



MAKOURA COLLEGE

Kia Manawanui
Courage & Compassion

Principals Message

Kia ora te whanau and welcome to the last Makoura College newsletter for Term 1

School Board of Trustees

On 18 March 2011 the Minister of Education approved a constitution for a new Makoura College Board of Trustees. This will involve a staged transition from our current Commissioner to the new Board of Trustees. The election date will be Thursday 23 June 2011. Details regarding the make-up of the planned Board are outlined in the Commissioner's message on page 2 of this newsletter.

With regard to this new Board I would encourage you all to consider the option of standing for the board yourselves or alternatively think about someone else you might want to nominate to stand on your behalf. A Board made up of people who have the best interest of the school at heart is crucial to its future. Please consider carefully.

In preparation for this June election the Ministry of Education is funding a facilitated community workshop to provide information and advice to voters and prospective candidates alike around the factors that lead to effective governance. I would encourage you all to attend whether you are interested in standing or not. The information will be of interest to all parents.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following groups who have proudly represented the College at recent events:

The Makoura College Business Challenge Team - Beau Elton, Brittany Leveridge, Bailey Peterson and Aidan Theedom.

The Makoura College Waka Ama Team that competed at the recent NZ Secondary Schools National Championships - Anna Garnett, Kata Matapuku, Lexy Karena, Elleshia Clarkson, Lianess Howard and Bailey Peterson.

Senior Artists - Haley Morgan, Tori Johnson, Georgia Gasper, Summa Burch, Justyn Paul, Dalton Maxwell, Bailey Peterson, Logan Burch and Hayley Rutene for their work towards a new school sign that will soon be on display.

Thank you

To Mrs Carey and her music students for their efforts and work which resulted in the successful opening of our new Band Room last Saturday.

To Mrs Carey, staff and students who have been busy planning and preparing for the Wellington Regional Stage Challenge Competition scheduled for Term 2.

To Reihana Rimene and Cheryl Tepu and our Kapa Haka students for the long hours they have been putting in (including every Saturday) for the Wellington Region Kapa Haka Festival being held in July 2011.

To all those parents who attended learning interviews for your children—we have been meeting with students to discuss the goals they set at these learning interviews and I'm very pleased with the understanding. Setting goals is the first and most important step towards achievement - so well done to all concerned.

Uniform

In fine weather our students are looking like the smartest students in town. Thank you again whanau for your support on this one. When the weather turns cold however one or two students are adding items that are not part of the uniform. Please remember that these will be confiscated from students and will need to be uplifted by parents. Also please note that only one school jacket may be worn to school and these have now arrived and can be purchased for Term 2 from the Uniform Shop. In addition to the official school jacket students may still wear the old polar fleece tops (which are being phased out this year) or the new black jersey. Thanks again for supporting the uniform.

Lastly, may I wish everybody a well deserved holiday and may you all come back refreshed and energised.

Tom Hullena

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IMPORTANT DATES

April

- 12th** - Victoria University visit
- 12th** - Computer in Homes Graduation 7.00pm in the Student Centre
- 14th** - MANA—the Spirit of Polynesia 2011
- 15th** - End of Term 1
- 26th - 29th** Kapa Haka Wananga

May

- 2nd** - Term 2 begins
- 4th** - Makoura Cross-Country
- 10th & 11th** - Te Kura Teina Whanau Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews 3pm-6pm
- 11th** - Intercollegiate Cross-Country

MAKOURA COLLEGE
UNIFORM SHOP
HOURS
THURSDAY
3.00pm - 4.00pm

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Tom Hullena

3.00pm - 4.00pm



COMMISSIONERS MESSAGE

On 18 March I advised you that the Minister of Education had approved the alternative constitution for the Board of Trustees of Makoura College. The governance model, intended as a staged transition from Commissioner to a standard elected Board, has the membership that reflects the original proposal and the consultation feedback with our College community, as follows:

- the Principal of the school
- up to three Trustees appointed by the Minister of Education
- two Parent Representatives
- a Staff Representative
- a Student Representative
- up to two Trustees either co-opted by the Board or appointed by bodies corporate approved by the Board for the purpose.

The Alternative Governance Model is intended to support elected community participation, alongside strong governance modelling and direction from a majority of selected ministerial appointees.

On this basis the Secretary for Education has now agreed that a Commissioner is no longer required for the College and that the newly elected and appointed Board is required to appoint me as a Statutory Specialist Adviser. I am therefore setting the election date as Thursday 23 June 2011 and this will be confirmed at my monthly Commissioner's meeting in May.

