



Mangatawhiri School Newsletter 2026



Responsibility ~ Haepapa, Respect ~ Whakaute, Resilience ~ Aumangea It's the Mangatawhiri Way
"In life, we learn, in school, we nurture the spirit for life" STRIVE ON

2nd March 2026,

Dear Parents, Whanau & Community,
 Kia Ora Koutou Katoa,

I had the pleasure of working in Wellington on Wednesday through to Friday with the Rural Schools' Association. I enjoy the opportunity to work with others on supporting rural schools across NZ (there are 900 identified as Rural from 2,500 schools). It was awesome to hear of wonderful things happening, but also concerning to hear what some schools are dealing with. I have returned, once again, with great appreciation and gratitude for our school and community.

Another week of wonderful learning opportunities and fun events last week. Two of which are highlighted. I was disappointed to miss the House Leader WERO day, but Laura's report put a huge smile on my face!

I have included lots of lovely photos that highlight the awesome kids we have and the great things they are up to!

Have a wonderful Autumn week!

Sharron Scouse
PRINCIPAL



- ☺ **East Group Swimming Parents** ~ supporting this event & helping with transport & jobs at the event
- ☺ **Richard Reid & Laura Biggelaar** ~ organising & managing our East Group swim team
- ☺ **Ralph Family** ~ pool caretakers last week (2 weeks in a row)
- ☺ **School Staff** ~ just getting on with things without me around (and doing everything so well)



Manuli Mudalige & Charlee Linton ~ Assembly MCs



Room 6 ~ Hosting Assembly & sharing your Te Whare Tapa Wha



STAR STUDENTS' WEEK 4:



Room 3: Kahler Campbell

~ Always doing the right thing at the right time

Room 4: Maximus Skews

~ Making excellent learning choices all week

Room 5: Harper Vennell

~ Always doing the right thing

Room 7: Darcy Falkner

~ Your resilience & positive attitude with your learning

Room 6: Sophie Crawford

~ Showing great leadership

Room 8: Felicity Donaldson

~ Outstanding support of your classmates & Mrs Weight

Room 9: Luke Bilo

~ Your sunny disposition & working positively with others



SCHOOL AWARDS WEEK 4:



Class Award: Room 3

~ Awesome campfire art with Mrs Irwin

Learning Award: Ollie Bezuidenhout

~ Amazing reading skills

Sport Award: East Group Swimming Team

~ Great effort, well done

Staff Award: Allan Bruce

~ Making our school look good

Parent Award: East Group Swimming Team Parents

~ Great help & support at East Group

Mangatawhiri Way: Darcy Falkner, Phoenix Donaldson,

Aidan de Jongh, Rahiri Nahi, Thomas Spillane, Ryan Smith

~ Being great kaitiaki for our school

Mrs Irwin: Thomas Spillane

~ Brilliant resilience when swimming

Mrs Clark: Harrison Vennell

~ Being so helpful with designing the class art layout

Mrs Bush: Marshall Pope

~ Awesome effort in all areas of learning this week

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Piano Award: Rahiri Nahi

~ Your speedy sight reading & learning a new song with flair

Clean Class: Room 5

HOUSE PEOPLE OF WEEK 4:



KAURI:

Selected by Billie Devlin & Karla Savage

Finn Stanton ~ Always doing your duty & asking what else you can do

Piper Campbell ~ Being such a bubbly member of Kauri

MANUKA:

Selected by Lily Caird & Jesse Stanton

Jack Dodds ~ Giving it your all at East Group Swimming

Ariah Talman ~ Doing really well with duties

RIMU:

Selected by Lexi Geaney & Luke Bilo

Tyla Brears ~ Doing the East Group relay even when you didn't want to

Kobi Geaney ~ Being kind to others

TANEKAHA:

Selected by Emily McHardy & Aleah van den Brink

Jackson Bullivant ~ Embracing challenges with a positive attitude during EOTC week

Yousif BinSadiq ~ Not giving up in the swimming relay

HOUSE POINTS:

