



# Principal's News

*Kia ora, Malo e Lelei, Talofa Lava, Ni Hao, Namaste, Bula Vinaka, Fakaalofa Lahi Atu, Kia orana, Mauri, Greetings.*

A warm welcome to all our new families in term 3. Classroom programmes are well underway and we hope whānau who attended parent/teacher interviews found them positive and informative.

We are fortunate to be welcoming three new teachers to our team this term. Mrs Sonia Morris began in week 1 opening a New Entrant class, Melissa Sutherland is covering maternity leave in Titoki until the end of the year, and Margaret Lynch will join the Rimu pod teaching team in week 6. All three teachers are experienced and will be a great addition to our school community. We say a fond farewell to Karli van Staden at the end of week 5. We wish her all the best as she continues her leadership journey, teaching in a school in Dunedin.

## 2024 Enrolment Reminder

All students who live in our school zone are entitled to enrol at any time. All students residing out of zone must go through a ballot process as specified by the Ministry of Education.

**The ballot for 2024 places, for students turning 5 in 2024, closes on 22 September 2023. This is the last day of Term 3.**

We advise that parents of students who live within the school zone should also apply by this date to assist the school to plan appropriately for next year.

NB. Siblings of currently enrolled students, who live out of zone, should also follow this process to support the school in managing its roll numbers.

## Building Work

Towards the end of this term, we will be relocating classrooms and office spaces from Puriri (the building opposite the large turf). This is now the oldest building on the school site and we have been allocated funding by the Ministry to support a refurbishment project. The building work will begin in the Term 3 holidays with an estimated completion date of late January 2024. More details to follow.

## School Lockdown Practice

In week 1, our school took part in an emergency lockdown practice in conjunction with our health and safety consultants, Harrison Tew. Our procedures worked well and tamariki were outstanding. It is timely however, with a couple of local schools going into lockdown last week, to remind whānau and community members that if our school ever goes into lockdown, information will be shared on our school website, face book page, email and text.

## Parking

After school, parking issues along Hill Road are raising health and safety concerns once more. Please refrain from parking on the side of the road between the lights and the office carpark, and blocking the emergency access to the staff carparks at 3pm. Thank you for your understanding.

## **Ngā mihi nui**

**Michelle Dibben**  
Principal

## MCS Sports News

### Netball

Miss Fa'apuea took our boys and girls netball teams to the MPSSA interschool netball competition earlier this term. They had a fun day learning lots about the game and how they're going to work on becoming future ferns. Meitaki maata to our parent support



## Term Dates



**Term 3** - Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September

**Term 4** - Monday 9 October to Friday 15 December



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## Important Dates

**Friday 15 September**  
*Junior Cross Country TBC*

### Term 3 MPSSA

**Wednesday 16 August**  
*Girls Football*  
*McLennan Park*

**Tuesday 22 August**  
*Interschool Cross Country*  
*Mountfort Park*

**Wednesday 13 September**  
*Basketball*  
*Bruce Pulman Park*



1/7 Shaan	16/7 Ornina	26/7 Diana
2/7 Emaanjeet	17/7 Anikesh	26/7 Eva
3/7 Lincoln	17/7 Noah	27/7 Cash
4/7 Carter M	18/7 JoJo	27/7 Vida
5/7 Carter P	18/7 SaChkirat	28/7 Kaleah
6/7 Manraj	18/7 Tyrone	30/7 Kyra-Belle
6/7 Serenity -Jane	18/7 Wjntah	30/7 Nashia
7/7 Kaylee	19/7 Maringinoa	31/7 Lucas
7/7 Keeghyn	20/7 Chole	31/7 Noa
8/7 Fareeha	21/7 Lucan	31/7 Pranav
8/7 Gemma	23/7 Aaliyah	31/7 Shweta
8/7 Rona	23/7 Asaleyvonne	31/7 Toby
9/7 Amin	23/7 Aviraj	5/8 Caius
9/7 Aviket	23/7 Chrysam	5/8 Evelina
10/7 Kenu	23/7 Keilah	5/8 Juihar
11/7 Evan	23/7 Merical	6/8 Bobbie-Jo
11/7 Jehad	24/7 Jayden	7/8 Abel
12/7 Jack	24/7 Maxwell	7/8 Raymond
16/7 Nixon	26/7 Ayla-James	

## Titoki

Ngā mihi o Matariki, te tau hou Māori! Happy Matariki Māori New Year! We celebrated Matariki by enjoying the big book 'Matariki Breakfast' and this inspired us to have our own Matariki breakfast. The children described our kai as "delicious." We challenged ourselves by weaving our own placemats using vibrant coloured paper strips. Weaving over and under, under and over. We were very excited to see the end-result of our placemat. Our experiences motivated us to enrich our writing. This week we are making a tivaevae (quilt) and an 'ei katu (flower garland) for Cook Island Language Week.

