

MAUNGATAPERE SCHOOL



Ka whawhai tonu, ake, ake, ake!

Term 2
28 May 2020

Kia ora Parents and Whanau

It was great to see so many families return to school last week under level 2. We had 94% of our students back by the end of the week, and more have returned this week. A big thank you to our parent community for developing drop and go at the school car-park – as the days have gone on the system has improved and there is generally good flow in the morning drop off. This has contributed to our students' confidence and independence – entering school by themselves, hanging their bag up and getting ready for the day. Teachers have seen many students proudly coming into classrooms, knowing they are managing themselves and at the same time growing their resilience. Students have certainly been happy to be back with their friends and teachers and were very settled last week. Queen's Birthday weekend probably comes at a good time as our younger students especially are getting very tired while they build their school fitness again!

We have also enrolled some new families and 5 year olds who began school online, but have now joined Room 5.

Welcome to those new pupils and their families who have started over the last fortnight: Avery Morgan, Hayden Vollenhoven, Rae-lene Tucker, Capri & Galaxie Leaf, Lily-anne & John Rae, Zion Matagi and Rosie Watts.

Welcome also to Mr Brad Jensen, who has finally met his class in person and is happily working with them in R3. It has been a very different start for a new teacher to our school, but he has managed it very well and is getting to know Room 3 students and establish his own programme with them. We welcome him to Maungatapere School.

HEALTH & SAFETY

While we remain in level 2 the current health & safety procedures will be in place. This is to meet tracing requirements if required. Students are learning to sanitise hands on entry and exit to classrooms and wash hands before eating. Hard and frequently touched surfaces are being cleaned at least once per day by teachers and cleaners. While everyone is finding the non-contact difficult, we are all doing our best to come up with alternatives - especially in games. Social distancing does not apply to schools or to our school buses as they are designated as controlled environments – we know who is here and where they are throughout the day.

The important thing is to keep your children home if they are showing any symptoms of cold and flu, or are feeling unwell. No doubt with everyone back in close contact at school colds and flu will start to reappear!

Please note that recent social media content around powers to police and others to uplift students if they appear unwell and forcibly test for COVID 19 is wrong. No one has been given these powers and families will be contacted by the school in the normal way if children are sick or injured.

Drinking fountains are currently not available at school, so students need to bring a drink bottle to school or leave one at school that can be refilled from the classroom taps. It would be good if they are named.

Any assemblies are being held outside on the front court so there is plenty of room for everyone.

Y7/8 TECHNOLOGY FEE

Our Y7/8 students received a letter before lockdown in regard to the charge for technology materials for the year. This is for the materials students use to create the projects that they take home. In the past it has been paid directly to Mangakahia Area School, however they have changed the agreement and the school will now be invoiced for this directly. The \$60 fee is to cover part of the cost of the technology programme for the year. This money can be paid into the school account: 12 3099 0836089 00, with your child's name and technology as a reference. Room 7 have tech tomorrow and need to bring covered shoes.

ATTENDANCE

The Ministry of Education is currently checking weekly on school attendance, so we are having to send in a return at the end of each week. In the North attendance at schools was generally between 70-90%, so our school was well up there with families returning. It is really important that children do return to school for their general health and wellbeing also. If you are still feeling anxious remember that we have no cases in the north and one of the highest testing ratios across the country, particularly in our rural areas. Healthline continues to be available to support anyone who needs it 08003585453.

If your children are sick, please notify the school in the usual way.

LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Our teachers are easing back into formal learning programmes to ensure students are able to adjust back into school, feel safe and have fun. There is a greater focus on creativity and the arts, science and PE, with learning integrated into these areas. As the term goes on teachers are working with their students to find out where they are at with their learning and are sharing this information so students also know what they need to learn next and how they can take responsibility with teacher support to build on this. At the same time teachers are ensuring students enjoy the learning process and are not feeling undue pressure to achieve a set standard. Research has identified that children will learn and achieve despite formal programmes if they are enjoying an integrated arts based programme.

If your children are feeling concerned or anxious about anything, please communicate with their teacher so we can work together to support them.

CURRICULUM REPORTING DAY

We did have tomorrow scheduled for curriculum reporting, but with the changes to the term and home learning we have moved it to later this term. It will now be **Monday 15 June** which is week 10 of the 12-week term. This will be a teacher only day for teachers to report on their students' progress against the curriculum areas. Our mid-year report will be sent home to parents early term 3 with parent conferences planned for the 5/6 August. Please mark it in your diaries as a teacher only day.

