

INFORMATION BOOK



South Mākirikiri School

“Learning is our treasure to value and share for life”

Welcome

...to South Mākirikiri School

Thank you for your interest in South Mākirikiri School for your child's education.

We have a fantastic team of teachers and support staff for 2025, with a healthy combination of teachers with experience at our school, along with new teachers from different schools and backgrounds.



We continue to offer our students a range of innovative programmes this year, as well as focusing on the core skills of literacy and numeracy, and have an emphasis on outdoor education. We pride ourselves on our positive and proactive learning environment, and are consistently exploring new initiatives in education, and keep ourselves at the forefront of developments.

We welcome current and prospective parents to call in at any time to discuss their child's education. We strongly believe that a positive and firm partnership between school, parents, students and community is vital to our success. This strong partnership has been influential in the major developments that have been undertaken over the last few years.

We look forward to developing a positive relationship with your family throughout the year.

History

South Mākirikiri School has a rich history, celebrating our 150th anniversary in April 2023. Mākirikiri means “stoney creek” and refers to a creek that originally flowed through the area. This creek was purportedly home to four taniwha and three trolls.



Our school has been operating since at least 1873. History prior to this is rather vague but it is likely that children were being educated here from 1859 to 1860 when it was a private school known as Upper Rangitikei School. Local farmers cleared the land and built the school, with many of their descendants still farming in the area, with children attending the school today.

Combined community support has been instrumental in the success of our school. This support has seen the development of tree planting programmes, re-surfacing the car park, field clearing, the establishment of adventure playgrounds, the development of an arts, media and technology centre, re-sealing of the tennis courts, development of our school library and breakout space, and an outdoor fitness track.



Our Vision and Values

“Learning is our treasure to seek and share for life.”

Our 3 values at South Makirkiri School are having students who are mindful, self-managers and contributors in everything we do.

Our philosophy: All students will treasure, seek and share learning in an environment that empowers the to reach their full potential whilst demonstrating our core school values.

We strive for our students to be able to:

- Recognise and pursue their talents
- Be reflective and become valuable contributors to the community •

Have strengths in literacy and numeracy

- Be active seekers, users and creators of knowledge
- Have an awareness and appreciation of their environment



2025 Term Dates

Term One: Thursday 30th January to Friday 11th April

Term Two: Monday 28th April to Friday 27th June

Term Three: Monday 14th July to Friday 19th September

Term Four: Monday 6th October to Tuesday 16th December

Our Staff

Greg Allan: Principal

Nat Lagah: Room 1 Teacher - Years 7 and 8

Rowena Coleman: Room 2 Teacher - New Entrant and Year 1

Anna-Louise Maas: Room 3 Teacher - Years 1 and 2

Brenna O'Neill: Room 4 Teacher - Years 2 and 3

Lucy Richards: Room 5 Teacher - Years 4 and 5

Glenda Menges: Room 6 Teacher - Years 5 and 6

Alannah Marino: Office Administrator

Samantha Simpson: Teacher Aide

Jessica Knox: Teacher Aide

Jayde Murray: Teacher Aide

Hamish Wing: Caretaker

School Hours

Our school day starts at 8:30am and finishes at 2:30pm. Morning tea is at 10:30am to 10:50am, and our lunch break is from 12:30pm to 1:30pm.

NB: School is not open to students before 8:00am.

Our school office is open from 8:30am to 2:30pm, Monday to Friday.

Board of Trustees

Libby Rayner: Presiding Member

Andrew Thoms: Property

Maria Clayton: Policies

Kate Nitschke: Personnel

Amy Burlace: Policies and Personnel

Jonathan Sykes: Finance

TBC: Staff Representative

Greg Allan: Principal

Tony Maas: Health and Safety

Jacob Moore: Te Marautanga Māori

Friends of the School

Our Friends of the School (FOS) group works extremely hard and contributes a high level of funding towards projects that directly benefit our students and their learning.

They would welcome parents, guardians or family members who would like to join the group.

If you would like to be involved, please email fos@southmak.school.nz or visit their facebook page at:



<https://www.facebook.com/South-Makirikiri-Friends-of-School-1997909177169974/>

General Information

Administering Medicine: If school staff are required to administer medicine, parents need to complete a consent form available from the office, or we can email you one - just contact us at office@southmak.school.nz. We must know of any conditions, including asthma and especially any allergies, that may affect your child throughout the course of the school day. NB: We can only operate on information that we have been given.

Bus Run: We are served by two bus runs. GoBus (contracted to the Ministry of Education) operate two runs. One bus run travels out from Marton in the mornings and picks up children in the Santoft/ Marton Golf Club area. The other run is based north of South Makirikiri School. For further details please contact the school office or visit our website.

Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC): Students are given the opportunity to experience a range of learning experiences outside the classroom. These experiences develop key competencies. The Board ensures that all activities comply fully with Ministry of Education guidelines for EOTC safety.

Facebook: We have a school facebook page where we keep the school community informed about what is happening. Please ask to join by going to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2165178757080934/>

Hazard Form: In accordance with our Health and Safety policy, a Hazard Identification form can be obtained from the office if you see something in the school environment that you are concerned about. Remember, we are all responsible for ensuring our children learn in a safe environment.

