



NEWSLETTER

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Tangata ako ana i te whare, te turanga ki te marae, tau ana

A person who is taught at home, will stand collected on the Marae (meeting house grounds)

A child who is given proper values at home and cherished within his family, will not only behave well amongst the family but also within society and throughout his life.

Kia ora koutou

It is exciting to be able to share with our community the appointment of Nat Lagah to the position of Senior Team Leader for 2024. Nat comes to us from teaching and leading at Pirinoa School in the Wairarapa and has a connection to South Mākirikiri School through having had a teaching practicum during her university study with Mrs Julie Rowe back in the 2000s. Nat brings experience in science, maths, localised curriculum, sports, and leading a team of teachers. We know she is motivated to be engaged in coaching teams and getting involved in being part of the wider school community. Later this term we will hopefully have Nat with us for a day getting immersed in what happens at South Mākirikiri School.

We thank all our whānau for supporting our teachers to have a day to up-skill and explore some more of the refreshed curriculum that will be implemented in 2024. It was great to have Marton and Clifton Schools collaborate with our staff on using a range of tools that will support teaching and learning using the refreshed curriculum. There are some ideas of



Room 6 Trip

Connor Haycock takes a small step for mankind.



Cross Country

Max O'Neill placed third in his year group.



High Ropes

Room 6 students take to the trees.

connecting learning across schools and providing opportunities for our tamariki to share their learning with a range of different tamariki. One of the planning tools explored enables students to drive what interests them, and teachers creating learning that is relevant to our local environment and history. Teacher-only days are a great way for schools to collaborate, explore, and share quality practices and we appreciate that our community can work with us on having these days.



As many of you are aware, Mākirikiri Road has an increased volume of traffic at present due to road works on State Highway 3. As well as the traffic, you may have noticed an increased presence of the police outside the school during drop-offs and at the end of the day; we appreciate their support in making our kura safer for everyone during this time. I was also really impressed by their promptness to our request to have an increased presence, and the resulting adjustment to people's driving has been noted. The road diversion will be in place for a number of weeks so we ask that you take your time when entering and exiting school for pick-ups and drop-offs.



At the end of this week, Room 3 will be heading out for an adapted EOTC experience in our local environment. They will have a day at Turakina Beach to explore and also contribute by doing an element of beach cleanup, and then have some exploring on a farm. It is so neat that we have families sharing their resources to provide an experience for all the children. Thanks to Laura and Richard Morrison for making their farm available for the children; while we are a rural school more than half our school roll do not live on farms and this is a great way for everyone to have the opportunity to explore in a safe environment.

Greg Allan, Principal

FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL PROJECT

The South Makirikiri Board of Trustees and Friends of School are excited to announce our big project for 2024! We will be working towards constructing a bike track on our school grounds, where the pine trees were recently removed. As this is in the research and ideas stage, we are currently seeking people who are interested in joining our Bike Track Committee. We are also wanting to hear from anyone who has ideas for the project, along with anyone who could contribute towards the project with their time and resources. Please email us at fos@southmak.school.nz



Board report

Due to a number of reasons, we have pushed our final meeting of the year back to Thursday 7 December. Agenda items of note will be in the next newsletter.

Earlier in the month, we welcomed Steven Whittaker from Education Services (School Financial and Property Management) to school to deliver a training session for our parent-elected board members on the in's and out's and complexities of school financial management. We learnt a lot and it was a really beneficial session, not to mention that it was reassuring to hear from Steven that South Mākirikiri School is in a very financially stable position and has shown years of good, sound financial management by our Principal Greg Allan.

I was in school yesterday for a meeting and a couple of small jobs and as I sat watching our tamariki playing on the turf at lunchtime, it struck me that every single child out there was wearing a hat. I reflected and thought how fantastic that our staffing team has a no-negotiations stance on this for the long-term wellbeing of our kids. It may seem a small thing, but instilling the importance of sun safety is something I am grateful to our teachers for.

