



THURSDAY 15th AUGUST 2024

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Kia ora Maunu School Whānau,

Lately, it seems that there is a new announcement regarding education on a daily basis. As you may have noticed, the media is full of headlines that can paint a concerning picture about the state of our education system. However, I want to reassure you that at Maunu School, our focus remains steadfast on what truly matters: providing the best possible learning environment for your children.

Commitment to Quality Teaching

Our children are at the heart of everything we do. Their teachers and our wonderful support staff work incredibly hard, dedicating long hours to planning, teaching, and supporting our tamariki. The challenges in education today, including the difficulties in recruiting and retaining teachers, are very real. It's no secret that there is a shortage of educators, and the demands placed on those in the profession are greater than ever. This is why it's so important to us that we retain our hardworking, passionate teachers here at Maunu School.

Navigating New Educational Expectations

With the recent slew of announcements affecting schools nationwide, it's understandable that there may be concerns about how these changes will impact our children. However, I want to assure you that Maunu School has always prioritised pedagogy and best practices. These new expectations, while significant, will not change the core of how we teach here. We remain committed to what works best for our students.

For instance, our Friends & Whānau of Maunu supported the resourcing of Structured Literacy for 2024 well before it became mandatory. Our teaching team has been deeply engaged in professional learning and development through the BSLA and iDeaL programs, ensuring that by the end of the year, all our permanent teachers will be fully trained in Structured Literacy. This proactive approach reflects our commitment to staying ahead of the curve and ensuring that your children receive the best education possible.

The Changing Face of Maths Education

Another recent announcement has brought forward changes to the maths curriculum, set to begin next year. There has been much talk about the introduction of 'Structured Maths,' a term that has been coined to align with Structured Literacy. However, it's important to clarify that 'Structured Maths' as a defined program does not actually exist. The term is misleading, and the data used to justify this rapid change is equally questionable. Follow the link to read a [news release from the New Zealand principals Federation](#).

The Curriculum Insights and Progress Study (CIPS) data, which has been widely cited, only involved a small sample. It is based on an assessment given last year to just 42 schools (out of 2000) to around 900 children (out of 460,000). It's based on benchmarks higher than current expectations,

DATES TO REMEMBER TERM 3

16 Aug	Whole School Assembly 2pm - Rm 11 Hosting
16,19,20 Aug	Book Fair
23 Aug	Character Dress Up Day
27 Aug	School Cross Country
29 Aug & 2 Sep	Yr4-6 Kiwi North Trip
4 Sep	WPSSA Cross Country
4 & 5 Sep	Junior Showcase
13 Sep	PTA Spooky Disco
17 Sep	WPSSA Sports Day
25 & 26 Sep	Senior Showcase
27 Sep	Last Day Term 3

and the curriculum it measures hasn't even been released to teachers yet. So, while the data may appear alarming, it's not a true reflection of our children's abilities or potential.

At Maunu School, we have been using the PRIME programme since 2017. This programme is one tool among many that we use to support a broad and balanced maths education. However, we recognise that no single approach suits all students. That's why we combine PRIME with best practices that support basic facts, problem-solving, and critical thinking.

Our collaboration with Rob Proffitt-White from Learners First and our use of TLF Maths over the past three years have further strengthened our approach. Our Maths Team regularly engages in professional development, and they share resources and strategies with the entire staff through termly meetings. Strategies like Rapid Routines, MoveNprove, and Discuss and Defend help to encourage Maths Talk and foster critical thinking among our students.

Outstanding Results, Ongoing Commitment

Maths has always been an area of strength for Maunu School. At the end of last year, our Overall Teacher Judgement placed 87.3% of students at or above level, and our PAT data tracked at 88% for students in Year 3 to Year 6. While these results are slightly lower than our historical average of over 90%, we recognise the impact that interruptions to learning have had. Rest assured, our teaching team is working incredibly hard to support the growth of every child, and we will continue to strive for excellence.

At Maunu School, we understand that a one-size-fits-all model will never meet the diverse needs of our students. We believe in a holistic approach to education, ensuring that all curriculum subjects are integral to building well-rounded individuals who can pursue their interests, strengths, and passions.

Standing Strong Together

Finally, I want to acknowledge the immense pressure that is being placed on our education system and, more importantly, on our teachers. The constant negative messages in the media do not reflect the incredible dedication and hard work of our teachers, who are here every day, going above and beyond to provide amazing opportunities for our children.

We are fortunate to have such a committed and talented team at Maunu School, and with your continued support, we will continue to provide the best possible education for your children.

Cultural Showcase

This term, each class is focusing on learning around Culture. We are excited to invite families to come in and share in our learning as we weave our individual stories together with a cultural narrative in a special showcase. Tickets for our showcase will be available to purchase from next week (Week 5) for both Junior & Senior showcases. Tickets are \$10 (Free for under 5's). The Office will send a notice out next week explaining how you can purchase your tickets.

Junior Showcase:

- Monday 2nd September: Full run-through
- Tuesday 3rd September: Dress Rehearsal
- Wednesday 4th September: Evening Showcase 6.15pm
- Thursday 5th September: Matinee Showcase 11.45am & Evening Showcase 6.15pm

Senior Showcase:

- Monday 23rd September: Full run-through
- Tuesday 24th September: Dress Rehearsal
- Wednesday 25th September: Evening Showcase 6.15pm
- Thursday 26th September: Matinee Showcase 11.30am & Evening Showcase 6.15pm

Students will need to be at school at least 30 minutes prior to performing, teachers will communicate this closer to the time. We are looking forward to these showcases as an opportunity for our students to demonstrate their learning and for our community to come together and celebrate culture through the arts.

