



MĀKARA MODEL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

Update

Kia ora e te whānau,

It is hard to believe we are almost halfway through term 2 already! It has been great to see the tamariki enjoying being at school, learning and playing with their friends. A real highlight for me so far this term was the school cross country. It was wonderful to see the support the kids gave each other. I have also really enjoyed spending time in each of the classrooms doing some teaching and getting to know the kids better.

We have a number of events coming up shortly, with the whānau hui and Ruth Paul event on Friday and then our Matariki celebration on Wednesday 11 June. It would be great to see many of you at these events. Please bring your whānau.

The Education Review Office is visiting next week to review our kura. They will meet with staff, students and the Board. At the end they will give us a school report, including some next steps.

School reports (for students) will be coming out in the last week of term. If you would like to discuss the contents of these reports, please arrange a time with your child's teacher.

As always, my door is open if you want a chat!

Ngā mihi nui
James

Whānau Hui and Ruth Paul visit

Please join us for our whānau hui on Friday at 2:00pm in the library. Two classes will share some of their learning. Ruth Paul will be here from 2:30 sharing her new book, Anahera.



Matariki Event

Please join us on Wednesday 11 June, 7:30-9am for our Matariki celebration. More details have been sent out on HERO. Please complete the survey on HERO so we can ensure we have enough kai for everyone.

Upcoming Events

- Fri 30 May: Whānau Hui and Ruth Paul visit.
- Monday 2 June: King's Birthday public holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- Wed 11 June: Matariki breakfast - Community event.
- Wed 18 June: Board Meeting
- Fri 20 June: Matariki Public Holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED).
- Fri 27 June: Last Day of term 2.
- 9 June - 27 June: CAMS Tests
- Fri 27 June: Whānau hui
- Fri 27 June: Last Day of term 2

Out of Zone Enrolments

We are currently accepting out of zone enrolments. If you know any whānau that may be interested, please share the information below.



Out of Zone Enrolments for Mākara Model School for 2025

The Mākara Model School Board is pleased to announce that 10 spaces are now available for out of zone students. These are open from term 3 (**14 July 2025**) and will remain open until filled. The exact number of spaces will depend on the number of applications received from students who live within the school zone. There are four spaces for New Entrant, two spaces for Year 2, two spaces for Year 3-4, and two spaces for year 5-8. **For students seeking enrolment during Terms 3 and 4 2025, the deadline for applications is Wednesday 2nd July 2025.**

Pre-enrolment applications can be submitted in writing to **Mākara Model School, 399 Makara Road, Karori, Wellington** or **emailed to office@mms.school.nz**

Applications should include the student's full name, DOB (copy of birth certificate), home address (with evidence, a phone or power bill) and sibling details. If we have more out of zone applications than available places, students will be selected in priority order by ballot. If a ballot is required it will be held on Friday 4th July 2025. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within 3 days of the ballot being held.



Community

Thank you!

A huge thank you to Deb, Anneke, Jo and anyone else that helped with work over the past two weekend. They have removed a large amount of rubbish, the old rusting greenhouse, and split a large amount of firewood. Your mahi is hugely appreciated. The area behind Piwakawaka is looking great!

We also want to thank the team for weeding the planter boxes and providing a range of new plants. Piwakawaka are looking forward to doing some planting.



Parent Group

We are hoping to establish a parent group to co-ordinate work around the school, like that mentioned above. We have many things we want to do around the school that are beyond the time and finances of the school and staff. The ideal scenario would be two parents from each class so the co-ordination can be shared and a wider group of parents can be connected. The commitment would be one very short meeting a term to organise one piece of work for the next term.

If you willing and able to join this group, or would like to discuss it further, please get in contact with James.



Values Refresh

As we are continually striving to ensure every child is thriving in a safe and positive learning environment, we have taken some time to reflect on our current school values. While these values were refreshed not long ago, we have noticed that they are not currently achieving what we hoped they would. Many students are unable to name the values when asked, suggesting they are not yet meaningful or embedded in the daily life of the school. Additionally, we have found that the current list of values may be too extensive, making it difficult for students (and staff) to remember and apply them consistently. For values to have a real impact, they need to be clear, concise, and visible in all aspects of school life – from classroom learning to playground behavior and within the school community.

With this in mind, we are planning to refresh our school values. The goal is to develop a small number of strong, memorable, and meaningful values that reflect who we are as a school and who we want our children to grow into. These refreshed values will also form a core part of an upcoming review of our school's behavior management strategy, which will be grounded in the principles of PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) and IYT (Incredible Years Teacher Programme). These approaches are well-supported by evidence and provide practical, positive frameworks for helping students learn and grow. We understand that any change can bring questions, however, we believe this is a timely and necessary step to ensure our school values are truly serving our students and community and guiding our day-to-day experiences in a meaningful way.