## Kowhai

As part of our reading, sharing and thinking about Matariki we began this term by setting goals for ourselves and are working hard to achieve these. In writing, we are focusing on narratives. Fairy tales are well known stories so we have enjoyed retelling these and have had fun acting out Little Red Riding Hood. Our writing is improving as we focus on using powerful adjectives and verbs to describe characters and settings. We are also learning to hook the reader in with exciting opening sentences that create mood and set the scene. Our maths brains continue to be stretched as we learn new ways to solve problems and recall our basic facts with speed. Ka pai to those that are challenging themselves each week with our Monday Maths Challenge!

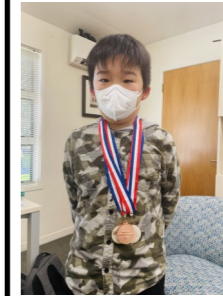
## Puriri

On Wednesday Pūiri celebrated our 100th day of school. We had a day centred around activities using the number 100. We saw what 100 looks like with different classroom objects, we made 100th day crowns, we talked and wrote about what we want to do before we turn 100 years old, and what our life will be like when we are 100 years old! We even shared 100 snacks with a friend! It was a fun day and we are so excited to know we are 100 days smarter than we were at the beginning of the school year!

## Totara

We have been settling back into a new term of learning at school. We have welcomed new friends who started school for the first time. Every day we count how many days we have been at school and are about to reach 100! We are so very excited to be 100 days old at school, particularly because we will have a big party to celebrate! We are working on developing independence in our work and are very proud of ourselves when we have been able to write a word or sentence by ourselves. We are looking forward to another term of learning and fun at school. Welcome to all of our new Totara children and families.

## Congratulations



Massive Congratulations to our very own Gilbert Liu who attended the 2023 New Zealand Robot Olympiad which was held from July 3-14, 2023 and won BRONZE for the Physical Computing Upper Primary category. He also won the Technical Award for the Battle Soccer Pair and Technical Award for Robot in Movie category. His achievement at the Robot Olympiad competition has won him a place to compete at the International Robot Olympiad in Greece in 2024.

We are very proud and wish Gilbert all the best in his preparation for the International stage.

## Ti Kouka

The beginning of Term 3 has seen a positive start. With Matariki being celebrated around New Zealand we took this time to reflect on our learning and put some new goals in place for this coming term. It was a nice opportunity to connect with each other, share what we had been most proud of so far and what we want to continue to work towards to help strengthen and elevate our progress. Many children identified writing as a future goal so a focus these last three weeks has been around how to construct an engaging sentence. Knowing basic facts in maths is a goal for many and some students are seeing how they can use new exciting ways of solving maths by utilising their basic facts to access new strategies. Thursday was a wonderful time to share your child's learning with you and the progress they have made this year. Thank you to all those families that came out to visit us.

## Nikau

It's all go this term in Nikau pod. We are finding lots of ways to keep active during the colder days with swimming thanks to Field of Dreams, large ball skills with Counties Manukau Sport and training for the up and coming cross country. Nikau are focussing on Auckland for inquiry. We have looked at the amazing people, events and reasons why people love Auckland. We've enjoyed learning more about the beautiful Cook Island language and culture over Cook Island Language week. We were treated to a fantastic Cook Island cultural show. Our very own Mr Chin got up and showed us his hidden talent of Cook Island dancing.

## Kauri

In Kauri Ngahere, we have had a fantastic start to term three! We have launched into our new inquiry topic - conservation, starting with some of our Year 6 leaders heading out to plant native trees on Mrs Armitage's farm. We are really excited to see where our conservation learning goes and how we can apply our learning to our school environment. We are proud of our Kauri students for getting straight into learning across the curriculum. We do highly encourage our students to attend school every day (unless sick or with a valid reason) and we are stressing the importance of regular attendance for your child's learning but also their holistic development, especially heading into intermediate very shortly!

## Rimu

Welcome back to term 3! We have had a fabulous start in Rimu. Our Inquiry topic for the term is *we can be kaitiaki of our moana. We have been exploring the history and cultural stories of Te Manukanukatanga O Hōturoa (Manukau harbour), our rangatira (leader and chiefs) Hape and Hōturoa and the kaitiaki (guardian) Kaiwhare. This week we have also been learning about the harness of Te Manukanukatanga O Hōturoa (Manukau harbour) by looking at the Orpheus disaster.*

In writing, we learnt all about hyperboles (hi-per-bol-ees)! A hyperbole is a figure of speech that uses extreme exaggeration and stretches the truth a little bit! We had to write a recount or brag and boast using hyperboles. Our continued focus this term is on narrative and fairy tale writing. We have been learning how to write a character and setting description using big adjectives and expanding our vocabulary! We thoroughly enjoyed our first swimming session at the Manurewa pools and the first big ball skills lesson we had on Friday with Manukau sports. We look forward to this continuing!