



NEWSLETTER

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

KIA MAIA, KIA MAIA, KIA NGAHAU! – BE BOLD, BE BRAVE, HAVE FUN!

Kia ora Whanau,

Thank you to the whanau that took up the opportunity to come and see the learning in action around the classes. We have such amazing spaces and teachers with robust routines and scaffolded structured learning happening in every space that it is great for people to see it in action. Our teachers do an amazing job making sure students know what they are learning each day and together with the tamariki celebrating when they are achieving the learning goals. We are going to continue to provide a Morena each term to have the school open for you to walk around and see the learning in action.

We are currently working on what our classroom composition will look for 2026 and need your help in knowing if you are intending to continue your learning at South Mākirikiri School. We know there are many options for education around our area and know that how we do learning does not suit everyone. We would appreciate you letting us know early if you have plans to no longer attend school here in 2026 as this may impact on how we structure our classroom compositions.

Chess: Recently we had a small group of students participate in the Whanganui Regional Chess competition. This is the third time they have competed in the past 18 months and it is great to see the enthusiasm for this mind sport evolving in our kura. Toby Nitschke, Cathy Charles, Logan Crawford and Flynn Nitschke had multiple games across the day and at the conclusion everyone received a Merit award. We are loving seeing chess become a mainstream sport for South Mākirikiri School.

Edale Visit for Room 2 and 3: It was special to here the reports back from both Room 2 and 3 on their visits to Edale sharing their writing, games and singing to the residents. I know your visit meant so much to the residents and we look forward to seeing this continue in term 4.

Netball Training for Parents team: There has been a request for parents to be prepared to put in some winter training for the end of Netball season parent game. While it was great to hear there were no injuries, there is a core of parents that are prepared to begin training early next year to ensure they are fully prepared for the end of season game. Well done all those who put their bodies on the line for this game. Let Megan Illston know you are keen to be involved.

Room 4 Milo Service: Thank you to Room 4 for showing initiative and being prepared to offer Milo's for everyone on Thursday morning last week. It is nice seeing your caring and thoughtfulness being shared with the whole school.

Tough Kids: We had a huge turn out of students participating in the Rangitikei Tough Kids event in Ohingaiti. This was a chance for students to push themselves to compete in age group races where Harry O'Neill won the Year 6 boys race, Leah Maas 2nd in Year 8 girls and Molly Simpson was 2nd in the Year 3 girls. We are looking ahead to 2026 and aiming to have an even bigger participation number and with a bit of training we could strive to win the top school by aiming to have more in the top 10 places in each age group. Thanks for the parent support getting the students there. We also appreciate the parents who gave up their time to be out on the course managing a station. Without parents offering to help these events are very hard to have going on.

Senior Quad sports: On Friday we had the first of the Year 5/6/7/8 Quad sports Soccer event. This took place at Bulls School where we had four teams competing. It was rewarding to have one of our Year 5/6 and one Year 7 / 8 Social teams win the Social competition. This is a great chance for students to try a sport they don't normally participate in. This week we have Netball, the following week is Rugby and finishing with Hockey in Week 9.

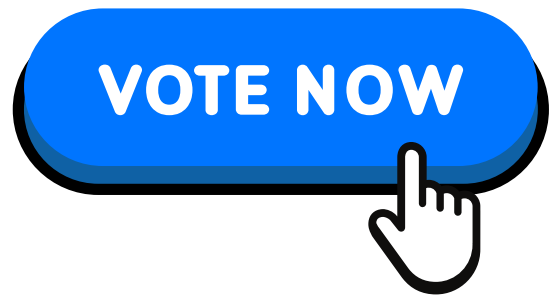
Wear a Bull Arts: Well done to Ginny and Charlie Rayner for taking their outfits designed at school and entered the Wear a Bull arts competition earlier this month. This was a great opportunity to use what was designed and made at school and entering another event



