



Kia ora Parents and Whanau

The year seems to get busier for everyone with Christmas fast approaching. This will be our final newsletter for the year with our prize giving on our last day – one week away on Thursday 19 December.

Our school students and staff would like to acknowledge all the support we have received from our community. This has enabled some amazing activities, trips, camps and sporting events to happen throughout the year so our students have experienced a local and broad curriculum. Whole school events have been highlights with our school production 'The Greatest Show on Earth', Agriculture Day and Greats & Grands hugely supported by the community. Our students probably do not realise or appreciate the support they get and the impact it has on their learning and future!

Thank you to our PTA for your financial support, the funding for class resources, and school events throughout the year – remember that Maunga Mayhem is coming up on 21 March 2020. This is their major fundraiser so please get involved in any way you can.

Our BOT has gone through some changes this year with a Trustees election. They have continued to support the school direction and we have some major projects developing next year – including a carpark upgrade, power upgrade and the extra funding we will receive for other projects. Our staff are very appreciative of their support, especially going through what have been difficult contract agreements for teachers, principals and support staff. Our school is well resourced and staff wellbeing has been a focus from them.

Next year will also be a year of review as we move into our next strategic plan.

End of year information is included in this newsletter and will be shared via our school App and Facebook over the next week. For our new families please keep informed and contact us if you need further information.

Thank you to everyone for your contribution to what has been a very positive year for our school. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday season and a wonderful Christmas and New Year with family and friends.

## STAFF CHANGES

While we have mentioned in our last newsletter changes to staff for 2020, we would like to make special mention of those leaving us:

Mr Scott Martin has been teaching in our Y3/4 area since coming as a long term reliever in Term 2 2013. This was his first position so he completed his 2 year provisional teaching mentor programme and was appointed to a permanent position at the start of 2015. We have obviously seen him grow in his role as a teacher and extend his knowledge and strengths. His passion for the environment, growing and planting is reflected in the development of our school gardens and work with Enviro Schools programme. Scott has been a great mentor to many students and a very positive part of our school staff. We will miss his humour and wish him well for his move north where he will have new challenges at Ahipara School next year.

Mr Yaron Overeem has had a long connection with our school. From 2007-2009 he was based at Maungatapere as an ICT Lead Facilitator for a cluster of schools here and in Bream Bay. He worked in our school 1 day a week with staff to develop IT into the curriculum. After working at Ruakaka for a couple of years he returned to take up the deputy principal position in 2011. During the last 9 years he has had considerable impact on the Y7/8 programme, camps and activities and the high standards these students have achieved. As a senior leader he has also driven the IT in our school, continuing to provide professional development for staff and plan and implement the growth of digital equipment we have in our school. He has been acting principal for 2 terms and also received a sabbatical to look at the digital curriculum in 2018.

Yaron has many talents which he has shared with his students and the staff over the years. His abilities, support and input will be missed, but will serve him well in his new role as principal of Kokopu School.

It is a positive reflection on our school that we now have 2 local principals who were DPs here – Otaika Valley also.

## LEARNING SUPPORT COORDINATOR

We have appointed Mrs Andrena Norrish as our learning support coordinator. She will be working with a range of agencies including the MOE, RTLb, our school staff and families/whanau to provide learning support in many forms. Andrena has a wealth of experience and contacts so we are very lucky to have her. We would also like to acknowledge the great job she has done teaching our new entrant children for the last half of the year, so will be known to many of our new families.

## END YEAR TRIPS

There was great support for the Y3/4 trip to Wellingtons Bay on Monday – thank you to everyone that provided transport and supervision, including swimming supervision! We hear the water was not that warm!

Y5/6 had a wonderful trip to Adrenalin Park, with some positive feedback about behaviour, manners and having a go. Parent supervision and transport was much appreciated.

## SWIMMING POOL UPDATE AND COMMUNITY USE

Our school pool will be ready for our students to swim in from next Monday 16 December. We will use the heating to make sure the water temperature is warm especially for our younger students. Students need to bring their togs, towel, swimming cap in a swim bag with **everything named please**. While classes will not be swimming everyday there are also lunch time swims so there may be an opportunity to swim on days the class is not rostered.

Pool keys are now available and will be until 19 December. The pool will be open to the community from that day, but not until then as it will be covered overnight. Please get your key from the school office and make sure you are aware of and follow the rules – many schools do not open it to their communities because of health and safety compliance.

## FURNITURE

We have some trapezoidal tables that are no longer in use. They would make great homework or computer desks. If you would like them, a small donation would be great thanks.

## ATHLETICS

Congratulations to the following students who were placed in the Whangarei Primary Schools Interschool athletics events at Kensington Park recently.

Sprints - Keelan O'Neill, Ally McIvor and James McDonald

800m - Josh McRae

Shotput - Mikayla Carroll



## END OF YEAR INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

**Whole School Disco:** Friday 5.30-7.00pm with an 'Eighties' theme. Entry \$2 and food available to purchase on the night.

**Y8 Graduation Dinner:** Our Y8 graduation dinner is Monday 16 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 Wed 18 Dec. 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, Thur 19 Dec at 10am, and is held on our school field, weather permitting. All parents and whanau are invited. 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. **2020 Classes:** On Wed 18 Dec all students will be given their 2020 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.

**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.

**2020 Stationery:** Stationery for 2020 will again be available through the OfficeMax MySchool website from Thurs 19 Dec through until Feb 2020. Go to [www.myschool.co.nz](http://www.myschool.co.nz) and search for Maungatapere 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 Thurs and the OfficeMax retail store in Whangarei will have copies. Stationery will be available from the school office next year also.

## PTA NEWS

**Calendar/Diary Fundraiser:** This was once again a great success. These were sent home this week so check your child's bag if you haven't seen yours yet!

## SCHOOL AWARDS

**Abigail Van Lune R11** - For her positive attitude towards learning.

**Annie Cullen R4** - For giving junior sports 100%.

**Campbell Parker R1** - For showing good attitude towards leadership.

**Isla Beattie** - For her positive attitude towards all her learning tasks.

**Taylor Parker R12** - For stepping up and being a role model for others in class.

**Shyloh Bowman R9** - For great progress in her reading.

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Caitlin Thompson who received a Y9 top scholar award for WGHS, and to all of our other past students who received awards at the WGHS and WBHS prize giving's this week. Danyelle Kormene who has been picked in the under 12 mixed touch team.

## TERM CALENDAR

Fri 13 Dec	- Y1/2 Wellingtons Bay Trip
Fri 13 Dec	- School Disco 5.30 - 7pm
Mon 16 Dec	- Graduation Dinner
Thurs 19 Dec	- Prize Giving 10am - early close
Tues 4 Feb	- Start of Term 1

**Supersmash Reading Challenge:** [reading-challeng.org.nz](http://reading-challeng.org.nz)



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