



MĀKARA MODEL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025

Update

Kia ora e te whānau,

As Term Two draws to a close, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our incredible students, staff, and community for another fantastic term of learning and growth.

It's been wonderful to see our students embracing the diverse opportunities available to them. From the Zero Waste programme, which has taught us all valuable lessons about sustainability, to the continued engagement with the fantastic House of Science resources, our tamariki have been actively involved and clearly enjoying their learning journey. Structured Literacy and Mathematics have continued with the iDeal programme and Maths No Problem resources.

I've personally had a wonderful time again this term, getting to teach in each of the classes and witness firsthand the enthusiasm and progress happening in every class.

Our school community is fantastic, and I am so grateful for your ongoing support. The recent Matariki celebration was a brilliant example of this – it was an excellent event that brought us all together to mark this special time.

Wishing everyone a relaxing, fun, and safe holiday break! We look forward to seeing you refreshed and ready for Term Three.

Ngā mihi nui
James

Whānau Hui

Please join us for our whānau hui on Friday at 2:30pm in the library. Karearea and Tūi classes will share some of their learning.



School Reports

Mid year school reports will be loaded onto HERO on Thursday 26 June. If you have any questions about these, please contact your child's teacher.

Upcoming Events

- Thursday 26 June: Mid year reports loaded on HERO
- Friday 27 June: Whānau Hui
- Friday 27 June: Last day of term 2, finishes at 3pm
- Mon 14 July: First day of term 3
- Wed 30 July: Board Meeting (open to the public)
- Thursday 7 August: Whakanui Ahurea (Kapa Haka Festival)
- Friday 12 September - Onesie Dress up Day - Wellington Free Ambulance
- Monday 15 September: Musical Stars trip - whole school



Board of trustees

We want to introduce our Board members and explain a bit about what we do. The board is the group of people that make the big decisions and set the overall direction of the school. Our current Board is made up of five parent representative, a staff rep (Andrew) and the Principal (James). Every state, state-integrated school or kura has a board. The Board meet twice a term and all meetings are open to the public.

The school board is responsible for:

- policies and procedures, including health and safety
- planning for the future - strategic planning
- employing all school staff
- complying with the law
- managing budgets.

The board doesn't get involved in operational issues. The principal is responsible for the day-to-day running of the school.

Board elections are coming up in September this year. Further information will be sent out shortly about the nomination and voting process. If you have any questions, please contact James.

Joe Coyle - Presiding member

Hi, I'm Joe, current chair of the board of trustees. My tamariki are Delphi in Kiwi class and Stella in Tui class.

I live at Mākara Beach with a collection of rabbits, chickens and a goat. Please feel free to say hi if you see me at around!



Geneive Morrison

Tēnā koutou katoa, I'm Genieve, Mum to Henry (Kārearea) and Raife (Tui). I joined the board in 2021 when my youngest (Nina) was born. It's great to work alongside our Tumuaki to ensure our kura provides a happy and positive learning environment for our tamariki. My passion lies in strategy and systems – this is aligned to the work I do at Ara Poutama Aotearoa working across the women's strategy. Outside of work we are kept busy between children's sports and activities, I enjoy creating things (decorating cakes, painting, sewing) and will use any excuse to eat yum food from Wellington's offerings or get my feet in the sand at the beach.





Board of trustees

James Ryan

James Ryan here - Emma and Oliver's dad. I've been fortunate enough to serve on the Makara board for two terms, and it's been awesome to help with the school's progress and watch the growth in learning and the school environ.

By day, I'm the Policy and Compliance Manager at Trade Me, working to make sure it's a safe and trusted place for everyone.

When I'm not being the family taxi driver, I'm usually in the shed on a DIY project, working out how to play Oasis songs on guitar, or slowly chipping away at some very badly written Dune novel prequels.



Rachel Kasa

Kia ora e te whānau! I am a Mākara local and mum to Magnus (Year 8) and Lilith (Year 7). I live just down the road with my whānau and a lively menagerie of alpacas, geese, ducks, chickens, cats, and Fenton the dog.

I have been super active in our kura - painting murals, helping out in the classroom, organising events and fundraisers, and serving on the School Board for the past three years. When I'm not busy with work, school or animals, you'll find me playing the piano and bass guitar, or whipping up a batch of cupcakes.



Briar Simpson

Hello, everyone! I am Briar and I am Tomi (Year 7) and Anja's (Year 6) mum. I am new to the board this year. I spent many years in Japan and my job is translating Japanese ISO certificates into English mainly in the construction industry. I also work part-time for a pet sitting company, which keeps things balanced. I have many interests, but I feel like most of my time is spent folding washing or thinking about folding washing. My favourite thing to do is walk in the bush or near the sea with a friend, our kids, our dog, and have a laugh.





