

THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2025

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Kia ora koutou,

It is wonderful to see our students settling into their learning, building relationships with their peers and teachers, and enriching the curriculum by giving new things a go. At the start

of each year, I challenge our tamariki to set goals, embrace every opportunity, and strive to be the best version of themselves.

On Monday, our Senior Syndicate students embodied this challenge at their Swimming Sports. It was fantastic to see them supporting one another through positive sportsmanship and giving their best by getting involved. We look forward to seeing our Junior Syndicate showcase their newly developed skills next week.

Next week, our Seniors are excited to begin Adventure Week! A huge thank you to our incredible Senior Syndicate teachers, who dedicate hours to planning these experiences, and to our whānau volunteers, who generously give their time to transport and support these days. Your efforts make these opportunities possible for our students.

The Science of Learning & Structured Literacy – Our Approach to Reading

Over the past few years, our teaching and leadership teams have been deepening our understanding of the **Science of Learning** and implementing a Structured Literacy approach to teaching spelling and reading. This research-backed method ensures that all children develop strong foundational reading skills through explicit and systematic teaching.

One of the key changes we've made this year is how we approach sending books home with students, specifically in the Junior Syndicate. You may have noticed that we are no longer sending traditional readers home each night. Instead, we are focusing on building the strong neuro pathways in the brain in the classroom by unpacking a book for several days, with specific focuses. This process is called **Orthographic Mapping** - the way in which children store words for instant recognition.

DATES TO REMEMBER TERM 1

- 28 Feb** Paul Sumich Perch Coffee Cart - before school
- 28 Feb** Whole School Assembly - **2pm**
- 28 Feb** Friday Freeze Fundraiser - afterschool at the Hall Kitchen
- 28 Feb** Friends and Whānau Meeting - **3pm** in the Library
- 3-6 Mar** Year 5/6 Adventure Week
- 3-6 Mar** Year 1 Swimming Demos
- 3 Mar** Year 2/3 Swimming Demo
- 7 Mar** Staff Only Day - **School Closed**
- 12 Mar** WPSSA Swimming
- 27 Mar** Year 2/3 Rock Pool Visit
- 31 Mar** Year 1 Barge Park Visit
- 11 Apr** Greats, Grands and Whānau Day **10am - 12.30pm**
- 11 Apr** Last day Term 1
- 28 Apr** First Day Term 2

The Reading Brain



"The brain processes every single letter and does not look at the whole word shape. Teaching letter to sound correspondence is therefore essential. It is the fastest way to acquire reading and comprehension."

Professor Stanislas Dehaene, Neuroscientist.

● Broca's Area

"Phonological Awareness"

Primarily responsible for processing speech sounds in order to produce spoken and written language.

● Angular Gyrus

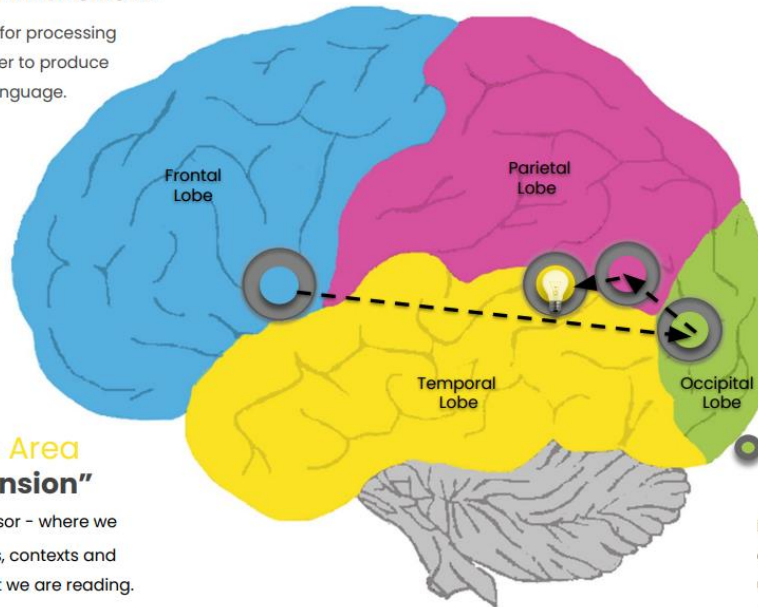
"Phonics Chip"

Allows the reader to attach the sound (phonological) to the correct symbol (grapheme). This is where we connect the spoken word to the written word.

● Wernicke's Area

"Comprehension"

The meaning processor - where we store word meanings, contexts and connotations of what we are reading.