WEEK 4

1st **Tanekaha** ~ 370 points

2nd **Rimu** ~ 290 points

3rd **Manuka** ~ 190 points

4th **Kauri** ~ 170 points

TERM 1

1st **Rimu** ~ 780 points

2nd **Tanekaha** ~ 770 points

3rd **Manuka** ~ 690 points

4th **Kauri** ~ 590 points

MANGATAWHIRI WAY

WEEK 4

1st **Kauri** ~ 190 points

2nd **Manuka** ~ 160 points

3rd = **Tanekaha & Rimu** ~ 150 points

TERM 1

1st **Kauri** ~ 520 points

2nd = **Rimu & Manuka** ~ 470 points

3rd **Tanekaha** ~ 390 points

SCHOOL SWIMMING CHAMPIONS 2026



**CORN FUNDRAISER
LAST WEEK**

FRIDAY LUNCHES THIS WEEK

Hot Mince & Cheese Pie

\$4.00



Order from the Lunch Team in Room 9 on
Wednesday morning before school



Ice Blocks on Sale Every Lunchtime 50c

EAST GROUP SWIMMING SPORTS



East Group Swimming Team 2026

Piper Campbell (8-year-olds)

- 2nd 30m Freestyle
- 3rd 30m Backstroke

Finn Stanton (8-year-olds)

- 1st 30m Freestyle
- 1st 30m Backstroke

Ariah Talman (9-year-olds)

- 2nd 30m Backstroke

Ariel Stanton (9-year-olds)

- 3rd 30m Freestyle
- 2nd 30m Breaststroke

Maia McHardy (9-year-olds)

- 3rd 30m Backstroke
- 3rd 30m Breaststroke

Harry Vujcich (9-year-olds)

- 1st 30m Freestyle
- 1st 30m Backstroke
- 2nd 30m Breaststroke

Sophie Crawford (10-year-olds)

- 3rd 30m Freestyle

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Brax van den Brink (10-year-olds)

- 3rd 30m Freestyle

Talan van den Brink (10-year-olds)

- 3rd 30m Backstroke
- 1st 30m Breaststroke

Miller Campbell (10-year-olds)

- 2nd 60m Freestyle
- 2nd 30m Freestyle
- 2nd 30m Backstroke
- 2nd 30m Breaststroke

Violet Lucioni (Year 7)

- 3rd 30m Freestyle
- 2nd 30m Backstroke

Willow Vennell (Year 7)

- 1st 30m Breaststroke

Phoebe Bodman (Year 7)

- 3rd 30m Backstroke

Tyla Brears (Year 7)

- 2nd 100m Freestyle
- 3rd 30m Freestyle
- 1st 30m Backstroke
- 1st 30m Open Butterfly

Coby Deihl (Year 7)

- 1st 30m Freestyle
- 1st 30m Backstroke
- 2nd 30m Breaststroke

Will Cockrell (Year 7)

- 2nd 100m Freestyle
- 3rd 30m Freestyle
- 3rd 30m Backstroke

Billie Devlin (Year 8)

- 2nd 30m Breaststroke

Gordon Clotworthy (Year 8)

- 3rd 30m Freestyle

Jack Dodds (Year 8)

- 1st 30m Breaststroke

Aleah van den Brink (Year 8)

- 3rd 30m Breaststroke

Lily Caird (Year 8)

- 3rd 100m Freestyle
- 3rd 30m Freestyle


Jesse Stanton (Year 8)

- 2nd 100m Freestyle
- 1st 30m Freestyle
- 1st 30m Backstroke
- 3rd 30m Breaststroke
- 2nd 30m Open Butterfly



RELAYS



 **1st Y7&8 Girls**

Karla Savage, Lily Caird, Tyla Brears, Aleah van den Brink



 **1st Y7&8 Boys**

Will Cockrell, Jack Dodds, Jesse Stanton, Gordon Clotworthy



 **2nd Y6 & Below Girls**

Sophie Crawford, McKenna Ainsley, Ariel Stanton, Ariah Talman



 **1st Y6 & Below Boys**

Finn Stanton, Talan van den Brink, Miller Campbell, Harry Vujcich



 **1st Y7&8 Murray Shield** 

Gordon Clotworthy, Jesse Stanton, Lily Caird, Tyla Brears



**CLASS, INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY PHOTOS ~
Monday 9th March**

You will be sent an email directly from PHOTO LIFE. If you want a sibling photo, collect an order form from Susan in our office. All children **MUST** be wearing the correct school uniform for the class photos, including black shorts, black pants or black skirts. Children may wear their own clothes for sibling or individual photos.

