



Kia ora Parents and Whanau

Everyone is commenting on the way the year has gone so quickly – this is our final school newsletter for the year and our school prize giving is less than a week away, with Christmas less than a week after that!

It is important to acknowledge the input and support we have had from our community for the many activities and events we have held during the last year. There have been some great highlights with the Y7/8 Rotorua Camp, our whole school trips to Ruapekapeka and Kawiti Caves, tree planting expeditions, numerous sports events and our open day last term to name a few. We have rebuilt R6, upgraded the R4/5 toilets and received two relocatable classrooms onsite also. Parent, grandparent and whanau support for school events has been appreciated by both our students and teachers – without this we would struggle to provide the range of activities and participation in sporting and cultural events we do.

Thank you to our PTA for their financial support for activities, resources, end of year trips and class funds. They have worked hard on the first Maunga Mayhem and are now well on track in planning a second bigger and better event. The PTA have certainly kept the cost of trips well down for all our community this year – end of year events have been well subsidised.

Our new entrant intake has stopped for the year but we had a big group visiting this morning in preparation for next year.

Please check over the coming week for any school resources at home and return these – school t-shirts, reading books, library books etc. We are currently checking for these and students have been notified if resources are overdue.

This newsletter does contain end of year information and we have also put information on our school App and Facebook so please check these to keep informed.

Our school Board and Staff would like to wish the community a wonderful holiday season. Have a great Christmas and New Year with family and friends and have some down time before school starts again on 7 February 2019.



Board of Trustees

Our students, staff and community benefit from the work of our Board of Trustees and we are lucky as a school to have people with the skills needed representing our school community.

This is especially important in the areas of finance and property. At the end of this year Mrs Vicki Ferguson is resigning from our Board after 10 years of managing and supporting our school finances. Vicki has been a key part of the Maungatapere School BOT with her financial management: giving many hours of her time to preparing financial reports and ensuring our school is in a great financial position for the future. Our Board do not take the monthly fees available to them, but see this as a community service to our school. This money then goes toward other school resourcing. We have really appreciated Vicki's time and support in this area and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

Mrs Kim Brown has been co-opted onto the Board to replace her. Thank you also to Mrs Kim Neumann for her work on the Board. As Kim has accepted a teaching position at the school she is no longer able to hold her Board of Trustees position. Kim has done an awesome job with community liaison and with our whanau group. The Board have also decided to fill the other vacancy by selection. This will be advertised as required and if there is no objection then Mr Hagan Taylor will be appointed. Hagan is currently co-opted to the Board.



Staff Changes

We have two staff members leaving us at the end of this year. Our Room 6 teacher Miss Brooke Hepi is moving to Auckland and Mrs Joanne King is leaving her role as a teacher aide.

Brooke began her teaching career with us in 2015 and has grown in her role, especially with our whanau group and kapa haka leadership. Students have certainly enjoyed having her as their teacher and our kapa haka group has definitely grown. Thank you from everyone at Maungatapere School for your input Brooke and all the best for your move to Auckland.

Mrs Joanne King has been a teacher aide at school since mid 2012. Her early childhood experience has been a great asset and she has worked with many students to support them in their learning throughout the school.

We will miss her input and flexibility – being able to take on and support students, adapting programmes to their needs. She has also been our Agriculture Day organiser for the last few years and has done a great job in this area, building on activities and supporting students and families with their Ag Day animals.

Thank you to Jo for all her work as an active parent, PTA leader and then T/A at Maungatapere. All the best for your future from everyone in our school community.

WPSSA Sports Events

Well done to all our athletes for their efforts at the interschool events at Kensington Park recently. Congratulations to the following students for their successes:

Heidi Shepherd - 2nd Y4 Girls Discus, 3rd = Y4 Girls High Jump

James McDonald - 1st Y6 Boys 80m, 1st Y6 Boys 100m

Josh McRae - 2nd Y6 Boys 600m, 2nd = Y6 Boys High Jump

Keelan O'Neill - 3rd Y5 Boys 80m

Tokoaitua Owen - 1st Y6 Boys Long Jump, 3rd Y6 Boys 80m

Lucas Reihana - 2nd = Y5 Boys High Jump

Junior Athletics

It was a good idea to postpone the event to Friday. Everyone had a great day participating in a range of run, jump, throw events: sharing their skills and well supported by family and whanau.

Spud Growing Competition

There were about 80 entries returned. Well done to the winners of the spud growing competition. Kathryn Seeley - Heaviest potato; Emma Caie, Heaviest crop; Blake Sketchley - Most potatoes.

End of Year Information and Activities

Whole School Disco: Tonight 6.00-7.30pm with a 'Sports' theme.

Entry is \$2 and food is available – sausages, pizza, water and ice blocks – cost \$1-\$2. Parents are able to drop off and collect children from the end of the field – the entrance behind R8. A big thank you to parent Juanita Bassett for taking on the role of disc jockey for the evening and providing the equipment again this year. This is much appreciated.

Y8 Graduation: Our Y8 graduation dinner is tomorrow Friday 14 December at A'Fare starting at 6pm.

We wish them all the best in their secondary education and know they will strive to be the best they can be and fly high in their achievements.