● Visual Word Form Area

"Letter Box"

Primarily responsible for the rapid, effortless recognition of graphemes, rime units, syllables and whole words. The 'orthographic processor' develops progressively when learning to read in order to develop a sight word vocabulary.

© Learning Matters Ltd. All rights reserved

The Science Behind Reading

Unlike speaking and listening, which develop naturally, reading is a skill that **MUST BE** explicitly taught - **Reading is 'taught', not 'caught'**.

The brain is **not** naturally wired for reading, so as teachers, **the way we teach reading matters**.

Our Junior Syndicate (Years 1-3) uses the **Better Start Literacy Approach**, while our Senior Syndicate (Years 4-6) follow the **iDeal Programme**. Regardless of the programme, both approaches are grounded in the Science of Learning.

How does Orthographic Mapping work?

- Look at the word and its sequence of letters.
- Break it into sounds (phonemes).
- Attach sounds to symbols (letters and letter patterns).
- Blend them together to form the word.
- Attach meaning to the word.

For most children, this process requires 1-4 different exposures, hence we really unpack this process over a week, using a multi modal approach to support our tamariki. For some children they may need up to 1,500 exposures to solidify the connection and build the neuro pathway to connect the sound with the visual symbol or word.

This is why we are focusing on structured classroom lessons rather than sending home books that may not reinforce the correct learning sequence.

How Can You Support Your Child?

We know as whānau you want to support your child. Each week in the Junior Syndicate, teachers will upload the book they have been reading with your child to Seesaw. It is not intended for you to read this book with your child, but rather a reference for you to see what your child has been working on. Instead we will send home information on the sounds and patterns reinforced in the

book we are working on. **We encourage you to reinforce these at home through the suggested activities.**

In place of traditional readers, we highly encourage **reading for enjoyment and the love of books** - sharing sophisticated picture books, library books, and reading aloud to and with your child is so important.

Please read a variety of texts with your child, expose them to a variety of genres. For example: share a recipe with your child, read it together. Make the recipe, measuring the quantities with your child - combining both Literacy & Maths. Make it enjoyable, link reading to fun experiences.

By aligning our teaching with the latest research, we are ensuring that all our learners develop **strong, lifelong reading skills**, which will help them to develop the neuro pathways in their brains to naturally link the sounds and visual symbols.

We plan to run a parent evening in the near future to further support whānau with ways you can help your child.

Thank you for your support in this important journey!

Ngā manaakitanga,
Claire Turton,
Principal

AROUND THE SCHOOL

CERTIFICATE WINNERS 14 FEBRUARY

ROOM 2	Leo Brown, Celine Hsu, Izah Parackal Francis
ROOM 3	Carter Harnett, Sophie Platt, Wolfe Anglesey
ROOM 4	Qaaniah Kippie, Chrisjo Jins, Emma de Klerk
ROOM 5	Riley Butler, Rylee Rajah
ROOM 6	Eloise Jones, Richard King, Kianu Kapa
ROOM 9	Elvin Robin, Jade Moka-Reid, Ada Brown
ROOM 10	Miquel Calonge Velasco, Nakul Suresh, Mollie Perry
ROOM 11	Hazel Hati, Esther Tibu, Nathan Stewart
ROOM 12	Jase Webb, Henry English Alexander, Saige Ritchie-Warren
ROOM 14	Tricia Lai, Lilly O'Neill, James Slater
ROOM 15	Kennedy Churches, James Lancaster, Eddie Wong
ROOM 17	Ethan Wong, Isla O'Neill, Hunar Saini
ROOM 18	Niya Jijo, Kelly-Ann Slater, Norah Cino

VALUES CUP WINNERS 14 FEBRUARY



KOWHAI - Niya Ajeesh
KAURI - Ollie Mathieson
TAWA - Kingston Baigent
RATA - Richard King



SENIOR SWIMMING SPORTS

On Monday, we had a wonderful day at our Senior Syndicate Swimming Sports. The warm, sunny weather was welcomed and helped both the competitive event at Pompallier and the non-competitive event at Maunu run very smoothly. It was truly heartening to see our children giving it their all, with many trying something new and stepping out of their comfort zones.

Thank you to all the parents who came along to support the children, as well as everyone who helped make the day a success by assisting at both events including the set up before school. The children were remarkable, showing genuine enthusiasm and encouraging their peers. We are extremely proud of the effort and sportsmanship they all displayed.

