

Week 4 Term 4 Newsletter - 8th November 2019

Thanks!

A huge thanks to Interlink Modular for their generous support of our school in providing some new sports equipment.

Interlink have been on site for some time with the temporary classroom build on the back field and also the new permanent classroom. They have been fabulous to work with and we certainly appreciate the new teaching space we now have.

Thumbs up to Interlink for their very generous support of Mahora...this gear will be well used.



Support Staff

Support Staff, Secret Agents of the School? Has your child ever talked about breakfast club, quiet zone, their trip to the sick bay, Steps Web, baking or cooking, fitness or being able to help with special jobs around the school or during a group time? Chances are that these were either run by a Support Staff member or they had a part in helping it run smoothly.

Did you know that every classroom in our school has a Teacher Aide attached to it? Do you know who is in your child's class? Did you know that often support staff put in unpaid hours to ensure jobs get done for your tamariki? It is time for us to be seen and so we are taking the time to introduce you to the support staff team at our school. Have a discussion with your child/children and find out who we are and what we do to support them!

Starting on 11th November, Support Staff from around the country will be engaging with their school communities, MP's and media to raise awareness of the issues Support Staff face due to poor pay and job insecurity from year to year. New Zealand's school funding system is broken. It fails to deliver certainty for schools, secure and fairly paid work for support staff and consistent, quality learning support for Students. Support Staff are mainly paid from the operations budget which is also used to buy toilet paper. Support Staff are on the frontline of learning support. They are often unable to support themselves and their families on what they earn. 90% of Teacher Aides are earning less than the living wage and most are in insecure, fixed-term employment. All we are asking is that we are paid the same as similar professions as our pay has



**FAIR'S
FAIR**
MANA TAURITE
PAY EQUITY

OUR VALUES

Self - Connected - Attitude
Respect - Responsibility

remained the same over many years while the job has become a lot more involved with more responsibilities. Government funding is essential to make this happen, schools need to be resourced to pay support staff fairly and ensure secure employment.

Support us by wearing **Black and White** on Monday the 11th of November.

Social Media

Mahora School has a number of online platforms which are used for specific purposes. These are:

- School website - used to house important information for the community and those interested in learning more about Mahora School. Changes are not made regularly, only when required.
- Facebook - used to celebrate achievement through pictures and updates, i.e., sport events, EOTC, camps, etc. Posts are regular and show what's been happening.
- Seesaw - used to celebrate and share the learning journey with whānau and friends and communicate with parents of the class. Posts are regular and dependant on how the class uses it.
- SchoolApps (new) - used to update the community with school administrative information, i.e., newsletters, upcoming events, reminders, emergency information, sports draws, etc. Updates and notifications are as and when required.

Mahora School now has its very own app! There are many schools and workplaces that are using apps to connect with their communities, and we are excited to be doing this too. As technology advances and evolves, so too does our thinking around what we use and how we use it. The Mahora School app will be used for schoolwide and group notices and notifications. As the user, you can select the 'groups' you'd like to receive notifications for. An example might be; Room 4 (child 1), Softball B, Room 12 (child 2), Rugby A. You will then receive notifications anytime a coach, teacher or administrative person sends a message under that groups heading. The school newsletter will also be available to view online and updated before 3pm every Friday. This will help us as we endeavour to use less paper.



We will still be using our school Facebook page and the class Seesaw pages. We are trying to streamline our online footprint so that each media type has its own purpose. The list above highlights the way each platform is intended to be used. As we transition with the introduction of SchoolApps, certain information may be shared across multiple platforms. It is our intention to

move most admin information to the school app.

To download the app, go to the Google Play or Apple Store, search for SchoolAppsNZ by snApp mobile and download. Once downloaded, use the search function and type in Mahora School. There are a number of features available and we encourage you to use these in the best way that suits. Please subscribe to the alerts you wish to be notified with. It is best not to 'subscribe to all' as you will then receive notifications on everything, including those that your children may not be a part of. To do this simply open the app, click 'Alerts', then tick the alert groups that are relevant to you.