This will mean that parent elected, staff elected and ministerial appointed trustees will take office on Thursday 30 June. (The student elected trustee will take office in Sept/Oct in line with national student trustee elections.) My appointment as Commissioner will end when the trustees take office, and my appointment as Specialist Adviser for the Board will commence as the Board takes office.

In preparation for the election, the Ministry is funding a facilitated community workshop intended to provide information and advice, to voters and prospective candidates alike, on the factors that contribute to strong, informed governance. The workshop will take place on Tuesday 3 May, 6.30 - 9pm, at Makoura College, in good time for you all to be well prepared to make the most of this election opportunity.

Before the election process begins in late May, the Minister of Education will have selected the ministerial appointees, and these appointments will be made known to you all before candidates stand for election as parent elected trustees.

Over the term break you may like to give some thought to whether you would like to stand for the Board and/or who else you would encourage to stand. Further information on the elections and being a trustee will be available from me and the school office from the beginning of Term 2. I encourage you to join the facilitated community workshop on 3 May, 6.30 - 9pm, at Makoura College and be well prepared to contribute to strong and informed governance before you stand, nominate and/or vote in the election.

Tim White

TECHNOLOGICAL AND VOCATIONAL STUDIES FACULTY REPORT

The term is ending with the Yr 11 Textile students finishing off their 1st achievement standard for the year. Yr 10 students are finishing their PJ's, Yr 9 tie dying T-shirts and making Polar Fleece Beanies. Yr 9 Foods are working on a Unit of work about designing suitable food for the Tuck Shop to sell. Yr 9 Students in Hard Tech are learning to make an electronic warning system to guard their valuables. Yr 10 Hard Tech has been challenged to produce a set of concrete pavers, and to create an item from 3 pieces of wood. I must say I am impressed with the ideas and the workmanship of the students. Level 2 boys are working on various community projects and making themselves a variety of wooden objects. Level 3 have said 'Goodbye' to one house and have laid the foundations for the next. In Computers Yr 9's have been designing publicity documents for a Rock Band, Yr 10's are working on basic computer skills and the Senior students are working towards their NCEA credits.

Gateway students have now mostly been placed in work placements, and some will begin to work every 2nd week next term and complete work Unit Standards in the alternate week at school.

Pathway student's level 1 & 2 enjoyed 3 days work experience this term and we have been heartened by the positive employer comments about the student's willingness, and positiveness they have worked with. Pathway Level 1 students are heading out to work next term in week 2.

Many students have completed or are in the process of completing STAR courses. We have had students out at Taratahi, and at UCOL completing hairdressing and cooking courses. Many students have requested to attend STAR courses.

Laurel Booth HOF Vocational and Technological Studies

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MAKOURA COLLEGE SPORTS UNIFORM AMNESTY

Over the last few years a large number of Sports Uniforms have not been returned to the College. Therefore we ask that you please check students wardrobes and drawers for any sports uniforms that may belong to Makoura College.

If you know of any ex-students can you please ask them to also check their rooms.

We appreciate you help in this matter.



MAKOURA COLLEGE SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council would just like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and students, that have been supporting all the fundraising events. The two mufti days and one Social was a huge hit for our School. We overall managed to raise just over \$1000 for the month of March. The staff have been very helpful towards the School Council. We had a mufti day on 16 March and \$400 was raised, this went towards the Christchurch earthquake crisis. The school social raised \$200, and then we had another mufti day, the money raised was another \$400 dollars that has gone towards SADD (students against drinking driving) to put a sign up at the front of the College.

Thank you

Selina Bull - Chairperson

TE KURA TEINA PANUI

Whew! The last week of a very busy term. The students have worked very hard this term to improve all their skills. I have been very impressed with the way most of the students have settled to their tasks and to their class routines. On Wednesday the Yr 9's who have demonstrated **Kia Manawanui** consistently over the term are having a day at the ropes course with David Woodcock and his team - and the energetic Yr 9 teachers! Well done to all those students. Those students who have not been selected can look to set some very clear goals around Kia Manawanui with the help of their teacher for next term. The Yr 10 students are having a presentation by the 'Unpack It Roadshow of Joy' on Tuesday 12 April—a group of young people committed to the issue of environmental sustainability. The presentation will be followed by a series of workshops for the students. Rocket reports will be sent out this week. There will be Whanau meetings on Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th of May, week 2 in Term 2. Students will bring home meeting slots in the first week of term 2.

We hope that our students have a restful and enjoyable break and we thank you as their whanau for your continued support in our teaching and learning programme.

Kathy Pickering—HOF Te Kura Teina

RIDER TRAINING



Register for a motorbike or scooter training course and learn some helpful tips to stay safe on your bike. One of the best ways to avoid crashes is to develop your riding skills.