I have really enjoyed collating the feedback received so far about what our community values about our school, and your child/ren's education. I have a few more opportunities to seek feedback before the term is out, so please continue to ponder and share! You don't have to wait for me to ask - please feel free to email me: lrayner@southmak.school.nz

I had a delightfully unexpected page of responses from our tamariki who had taken the initiative when the questions were on the sandwich boards in the covered way, to share their thoughts. Some highlights from their feedback about what they valued in our school were:

- The people x 5
- The teachers x 3
- The staff
- Learning x 4

- Writing and Nussy x 2
- Maths x 2
- Ukelele, piano and guitar
- Music
- Music Teachers
- Camp x 2
- I like playing with my friends x 2 (they are kind)
- Everyone is kind
- Looking after people/friends
- People let other people play with them
- Having fun x 5
- Sport x 3

and these gems that made me chuckle:

- Having weekends
- When we don't have to do work or sport



I am really proud of our touch teams that have now wrapped up competing in the 5-week primary schools' competition in Marton on Friday afternoons. Our Year 6, 7 and 8 team showed resilience, skill progression, growth in confidence and awesome team work. The Year 5 and 6 team (that included Year 2, 3 and 4 students as well) made huge progress through the competition. There are some very skilled rugby players in the team that really took on the role of supporting players new to the game to grow their confidence and competence. This was a big team of 14 players (for six on the

field at once!), and required some excellent sub rolling to ensure all kids got their fair share of time on the field - **THANK YOU** Erin Auret for doing such a fabulous job of this. Unfortunately, the final was cancelled due to the downpours of rain, but this team finished Runner-Up Champions on the points tally!

Thank you to the parent and whanau support for both teams - it was awesome to see so much sideline support and team organisation for our players.

Libby Rayner, Presiding Member

Interschool cross country results

Following are the results from the Interschool Cross Country recently held at Hunterville School.

- **Year 4 and 5** - Harry O'Neill 3rd; Indy Jones 6th; Kendall Nairne 13th; Hamish Knox 14th; Harriet Simpson 16th; Milton Auret 17th; Sophie Simpson 23rd.
- **Year 6 and 7** - Leah Maas 15th; Max O'Neill 30th.

Room 4's Adventure

Room 4 had the best time on their adventure to Zealandia, Te Papa and our overnight stay at the Wellington Zoo. We would like to thank all the parents that came along and made it possible. A special thank you to D and B Pidwell and C and J Knox who made a generous donation to help make this trip possible. Thank you also to FOS for their donation. The children at South Makirikiri are so lucky to have unforgettable experiences. All the children have made a camp book that we would love to share with you so pop in anytime to read all about our adventures, please.



NZ Modern School of Music

You are cordially invited to the NZ Modern School of Music End of Year Concert. This will be held in the South Mākirikiri School Media Centre on Thursday, 30 November at 6:00pm, with guest performers, the Kiwileles.

FOS Christmas Party

Our Friends of the School invite you to join to celebrate the end of a fantastic school year. Eat, drink and be merry at Cooks Bar, Marton from 6:30pm, Friday 1 December. See you there!

Palmy Brick Show

The Palmy Brick Show is on the 25 and 26 November at Fly Palmy Arena. More information can be found on the Palmerston North Brick Show facebook page.

Marton Market Day, 25 November

Marton Market Day is Rangitikei's largest event and the most vibrant day in the district's calendar. Market Day takes over the town with over 250 stalls and great entertainment - all day long.



CALENDAR

Friday 24 November:

- Kī-o-rahi tournament, Year 7 and 8
- Room 3 beach trip
- Senior electives

Thursday 30 November:

- NZ MSM end of year concert at 6pm

Friday 1 December:

- Room 2 class trip
- Room 3 around town trip
- Learning celebration at 2pm

Monday 4 December:

- Room 5 camp

Wednesday 13 December:

- Year 8 final assembly

Thursday 14 December:

- Prize giving at Rangitikei College Hall

Friday 15 December:

- School finishes at midday

Wednesday 31 January:

- Term 1 2024 begins (TBC)