Portfolio Reports: These will go home on Tuesday 18 December. The end of year report is a condensed version of the half year report and does give you information about how your children are achieving in reading, writing and maths as well as other areas of the curriculum and the key competencies. Please enjoy reading and sharing the work in the portfolio with your children.

Prize-giving: Our final assembly and prize-giving is on the last day of school, Wednesday 19 December at 10am, and is held on our school field, weather permitting. Pupils need to come to school as normal but **school finishes at the end of prize giving at around 11.15am**, so children need to be collected at that time. **There will be no end-of-school buses or after school care after prize-giving.** All pupils will be participating in some way and class and school awards will be given out. Parents are able to park on the school field but we will shut down cars coming onto the field from 9.45am to ensure the safety of everyone. You are welcome to bring something to sit on as it is an informal event.

If the weather is not okay we will use the Maunu School Hall. The decision relating to this will be made the day before. Please make sure your children have a good breakfast as they will not have morning tea and **do not** need to bring a school bag on the last day. If you are not attending our prize-giving please arrange for your children to be collected from school (or the Maunu School Hall if wet). We expect prize-giving to finish by 11.15am.

2019 Classes: On Tuesday 18 December all students will be given their 2019 classes and will visit their new rooms. It will give them a chance to meet their teacher and classmates. For some students this can create some anxiety, but we ask that you work through this with your children and be positive about the year ahead. We do consider placement very carefully and once they settle into their new classroom they are generally fine.

2019 Stationery

Stationery for 2019 will again be available through the OfficeMax MySchool website from Thursday 20 December through until February 2019. Go to www.myschool.co.nz and search for Maungatāpere Primary School.

OfficeMax offer three payment and delivery time frame options, so check the enclosed brochure or head to their website for more information. School Donations can also be paid through the MySchool site but later payment options do not apply for these as they are processed separately and come directly to school.

If you prefer to shop in-store then the Stationery Lists for each Room will be posted on the school website from next Tuesday and the OfficeMax retail store in Whangarei will have copies. Stationery will be available from the school office next year also.

School Grounds Use

With the summer break approaching we ask the many local families that use our school facilities to please ensure that everyone including visitors are using them safely and taking care of them. This includes those using our pool, trampoline and fields. We do appreciate that no rubbish or graffiti is left and that our local families ensure that everyone takes responsibility.

We do have the school grounds fully covered with cameras now, so are able to follow up on incidents should they arise. This includes good coverage of the pool area.



PTA News

Calendar/Diary Fundraiser - this was once again a great success with \$2302.35 raised. These were sent home last Friday and some on Monday so check your child's bag if you haven't seen yours yet!

Finalising Maunga Mayhem Obstacle Sponsors - please contact the office if you know of a business that might be interested in sponsoring our event. Look out for the 'How I Can Help' letter early in 2019. Add it to your goals to achieve in 2019!

Reminders

Pool Keys: Pool keys are available to hire for school families who have paid school donations. These are available from the school office and cost \$50, a Pool Rules form does need to be signed by an adult also. People need to follow the Pool Rules for health and safety in order for the school to continue to offer the pool for community use.

Second Hand Uniforms: There are a number of second hand school polo fleece jackets, polo shirts and t-shirts available to purchase from the school office. Jackets \$20 and shirts \$10.

Summer Reading Programme

Summer reading books have been given out for those participating in the Summer Reading Programme. Please encourage your children, whether they are involved in the programme or not, to read as much as possible over the holidays, it really does help to avoid reading gains being lost over the holidays.



Congratulations

- * To the school BMX team that competed in the BMX School Challenge and came 3rd in their category.
- * To the many past students who received awards and prizes at secondary school prize giving's this week.

School Awards

Congratulations to the following pupils:

- * **Anji Sharrock R2** - For setting positive learning examples, and persistence during sewing tasks.
- * **Milla Workman R12** - The outstanding improvement in her learning has been amazing.
- * **Laura Parry R9** - For the awesome effort that she put into her Ag Day activities.
- * **Jackson Treloar R8** - For having a positive attitude towards school and helping others.
- * **Kassidy Taylor R11** - For always showing a positive attitude towards her learning.
- * **Kaleb Cameron R10** - For his positive attitude and how he is developing into a super role model.



Key Dates/Coming Events - Term 4

Thur 13	- School Disco 6-7.30pm, \$2 entry
Fri 14	- Rm 10/11 & Rm 13 Fun day
	- Y8 Graduation Dinner
Tues 18	- 2019 Class Swap / Portfolios home
Wed 19 Dec	- Prizegiving / Early Closing / End of Term

2019 Term dates:

T1	Thursday 7 February	—	Friday 12 April
T2	Monday 29 April	—	Friday 5 July
T3	Monday 22 July	—	Friday 27 September
T4	Monday 14 October	—	Thursday 19 December

Community News

Home Wanted - Anyone thinking of selling their house in the New Year?, or know of a home for sale in the Maungatāpere area or driving distance to school. Needs to be a tidy three bedroom plus. Please contact Neil Partridge on 021-02646119.

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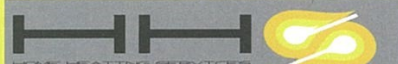
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