Greg Allan, Principal

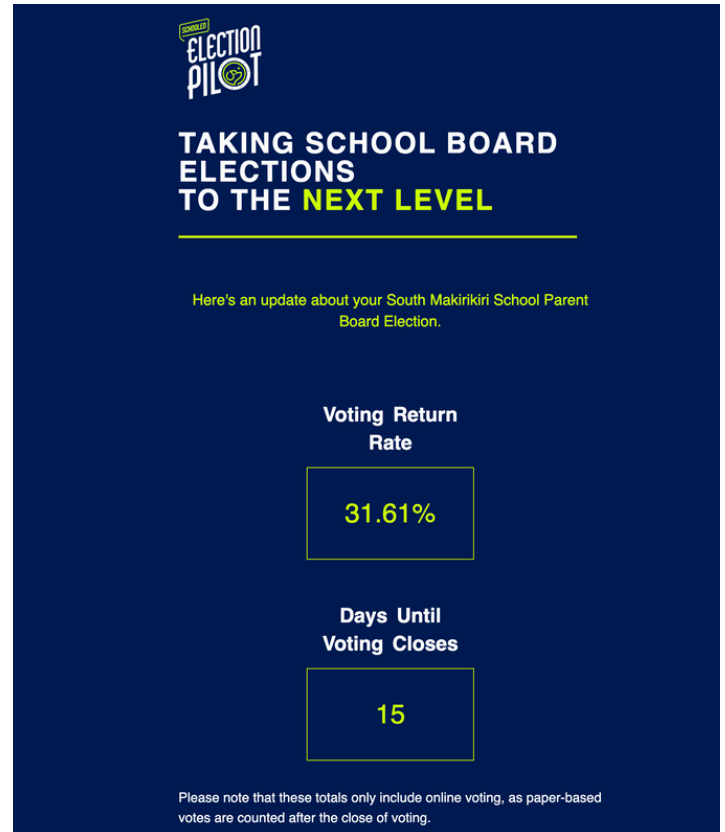
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Voting is now open for the Board. Please check your emails for the link to vote. If you don't have an email address you should have received an letter in the mail. Voting closes on the 10th September and the results will be announced on the 16th September.



Here you can see how our voting is going currently. We have only had 31.61% of our parent roll vote. You still have a couple of weeks left to get your vote in, please remember to do this. Check your spam/junk folder and if you haven't received an email or a letter in the mail please get in touch with Alannah in the office so we can get another letter or email sent out.

Our community consultation and request for feedback will be coming in the next month or so. This will support our strategic planning for the next three years, so in the meantime, have a think about what you love about our school and what you would like to see in the future.



FRIENDS OF SCHOOL

Not a whole lot has changed since our last update, but... today's the big day — by the end of the day we'll have a Queenstown Raffle winner! 🎉 A massive thank you to everyone who bought tickets, sold tickets, or helped make it all happen. We can't wait to share who the lucky winner is and just how successful this fundraiser has been for FOS. At our last meeting we also gave the green light to help cover costs for the upcoming school camps. This is such a great way to ease the pressure on families, and it's thanks to all the fundraising throughout the year that we're able to do this. Huge thanks to everyone who's pitched in — every little bit really does make a difference.

The meeting minutes are now up for anyone who's curious. If you've ever thought about getting involved with FOS, we'd love to have you! Just flick us an email at fos@southmak.school.nz and we'll fill you in. And don't forget — our AGM is happening on Monday 3rd November 2025 (location TBC). Pop it in your diary now!

Cheers,
Nina & Herman

WINTER SPORTS

HOCKEY PRIZEGIVING

This was held at Rangitikei College for our 4 senior teams year 5-8. Each team had recipients of most determined, most improved and most promising. Our yr 7 and 8 team also received the Ida Hunt Memorial Cup for sportsmanship.

Our amazing coaches Annie Simpson, Jarrod Calkin, Liam Judd and Tony Maas were presented with the biggest certificates you have ever seen to acknowledge the greatest amount of commitment and support they have provided for our kids. It is hard to get volunteers in these coaching roles and we are so grateful to them for investing in our students.

