

NEWSLETTER WEEK 3, TERM 3, 2025



Kia ora koutou,

As winter continues, we are seeing a noticeable rise in coughs, colds, and other common seasonal illnesses. Please make sure your tamaiti/taura is dressed warmly, especially during these colder mornings, and if they are genuinely unwell, we encourage you to keep them at home to rest and recover.

Attendance Snapshot

Our most recent attendance profile shows some concerning trends:

- A large percentage of absences have been recorded under “medical” or “unjustified” codes.
- While some of these are understandably due to winter sickness, there remains a high number of unjustified or unexplained absences.
- Regular school attendance matters. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve success in their learning, develop positive relationships, and build lifelong skills.

What We’re Asking From Whānau

- For any absences of three days or more due to illness, we may request a medical certificate or other proof (such as a pharmacy receipt or appointment confirmation).
- Expect more regular communication from us regarding attendance, especially where there are patterns of frequent absence.

Continued..

IMPORTANT INFO

Advanced Leaders Course—
Aug 11-15

Parent Board Nominations
Close—Aug 13

BOT Meeting—Aug 18

ERO Visit—Aug 25-29

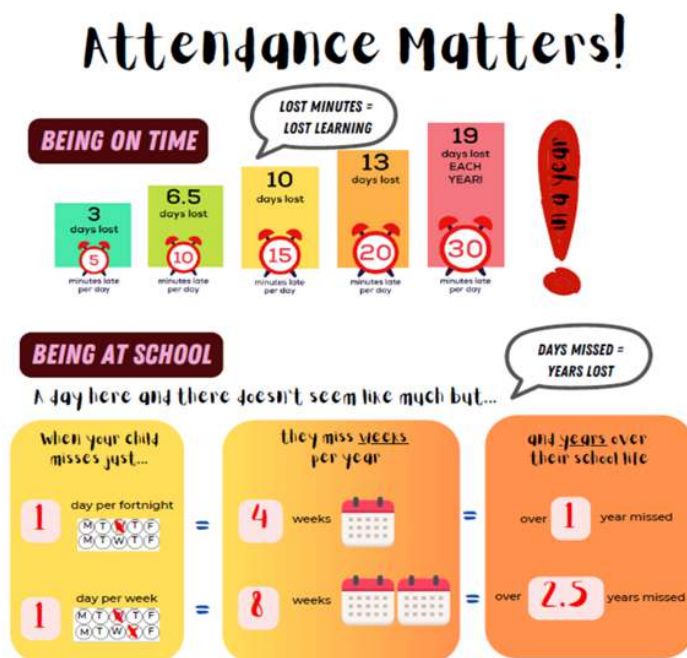
PH: 07 3665 602

EMAIL: office@mas.school.nz

Please contact us with any enquiries
and if your child will be absent.

Principals Korero continued

- Please stay in touch with the school – we are here to support you in helping your child attend regularly.



We also need to bring your attention to a concerning behaviours we've noticed recently involving our students—**Vaping in school uniform**.

It has come to our attention that after and before school, some students are engaging in vaping whilst wearing school uniform. This behaviour is unacceptable. Not only is vaping harmful to their health, but being seen in uniform while vaping reflects poorly on both the student and the reputation of our school.

Our expectation is clear: **Students must not vape – whether in uniform or not.**

If a student chooses to vape (which we strongly discourage), they must not be in school uniform. Our uniform is to be worn with pride and respect.

We ask for your support in reinforcing this message at home.

Lastly, We're always looking for ways to improve our school, and your feedback is incredibly valuable. On the back page of this notice, you'll find a **school consultation survey**. Please take a few moments to fill it out and send it back to school with your child when completed. Your input helps us make important decisions for our school community. Thank you all for your support in keeping our students safe, respectful, and representing our school positively in the community. I have an open door policy, therefore if anything is of concern please do not hesitate to make an appointment with the office to see me.

Ngā mihi nui, Kura Hingston, Principal.

OFFICE NOTICEBOARD

UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION

Don't forget e te whānau to update your contact information!

It's important for us to have your most up-to-date contact information on file. If you've recently moved, changed your phone number, or updated your email address, please let the school office know as soon as possible.

We also need current details for your emergency contacts.

Please contact us at the office 07 3665 602 to let us know any changes!

School Grounds

Just a friendly reminder to our school community that for the safety and security of everyone, our school grounds are out of bounds from 3:30 PM on weekdays and all weekend, unless there is a pre-planned and supervised school activity taking place. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep our school a safe environment for all our students. Also, we have noticed household rubbish in our bins, please e te whanau, refrain from doing this as it increases our waste management costs and resources. Please dispose of your rubbish responsibly through the personal collection services. Thank you for the support in keeping our school tidy!

