and our trailer. While we were getting beds and drawers sorted out. By taking them to the other hou- oh sorry I have not introduced myself.

Hi, I'm William. I will be your host for the next 2 and a half minutes. Our family is now living on Pori Road next door to my best friend George. While that happened we were getting very frustrated and stressed (especially mum and dad) until we asked for help and oh boy we sure did get help. The Bowies, Benoits, and the Pomanas helped.

While taking stuff out of the shed we encountered a lot of stuff we don't need. So we did a couple of rubbish runs. While this was happening mum and my sister were doing loads of stuff in their cars from the house. This is pretty random and I bet some of you guys already know. But I'm just going to say it. The reason we moved is because we have a 200 hectare lease block up on Pori Road and my father hates driving 15minutes just to get to a farm everyday. This move means we are moving to the house on the farm..... Does it make sense? Good.

It was family and friends that helped us move. Thank you for helping us move.

By William

Community service

On Thursday last week I drove to my grandparents and stayed there for the night. In the morning I had a big breakfast because I knew I had a big day coming. My grandparents took me to my great uncle Eric's and he took me for a ride in his car. We arrived at Mt Holdsworth. We were doing 'Operation Kaka' trapping for the Department of Conversation in the Tararua Ranges. We both put on our gear and walked to the gear shed where we got all the bait and traps. We started walking down the main track and hopped off to a smaller trapping track. There was about 50 traps and we found the first one, we found nothing but the bait was gone somehow so I opened a peanut butter jar and uncle Eric stuck his finger into it (he was wearing gloves) and put it on the trap. We checked and rebaited a few more until we got our first dead animal... It was a blackbird but the next trap we got a mouse, not a full mouse just its tail. A few more traps until we got our first full mouse I picked it up and chucked it into the bush. We rebaited it and walked on. We caught 5 more mice. Then in one trap we caught two gigantic rats whose tails were bigger than worms and their bodies were massive. I picked up the rats and when I picked them up and there were so many maggots. We checked the last traps and caught one more rat, I chucked it into the bush and we walked back to the car. In total we caught seven mice, three rats and one poor blackbird.

By George

ALL BLACKS VS AUSTRALIA

In Perth over in Australia the All Blacks played Australia. They played on Saturday October the 4th.

We beat Australia 28-14. Leroy Carter and Cam Roigard scored a try each and Quinn Tupaea scored 2 times. We still have the bledisloe cup. Len Ikitau scored the only try for the Aussie team Australia kicked 3 penalty goals.

I was relieved that the All Blacks bet Australia 2 times in a row.

By Miles

Ada's Bday 🎉

It was Ada's birthday, I knew it was going to be a good day. Ada, Bo, Rudy, Mum, Dad and I were driving to Palmy. We were going to Cloud 9, Chinese Restaurant/Chinatown and Tenpin Bowling. They were all really fun. So I will tell you a bit about everything.

Cloud 9 ☁️

There were so many kids at cloud 9. When we arrived we were given grey wrist bands. How they work. You are given a wrist band and you have one hour to play, then when your time is up they call out the colour of your wrist band. If the colour is your colour it is time to leave!! Cloud 9 was so so much fun. After that we drove to China Town/Chinese Restaurant.

China Town 🇨🇳

When we walked in it looked pretty fancy. It had really colourful lanterns hanging from the ceiling, they were really cool. We had lots of yummy food there but I can't remember the names only my favourite, BBQ honey pork which was really really delicious. Next we entered Tenpin Bowling.

Tenpin bowling 🎳

Once we walked in and walked to the front desk, the lady asked us what size shoes we wore. This is because you have to wear a special pair of shoes so you do not wreck the wood. We played one game. It was so fun!!

By Ivy

Hockey tournament in Whanganui

In the holidays, I was driven to the twin turfs in Palmy to meet with my team. For the past 6 or 7 weeks I have been training for a tournament in Whanganui. It was cold and windy as we loaded our bags into the van and got in. We stopped in fielding to find a mascot to represent us. There were three rules. One, it had to be green because we play for Manawatu. Two, it had to be under twenty dollars. Lilly found a dragon squishmello and surprisingly that was our best option (it was either the dragon or a kiwi fruit looking thing) so we bought it and drove to our accommodation.

We stayed in the boys dorms at Whanganui Collegiate in the boys dorms and they were gross! There were holes in the walls, people had scratched their name into desks and some of us didn't have a window or a light. We also had to share the building with all the boys teams.

Our first game was against Wellington. It was raining and we were all soaked before we even got on the turfs. Wellington was really good because they didn't have any 11 aside teams and instead had like four 7s teams. In that game I played center striker. They had one really good player and she scored all the goals. We lost 4-0.

The next game we played against them was way better. My coach put me in left half where I play really strong. And we lost 1-0 because they got a goal that shouldn't have counted. They got it when our goalie accidentally injured a player on their team so we all stopped to make sure she was ok but a girl from the other team kept going and scored a goal.

The last game we played we won by 1-0. But they were horrible to play. It was hot and we were all really tired and they did so much hacking, it was horrific. We got our goal off a P.C in the second half.