Lost Property

We currently have a large amount of Lost Property here at school. We will spread it out on the court on Thursday and Friday afternoons this week. The kids will be taken for a look during school time and parents will have the opportunity to have a look after school on both days. Any left over lost property will be donated to a charity shop.



Kapa Haka Festival

The annual Kahui Ako Kapa Haka festival, Whakanui Ahurea, is on Thursday 7 August.

We will be taking the whole school to perform on the day and plan to hold a dress rehearsal for the community leading up to the event. For both the event and dress rehearsal boys will wear the school T-shirt and black shorts and girls will wear a dress (provided) and black shorts. If you need any help with this, please contact Kiri. We will send out more details closer to the time.



Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent-teacher interviews will be held next term. We will be in touch early next term with dates and how to book. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child or their learning, please do not wait for these meetings. Please contact their teacher and they will organise a time to meet you.



Community

Thank you!

A huge thank you to Jenny Skinner for all her mahi in gaining grants for our kura. This year she has secured grants for:

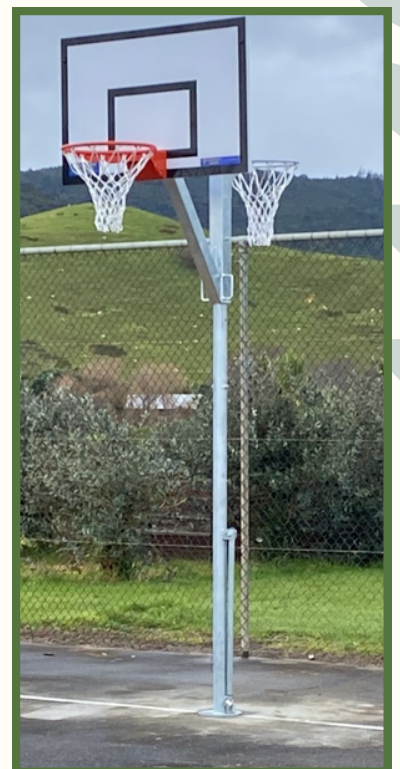
- PE Equipment
- Bark for the flying fox
- New netball/basketball hoops for the court
- New football goals for the top field
- A Table Tennis Table.

These resources add to the excellent facilities we have here at MMS and will provide our tamariki with wonderful opportunities during class time and break times.



Help Please

Next term, we will need some help with installing our new netball/basketball goals and football goals. If you or someone you know might be able to help with this, please get in touch with James





Matariki Event



What an absolutely wonderful Matariki celebration we had this term! A huge thank you to everyone who joined us. Our tamariki did an excellent job with their presentations, showcasing their learning and understanding of Matariki.

And a special shout-out to George for shooting and editing the wonderful video!

Of course, no celebration is complete without kai! Our delicious shared breakfast of pancakes, scones, and fruit was a massive hit, and everyone had a fantastic time with the fun activities throughout the morning.

Finally, a massive thank you to Jasmine for her incredible organisation – everything ran so smoothly! And another huge thanks to our amazing community for attending and making our Matariki celebration so special. It was fantastic to see so many of you there!

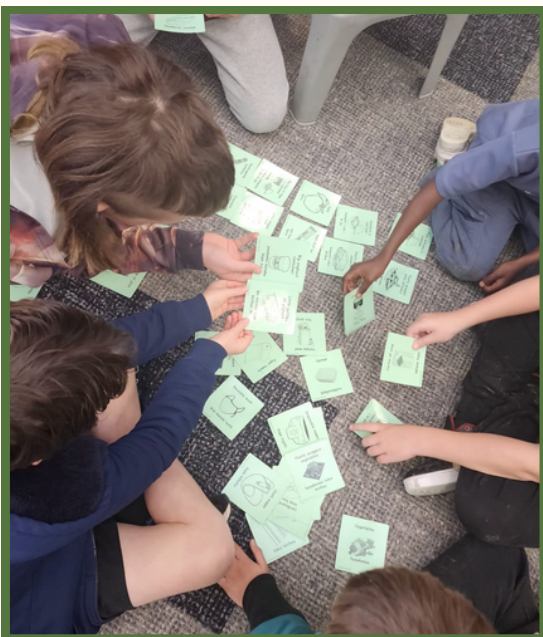




Waste management



Last week, we had the fantastic Zero Waste education programme at school, led by Lorraine from Wellington City Council! Our students learned so much about recycling, reducing rubbish, and how to make a positive impact on our environment. A huge thank you to Hannah for organising this valuable learning experience!



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.