Important Reminder: Road Safety at Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Kia ora e te whānau,

To help ensure everyone's wellbeing, we close both our drive-in gates before and after school during drop off times. This reduces the risk of accidents by limiting the areas where students and vehicles may come into contact.

Please remember:

- All student drop-offs and pick-ups must take place outside the school gates. The two drop off areas are outside the front office and ECE centre in the pull in bay and the other is the carpark area in front of the Jehovah Witness church.
- If you are in the carpark area during this time and the gate is closed, please be patient and wait until the gate has been re-opened.
- Encourage children to use the designated pedestrian crossing and the walk-in gate located by the pedestrian crossing.
- Take care when parking near the school – avoid driveways and ensure visibility for others.

Your co-operation helps keep our tamariki safe. Thank you for your support in following these procedures and modelling good road safety for our children.

OFFICE NOTICEBOARD

Dear School Community,

Our school will soon be holding elections for new School Board members, and we are encouraging all parents and caregivers to "Get on board!" and consider nominating themselves or someone they know.



Being a part of the School Board is a fantastic opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of our school and to help shape the educational experience for all our students. The School Board Elections are a vital process that ensures our board reflects the diverse voices and perspectives of our community.

Nominations will close on Wednesday 13 August. Ideally, nominations should have been received via email or post. If you have not yet submitted your nomination, or if you need a nomination form, please do not hesitate to contact Shayna Howden at shahowden@mas.school.nz

All completed nomination forms should also be submitted to me.

We look forward to your participation in this important election!

Sincerely,
Shayna Howden
Returning Officer

Wanna Know What's What? Check Out Our School Policies!

Just a friendly heads-up that all our school policies are always available online. It's a good idea for all our parents and caregivers to look at them now and then. Being "in the know" about everything from how we handle student well-being to what's happening with the curriculum really helps us all team up to make school the best place for our kids to learn and grow.

You can always find our policies by visiting here: <https://mas.schooldocs.co.nz> and searching for our school. Once you're there, just enter—Username: mas Password: kaiwhitiwhiti to log in.

We're Reviewing Some Policies – Your Say Matters!

Once you have logged in, find the reviews tab and it will have all the policies up for review. These reviews happen every term, and your thoughts and ideas are super valuable in making sure they're the best fit for our school community. Here are the ones currently under review:

Child Protection	Abuse Recognition and Reporting
Food and Nutrition	Safety Checking
Police Vetting	Missing Student Procedure

If you would like to have your say on any of the policies up for review, there is a 'start your review' tab on each policy for you to have your say.

If you need any help, please do not hesitate to contact Shayna Howden at School 07 3665 602 or shahowden@mas.school.nz

New Staff

Kia ora, ko Kiritahanga Merriman-Mitai tōku ingoa.

I started at MAS in Term 2 as the Sports Coordinator — a new and exciting role for me. I love going to the gym, doing crossfit and training with my dad. Hauora and fitness have become a big part of my life, and I enjoy sharing my journey on social media to help motivate whānau and our hapori to get active. I also love spending time with my whānau and being outdoors. I have four siblings, heaps of cousins, and lots of nieces and nephews who mean the world to me. I am excited to learn new skills, meet new people, and help create more opportunities for our rangatahi.

New Students

We would like to welcome the following students for term 3:

Moetuhaa Matekuare, Reign Merriman, Tumoanaroa Moses Rewi, Soul O'Brien and Temple O'Brien. Also, welcome back Tuterangi Te Are and Munaro Brass.