2026 SCHOOL BOARD
February Report to the Community



Thank you to Board members for attending our February meeting and to **Jenna Leenen** for hosting.

Highlights from the meeting:

2026 Board Responsibilities

- Presiding Member ~ **Melissa van den Brink**
- Secretary ~ **Dax Peter**
- Treasurer ~ **Ellie Cockrell**
- Personnel ~ **Shiva Sami**
- Property ~ **Dave Dean**
- Special Project ~ **Richard van Dam**
- Staff ~ **Tracey Schumacher**
- Principal ~ **Sharron Scouse**

Budgets

- 2025 Interim Budget Balance Surplus \$33,384.00
- 2026 Budget (\$18,345 deficit) Budget Approved
- The Board acknowledges that a deficit budget is not consistent with good financial practice; however, the budget as set is the best indication of school financial management at the time of approval. The board is confident of the reserve funding available should it be needed.
- 2026 Capital Expenditure
 - \$124,000 Budget Approved
 - Includes a budget of \$70,000 for Stage 2 of the pool refurbishment (Grant applications to be made to subsidise the pool costs)

Principal Report

- Great start to 2026
- EOTC Week was a highlight across the school
- Mathematics Curriculum Mandatory - all classes utilising the document as required
- English Curriculum Mandatory - all classes utilising the document as required

Teacher Only Days

- Thursday 2nd April (Last day Term 1) ~ Maths development
- Friday 3rd July (Last day Term 2) ~ Maths development
- Friday 25th September (Last day Term 3) ~ Literacy development

Attendance Plan

- Reviewed by the Board & Approved

School Docs Review

- Parents are welcome to make comments on these policies through the Schooldocs website
- User Name: Manga1345
- Password: StriveOn
 - Alcohol, Drugs, and Other Harmful Substances Policy
 - Sun Protection (
 - Digital Technology and Online Safety
 - Cell phones and Other Personal Digital Devices

General:

- Thank you, Dave Dean & school community, for the Corn Fundraiser

- Thank you, Smith & Sons, for repairing the rotten pool seating area

Next Board Meeting:

- Monday 23rd March @ 6 pm in Room 4

Melissa van den Brink

Presiding Member

AEG HEART MONITOR



This is attached to the front green pool fence at school
Access Code is 2471 (Our School postcode)

EVENT SPOTLIGHT

HOUSE LEADERS WERO TRIP

What an amazing day I had with our House Leaders on Friday. They stepped outside their comfort zones, pushing themselves on the high ropes and showed real courage and determination. During the white water rafting, they worked together as a team, communicated well, and encouraged one another. It was fantastic to see their leadership qualities shine through in both challenging and fun moments. It was a pleasure and a privilege to spend the day with them.

Laura Biggelaar



Mangatawhiri School 2026

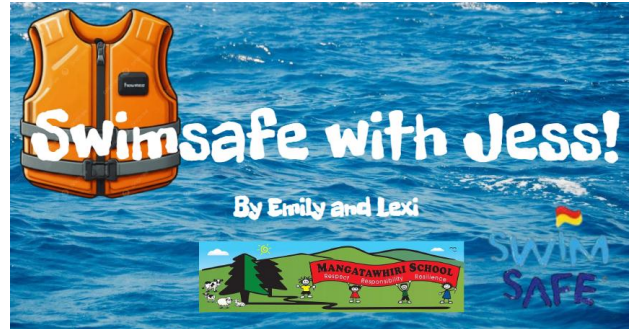
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EVENT SPOTLIGHT

SWIM SAFE SESSIONS WITH JESS

By Emily McHardy & Lexi Geaney



This week, we were super lucky to have Jess from swimsafe come to teach us how to be safe in the water. Here's some things that we learnt throughout the week :)



One of the things we learnt was how to get on a boat safely. You put both hands on the boat, put one foot over, one hand to the other side of the boat, and then the other foot in.