We appreciate and acknowledge any and all feedback about how we use our digital and online systems at Mahora School. A survey has been prepared with this in mind. We value your time in completing this for us - forms.gle/Qy6qhrCkaapaAyN48

Regards, The Digital Team and Mahora School. darrenr@mahora.school.nz, racheall@mahora.school.nz

Hastings District Library Survey

“YOUR VOICE, YOUR CHOICE

Hastings District Libraries (Hastings, Havelock North and Flaxmere Libraries) are updating their Strategic Plan and want

to hear your voice, thoughts, opinions and ideas to improve the future of your libraries. Parents, caregivers and children are all welcome to fill out the short survey - follow this link, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/hbschool> and have your voice heard.”



YOUR VOICE
YOUR CHOICE

Support Plant Conservation

For those that get the HB Today, this week you would have seen a great article on some of our Year 5 & 6 students that have helped make a calendar to help fund plant conservation at Te Mata Peak, if you would like to support this project and purchase a calendar you can email your order to planthawkesbay@xtra.co.nz by 30th November. These kids have done a fantastic job and what a great project to support!

Calendar to help fund plant conservation work

Mahora School Year 5 and 6 students are helping fund plant conservation at Te Mata Park with a newly launched calendar.

East Coast Balance Farm Environment Awards winner dairy farmer Nicky Dawson, who is also a teacher at the school, worked with the 13 students to create paintings of Hawke's Bay native plants for a fund-raising calendar.

The cover painting by Year 5 artist Vintcent Ly is of a small pimelea, *Pimelea mimosa*, which is only found on Te Mata Peak.

Te Mata Park, an ecological hotspot, seemed the obvious choice for the proceeds of the \$20 calendar, says Marie Taylor, from native plant nursery Plant Hawke's Bay.

The calendar is a collaboration between Mahora School, Plant Hawke's Bay, Biodiversity Hawke's Bay and Mammoth Print Signs & Media Solutions.

Every year Taylor creates a calendar for her business, with last year's calendar raising \$900 for plant conservation work with Biodiversity Hawke's Bay.

"This year we would like to reach a higher target."

The calendar can be ordered from planthawkesbay@xtra.co.nz by November 30, and collected in early December from Mahora School, Peak House at Te Mata Park, and the Hawke's Bay Regional Council offices in Waipawa, Napier and Wairoa.



Mahora School teacher Nicky Dawson with the Year 5 and 6 student artists and their artwork: from left, Dylan Jennings, Piper Munson, William Wellwood, Levi Donnelly, Thomas Hart, Vintcent Ly, Peyton Thomas and Lilla Briggs.

Regards, Rohan

Week 5 – 11 th November	Week 6 – 18 th November	Week 7 – 25 th November
Mon 11 th - Fri 15 th - Ngati Kahungunu Kapa Haka Festival Mon 11 th – PTA Meeting @ 7pm Thurs 14 th – Heretaunga Choir performing Fri 15 th – Ukulele Festival	Mon 18 th Nov – Raffle tickets for home for PTA Christmas Raffle	Mon 25 th – Road Patrollers Splash Planet Tues 26 th – HB Triathlon Fri 29 th – Interschool Athletics
Week 8 – 2 nd December	Week 9 – 9 th December	Week 10 – 16 th December
Wed 4 th – BOT Meeting @ 6.30pm Thurs 5 th – Marathon Madness Fri 6 th - 11.45am School Assembly – Black Caps presenting Fri 8 th – PTA Food Day – NO Fish and Chips or Shop Orders	Mon 9 – Fri 13 th – Safe biking to Intermediates for Year 6's Fri 13 th - PTA Christmas Raffle tickets due back	Mon 16 th Reports go home Thurs 19 th Last day of Term 4