School Lunch Menu—Next Week

Week 4
Commencing 4 August



Meal Type	Monday 4 August	Tuesday 5 August	Wednesday 6 August	Thursday 7 August	Friday 8 August
STANDARD	Savoury Minced Beef & Potatoes	Jungle Chicken Curry with Rice	Beef Bolognese Sauce with Pasta	Italian Minced Beef with Rustic Potatoes	Tex Mex Beef with Rice
VEGETARIAN	Vegetarian Katsu with Rice	Indian Vegetable Curry	Thai Veg Curry & Rice	Tomato Balti with Rice	Mexican Beans + Rice
VEGAN	Vegetarian Katsu with Rice	Indian Vegetable Curry	Thai Veg Curry & Rice	Tomato Balti with Rice	Mexican Beans + Rice
NO PORK/HALAL SUITABLE	Savoury Minced Beef & Potatoes	Jungle Chicken Curry with Rice	Beef Bolognese Sauce with Pasta	Italian Minced Beef with Rustic Potatoes	Tex Mex Beef with Rice
NO GLUTEN	Savoury Minced Beef & Potatoes	Jungle Chicken Curry with Rice	Thai Veg Curry & Rice	Italian Minced Beef with Rustic Potatoes	Tex Mex Beef with Rice
SNACKS YRS 9+ Standard	Hidden Vege Brownie Pea Snaps	No Nut Bhujia Mix Fruit	Slurper Yoghurt Fruit	Hidden Vege Blondie No Nut Bhujia Mix	Corn Chips Hidden Vege Brownie
SNACKS YRS 9+ Dietary	Apple Corn Chips	Apple Corn Chips	Apple Corn Chips	Apple Corn Chips	Apple Corn Chips

THERE ARE NO TREE NUTS. PEANUTS OR KIWIFRUIT IN THIS MENU

Maximus our Judo Star Shines at Auckland Open & Upcoming Competitions!

We're incredibly proud to celebrate the outstanding achievement of our very own Maximus Brown! On July 12th, Max competed in the prestigious Auckland Open Judo Tournament, an international event open to competitors from across the globe.

In a remarkable display of skill and determination, Max secured an impressive 3rd place equal. This is an incredible feat, especially considering the top placings went to a competitor from Japan (1st) and Tahiti (2nd), with Max sharing the bronze medal with a boy from Australia. This is an amazing accomplishment on such a high-calibre international stage!



Max trains hard with Pacific Judo, and we want to acknowledge the huge effort from him and his family in supporting his judo journey.

Catch Max and Sister Chanel in Action This Weekend!

You can see some live judo action this weekend! Max and his sister, Chanel, will both be competing at the Waikato Bays Judo tournament.

The tournament is being held at Rotorua Energy Events Centre, and it's free for anyone who would like to go and watch! Adults compete Saturday and Youth on Sunday.



Looking ahead, both Max and Chanel will then be setting their sights on the National Championships in Christchurch this October.

We wish them both the very best in their upcoming competitions and will be cheering them on every step of the way.

MURUPARA RIOTS NETBALL TEAM

Our Year 7/8 Netball team is continuing to shine this term! After a strong start in Term 2, they're back on the court for weekly competitions every Tuesday in Rotorua. The team is dedicated, training hard every Monday and Friday, and their teamwork is a joy to watch.

A huge thank you to all the parents and volunteers who give up their time to drive the school van, ensuring the team gets to their games each week and supporting on the sidelines, Your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated!

The Team are:

Daenah Harris (Captain)

Ngahuia Beamsley (VC)

Amelia Rose Tui

Ambah Rose Hart-
Waenga Matthews

Hinepipiri Tai

Tawhaarangi Toataua

Tumaia Poumako
(Galatea School)

Pani Heurea (Te Kura
Kaupapa Motuhake o
Tawhiuau)

Nga mihi,

Whaea Pauline (Fluff)
Nepson

Coach



Ahurea Cultural Page

Noho Marae ki Rangitahi Pa

Seeing our rangatahi thrive in a space that belongs to them ā whakapapa nei (through blood connections), sure is an amazing feeling. Witnessing their growth from their first noho last year in term 1, to now is extraordinary. Our noho marae are about making connections to our four hapū and our four marae of Ngāti Manawa, our pepeha from which we belong to, our roles each of us play on the marae and standing proud and confident as rangatahi māori. If our rangatahi learn these aspects and walk through their school life with their UARA (values) at the forefront, they are going to be unstoppable in their mātauranga journey!

Te Hautapu o Matariki

Nau mai ngā hua o te Matahi o te tau. Another memorable hautapu was held at school for the community and we would like to thank everyone who contributed, whether it was your time, kai prep, koha kai, table setting, decorations, a part of the hāngi crew, kai koha or clean up, we see you and we are thankful. Let us all welcome in the new year, by remembering all of our loved ones in our community that have passed on and making personal goals to strive towards from this Matariki to next year. Mānawatia a Matariki!

NĪOREORE PĀNUI

Nioreore Whanau

Firstly we would like to thank all parents for taking the time to come to parent/teacher interviews and braving the atrocious weather conditions. If you could not make it you are all welcome to see any of us anytime.