Course Dates

Sunday 17th April	Scooter	9am-12noon
Sunday 17th April	On Road Beginner	1pm-4.30pm
Sunday 15th May	On Road Advanced	9am-4.30pm

At a cost of only \$20.00 this is great value for money. Places are limited

Ring Dave or Kerry at Wairarapa Road Safety Council, REAP House, 340 Queen Street, Masterton Ph: 377 1379

Te Kura Teina Whanau Meeting

YR 9—10

Interviews with Parents and Students

Tuesday 10 May & Wednesday 11 May

3.00pm—6.00pm

- **Meet the teacher in their homeroom**
- **Check on your child's progress**

Rocket Reports for Junior Students (Year 9-10)

will be posted home this week

UNIFORM

Due to popular demand the Uniform shop has sold out of jersey's. The next order should be here in time for the beginning of term 2. We also have the Makoura Jacket available now at \$61.00 each, which is the official rain proof jacket as stated on the 2011 Makoura College uniform price list. Thanks for your support and patience. The Uniform Shop will not be open during the School Holidays.

Mrs Taylor

(Uniform Shop)

Kathy Pickering—HOF Te Kura Teina

(Uniform Shop)



WAKA AMA

Makoura Under 19 girls Waka Ama team: Anna Garnett, Kata Matapuku, Lexy Karena, Elleshia Clarkson, Ness Howard, Bailey Peterson, Coach: Sydney Cunningham, Managers: Vaea Peterson, Dayle Clarkson

On Tuesday 29 March the Makoura U19 girls Waka team attended the National Secondary School Champs held at Lake Tikitapu, Rotorua. Although Makoura attended the champs last year, this was the first year competing for 4 of the 6 paddlers so it was very much a novice team.

Preparation for the Championships was not ideal with training having to be adjusted due to Lake Henley being closed. Despite this the girls showed great commitment by doing dry-land training or travelling to Kahutara to do the necessary fitness work.

Competition Day 1: 54 teams lined up for the U19 girls 250m straight race. Teams were divided up into 10 heats. Results from the heats would determine which tier of competition they would continue racing in. Top tier was the Championship semi, followed by the plate and then the remaining teams would race in the bowl semi. Makoura got a great start and continued on strongly to finish in 2nd place behind a very strong Epsom Girls Grammar team and their time of 1min 20.06sec saw them qualify for the Championship semi for the first time ever. An amazing result considering their competition are among the best paddlers of their age in the world. Makoura were the only U19 girls team from the Wellington region to reach the 250m champ semi.

As the day continued the weather worsened with the wind making it hard for even the experienced teams to maintain their position wholly within their lane for the duration of the race. Race rules dictated that any turn or start fouls would incur time penalties rather than disqualification. The 500m turn race was proving to be very difficult.

Makoura was in the unfortunate position of being behind another Waka when the green flag signalled the start of the race. This meant they had to check their start and adjust their line and consequently they went into the turn buoy at 250m in last place. However, the turn was causing problems for the majority of teams and Makoura came out in 5th position fractionally behind Otaki College. The girls pulled out an amazing final 250m to come home in 3rd position behind Hukarere Girls College and one of the race favourites, Whakatane High School. However, Makoura was the only team in this heat not to incur time penalties and were promoted to 2nd position. In fact, Makoura was one of only a handful of teams to have a completely penalty-free race. Their time meant they qualified for the plate semi. A fantastic result for this inexperienced team.

Competition Day 2: The weather for the semis was fine with very little wind. The increase in intensity from Day 1 was obvious. Makoura was racing in lane 5 against the eventual gold and silver medalists, Kaitaia College and Ngaruawahia High School. The quick green flag from the starting boat took the girls by surprise and despite their best efforts they were not able to make up the deficit finishing in 6th position.

Their next race was the 500m plate semi. Once again the girls stepped up and paddled a strong race. Their turn was definitely a strength. I'd go so far as to say that they have one of the best turns in the U19 girls division. This saw them go from 5th to 3rd and they maintained their 3rd position to the finish line.

Unfortunately they didn't make it in to any finals races but they outstripped expectations by finishing well within the top half of the competition. I was very proud of their results on the water and their behaviour off the water was exemplary. Obviously they are a very tight team who enjoy each others company and this makes the job of coach and manager an easy one. I hope that next season they continue to participate in Waka Ama as their commitment and attitude to training should see them achieve some exciting results.

Special thanks must go to Vaea Peterson who was our driver, competition manager and all-round good guy as well as Dayle Clarkson who played a big part in organising the trip. Also big thanks to Carterton Fire Brigade for the use of their van and Makoura College and Wairarapa Nui Tonu Waka Ama Club for their support and use of resources.

Team Coach—Sydney Cunningham

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