We also learnt a way to exit which was the emergency roll.



Remember, you must **ALWAYS** wear a life jacket!!

Once we all emergency rolled of the boat, we all came together in a huddle.

To do a huddle, you hug each other nice and close with your knees up towards your chest



In a survival scenario, this can help to keep you warmer, and easier to see from the sky.

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After the huddle, we unfolded into a line. We linked arms and started kicking back.



Floating is the best thing to do when in doubt! Just stay calm and lift your stomach and legs up.



Something else we practiced was survival backstroke. You do this in a survival scenario so that you can see and breathe.

The next thing we learnt was a conga line.



To do this, get into a single file line and hold the back of the life jacket of the person in front of you. Wrap your legs around the person in front and use your arms to paddle.

This is a great thing to do if someone is unconscious in the water so you can keep them stable and still breathing.



This is how to do a proper breaststroke kick.

1. Bend your legs to your butt.
2. Separate your knees.
3. Do a small kick out.

(We learned the smaller the kick the better)

This is how to breaststroke arms

1. Glide out
2. Bend them to your body
3. Come up to take a breath

[Breaststroke photos](#)

Jess taught us the proper technique for Breaststroke

BREAST STROKE TIPS AND TRICKS



Jess also taught us how to do butterfly and a tumble turn and breaststroke turn

This is how to do butterfly.

1. Arms by your shoulders, butt up
2. Arms next to your body, hips forward

Remember not to do freestyle kicking!

Tumble turn
When your fingertips touch the end, do a forwards flip.



Breaststroke turn

1. Put both hands on the wall
2. Put one hand by your side
3. Turn to the side
4. Lift your on the wall over
5. Glide



School Calendar!

Term 1 Theme: Health & Wellbeing

MARCH

WEEK 5:

Monday 2nd March:

- St Johns Wellbeing Sessions - Senior Team
- Piano Lessons with Jane
- School Newsletter

Tuesday 3rd March:

- Mr Green's music sessions
- 10.30 am Laura Biggelaar meeting Y9 students at HPC



Thursday 5th March:

- Guitar lessons with Sean



Friday 6th March:

- Fun Day Friday: Favourite shorts /skirt or pants
- 8.50 am R8 (Year 7's) Technology
- School Sport
- 1.50pm R7's Assembly in R1

WEEK 6:

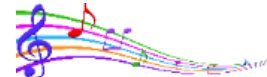
Monday 9th March:

- St Johns Wellbeing Sessions - Senior Team
- School Photo Day
- Piano Lessons with Jane
- School Newsletter
- Constable Courtney - Bus Monitor Training



Tuesday 10th March:

- Mr Green's music sessions



Wednesday 11th March:

- Y7&8 Franklin Swimming



Thursday 12th March:

- Guitar lessons with Sean



Friday 13th March:

- Fun Day Friday:
- Y5&6 Franklin Swimming
- 8.50 am R9 technology
- School Sport
- 1.50pm R5's Assembly in R1

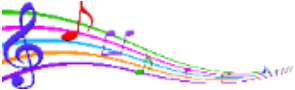

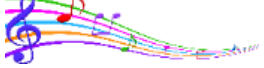


WEEK 7:

Monday 16th March:

- St Johns Wellbeing Sessions - Senior Team
- School Newsletter
- Piano Lessons with Jane