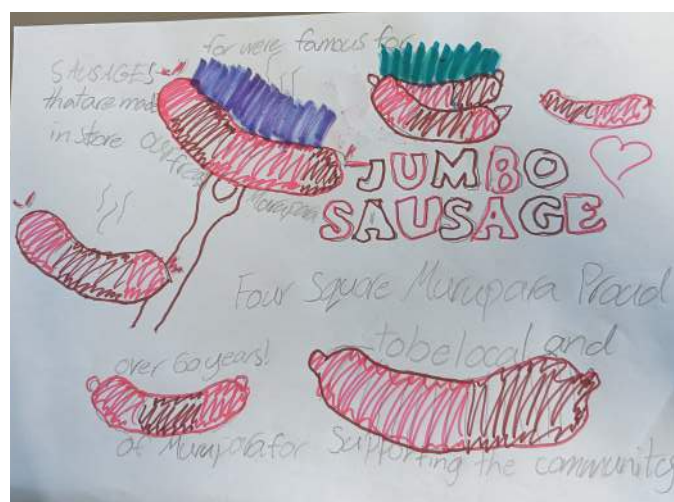
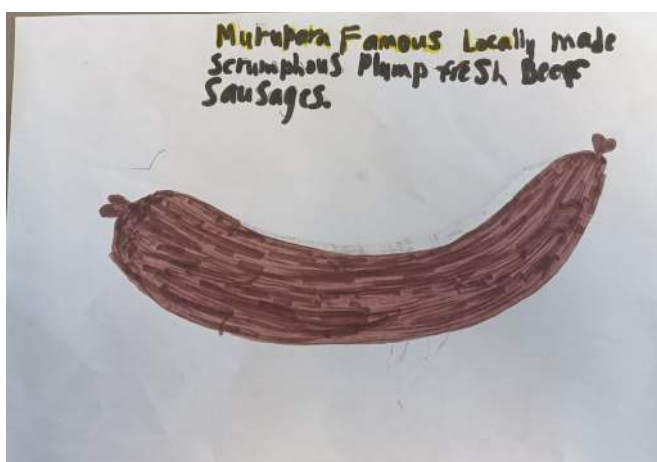
Rangitahi Marae Visit. our visits to the marae are always important to our learning around Tikanga Maori. A big thanks to all the years 7 to 13 and our wonderful senior staff for making our tamariki feel important and cared for. They thoroughly enjoyed their time interacting and being a part of their culture.

Mini Marathon FUNRAISER REMINDER- yrs 1-8 should have now brought home their fundraising forms to raise funds for an end of year excursion. Please Support their efforts by encouraging whanau to sponsor them for each kilometer they run. Their final lap will be run on Thursday the 11th of September 2025 where a medal presentation and a sausage sizzle will follow.

This term Nioreore are focussing on Persuasive Writing. This is a first attempt using pictures and persuasive language. Nga mihi Whaea Suzannah for your wonderful Ideas

Nga mihi

Years 1-6 Kaiako and Kaiawhina



RANGIPŌ PĀNUI

On Wednesday 23rd July our Senior Physical Health and Education students

attended an amazing outdoor experience at 'Adrenalin Forest'. The experience

tested both students and staff mentally, emotionally and physically. Our

students fully engaged in the activity and pushed themselves outside of their

comfort zones. Student behaviour was excellent. Adrenalin Forest is an aerial



adventure park featuring rope courses and obstacles set at various heights in the trees, designed to test physical and mental strength. Students navigated through various challenges like swinging bridges, Tarzan Swings, and flying foxes, with increasing difficulty as they progress through the levels. Safety is paramount, with continuous safety lines and thorough briefings provided. The courses are suitable for a range of ages and fitness levels, allowing individuals to challenge themselves at their own pace. The learning also supported their current assessment modules.



Short Story by Satriani Grace

Whaea Julena has entered this short story into the Barfoot and Thompson short story competition 2025 - Well done Satriani