Y7/8 SCIENCE FAIR

Our senior students are beginning their scenic projects which allow them to develop ideas and follow through to see if they are correct or not. This uses a full science investigation process or a technology process. Students will present their projects on a science board – these boards can be purchased from the school for \$14 each.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The school council are organising for a fundraising fun day on Wednesday 17 June for Child Cancer. This would usually be Wig Wednesday but they have decided on a Hero & Villain day instead. For a gold coin donation students can dress up as their favourite hero or villain for the day.

On Tuesday 30 June they are planning a Pyjama Day with a Teddy Bears picnic for the Junior students.

More information on this will be available later.

RESOURCES SENT HOME OVER LOCKDOWN

There were numerous resources – reading and library books, laptops and iPads shared with everyone during home learning time. If you can now gather these and return them to school, we would appreciate it. The readers can then go back into learning resources for others, and the IT resources will be available for use during the school day again. Thank you to those that have already done so.

POOL KEYS

We still have a large number of swimming pool keys out in the community. Please check your key rings etc and return these to the school office. There is usually a \$5 return fee for the keys and this will continue until Friday 19 June. You can bring the key to the office and sign in or send it with your child – but please email the school if you are sending it with your child so we can follow up and ensure we get it!

LOST PROPERTY

There was a large amount of clothing, swimming gear and shoes left with the sudden end of term. It is difficult to share it at this time so we will hold on to it and keep reminding students to check.

Currently you are unable to come in and check it out, but if you know your children are missing some items contact the school. It always helps if clothing and shoes etc are named – we can easily return them to their owner.

NORTH FUEL- FUEL FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Thanks to those community families who have nominated our school as part of the programme - we have received enough points to reach the \$1000 level. We have purchased sports gear with ball kits for netball, soccer & rugby to replace those getting worn out. We would like to acknowledge the following businesses for their support:

Maungatapere Transport Ltd
Cliff Orchard Ltd
Branlea Partnership
RW & BJ Alison
Gambia Orchard



MUSIC

Alexis has a couple of music spaces available for keyboard, piano, guitar or ukulele lessons.

TERM CALENDAR

15 June	-	Teacher only day
17 June	-	Hero & Villain Day
17 June	-	BOT meeting
30 June	-	Pyjama Day
1 July	-	Ag Day assembly
3 July	-	Last day T2
20 July	-	First day T3

REMINDERS

School Donations and Tech fees due- can pay online or at the office (no eftpos)

BOT Account Details - 12 3099 0836089 00

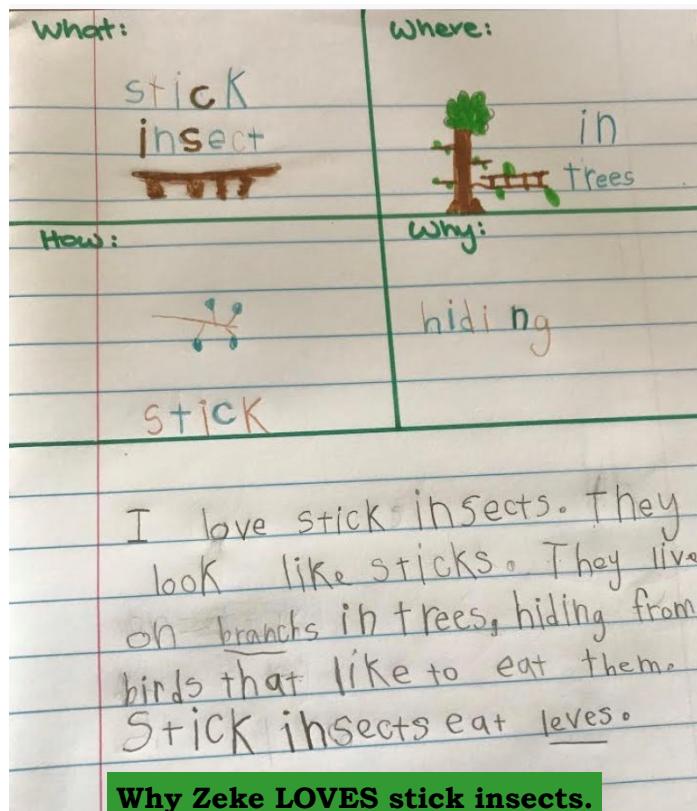
PTA NEWS

PTA kindling fundraiser - flyer went home today, orders and payment due Friday 5 June.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Baby Sitting - Kate Taylor 16yr local available for babysitting afterschool and on weekends. Ph 02102977575.

ROOM 4 - LOCKDOWN WORK



Rm4 & 5 enjoying being back at school with their friends!

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