



NEWSLETTER

principal@southmak.school.nz 06 327 6617 www.southmak.school.nz



Year 8 students travelled to Wellington

He maurea kai whiria!

Ignore small matters and direct effort toward important projects.

This whakatauki encourages us to keep things in perspective, to not get bogged down by the small things, the little details, but instead to maintain our focus on the vision, on what is important. It could be used to keep people on track, and/or to remind us/people to maintain focus on what's important even in the face of great complexity.

Kia ora koutou, whanau

What an amazing term we have had. I want to take a moment to acknowledge the work of all our staff and the way they have continued to find ways to provide a well-rounded education. We have seen science as a huge focus in the Senior end of the school which culminated in their trip to Wellington this week. The support of the FOS to provide the opportunity for every child through paying for a bus was incredible. I would like to acknowledge Peter Crawford who donated his time and expertise to drive the bus for this group of students. We also had a huge number of parents supporting the trip for the day and what I appreciate is the way all our whanau get involved in experiences. I was fortunate enough to take 10 of our senior students to Wellington on Tuesday, where we learnt first-hand what it means to rely on public transport, be a commuter on the train and navigate the city streets. The students soaked up the city experience and appreciated all the opportunities they had presented to them. What is also so rewarding is they enjoy having fun, supporting each other and including each other in all of the experiences.

As I walked around each of the classes this morning it is worth celebrating the engagement, focus and drive each of the teachers have for providing quality learning environments. Seeing the focus on literacy and numeracy across all classes even as we get to the end of the term shows our team's dedication to maximising every learning opportunity.

Last Thursday saw the Year 4-8 have their swimming sports at the Marton Pool. This was a great culmination of the water safety programme and provided the opportunity for students to race competitively. Well done Miss Lagah on the organisation of this event and also the parents who contributed to timekeeping and identifying place-getters. Without your support, our team would not have been able to complete such a huge swimming programme. This event provided all children to demonstrate their progress in swimming ability. We have some students who confidently swim 50 meter races in a range of strokes and we have students who are starting to build their water confidence. It is impressive to see the way all of the students support each other in all of the events no matter what their ability is.



Ella in Wellington



Lauren takes the wheel



Peyton climbing high

As we move into winter sports next term I would like to acknowledge all those parents who are giving up their time to ensure we have sports teams. We need coaches for our teams and we are very close to locking in which parent will coach each team but we are always looking for more help. You do not need to be an expert and we can find support people to help upskill you. What we need is people prepared to give it a go and ensure we have coaches for the teams. During the holidays I will be finalising the weekly practice roster for the turf space so that every team has a time slot. This is also to fit in with our wonderful parent coaches. If you would like to help out with coaching please let me know so I can add you to the team coaching lists. We are planning on running the Year 1-2 hockey as part of the Physical Education programme one afternoon a week starting at 2:00pm so they are finished before the end of the school day.

I have been listening with interest to talk back over the past few days about the government's crackdown on attendance. Listening to the statistics we are very fortunate that we don't have high levels of attendance issues. We have a sickness and we appreciate you keeping children at home when they are sick. Over the past few weeks, we have been hit by a nasty gastro bug which means students aren't at school. This is unavoidable. If there is a concern about attendance we will be getting in touch in the first instance to see if we can help in any way. If students are well they must attend school to maximise every learning opportunity.

Term 2 looking ahead. School will be closed for two days after King's Birthday weekend so our team can visit some rural schools in the Waikato/ Bay of Plenty to see what they are doing for teaching and learning, check out their environments and research some ideas we think will work for our tamariki. We appreciate that this can be disruptive for families but have tried to make it at a time that can cause the least disruption. School closed Tuesday 4th of June and Wednesday 5th June.

Greg Allan, Principal



Friends of School Update

Thank you to everyone who helped at the RADR's (Rangitaiki Area Distance Riders) event on Saturday. It was a beautiful day out and we were able to raise over \$2,000. It was also great to see so many South Makirikiri students out there giving it a go.

Bike Track Project: Thank you to everyone who has provided feedback through the Bike Track Community Consultation Survey.

Please use this link to complete the survey <https://forms.gle/2bATfGSuxzry39h56>.

The next Bike Committee meeting is on Tuesday 7 May at 7.00pm in the staffroom. Come along if you would like to help plan, organise, and implement this project.

Senior Team Wellington Trip: Friends of School were pleased to contribute \$3,000 towards bus transportation and activities for the Senior Team trip to Wellington.

Sports Uniforms: All sports uniforms need to be returned to the school office ASAP. Please come along and help sort the sports uniforms on Tuesday 16th April at 7pm in the Media Centre.

Sports Bags: Friends of School have purchased 10 new sports bags for teams to use this year. These will be issued at the beginning of the season to team managers.

Hay Party: A big thank you to all of the farmers and contractors who support our annual Friends of School hay fundraiser. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank Hamish Wing for coordinating this season and the members of our school community who showed up to the hay jobs! If you lifted a bale or supported the crew, lock in Friday 12th April for the annual Hay Party at Brett and Megan Illston's place, 10 Williamsons Line. This is a great event to celebrate the end of the hay season! Bring a plate and BYO. Adults only.