Senior Syndicate Swimming Sports Results 2025					
Freestyle 25m					
Year 4 Girls			Year 4 Boys		
Placing	Name	Time	Placing	Name	Time
1 st	Jade Moka-Reid	23:00	1 st	Jaxon Fedarb	24:77
2 nd	Zariah Lejos	27:31	2 nd	Kaihi Poa	27:52
3 rd	Olivia Tauri	29:32	3 rd	Michael McNairn	29:55
Year 5 Girls			Year 5 Boys		
1 st	Hazel Hati	20:77	1 st	James Lancaster	21:40
2 nd	Holly Harrison	21:54	2 nd	Riley Baker	22:79
3 rd	Millie Shelford	22:55	3 rd	Cooper Fromont	25:69
Year 6 Girls			Year 6 Boys		
1 st	Hannah Walden	20:24	1 st	William Hardwick	19:30
2 nd	Mila Cartwright	21:97	2 nd	Baxter Williamson	20:85
3 rd	Emma Reynolds	22:95	3 rd	Eddie Wong	21:25
Breaststroke 25m					
Year 4 Girls			Year 4 Boys		
1 st	Jade Moka-Reid	34:91	1 st	James Platt	45:11
2 nd	Olivia Bell	45:38	2 nd	Kaihi Poa	46:01
3 rd	Esme Mabey	48:35	3 rd	Cody Bassett-Allen	46:71
Year 5 Girls			Year 5 Boys		
1 st	Katia Stephenson	33:20	1 st	James Lancaster	34:09
2 nd	Emma Riley	33:87	2 nd	Ethan Dutton-Berry	34:25
3 rd	Holly Harrison	34:23	3 rd	Riley Baker	38:82
Year 6 Girls			Year 6 Boys		
1 st	Grace Adamson	33:10	1 st	Baxter Williamson	27:18
2 nd	Mila Cartwright	34:82	2 nd	William Hardwick	28:15
3 rd	Olive Mitchell	34:88	3 rd	Patrick Reid	28:89
Backstroke 25m					
Year 4 Girls			Year 4 Boys		
1 st	Emma Lombard	34:90	1 st	Jaxon Fedarb	32:49
2 nd	Olivia Bell	35:02	2 nd	Kaihi Poa	34:81
3 rd	Eva Cartwright	38:00	3 rd	James Platt	37:85
Year 5 Girls			Year 5 Boys		
1 st	Hazel Hati	27:63	1 st	James Lancaster	27:67
2 nd	Emma Riley Emma Platt	29:80 29:80	2 nd	Riley Baker	30:54
3 rd	Esther Manson	32:71	3 rd	Cooper Fromont	30:81
Year 6 Girls			Year 6 Boys		
1 st	Tara White-Hughes	24:87	1 st	William Hardwick	25:39
2 nd	Hannah Walden	26:72	2 nd	Patrick Reid	27:35
3 rd	Mila Cartwright	33:94	3 rd	Eddie Wong	28:50
Freestyle 50m					
Year 5 Girls			Year 5 Boys		
1 st	Hazel Hati	50:35	1 st	James Lancaster	53:83

2 nd	Lilly O'Neill	56:61	2 nd	Riley Baker	1:01:25
3 rd	Holly Harrison	57:32	3 rd	Ethan Dutton-Berry	1:04:35
Year 6 Girls			Year 6 Boys		
1 st	Hannah Walden	50:27	1 st	William Hardwick	44:28
2 nd	Mila Cartwright	54:48	2 nd	Baxter Williamson	47:05
3 rd	Tara White-Hughes	58:04	3 rd	Eddie Wong	53:33
Breaststroke 50m					
Year 5 Girls			Year 5 Boys		
1 st	Millie Shelford	1:15:62	1 st	James Lancaster	1:19:08
2 nd	Katia Stephenson	1:16:30	2 nd	Ethan Dutton-Berry	1:20:95
3 rd	Holly Harrison	1:17:88	3 rd	Riley Baker	1:32:19
Year 6 Girls			Year 6 Boys		
1 st	Hannah Walden	1:17:11	1 st	Baxter Williamson	1:04:82
2 nd	Grace Adamson	1:20:75	2 nd	Eddie Wong	1:09:68
3 rd	Mila Cartwright	1:24:35	3 rd	William Hardwick	1:09:60
Backstroke 50m					
Year 5 Girls			Year 5 Boys		
1 st	Hazel Hati	1:06:18	1 st	James Lancaster	1:01:69
2 nd	Holly Harrison	1:06:69	2 nd	Ethan Dutton-Berry	1:17:00
3 rd	Emma Platt	1:07:64	3 rd	Riley Baker	1:20:45
Year 6 Girls			Year 6 Boys		
1 st	Tara White-Hughes	58:07	1 st	William Hardwick	55:88
2 nd	Mila Cartwright	1:07:92	2 nd	Baxter Williamson	1:02:58
3 rd	Jaini Dave	1:18:23	3 rd	Patrick Reid	1:05:00