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Tuesday 17th March: • Mr Green's music sessions 	Thursday 19th March: • 1.30 pm Synchronised Swimming Competition • Guitar lessons with Sean 
WEEK 8: Monday 23rd March: • St Johns Wellbeing Sessions - Senior Team • School Newsletter • Piano Lessons with Jane • 6 pm Board Meeting in R4	Tuesday 24th March: • Mr Green's music sessions 
Thursday 26th March: • Guitar lessons with Sean 	Friday 27th March: • Fun Day Friday: • 8.50 am R9 technology • School Sport • 1.50pm R4's Assembly in R1 • School Pool CLOSES
WEEK 9: Monday 30th March: • St Johns Wellbeing Sessions - Senior Team • School Newsletter	
Wednesday 1st April: • 2.30 pm Term 1 Ends	Thursday 2nd April: TOD School Closed
Friday 3rd April: Good Friday	~ TERM 2 ~ WEEK 1: Monday 20th April: • 8.30 am School Starts for Term 2



Thursday 5th March

ESTABLISHED 1982

MARAMARUA SQUASH CLUB

FREE OPEN EVENING 2026

Come and join us for club night; have a friendly hit, drink and feed...
Thursday 5th March
 Juniors 5-6pm
 Seniors 6pm onwards

All ages, abilities and new members welcome

Spare raquets at the club
 Registration packs available on the night

MEMBERSHIPS Senior competitive: \$300 Senior club only: \$200 Social Thursday only: \$100 Junior: \$80 Family: \$280	CONTACT Address: Golf Road, Maramarua Club Captain: Aimee Whyte Mobile: 0272098476 President: Russell Green Mobile: 0274743000
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We look forward to seeing you there!

Saturday 7th March

MARAMARUA RUGBY CLUB

JUNIOR MUSTER



MEET YOUR TEAM AND COACHES FOLLOWED BY A SAUSAGE SIZZLE

SAT 7TH MARCH 10.30AM | MARAMARUA RUGBY CLUB

FEES: \$80 PER PLAYER
 (INCLUDES A TRAINING HOODIE AND TSHIRT)
 REMINDER TO PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE MUSTER
 ON THE RUGBY XPLORER APP OR ONLINE
 MYACCOUNT.RUGBYXPLORER.COM.AU
 MARAMARUA JUNIOR BOYS RUGBY CLUB T1-5400-0004/302-11

ANY QUERIES TO THE JUNIOR CLUB SECRETARY -
 RACHAEL STANTON 0226563077

Saturday 15th March

HAURAKI PLAINS COMMUNITY HUB

Presents



TRISTARS

HAURAKI PLAINS

Junior Swim • Bike • Run Event

A fun confidence-building triathlon for ages 5-13
 Hugh Hayward Domain • Ngatea
 Goodie Bags • Spot Prizes • Medals

Grab your \$5 ticket - Scan the QR code

or visit

<https://events.humanitix.com/tristars-hauraki-2026-aukskqxa>
<https://www.facebook.com/haurakiplainscommunityhub>

15 MARCH 2026

Proudly supported by



Saturday 21 March

BOMBAY COMMUNITY GROUP

FARM RUN AND WALK 2026



SATURDAY MARCH 21, 2026
RACES STARTING FROM 9:30AM
554 PAPERATA ROAD, BOMBAY

Get ready for a fun, family event!

The Bombay Farm Run & Walk is back again. The course is on farm tracks and across paddocks. There is a mix of undulating terrain, some flat tracks and being in Bombay there are some hills in there! The best way to take young children around the course is in a back pack but it is possible to push an offroad buggy around if you are up for a work out.

- 5km and 10km distances
- Spot and place prizes
- Food available to purchase
- Giant Pumpkin Competition
- Judging
- Entry fees: 10km - \$30
5km - \$20
- Ages 5-16 - \$10
- Ages 0-4 - \$5
- *plus booking fees

Everyone is welcome! Experience the race and bring a picnic to enjoy at the end. Don't miss a great opportunity to see a different part of Bombay and be part of a fun community event.

Bombay Community Group Events
 Enter online at:
<https://raceroster.com/events/2026/114914/bombay-farm-run-2026>



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Every Tuesday Night



TRIVIA
Night

Bring your friends and your brain power
for an unforgettable night of trivia & fun....
and support our school in the process.

Great prizes

Great food

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT
6.30 PM START
\$2.00 PER PERSON



Red Fox Tavern



All proceeds go to Mangatawhiri School

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