WHAKARONGO

Te Aorere Rangi had always been the fastest in his whānau. Growing up in Rotorua, he spent his childhood darting between redwoods, chasing cousins, and trying to outrun stories that never quite sat right with him. His mates used to tease that he wasn't just running for fun -he was running from something. Maybe they were right. One evening, after a big feed at his auntie's place and a tense kōrero with his cousin Tama - a clash of opinions about mana, whakapapa, and what it really meant to be a Māori man - Te Aorere felt something stir deep inside him. He didn't tell anyone. No one dared him. But suddenly, he felt the need to prove something. So he decided to run. From Rotorua to Taupō. Like the old ones were said to have done. Barefoot. Proud. Hours passed, the night was swallowed with thick fog and deafening silence. He was alone on the road. No cars. No lights. Just the wind whispering around him and the dark highway stretching out like a challenge. He kept going. Past Reporoa. Past quiet paddocks that seemed to breathe in the moonlight. Past a forgotten shed where a dog barked once... then fell quiet. Then came the voices. At first, barely more than whispers in the trees. But soon, they surrounded him. Familiar voices -his uncle, Tama, even his Koro who'd long since passed. They weren't angry. Just tired. Saddened. "Why are you running, e tama?" "Whakarongo. You're leaving everything behind." "You should be ashamed of who you are." He tried to speak, but his throat was blocked as if it was filled with dust. His feet, heavy like stone. The world twisted. The road split open beneath him. And then -blackness. He shot up from his sleep, heavily soaked in sweat. But something felt different, he wasn't afraid. It was the warmth. An arm across his chest -firm, steady. A hand that knew him. A heartbeat close to his back, slow and sure. "Babe?" a voice mumbled behind him. "You okay?" Te Aorere blinked. The morning light filtered through the blinds of their little Mount Maunganui flat. He could smell coffee -the auto-brew had done its thing. He rolled over and saw Ihaia, his fiancé, still half-asleep, face soft and wild-haired. "Just a dream," Te Aorere whispered. "What about?" He hesitated. "Running. Ghosts. Tama being a dick again." He chuckled, though his voice trembled. "I felt like I was trying to escape myself. Like I wasn't... allowed to just be." Ihaia reached up, gently grabbing onto Te Aorere's hands and holding them tight. "You don't have to run anymore," he said. And just like that, Te Aorere exhaled. He wasn't on some haunted stretch of road, trying to chase the past or outrun shame. He was here. Present. Held in the arms of someone who saw all of him -the quick feet, the tangled whakapapa, the doubts, the love. The race was done. And somehow, without even knowing it, he'd already won.

Excerpt from Hamiora Burich-Keefe

This is an excerpt from a four page essay written by Hamiora Burich Keefe analysing Martin Luther King's 'I have a dream' speech

I have a dream, is an awe inspiring and deeply emotional speech. One that invokes a strong emotional connection between the viewer and Martin Luther King by his constant use of a strong and confident tone giving you a feeling of admiration and wanting to follow his words believing in his cause, but that's not the only reason as to why his speech inflicts so many emotions. It's because of where he held his speech. It was held in the Abraham Lincoln Washington memorial one hundred years after the emancipation proclamation was signed and the fact that he gathered 250,000 at the foot of where their journey for racial equality started, is truly beautiful. His words are an overall bashing of the American dream and belief system, a system that sided with the rich at each turn not really caring about the colour of your skin or the "content of your character" but money in your pockets. When you think of who would be the main audience of the speech you would think that there would only be black people with not a single white person to grace the crowd but that was not the case. Hundreds of white people littered the crowd during Martin Luther King's speech and I like to believe that Martin Luther King's target audience would not be based off of skin colour but by your ideals and beliefs and while there was mostly black people in the crowd you could also see many white people show up in support of Martin Luther King's dream showing that he didn't care whether you were white or black but if you were a truly kind and "righteous" person. His speech demonstrates a new era in history, an era of equality where you wouldn't be forced out of stores and shops based on your skin colour. You could drink out of any water fountain you want to walk on any side of the street you want; to and get the education that you deserve. Now you wouldn't need to work hard labour jobs as your only source of income but could have any job you want. This was a rising up, a metamorphosis breaking outside of their shells and finally being who they want to be no longer bound by unfair rules and discriminatory laws. The purpose of his speech was a protest, used to push away from segregation and to gain the rights they were promised so many years ago; it was a vital point in human history changing the world as we know it. Giving a voice to those who couldn't speak for themselves not just in America but in countries all over the world.

School Consultation Survey

We value your input. Please take a moment to complete this brief survey.

1. Do you think the school provides a supportive learning environment?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Optional comments:

2. Are you satisfied with the current curriculum offerings?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Optional comments:

3. Do you feel the school offers enough extracurricular activities (e.g., clubs, arts)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Optional comment:

Could you help support extracurricular activities?

4. Are you happy with the sports opportunities provided by the school?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Optional comment:

Could you help with coaching and /or driving the students into sports activities.

5. Would you like to see more variety in cultural, academic, or recreational activities?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Optional comments:

6. What do you think the school does well?

Your thoughts:

7. What improvements would you like to see at the school?

Your suggestions:

8. Do you have any ideas or hopes for the school's future?

Your input:

Please use this page for any additional comments:

Please tear off the survey and return to the front Office—

Thank you very much!!