Ngā mihi nui,
Claire Turton, Principal

AROUND THE SCHOOL

MAUNU SCHOOL VALUES CUP WINNERS



RATA – Arna Winder
KAURI – Jake Harrison
TAWA – Mary Antony
KOWHAI – Maia Thorburn



CERTIFICATE WINNERS: 2nd AND 9th AUGUST

ROOM 2	Izah Francis, Liam Carroll, Anvi Anandhu, Ava Rapana
ROOM 3	Cooper Jensen, Saanvi Singh, Sam Prasanth, Annabelle Orr
ROOM 4	Rose Antony, Ryan Justin, Caleb Leonard, Riley Butler
ROOM 5	Forbes Alexander, Skylar Chamberlain, Mia Guo, Manaia Marsh, Liam MacKinnon
ROOM 6	Lexi Orr, Brodie Steel, Elisha Tibu, Olivia Bell
ROOM 9	Hazel Hati, Arna Winder, Gee Silvestre, Emma Platt
ROOM 10	Charlie Green, Ella Davies-Colley, Kyra Witehira, Blake Little
ROOM 11	Grace Cumming, Reagan Shaji, Cooper Harrison, Jessica Robin
ROOM 12	Aaliyah Wilson, Axel Stewart, Saige Ritchie-Warren, Zayan Irfan
ROOM 14	Hedda Ström, Riley Waddell, Sarah Eshal, Chirag Kaushik
ROOM 15	Carla Ruddell, Jaqueline Vipin, Stevie Parkes-Sohal, Lincoln Leathem
ROOM 17	Jaxon Fedarb, Alex Bell, Jade Moka-Reid, Cameron Turton
ROOM 18	Amelia Ulloa Salinas, Gurshaan Singh, Ceiba Koncsek, Rhodes Alexander



MAUNU SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Will be held on Tuesday 27th August (pp Wednesday 28th August) at Barge Park. Please note that because we are reliant on Fulton Hogan to help with the whole school crossing SH14 we have to make the postponement call by Monday afternoon. Races will be starting at 11:00am.

The order of the races are: (ages as at 1st January)

10&11yr old boys and girls

4yr old boys and girls

9yr old boys and girls

5yr old boys and girls

6yr old boys and girls

8yr old boys and girls

7yr old boys and girls



Unfortunately, we cannot give you commencement times for each race as they are entirely dependent on the number of children in each race and the time taken to complete the course.

All children will return to school following the races as it is a normal school day.

Please let us know in the office if you are available to help out on the day or email diana@maunu.school.nz

REPORTING ABSENCES

If your child is going to be away or late, please ring the school office on 4388060 and leave a message, or use the Maunu School app (skoolloop) to notify us of an absence. **Please record your child's full name, room number and reason they will be absent.**

This is a safety issue, helping us to ensure all our children are safe and where they should be.

BOOK WEEK

Next week we will be celebrating Book Week here at Maunu School, starting with the Scholastic Book Fair which opens in the library tomorrow. The classes will be involved in lots of fun activities throughout the week, including a **dress up as your favourite book character next Friday 23 August.**



Book Fair details

Dates: Friday 16, Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 August

Place: Maunu School Library

Time: Friday 2.45pm-3.45pm, Monday & Tuesday 8.15am-9.00am and 2.45pm-3.45pm

Come along and check out all the amazing books on offer!

CHANGE OF CLOTHES

It's always a good idea for your children to have a change of clothes in their school bag for those unexpected times that they may need them, especially during this wet and wintery weather.

ONLINE PAYMENTS WITH MYKINDO

We are excited to let you know that we will be introducing myKindo for all your school payments. You will be able to view and make payments on your personalised myKindo family account, purchase event tickets and support fundraisers! All online!

More information will be available soon.

kindo.
coming soon!

FRIENDS & WHANAU NEWS (PTA)

PTA SPOOKY DISCO, SAVE THE DATE!



MAUNU SCHOOL
SPOOKY DISCO

FRIDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

JUNIORS - 5.30 - 6.30PM
SENIORS - 7.15 - 8.15PM
MAUNU SCHOOL HALL

+ PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED AS WELL AS DRINK, FOOD & PARTY GIMMICKS FOR SALE

The poster features a purple background with a black silhouette of a tree with a glowing jack-o'-lantern. Two white ghost characters are shown, each carrying an orange boombox. Musical notes are scattered around the ghosts. The text is in white and orange, with the event title in large, bold letters.

Entry by cold coin donation

COMMUNITY NEWS

JOIN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S - TREASURER

Our Board Treasurer is standing down and we are beginning the process of looking for a replacement. If you have experience with financial management and would like to join the board please express your interest to Carolyn by email to office@maunu.school.nz by Friday 23 August 2024.



SWIMMING LESSONS

ACTIVE SWIM

We are excited to provide a variety of fun and instructive swimming lessons for a range of ages (babies, toddlers, preschool and school age). Private lesson options are also available for teens and adults.

What Makes Our Lessons Special

- ✓ Caring Instructors
- ✓ Small Class Sizes
- ✓ Progressive Curriculum
- ✓ Focus on Safety

Register Online Today!

JOIN NOW

Contact Us:

- (09) 945 4876
- www.activeattitude.co.nz

The advertisement features a blue background with a yellow and red logo for 'Active Swim'. A young girl wearing a pink swimsuit and black goggles is shown swimming in a pool. The text is in white and yellow, with a yellow call-to-action button. The background also includes a large yellow speech bubble containing the text 'Register Online Today!'.