STAFF ONLY DAY – FRIDAY 7 MARCH

A reminder that we have a Staff Only Day next **Friday the 7th of March**. Please mark this on your calendar as School will be closed for instruction on this day. If you are wanting to book your child in with Educare please contact Christin Munro directly on 0274821331. Please book early as they require a certain number of children to open.

HUT BUILDING

Our Hut Building & Sensory Area officially opened this term, and what an incredible addition it has been to our school! This fantastic space was made possible through the generous support of our Friends & Whānau of Maunu Colour Run and PB4L (positive behaviour for learning) funding - a huge thank you to everyone who contributed!

A special shout out to our dedicated Year 4 custodians, who have stepped up as daily guardians of this space, ensuring all students can access the resource shed and enjoy the mud kitchen water play.

Their leadership and enthusiasm have been outstanding!

The area is timetabled for different year groups to enjoy for an entire week, and it has been absolutely heart-warming to see our tamariki collaborating, exploring, and creating together. We love seeing their imaginations come to life in this dynamic, hands-on environment! Ka pai, team!



GREATS, GRANDS AND WHANAU DAY

Our Greats, Grands and Whānau Day will be held on the last day of Term 1, **11 April 10am – 12.30pm**. Make sure to mark this on your calendar and let your extended Whānau know! More details to come.



FRIENDS & WHANAU OF MAUNU (PTA)



FIRST MEET & GREET OF 2025 – THIS FRIDAY 28TH FEB, 3PM AT THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

We help fund awesome resources, organise exciting events, and support our amazing teachers. Think School Fairs, Discos, Colour Runs and those little extras that make a BIG difference to our Kids.

Meet other parents, build friendships, and be part of a team that's passionate about our kids' school days.

We understand that life is busy, so you can choose your level of involvement. Join in our regular meetings (we are looking for a new Chairperson!) or just help out at specific events that suit your schedule - no commitment required.

See you Friday – kids welcome to play outside or in the Library

REMINDERS

Bus Bay Pick-Up

- Students traveling by bus will line up inside the black gates and be checked off on the bus list.
- A duty teacher will supervise the students within the fenced area until the bus arrives.
- The duty teacher will escort the children onto the bus safely.

Car Pick-Ups from the Bus Bay Area

- Students must stay inside the fenced area until their whānau arrive at the gate to collect them.
- Due to the high congestion in this area, we do not want children walking independently across traffic while cars and buses are moving.

Walking Home via Austin Road

- Students walking home must exit through the Junior Gates (between Room 2 and Room 3).
- They should keep to the footpaths and be extra cautious when crossing roads, including the school car park and other streets along Austin Road.

Walking Home via SH14

- Students walking home must exit through the Bus Bay Gates.
- They should keep to the footpaths and be extra cautious when crossing roads.

Pick-Ups from Austin Road by Car

- Parents/caregivers must leave their cars and walk to either the Junior or Office gates to escort their child to the vehicle.

Students CANNOT cross Austin Road unattended; they must be accompanied by an adult.

Pick-Ups from the School Car Park

- All students being picked up from the school carpark must **walk behind the school Hall** and wait under the shelter at the back of the Hall.
- Parents should meet their children at the gate near the Hall roller doors.
- A duty teacher will be present until 3:10 pm to supervise students.

If a Child is Not Picked Up by 3:10 pm

- At 3:10 pm, any students who have not been collected must go to the Office (front of the school).
- Parents will need to pick up their child from the Office area.
- We cannot leave students unsupervised in our large school grounds.

If children remain at school after the Office closes, they will be booked into After School Care, which will incur costs.

We really appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that all children are picked up safely and in a timely manner. If you anticipate running late, please contact the Office as soon as possible.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TAHI – OPEN DAY

FREE ENTRY

Saturday 1st March, 9am - 3pm

1824 Pātāua North Road, Whangārei RD5

Explore our 800 acre living eco-lab with our guided walks

Learn about biodiversity regeneration and beekeeping

Enjoy Manuka honey tastings, food trucks, coffee carts and more



www.tahi.com

FRIDAY FREEZE FUNDRAISER – HELPING COOPER GET TO BARCELONA!