Internet Safety: We are an information technology enriched school with a clear and strong philosophy on the benefits of using internet and electronic communications to improve student learning. Children have access to the internet during class using a range of laptops. We do not believe students require cell phones as part of their everyday instruction, however, we realise that phones may need to come to school as a safety measure for contacting parents from time-to-time. The Board has clear policy statements on internet and electronic communications.

Learning Celebrations: Learning Celebrations take place every two weeks on a Friday afternoon at 2:00pm, and parents are welcome to join us. Each week there is a range of sharing opportunities as well as Class Awards.

When your child starts at South Makirikiri, they will be welcomed officially at the first celebration after they begin at school. At this celebration, new entrants (students beginning at a school for the very first time) will be presented with a certificate and welcome book from the school. All other students will receive a certificate.

Library and Library Books: All students are required to have a book bag to ensure readers and books are kept in a tidy state. We have a well resourced library which students can borrow books from. Students visit the library once a week to have a new book issued and learn a range of information skills.

Lost Property: Lost property is collected and displayed on a rack outside Room 5. Any unnamed items not claimed are donated to an opportunity shop at the end of term. Please ensure all your child's clothing items are named.

Lunches: Students learn best when they eat nutritious food. While we all enjoy the odd treat, we encourage students to eat wholesome and nutritious food and to drink water. Students also have a brain food snack at 9:30am which helps stimulate the brain for learning. The following items are great brain food choices: fruit, vegetables, raisins, nuts and plain popcorn. The current research into child eating habits and obesity is frightening - please provide your child with a healthy lunch.

Newsletters: Newsletters are sent out to our school community via our school app, HERO, each fortnight (please contact our school office if you'd not receive one). This is the best way to keep informed of upcoming events in the school. A PDF of the newsletter is also available on our school website.

Online Banking: Payments for stationery, sports fees, etc, can be made online to the school bank account, 03-0683-0143704-00. Please use your child's name as the reference. Invoices and receipts are raised on HERO; notifications with details of these are sent out to the phone number and/or email address we have on file for parents and caregivers.

Parent Helpers: We are always extremely grateful to parents who are able to assist in a range of areas around the school (eg, classroom activities, sports teams and transport). Please see your child's classroom teacher if you would like to help.

Policies and Complaints Procedure: School policies are constantly being reviewed and updated. Policies can be viewed on SchoolDocs. You can access these policies via SchoolDocs and use the username: southmak with the password: steppingstones

From here, you will be directed to the Policies under review. Any concerns should be raised directly with the party concerned. If not resolved, the concern becomes a complaint and is formalised in writing and submitted to the Principal.

Reporting on Students' Progress: This is an area that we are constantly reviewing. Parents are encouraged to attend Learning Conversations where their child's achievement and progress is discussed, and a milestone report is produced for Reading, Writing and Mathematics. This report can be accessed on HERO. If you would like more information about reporting on achievement please make an appointment to see the Principal. If you have any concerns throughout the year, please do not wait - call in and see us straight away.

School Car Park: All children must either be escorted from the car park to the buildings via the pedestrian crossing or dropped off at the loading zone. Only use the Makirikiri Road entrance if you are travelling from Marton along Makirikiri Road, traffic from all other directions must use the Union Line entrance.

School App - Hero: The school notification app is part of our student management system, HERO. You will need to download the app via google playstore or apple, then add South Makirikiri School. Alerts will come via the app, and you can advise the school of student absences and finance updates. The app will also keep you informed of all sports draws and notices. Please select the appropriate teams from the selections within the alerts to keep up to date.

School Uniform: All students enrolled at South Makirikiri School are expected, and encouraged, to take pride in their general appearance. The uniform consists of a South Makirikiri monogrammed navy polo shirt and navy polar fleece top which can be purchased from our school office. Polo tees are \$30.00 each and the fleece is \$35.00. We can also offer a combination of two tees and a fleece for \$85.00. The fleece and polo tees can be worn with plain black pants, black shorts, black track pants, black tights and black skirts. NB: These items should not have large print branding or patterns. Uniform tops can be layered underneath with either **plain black or navy** thermals to provide some extra warmth in the colder months. Any footwear is acceptable.

Stationery: Stationery lists are available on the school website or from the office. Items can be

bought from a stationery supplier of your choice.



Student Attendance: We expect students to be at school every day though there are clearly times when this is not possible. If your child is going to be absent, please contact the school by email (office@southmak.school.nz), text 027 263 2125, through HERO, or scan the QR code (left).

Sports Uniforms: Our school supplies sports uniforms (except socks) for all official school teams. Parents and students are responsible for the care and maintenance of these and damages and losses will be charged at the replacement cost.

Sun Hats: Sun hats are compulsory for Terms 1 and 4. They are available from the school office for \$15.00 each.

Technology: Our Board of Trustees has made an extensive investment in technology for our students. Students in Years 5 to 8 enjoy a 1:1 device per student ratio using a mixture of Chromebooks and Apple tablets. All other classrooms have a mixture of iPads and Chromebooks. Our students use technology for a variety of learning purposes all of which enhance their learning at school. If you would like more information regarding the use of ICT in school please see the classroom teachers.

Working Bees: From time-to-time, working bees are held to assist with property projects around the school. Assisting with these working bees really benefits our school and also enables us to further develop the wonderful sense of community.

We welcome you to South Makirikiri School and look forward to you being part of our community.

Regards

Greg Allan, Principal

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www.southmak.school.nz

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