Our Year 1-2 Hockey kids finished their season with a fun afternoon at Rangitikei College showing off all their skills. We had a large number of students involved each week and an amazing crew of parents helping which assisted the students in developing such great skills. Being a little biased our students skills were brilliant because of the time spent practicing each week.

NETBALL PRIZEGIVING

Rangitikei Netball Prize giving was held at the courts on Saturday morning and it was full of festivities and fun!

Our yr 1 & 2 and the South Mak Ferns (Yr3 to 5) looked beautiful in their blue sparkles and the South Mak Diamonds (yr 5 to 8) made a beautiful banner for them to all parade behind. The South Mak Ferns won their grade and were presented with a beautiful new trophy donated by Itz A Deal. The South Mak Diamonds were presented with the Senior Sportsmanship Shield. Our incredible volunteers who have supported these teams has been Megan Nitschke for growing our youngest netballers and jumping on the whistle for the South Mak Ferns, Alannah Marino who coached both the South Mak Ferns and South Mak Diamonds, Libby Rayner for managing the South Mak Diamonds on Saturdays as well as jumping on the whistle when needed and Sienna Thoms for giving up her Saturday morning sleep ins to be at the court on those frosty Saturday mornings to ref.

Well done to all our players and thank you so much to our amazing volunteer coaches and umpires.



OUR SCHOOL

WE WANT TO REMIND PARENTS THAT OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM IS BLACK SHORTS, SKIRTS, PANTS ETC. WE ARE NOTICING AN INCREASING NUMBER OF STUDENTS WEARING SHORTS THAT ARE NOT BLACK. THIS INCLUDES THE STONEY CREEK SHORTS THAT ARE HALF BLACK WITH BRIGHT COLOURS, WE ASK THAT STUDENTS DON'T WEAR THESE TO SCHOOL PLEASE.

SPORTS FUN

We have so many sports going on for our seniors that it was great to see how youngest students get an opportunity to have a go. There was a fun sticks hockey tournament for all the schools on Monday and it was great to see so many of our students go along and put their hockey skills they have been learning at school to the test.



SOME GREAT PHOTOS FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHER AT THE RANGITIKEI NETBALL PRIZEGIVING

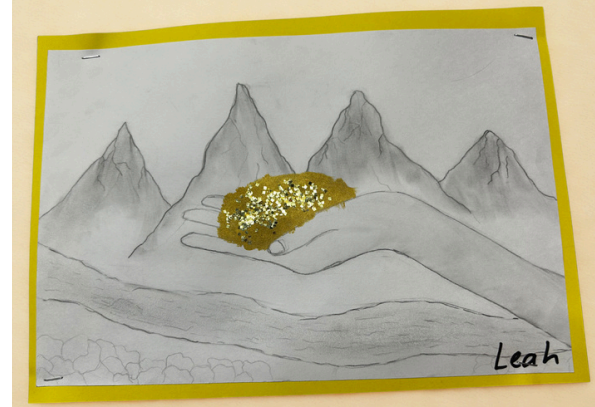


SCHOOL CALENDAR

- **Friday 29th August**
Quads Sports - Netball
- **Friday 29th August**
Daffodil Day
- **Thursday 4th September**
Winter Sports Assembly
- **Friday 5th September**
Quad Sports - Rugby
- **9th-12th September**
Bikes in School for Juniors
- **Friday 12th September**
Quads Sports - Hockey
- **Tuesday 16th September**
Rippa Rugby Tournament - Wangnaui
- **Wednesday 17th September**
Cultural Festival
- **Friday 19th September**
Last day of term 3
Pet Day

OUR STUDENTS

Room 7 have been learning all about the New Zealand Gold Rush. The whole class created these awesome pieces of art to go up in the class.



OUR COMMUNITY

7 September
Victoria Esplanade

TRY SOFTBALL

**FREE FUN DAY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY. AGE 0+
30TH AUG & 7TH SEPT**

TAKARO PARK
9.30AM - MIDDAY



KIDS SEASON FEES FREE THANKS TO  Chillmax

 Takaro Softball Club