As part of this process, we are keen to include the voices of our parent community in the conversation around refreshing our school values. We warmly invite you to join us for a kōrero and to share your thoughts and insights at either of the following times: Friday 30th May at 9am or Friday 30th May at 3pm. If you are unable to attend in person, we would still very much value your input – please feel free to fill out this [google form](#) with your thoughts. To ensure your feedback can be included in our review, we ask that all responses via google form be received by Friday 6th June.

Additionally, we will be inviting input from students, staff, and our wider Mākara community as we undertake this process, and we look forward to working together to create something that truly reflects the heart and spirit of Mākara Model School.

Thank you for your continued support.



Lit Quiz



Our Lit Quiz team had an awesome time representing Mākara Model School at the Wellington regional competition, going head-to-head with schools from all over the region!

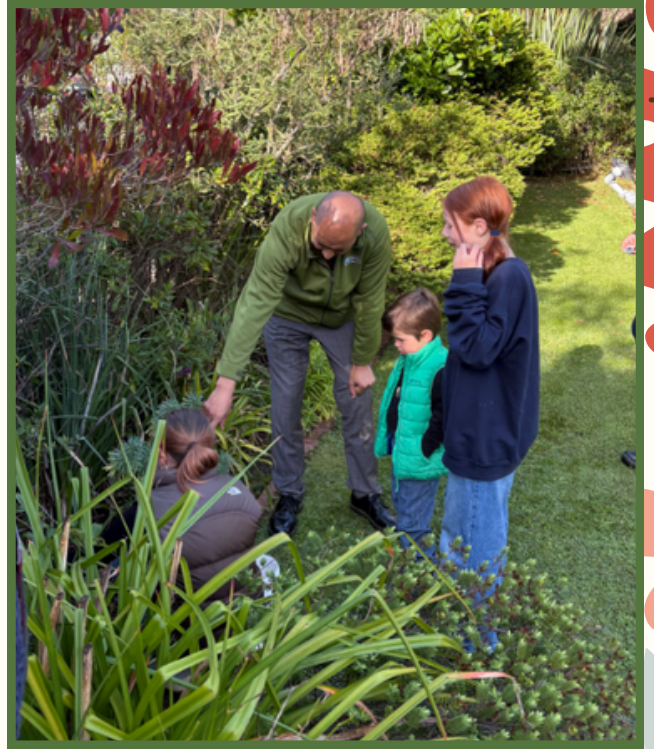
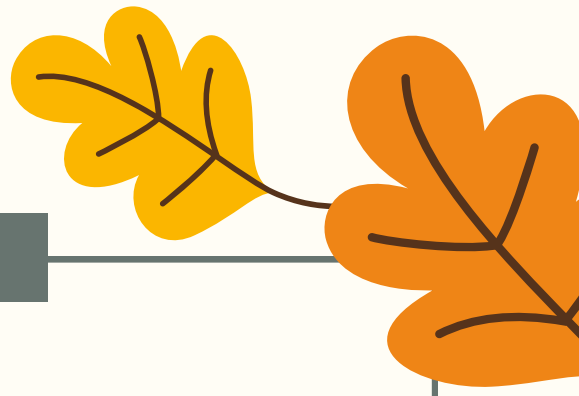
They competed hard, had a blast, and really shone in the round on Hair – scoring an impressive 9/10!

Huge thanks to Andy for taking the team out and supporting them on the day – we're proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by our students. Well done, team!





Capital Kiwi event



On 5 May we had the privilege of welcoming the Minister of Conservation, Tama Potaka, the team from The Capital Kiwi Project, and representatives from the Department of Conservation and Predator Free New Zealand Trust to our kura for a very special announcement.

The Minister was here to launch two important discussion documents now open for public consultation.

Our students gave a warm welcome with a beautiful waiata, and a few of our tamariki proudly took the Minister on a tour of our school traps and tuna (eel) habitats, sharing the important mahi we're doing to protect our environment and native species.

It was a proud moment for our school and community to be recognised for our connection to The Capital Kiwi Project and our commitment to conservation.

We continue to meet with Capital Kiwi and are working on possible collaborations in the future.



School Cross Country

On Monday 12 May, our school community came together for our school cross country, and what a wonderful day it was!

It was fantastic to see all students taking part with enthusiasm, cheering each other on and showing true team spirit. The support among runners and from the sidelines was heartwarming – an awesome display of our school values in action.

A huge thank you to Chlynése for organising an excellent event and our amazing community for the fantastic turnout! Your presence and encouragement made the day even more special.

A special shout-out to all our students for dressing proudly in their whānau group colours, waving posters and chanting their hearts out – such great energy!

Well done to every single runner who gave it their all, your effort was outstanding. You made us proud!

