



NEWSLETTER

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"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

Kia ora koutou,

As we move further into Term 2, we want to take a moment to acknowledge and share some of the broader challenges currently facing the education sector in Aotearoa New Zealand, and how these developments may impact our tamariki, our school, and you – our valued whānau. We are currently experiencing huge amounts of media releases before we, in the sector, are even aware of the changes. What I want to reassure you, is that at South Mākirikiri School we have been ahead of any new initiatives. We have been ready for the Math curriculum implementation; we have invested in having a specialist teacher focus on supporting learners in Maths and Literacy and we have created ways to support neuro diverse learners. Our team are front footing the changes to Te Mātaiaho, New Zealand Curriculum by creating better ways to inform you on your child/children's learning in Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

At the end of this term you will receive a report on how your child is achieving against the recently revised Curriculum levels. These curriculum levels have been re-evaluated and resulted in increasing the levels for achievement. While we can expect that changes of where students are achieving at will fall, we are working extremely hard to fill as many gaps in the first two terms of this year. These current evaluations are shaped by the new curriculum expectations and our team are focusing on crafting ways to provide our students with key understandings and knowledge to continue to succeed at each curriculum level. In this time of change, parental support is more important than ever. Simple, daily routines at home can make a huge difference to your child's progress – especially in literacy and numeracy.

Here are a few powerful ways you can help: (Show students that spending the time is important, learn alongside them or read alongside them)

- Read together every day. Whether it's a school reader, library book, or favourite bedtime story, reading aloud builds vocabulary, fluency, and a love of learning.
- Talk about numbers in everyday life. Count, measure, compare prices, cook together – these real-world experiences build number sense.
- Practise basic facts. Help your child learn key maths facts like addition and subtraction to 20, or multiplication tables (as appropriate for their age). Short, regular practice – even just 5–10 minutes – makes a big difference.
- Ask about their learning. A conversation about what they learned today builds confidence and reinforces knowledge. Change the question from how was school to tell me three things you enjoyed/learnt/tried.

Your encouragement, even just noticing and praising effort, sends a powerful message: learning matters, and they are supported.

If you're unsure how to help, or want tips suited to your child's age, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher. We're here to work together.

Winter Sports

As we get into the winter sports it is clear we have a great bunch of parents and staff contributing to ensuring the students are organised and learning skills to succeed. We all have a part to play in making sure our tamariki are supported and ready for weekly sports. In no way do you have to be an expert in any sport but together we all need to support each other in being involved in the weekly sport. I encourage you over the next few weeks to see how you can step in to help those who are taking the lead with the weekly sport. Sorting the drink bottles, gathering up the practice gear, refereeing, scoring, or ensuring the students are ready, it all supports those taking the lead.

I personally had a great bunch of parents supporting our youngest students getting into hockey with the Fun sticks. It was amazing having a group of people work alongside the students to improve their skills. I expressed to our tamariki that going to weekly sport should be a positive time where they are excited to hang out with their mates and embrace the challenges ahead and how they can improve their skills each week. While winning is a great feeling we can create huge amounts of anxiety in our children with adding the pressure to win. Building tamariki's enjoyment and creating an environment where they are improving their skills and learning to work as part of a team is the focus. Remember our role as adults is to help them to get to the game, contribute to helping the running of the team and reflecting with them on what the great things that happened during the game.

Wearable Arts

Our main focus this term will be wearable arts. This will be shown at the end of the term on Wednesday 25th June at Te Matapihi in Bulls from 12-2pm. All parents, grandparents etc are invited to come along. We look forward to seeing what creative displays the students come up with.

Pink Shirt Day

On Friday 16th May we will take part in Pink Shirt Day. Pink Shirt Day is an annual anti-bullying campaign celebrated in Aotearoa (New Zealand) and around the world, with the main goal of combating bullying and promoting inclusivity and diversity. There is no donation required but we ask that students are either wearing pink or wearing uniform, this is not a mufti day.



Hugo, Heath and Zander enjoying the free sausage sizzle at the opening weekend of rugby in Wangnau. The boys are playing for Marton Rugby Club.

Sport Results

South Mak Ferns - What a game!

Some of our players are playing netball for the first time, but their performance on Saturday would have you thinking otherwise. The whole team worked so well, with some outstanding passing, catching and support for each other. Hylton Wing-Jones was our player of the day after shooting like an absolute star.



South Mak Diamonds - It was a close game for our senior netball team, having a narrow loss to Clifton. Tarla received player of the day for scoring her first ever goal.

Hockey YR 7 & 8 - In extremely wet condition they had 2 games to play. Their first game up was against James Cook school. It was a tough game resulting in a loss. Second games was against Hunterville. Another tough game final score was 3-1 to Hunterville. It might not have been the start to the season the team were after but they never gave up and continued to support each other throughout.



Hockey yr 5 & 6 (Liams team) - This was a tough first game with the team losing to Marton Junction. This was a big step up in grade for a lot of players and everyone put in a resilient effort. Zara was player of the day for a solid effort in stepping up to the next grade.

Hockey YR 3 & 4 - What a great little team. Everyone got stuck in and had some awesome skills. They came away with the win, 3-1 against James Cook. Player of the day was Aria for scoring 2 goals in her first ever game of hockey.



