

WHAIA TE ITI KAHURANGI!

# Mākara School Memo

MMS, Term 1, Week 1, 2023

CREATIVE, CONFIDENT, COMPASSIONATE, CRITICAL THINKERS

## Coming up:

Term 1 2023

Meet the Teacher picnic  
13 February 5.30-6.30pm

Teacher only day - 17 March

Triathlon - Date TBC

Term 1 Ends - 6 April

Term 2:

- Starts: 26 April

Teacher only day - 2 June

Kings Birthday - 5 June

-Ends - 30 June

Term 3:

Starts: 17 July

Teacher Only day 1 September

Ends: 22 September

Term 4:

Starts: 9 October

Teacher Only Day 10 November

Last Day of 2023 - 15 December

## MESSAGE FROM CARO

Welcome to the start of the 2023 school year. To our new families, a very warm welcome to the MMS community. We look forward to catching up with you all in the coming weeks. A special welcome back to our returning families, it is great to have you all on board for another action-packed year.

This newsletter provides some useful information regarding these first few weeks of school. School begins at 9 am, but classes are open from 8.30am. This is a sunhat and swimming term, so your children will need to come prepared, with their drink bottles, hat and togs each day.

During these first couple of shorter weeks, we will be focused on building relationships and getting to know your child within their classroom setting whilst also establishing routines, clarifying expectations and commencing academic programmes.

As always, my door is always open for you to pop in for a chat or please email Kiri or myself to make a time to catch up.

I look forward to catching up soon,

Caro



## MEET THE TEACHER PICNIC

This will be taking place from 5.30-6.30 on the 13th of February (Monday) on the school field, or library (if wet). Teachers will be running 15 minute talks in their classrooms which you are welcome to attend during the picnic time:

Pīwakawaka will be at 5.30

Tui will be at 5.45

Kiwi will be at 6 pm

Kārearea will be at 6.15pm

### **AFTERSCHOOL CARE**

Afterschool care is an option for those families needing supervision after school. This will be held in the old school building (Pīwakawaka), so pick ups will be from there. If you need to use this service, please contact Kiri in the office.

### **ILLNESS and ABSENCE**

Please notify the school of your child's absence as soon as you are able. If your child is ill, please keep them at home. Any flu-like symptoms are requested to be clear for 48 hours before returning to school. If your child or household test positive for Covid, please notify the school. This will be kept confidential, but is helpful in our management of potential spread and outbreaks.

### **COMMUNICATION**

The school Hero app will be available to download about mid-term, which will be your port of call for notices, checking academic progress and goals, updates and also a way to communicate easily with your child's teacher and the school. We also have our facebook page and website which provide information and features such as access to the school calendar, Newsletters, teacher contact details, policies, important events and a great deal more.

Newsletters are published fortnightly to keep you up to date and report back on recent events. Teachers are always available via email however their priority during the day is teaching, so please don't be offended if they do not reply immediately. If you are writing to share a significant concern or issue, we would encourage you to make a time to meet in person, as sensitive communication is always more productive face-to-face.

### **CLOTHING OPTIONS and SUNHATS**

The school has some clothing options available for purchase, including t-shirts, sunhats and hoodies. These can be ordered through Kiri in the office. We also now have an eftpos option for payments at the office, should this be a preferred option for you throughout the year.

Hats/Sunscreen Students are required to wear a hat during break times. We ask that these are clearly named to ensure they can be returned if they are found. We also recommend the use of sunscreen as the students will be spending significant time outside during these warmer months.

### **PHONES**

Mobile Phones and School Phone Use: Children can bring their phones to and from school however, these must be handed to the classroom teacher or the office as soon as the students arrive at school. We ask that cellphones are not used during the day to contact home/student. Please contact the office if you have a message for your child, and we expect all students to come to the office or classroom teacher if they are needing to contact home.

### **GUITAR AND FRENCH LESSONS**

These are available privately, and held at school during lunchtime (French) or on a Thursday (Guitar).

## CYBER SAFETY and IT AGREEMENTS

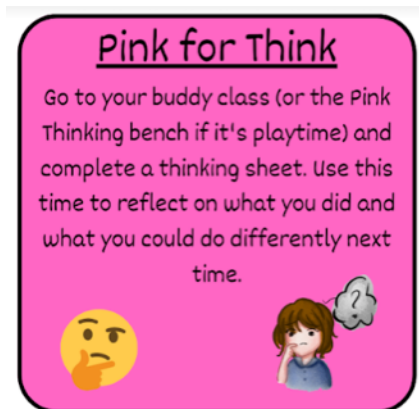
Students will be bringing home a new IT agreement for signing. This is part of educating them around the issues of cyber safety as well as responsibility with devices and device care.

## BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT and PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning)

For the start of this year, we have updated our behaviour management system to make it easier for students and staff to understand and follow. As a Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) school, our focus remains on acknowledging and celebrating the positive behaviours we see the tamariki showing. However, there are times when we will need to help students learn to make the right choices in their behaviour. Our updated behaviour management system will use colour-coded cards that are outlined below.

If a student has had reminders from a teacher on what the expected behaviour is and this has not resulted in a change in the way the student is behaving, they will be given a pink “Pink for Think” card and will go sit in their buddy class for 10 minutes to complete a thinking sheet. This thinking sheet will come home with them for you to sign and return to school, and your child’s teacher will send an email to give you more information around what happened. The buddy classes are Pīwakawaka and Kiwi, and Tūi and Kārearea.

If, after receiving a “Pink for Think” card, the student continues the undesired behaviour, they will be given an orange “Think some more” card, which will mean they will go to see Whaea Caro to have a talk about their behaviour and have some more time to reflect on their choices and what they could do differently next time. Again, you will receive communication from your child’s teacher and/or Whaea Caro.



We will also have a gold “Go for Gold” card, for when a student has done or achieved something awesome. With this card, they will get to go show Whaea Caro their amazing achievement, so their efforts can be celebrated. You will again receive communication from Whaea Caro and/or your child’s teacher when they have received a “Go for Gold” card, so you can also celebrate their achievements at home.



# TERM 1 LEARNING CONTEXTS

## Place and Environment "It's a small world after all"

Treaty of Waitangi / NZ History Curriculum  
Class Treaty  
Special Places / Taonga  
Being Kaitiaki - of our classroom, school,  
environment, home and community  
Legends and Myths of the area  
History of our Whānau  
Kiwi Release

## ARTS

Visual Arts - Detail and Perspective and Design  
Performing: Cultures, KapaHaka, Powhiri and Song

## Digital Curriculum

Digital Citizenship and  
Communication  
Cyber Safety  
Technology

## LITERACY

Exposition - Describe and Explain (People and  
Places)

Research, Processes and Instructions

Classification

Structured Literacy

## NUMERACY

Number Knowledge

Place Value

Problem Solving

Measurement and Statistics

## PE AND HEALTH

Swimming - Week 2-6

Wellbeing

Fitness

Dance

Striking Skills