By Zara

Miss Paton's Class – Writing

Students are learning to use a conjunction to make a compound sentence. Can you spot them?

I was playing hockey and I got a blister.

By Ceejay

The fairy tried to get to sleep, but the noise kept her up.

The glass fell over, so the shopkeeper picked it up.

The girl wanted to go to the zoo, but it was closed.

By Ada

I went to Wades and we made it past the rams to the treehouse.

By Jack

Olive bought a rocket, but it was broken.

By Bo

I like apples, but Amelia likes pumpkin.

I like maths, but Ada likes dancing.

I like playing hockey, and painting.

By Shelbee

I like apples and pumpkin, but Bo likes watermelon.

By Amelia

I wanted to jump in the lake, but it was too cold.

I did not know what to write, so I wrote about not knowing what to write about.

I was tired, but I had to work.

By Wade

Mum went up the lane way to check on the boys, and found them looking for crayfish.

By Olive

OTHER SCHOOL NOTICES

Calendar of Events

Please note that these dates may change from time to time.

Term 4

October

Monday 6th - First Day of Term 4

Friday 17th - Technology

Monday 27th - Labour Day (school closed)

Tuesday 28th - Teacher Only Day (school closed)

Friday 31st - Technology

November

Wednesday 5th - Pet day

Friday 14th - Technology

Wednesday 19th - Rural Athletics

Friday 28th - Bush Athletics

- Technology

December

Monday 1st - Bush Athletics Postponement

Wednesday 17th - Prizegiving

Friday 19th - Last day of Term 4 (possible beach day)

Duffy Books:

Our "Caught Being Good" award recipient for week 9 last term was William and week 10 was Ada. Term 4's winner for week 1 is George. Well done everyone.



The Hemi-Whyte Whanau are our Duffy Books in Homes Funding Partner. They have kindly agreed to contribute 50% of the cost of books for your students. We would like to thank them for their support and we look forward to connecting with them.

Yummy Stickers:

Don't forget to collect your yummy stickers and send them to school. If you need a new sheet let me know. As we don't get enough stickers to redeem them every year, we keep on collecting them until we do.

Pahiatua Library News:

After 35 years Wyn Davidson will retire from her position at Pahiatua Library as of 31st October 2025.

Thank you for the wonderful service you have provided Wyn. Enjoy your retirement.

Scholastic Book Club:

Scholastic brochures are attached to school families' newsletters. Orders are due back at school by Wednesday 23rd October. Please hand it to Mr Grimmer or Mrs Burn. Parents are now able to pay for their books online. See order form page for details. It would be appreciated if payment for orders were made online, although cash is acceptable. Please make sure you put Makuri as your school, as all books are delivered to the school. Books purchased from Scholastic Book Clubs not only support your child's reading achievement – over 20% of your order goes directly back into our school in the form of library books or other teaching resources.

Circus:

Attached to the newsletter is one child free ticket to the Weber Bros Entertainment Circus in Palmerston North. Instructions on how to redeem it are on the back of the card. There is a very short time frame to redeem but we only received them yesterday.

BOT



MAKURI SCHOOL HORSE TREK

Fundraising to provide additional staffing at our sole-charge school.

**SATURDAY 28TH &
SUNDAY 29TH MARCH 2026**

\$320

143 WOODVILLE AOHANGA ROAD, MAKURI

A medium grade ride along bulldozed tracks and open hill country with creek and river crossings.

FULLY CATERED



FRIDAY 27 MARCH

From 3:00pm – Arrive, sign in, set up and dinner



SATURDAY 28 MARCH – DAY 1

7:00am – Cooked breakfast

8:00am – Ride out till 4:00pm (estimated)

Smoko and lunch provided



From 5:00pm – Nibbles, dinner, auction & live music (BYO)



SUNDAY 29 MARCH – DAY 2

7:00am – Cooked breakfast

8:00am – Ride out till lunchtime

Smoko and lunch provided



Entries close 20 March 2026 – trybooking.com/nz/ZOV



makuritrailride@gmail.com Phone: 0272204672

Community News:



**MONDAY'S 3RD NOVEMBER TO
8TH DECEMBER 3.30PM TO 5.00PM
TERM 4**

PONGAROA COMMUNITY HALL, ROUTE 52

FREE ENTRY! ACCESSIBLE SITES

SEE FACEBOOK FOR DETAILS

NOVEMBER 2ND 10-2

**Pongaroa
Country
Market**

Bring cash & bags!
email: Pongaroa@outlook.com

OVER 30 STALLS !!!

Drinks Hand-Crafted goods

Food Clothing Plants Toys

PONGAROA
the way to go!

Wendy's Brainteaser:

This week's puzzle.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{ARURMS} \\ \hline \text{IT} \end{array}$$

Previous newsletter puzzle and answer.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{ALL} \\ \hline \text{AGAIN} \end{array}$$

Answer – All over again. Well done to Gareth Young, Russell Burn

It takes a community to raise and educate a lifelong learner"