BARÇA
Academy

PLEASE HELP COOPER WITH HIS JOURNEY TO BARCELONA!

We're excited to share that Cooper Fromont, a passionate 9-year-old football player from Maunu School, has been selected by the Barcelona Academy of Football to represent New Zealand in the Barcelona World Cup Tournament from April 12th to 21st, 2025!

Cooper has been dedicated to football since he was 5. He trains and has games up to 5 times a week with FC Football Club and Northland Football Club. His goal is to become a professional football player, and this tournament is a big step toward that dream.



TO HELP COOPER MAKE THIS DREAM A REALITY, WE NEED YOUR HELP. THE COSTS FOR TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION, AND TOURNAMENT FEES ARE HIGH, AND WE'RE WORKING HARD TO RAISE THE NECESSARY FUNDS.

More Information
alana_fromont@hotmail.com

FRIDAY FREEZE FUNDRAISER



How You Can Help:

We will be hosting a Friday Freeze fundraiser at Maunu School, selling ice blocks to raise money for Cooper's trip to Barcelona. We will also have raffle tickets available for a grocery raffle. All proceeds will go towards Cooper's expenses.

Ice blocks and raffle tickets \$2 each.

FRIDAY 28TH FEB AND FRIDAY 14TH MARCH

SCHOOL HALL KITCHEN AT 3:00PM



We are incredibly grateful for your support. Thank you for being a part of Cooper's journey!



Please bring cash

PAUL SUMICH AND HARCOURTS – PERCH COFFEE CART

Paul Sumich & Harcourts Whangarei
present

Perch coffee cart for school.
THE LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
AUSTIN RD ENTRANCE: 8.15-9AM
SUPPORT MAUNU SCHOOL FOR 2025.

28th Feb	2nd May	25th Jul	31st Oct
28th Mar	30th May	29th Aug	28th Nov
	27th Jun	19th Sep	12th Dec

Grab a Coffee or Hot Chocolate for **\$3**, with all funds going directly to the school.

CASH or pay direct to the school account.
a/c **12 3093 0151775 00** Maunu School
Make your reference "coffee donation"

Thank you!

We are excited to let you know that Paul and his Perch Coffee Cart will be back this year, the last Friday of every month! Coffee and Hot Chocolates are **\$3 each** and can be paid for with cash or by bank transfer to the school account. A big thank you to Paul and Harcourts for their ongoing support of Maunu School.



DON'T MISS THE 2025
MAUNGA a Maungatapere School PTA FUNDRAISER
MAYHEM
 MAUNGATAPERE OBSTACLE ADVENTURE RACE

LOCATION!
 Land of the Lotus on Mangakahia Road

Amazing **SPOT PRIZES**

22ND MARCH 2025

GET TICKETS AND INFO ONLINE
maungamayhem.co.nz



MANGAKAHIA FOOTBALL CLUB

REGISTRATION NIGHT

3.30 - 6.00pm

Bring along your old boots for a boot swap

Bar will be open for food to purchase

Merchandise will be available to try on and order

DATE **13 MARCH**

Boys & Girls 4-12 Years Old

Location
 Mangakahia complex

For further info
mangakahiafc@gmail.com
 021 081 56433 - Amanda

Online registration will be available from 23-02-2025



The Magic and Mayhem Show – Sunday 16 March 2pm

Capitaine Bougainville Theatre, Forum North. Packed with jaw-dropping magic, hilarious antics, and interactive fun, this all-ages extravaganza promises side-splitting laughs and unforgettable moments for the whole family. Don't miss the chance to experience the magic, mischief, and mayhem live on stage. Join us on March 16th at 2pm - a show guaranteed to amaze and entertain!

Adults \$20, Children \$15, Family Pass (4 tickets) \$60. Booking fees apply

Aya & The Butterfly – Sunday 20 April 2pm

Te Kotahitanga Expo Hall, Forum North

'Aya and the Butterfly' is a heart-warming, joyful story about a little girl who finds happiness through her experience of the metamorphosis of the Monarch Butterfly. Aya's story encourages compassion and empathy for different cultures and helps us all become part of an important movement of change towards living together in peace, and all the while featuring plenty of magical puppet moments, music and songs, and lots of joining in! Designed for families and ideal for children aged 3 to 9 years.

General Admission \$10, Family Pass (4 tickets) \$30. Booking fees apply