Hockey yr 5 & 6 (Jarrods team) - After weeks of training and learning each other's skills, the team took to the field for their first game of the year against Marton School. The game started in torrential rain and the team responded incredibly well to the conditions starting strong and attacking the opposition goal. We couldn't convert the early opportunities, and the opposition scored a quick goal on a break away. After the first goal, the opposition started to gain some momentum and scored a second goal just before half time making the score 2-0 going into the half time break. A quick drink and refocus, the team got back into the match with a quick goal in the 3rd quarter. The team then really started to dominate and found an equaliser to start the 4th quarter. The team continued to press but some great defending from the opposition restricted the game to a draw. A great result and really exciting game to start the season. Player of the day was Tom Walsh for awesome work on keeping his stick down and defending the goal.



Friends of School

Hello from the Friends of School! We hope everyone is having a great term so far.

Term 2 Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th May at 7pm in the school library and we'd love to see you there! It's a great chance to hear what's happening, share ideas, and get involved. All are welcome!

Tessa Nitschke, President



The poster features a colorful geometric border. At the top is the South Mākirikiri School logo, which includes a stylized mountain and the school's name. Below the logo, the text 'Friends of School' is written in a large, pink, cursive font. Underneath, it says 'Join a fun group of parents who enjoy supporting our school!' in a blue sans-serif font. In the center is a photograph of a group of children and adults sitting on the back of a white school truck. At the bottom, it says 'Check us out on Facebook or email fos@southmak.school.nz' in a blue sans-serif font.

CALENDAR

- **Friday 16th May**
Pink Shirt Day
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- **Friday 23rd May**
Learning Celebration
.....
- **Wednesday 28th May**
Chess Tournament
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- **Monday 2nd June**
Kings Birthday - no school
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- **Thursday 5th June**
Room 4 Art Gallery visit
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- **Friday 6th June**
Talent Quest
.....
- **Tuesday 10th June**
School Photos
.....
- **Tuesday 17th June**
Room 2 Wangnaui Trip
.....
- **Friday 20th June**
Matariki - no school
.....
- **Wednesday 25th June**
Wearable arts showcase - Bulls
.....
- **Friday 27th June**
Learning Celebration
.....



OUR COMMUNITY, OUR SCHOOL

A Volcanic Eruption, by Jonathan Maas



A Tsunami, by Aggie Thompson



A Tornado, by Haidyn Calkin



Room 5 have been busy learning about all kinds of natural disasters. They then created this art where they had to show a natural disaster by placing small pieces of ripped up magazines.

Thunderstorms

A thunderstorm is lightning, rain and thunder.

How it forms
First, the sun heats up the ground and warm air goes up. As it rises, the air gets colder which is called convection. The cold, moist air makes a cloud which gets bigger and heavier. Then it starts to rain and thunder. A build up of electricity in the clouds make lightning.

How does it move?
Thunderstorms move because of wind.

Measurement
There are heaps of ways that scientists measure thunderstorms. They keep an eye on rainfall levels, they forecast when thunderstorms are coming and they measure wind speed.

Case Study
In March 1988, Cyclone Bola hit New Zealand. The winds were 165kph and the cyclone was category 3. No one knows how many people were injured but three people died. It cost \$260 million to rebuild.

In NZ, over 187,000 lightning strikes happen per year.

By Angus

Heat Waves

A heat wave is a wave of hot air that can be carried for a long period of time.

How it forms
First of all, a heat wave is a wave of hot air that can only form when there is a long period of heat from 35°C to 50°C. The usual name that causes heatwaves is an anticyclone system which causes hot air to sink and stops clouds from forming, resulting in sunlight heating the ground which causes a heat wave.

How does it move?
Heat waves move due to a slight or strong breeze or wind. This causes the heat wave to spread.

Measurement
Scientists and meteorologists use many methods to measure and monitor heaves such as a temperature record where weather stations around the world record the temperature. Heat Index calculation is when the heat index using temperature and humidity.

Case Study
On June 10th 2010, Russia experience a significant heat wave ranked 5.43 EFC (Excess heat factor) in the heat wave scale. The amount of injured people are unknown but the heat wave killed 700 people per day, which equals 55,736 deaths in the 8 weeks that this heat waves was around. During this heat wave, many wildfires broke out and a lot of crops were lost. In total, the damage cost for this heat wave was \$15 billion rubles.

Heat waves are incredibly deadly and expensive, so during a heatwave stay safe and hydrated.

By Bella

Landslides

A landslide is when a spot of land falls.

How it forms
A landslide forms when heavy rain or earthquakes happen. It can also form if activities such as building roads or cutting down trees makes the ground unstable.

How does it move?
Landslides move when the ground shakes.

Measurement
Landslides can be measured using:
-drones and satellites: capturing images which show changes in landscapes.
- Geological mapping: understanding how rocks and soil react with water.
- Inclimeters: measure the angle of slopes over time.

Case Study
In May 21, 1792, a landslide occurred in Japan. It was 45 kilometres wide. 15,000 people died and the injuries were not specified. All the damage cost \$2 billion USD.

It is estimated that 4,000,000 landslides are triggered by rainfall each year.

By Olivia

To conclude room 7s natural disasters study, they wrote a non-fiction text to summarise how their chosen natural disaster is formed and works. Then, they learnt about annotated diagrams and included these as well.

Yummy Apples sticker promotion

If you purchase yummy apples we would love to collect your stickers. The more stickers we can collect the more sports gear we can purchase at the end of the year. Have your student bring their stickers into Mrs Marino in the office.

Marton Counselling Centre

Marton Counselling Centre are located on High Street and are available to see children and parents for counselling. They have a contract with Oranga Tamariki which allows them to offer free counselling to parents with children 17 years and under and their children.

phone: 06 3275245

email:

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