Term 2 Meeting: Our Term 2 meeting will be on Tuesday 21 May at 7.00pm in the staffroom. New families are encouraged.

If you would like to join our Friends of School email list please flick us an email at fos@southmak.school.nz. Please also join us on Facebook.

Enjoy the holidays and we look forward to seeing you in Term 2!

Regards

Tessa Nitschke, President

Board report

Kia ora e te whānau o South Mākirikiri!

Please accept my apologies for the oral health report not being included in the last newsletter, here it is for your reading.

South Makirikiri Dental Health Summary for the Board of Trustees

On average, there is a lower rate of dental decay at South Makirikiri School compared to the rest of the area covered by Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora Whanganui.

o On average, we see the highest rate of decay in children between 5-8 years old. It is important for parents to help their children brush their teeth until they are 8-9 years old. We recommend using an adult strength fluoride toothpaste twice a day, and not rinsing the teeth with water after brushing. Flossing is also encouraged, as the majority the of decay that we see starts in between the teeth.

o We do a lot of work to prevent dental decay by placing fluoride varnish and preventive coating/fissure sealants on teeth while we are here. It is great to have the support of the community in this.

We find that South Makirikiri School has good protocols in place regarding sugar intake while the children are at school.

o It is excellent that South Makirikiri School is a water only school, and that healthy lunchbox options are encouraged. The staff are great role models with this.

o We are also pleased to see that children are not rewarded with sweet treats, such as lollipops, while at school, as these are not good for the teeth.

o It is great that the school has fixed "eating times," and discourages the children from grazing on food throughout the day. Constant grazing and snacking increases the risk of dental decay, so it is good to wait around two hours in between meals to avoid this.

The children at South Makirikiri School are very positive in the dental mobile and enjoy coming to see us. It is great to have the support and encouragement of the staff and the community to enforce this. We always enjoy our time at South Makirikiri School.

From the dental team – Kelly Ryan (registered Oral Health Therapist), and Jacqui Alderton and Jo Stewart (Dental Assistants)

Ngā mihi

Libby Rayner, Presiding Member

Welcome, Brian Baillie!

We would like to welcome Brian to our music team. Brian is currently working towards obtaining a Music Teaching Diploma (same as our lovely Sam), and this gives both teachers the opportunity to do their practical training at the same time. Sam will continue teaching piano, violin, ukulele and guitar. Sam is also taking on the role of training some students up to sit their first practical exam this year. Brian will offer beginners guitar and drum lessons as from term 2. Brian is an accomplished musician and is a very popular artist in our community in Marton. He recently performed at the very popular Harvest Festival. For any more information regarding lessons with Brian, please contact Zettie: zettieformusic@gmail.com and for Sam, please contact Sam: sammieformusic@gmail.com

UNIFORM PRICE INCREASE

We have been advised by our supplier that our uniform prices have increased.

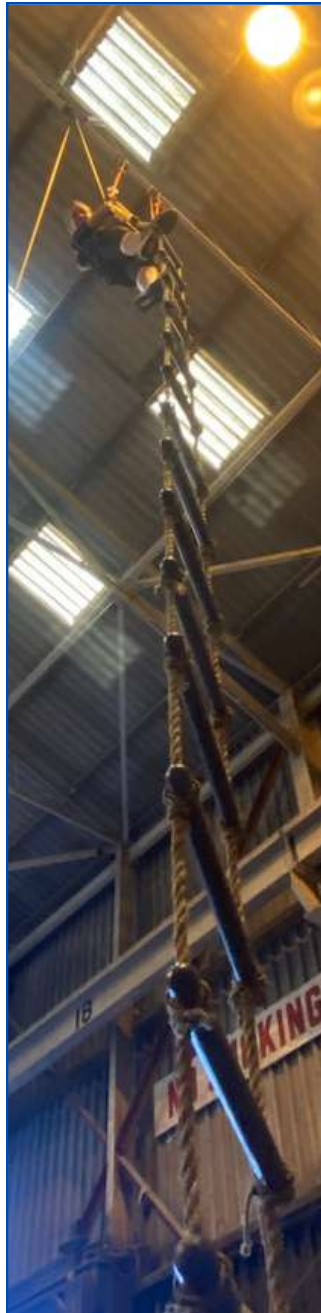
Prices will be effective from Term 2 2024.

These are as follows:

- Polo tees - \$32.00 each
- Polar fleeces - \$40.00 each
- Uniform package (2 x tees, 1 x fleece): \$90.00

NB: We have held off increasing the uniform cost until all "old" stock had been sold.





CALENDAR

Friday 12 April:

- End of term 1
- FOS Hay Party

Monday 29 April:

- Start of term 2

Tuesday 7 May:

- FOS Bike Track meeting @ 7pm

Thursday 16 May:

- Board meeting @ 6pm



945 Mākirikiri Road
 RD 3, Marton 4789
 office@southmak.school.nz
 www.southmak.school.nz

JBS Dudding.
 Charitable Trust
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