

## Welcome

This week we introduce Ronin King, Zoey Jennings, Georgia MacLeod, Rylan Nuku, Samreen Singla, Manny Faulkner, Johnson Ly and Yahya Bauckham and welcome back to Chris Sun, Emma Crous. We hope you all have enjoyed your start at Mahora School.



This week we also welcome our four Candidate Teachers from EIT to our Mahora School staff. Tara O'Neill, Summer-Rose Taylor, Simon Pepper and Niamh Flanagan had their first two weeks at our school and have enjoyed meeting all of our staff and students! We are excited to be a part of their journey towards becoming teachers and look forward to the enthusiasm and new skills they will bring to our Mahora Whānau. Our CT's will be onsite most Tuesdays and Wednesdays this year so will be an important part of our team. Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself to them.



**Nau mai heare mai, Talofa Lava, welcome to everyone!**

## Staff Only Day

As you know, tomorrow, **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**, we will be having a Staff Only Day so that our staff can attend some professional development. This means there will be **no school**.



I would like to provide some more information about why schools in NZ are holding these staff only days. There are 8 days that have been provided to all schools (primary, intermediate and secondary) to be used over the next 2.5 years. This Ministry of Education has provided these days for the first time, in acknowledgement and support for the significant review and development within the education sector currently. There are major reviews underway and many new initiatives that need to be implemented by all schools.

How will they work?

1. Secondary Schools have set dates for the 8 days and they will advise these to you.
2. Primary and Intermediate schools are able to select dates that suit their programmes/ development.
3. Our Kāhui Ako (Community of Learning) schools on the western side of Hastings have selected to hold the first one together for a couple of reasons. The first being we are all working on similar development journey across our Kāhui around the local curriculum, and secondly, we know it makes it easier for families with children at both primary and intermediate if they are held on the same day. This won't always be the case but we try and work together as much as we can to support whanau.

What is their purpose? These days are to provide teachers and principals with additional time to:

- Refresh and deepen their knowledge and practice around the local curriculum (within the context of the removal of national standards)
- Strengthen their understanding of the use of assessment tools for learning and teaching
- Respond to the recommendations of the education work programme in the Curriculum, Progress and Achievement (CPA) Report
- Familiarise themselves with curriculum work changes that will become available over the term of the collective agreements.

These days are all approved by the Board of Trustees and we give as much notice as possible. We do understand these days can impact families and do appreciate your support.

## PTA Food Day

Our PTA food day will be next Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March and slips will come home with children on Monday (all orders need to be in by Thursday). Many thanks for supporting our fabulous PTA who do some amazing fundraising for our tamariki.

## Current contact information

A reminder to check your contact details on the Pupil Contact sheets that were sent home last week and update any information that needs it, and return to the office as soon as possible. **It is really important** that we have the correct contact information in case there is an emergency and we need to get hold of you.

## Coronavirus

I'm sure you are all following the current health situation closely, as we are here at school. We are getting regular updates from the Ministry of Education and we will update our community as this advice comes through. The key message is regular and effective hand washing is very important and we are revisiting this regularly in all classes. I did see a short clip on Seven Sharp recently that I thought was very useful for all parents when discussing with your children. The link is copied below for you to consider.

<https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/nanogirls-tips-talking-kids-coronavirus-without-making-them-worried>

## Triathlon

Our Mahora School Triathlon is on NEXT TUESDAY! Everyone of our Mahora tamariki will take on the challenge of completing a triathlon and it is an awesome fun morning! All children come to school in their school uniform.

On Tuesday your child **MUST HAVE** their togs, a towel and covered shoes (no jandals), a bucket or container for all their gear at the bike transition. If your child has their own bike and helmet, please bring them. If not, they will share a school bike.

Your child **CAN HAVE** clothes to go over their togs for biking and running and a water bottle.

Bikes (or scooters for our young ones) need to be brought to the roped off area behind Room 15 as soon as you get to school. There will be A LOT of bikes so it is a good idea to attach something to your child's bike so they can easily spot it.

Approximate timing for the morning is as follows:

8.30am All Elite Triathletes to meet Denise Pearse in the pool area with their gear

9.20am Elite (Year 5 & 6) Triathlon start

9.50am Team 4 (Year 5 & 6) Triathlon start

10.45am Team 3 (Year 3 & 4) Triathlon start

11.30am Team 1 & 2 (Year 1 & 2) Triathlon start



We hope you can make it to school to cheer on our kids. You will notice that we have roped off the bike transition area this year. We'd like to keep this area as clear as possible for the kids...senior parents, your tamariki will be fine without you. Younger ones, if your child needs help finding their bike or putting shoes on, that's fine, but PLEASE be aware of crossing the course and keeping clear of other tamariki on the course. Thanks to the whānau that have returned the notice offering to help on the course. If there are others, just pop into the pool area and catch up with Denise Pearse on Tuesday morning.

## Team 3 and Team 4 Swimming Sports

It took us a few days to get the right day but last Thursday was a stunner and we had another wonderful senior swimming sports. Each of our tamariki selected 2 or 3 events that best showcased their swimming skills. As always the smiles and pride were the highlight for those whānau and staff watching on. I think maybe the loudest cheering was saved for the whānau & staff vs students relay race and also the Year 6 manu competition.

This year we trialled the kids selecting to swim in a 'swim it to win it' or 'in it to swim it' category. We're looking forward to hearing both the student and whānau voice about how they found it.



Check out the back of the newsletter for more photos and on our school Facebook page!

## Regards, Rohan

Week 6 - 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Week 7 - 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Week 8 - 23 <sup>rd</sup> March
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> - School Triathlon Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> - Assembly @ 9.15am - Room 13 presenting Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> - PTA Food Day - <b>NO Fish and Chips or Shop Orders</b>	Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> - PTA Meeting @ 7pm Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> - Māori Games - Sport HB Yr 5 & Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> - Girls Rugby Skills	Tues 24 <sup>th</sup> - Māori Games - Sport HB Yr 5 & 6 Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> - Mufti Day for Camp (fundraiser) Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> - Assembly @ 9.15am - Room 20 presenting
Week 9 - 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Week 10 - 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Week 1 Term 2 - 27 <sup>th</sup> April
Tue 31 <sup>st</sup> - Māori Games - Sport HB Yr 5 & 6 Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> - BOT Meeting @ 6.00pm Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Gala Switch Sports Tournament Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> - PTA Food Day - <b>NO Fish and Chips or Shop Orders</b>	Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> - Last Day of Term 1 Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> - Good Friday - <b>No School</b>	<b>Mon 27<sup>th</sup> - No School - Anzac Day observed</b> Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> - Term2 starts Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> - Māori Games - Sport HB Yr 5 & 6

