

MĀKARA MODEL SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025



Update

Thank you

Thank you for the very warm welcome you have given me and Beau since we started at the beginning of the year. I feel privileged to be at such a fabulous kura with a very kind and caring community. We very much feel at home and I look forward to meeting more of you soon.

I have particularly enjoyed getting to know the tamariki and I plan to spend more time getting to know them in their classes throughout the rest of this term. It has been so great to see the kids working hard at their learning and also getting outside to enjoy our wonderful grounds and the fantastic weather.

I also want to thank everyone that helped at the Working Bee in January, Amir for fixing a pipe in our pool and Matt for mowing our lawns while we purchase a new lawn mower. All of your help is greatly appreciated!

If you have any questions or concerns, please get in contact with me or your child's teacher.

Ngā mihi nui
James

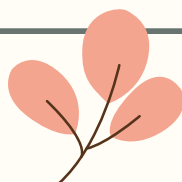


Upcoming Events

- 17 March: Triathlon/Duathlon
- 21 March: Staff Only Day - school closed.
- 24-25 March: Parent-teacher meetings.
- 26 March Board Meeting
- 11 April: School Hui and last day of term. School finishes at 3pm.

Parent Teacher meetings

We are holding our first set of parent teacher meetings on 24 and 25 March. Bookings can be made on HERO. If you need help with this please contact Kiri.





Parent Survey



Thank you to all of you who completed the recent parent survey. We received over 40 responses, which has provided us with some valuable information. The survey results aligned closely with the current thinking of staff so that is really positive. As a result of the survey feedback we will be trialling doing some things a little differently in 2025. We will provide you with an opportunity to give us feedback on these areas later this year or early in 2026. We have tried to strike a balance between managing teacher workload, while providing whānau with the information they need. We have also considered time and financial constraints on whānau.

Communication

All kaiako will provide a fortnightly class update every second Friday. I will send out two newsletters a term (middle and end). Other important updates will be provided via HERO. If you would prefer an email update, please email Kiri office@mms.school.nz and she will add you to an email list. The school calendar will be updated weekly and can be found on HERO.

School hui

Starting next term, we will hold two school hui a term for whānau to attend. At these hui two classes will present something they have been learning in class and there will be certificates for all classes. This term we will have one hui, on the final day of term.

Reporting and Parent-Teacher meetings

Parents will receive written reports of their child's progress and achievement in terms 2 and 4 and verbal updates in terms one and three, via parent teacher meetings. Parents can request a meeting with their child's teacher at any time of the year. Teachers will contact parents if they have any concerns about a child's progress or achievement.

Community Events

We will hold no more than one after school community event each term. Dates will be set well in advance and shared with the community. We will invite the wider Mākara community to these events. Other school events will be held during school time, for example, cross country.

Homework

All students will be encouraged to read everyday at home and school readers will be sent home with students in Piwakawaka and Tui. All other homework will be voluntary and will only be set for students if parents specifically request it.

Camp

We will continue with yearly camps. Only years 5-8 will go on camp in 2025.





Mihi Whakataou

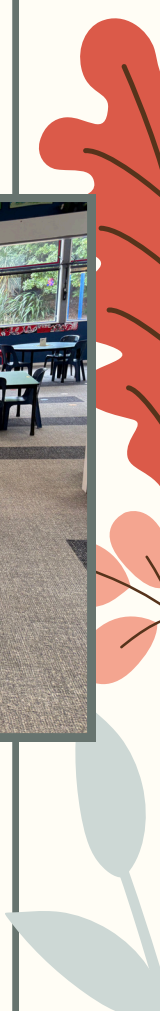
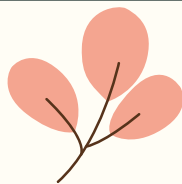
On 11 February we held a Mihi Whakataou here at Mākara to welcome me, Aaron and Hanna. It was a beautiful event and the tamariki did a excellent job with their haka and waiata. A huge ngā mihi nui to Whaea T and the kaiako for preparing the tamariki for the day and to Whaea Kiri for her help with the tamariki and the wonderful table displays and kai.



We then travelled over to Karori Normal School to support Caro as she was welcomed to her new kura. Our tamariki once again did us proud!

Kapa Haka

Kapa Haka is well underway with Whaea T. Each Wednesday we meet in the library to learn some new waiata and practice some of our favourites.



Fundraiser



Mākara Model School is very excited to announce it's first fundraising event of the year...

A special screening of, "A Minecraft Movie" just ONE day after it opens in cinemas across the country!

To be one of the first to see this hotly anticipated blockbuster (rated PG) simply email Kiri at the office (office@mms.school.nz) with your name and the number of tickets wanted, and pop your payment into the school account:

Makara School
12-3223-0142499-000
ref: Movie and Family name

Or better yet just pop by the office, where we have eftpos waiting for you.



Community Picnic

We held our first community event of the year on 18 February. It was great to see so many of our whānau in attendance and also other members of the wider Mākara community. The kids and adults had a great time sharing kai, swimming in the pool and enjoying our excellent field and playground.



Netball

If your child would like to play netball in the Wellington West Netball competition during terms 2 and 3 please email James on james@mms.school.nz before Wednesday 12 March. A local school has asked if we have any kids keen to play. Games will be played on a Saturday at Cardinal McKeefry School.

