



MAKOURA COLLEGE

Kia Manawanui
Courage & Compassion

Principals Message

Welcome

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to the families of students new to Makoura College in 2011 and also to those families of returning students. It is very pleasing to note that the year has gotten off to a fantastic and positive start. Accordingly, I would like to thank all parents and guardians for the role you have played in this and in particular by ensuring your child/children have been fully prepared for their return.

The start of a new year is always an exciting time and the arrival of your children has meant that there is again life and energy present. Thank you for this gift and we look forward to working with you all to help your children become the best they can be.

New Students

There have been a number of new enrolments this year and this has been at all year levels. I believe all of our new enrolments will add something special to the school and I've been especially impressed with our Year 9's who have brought with them a great deal of positive energy and already they are showing the signs of the wonderful potential and talent they all possess.

Overall, the roll has continued to grow despite the numbers of secondary school students in the town being fewer than in 2010. The school is focussed on producing quality outcomes for all students and I believe this to be the reason for the growth in roll and community confidence.

New Staff

We have been blessed with being able to acquire high-quality staff to fill all vacant positions. Teachers and parents are the key to your children's success at school so I encourage both groups to work together at every opportunity.

In Te Kura Teina we welcome Ms Herrick and Mrs McCann; in Technology we welcome Mrs Fowler, Mrs Forrester, and Mrs Fordyce, and in Social Science/History we welcome Mrs Keeton.

NCEA Results

In 2009 we trialled some different approaches to promoting NCEA Achievement at Level 1 and were very successful. In 2010 we applied these approaches at both Level 1 and 2 and were again very successful. This has been shown in our NCEA results. For instance, at Level 1 our success rate at NCEA was over 80% and at Level 2 it was over 90%. These percentages are well above the average for all New Zealand schools and our Maori achievement is well above the national average. We are very pleased with these results and want them to continue. In 2011 we have an NCEA target of 80% at Levels 1, 2, and 3. This is definitely achievable but will again require school and home to work together very closely.

Uniforms

The new uniforms look excellent. Thank you to the parents who have been very well organised in this regard. My apologies however go out to those parents who have been unable to purchase items that have not yet arrived. We are expecting the new jerseys and jackets to be here within a week or two.

At this point can I please remind all parents that polishable shoes only should be worn and that our preferred sandal is the roman sandal. Other sandals maybe worn for 2011 but they must have a back strap and not include straps that rise up over the ankles. Overall our students are looking much smarter this year and we again ask your support in this regard. It only takes one or two students in the incorrect uniform to influence public confidence in the school and this does little to promote our students in the community especially when they start applying for jobs.

Finally, please remember in cases of genuine hardship the school will apply on your behalf for assistance with uniform purchases. Please see your child's Wakahuia teacher for this.

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14 February 2011
Issue 1

IMPORTANT DATES

February

15th - Consultation Meeting - 6.00pm

15th - Information Sheet attached
Re: The Law Relating to Truancy

22nd - Athletic Standards

24th - Athletic finals

24th - Early finish 1.00pm for all students PPTA Paid Union Meeting

March

4th - ID Photos

9th - Intercollegiate Athletics

13th - ICON Photography fundraiser for College

15th - Industry Training day @ Solway Showgrounds for Year 10

16th - Wgtn Secondary Athletics

MAKOURA COLLEGE
UNIFORM SHOP
HOURS
THURSDAY
3.00pm - 4.00pm

sistance with uniform purchases. Please see your child's Wakahuia teacher for this.

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3.00pm - 4.00pm



Computers in Homes

Makoura College has been accepted to take part in the computers-in-homes programme. This programme provides up to 20 families a year for the next three years with a computer in the home. At the moment we have had only had 4 families take up this opportunity. Please contact the school office to find out more about this great programme.

Fees

For a number of families I appreciate that paying school and curriculum fees is a real challenge. If this is the case for you it is also possible for the school to apply on your behalf for some assistance. Please liaise with your child's Wakahuaia teacher if this is the case.

Secondly, I am hoping that the fees information sent to parents will be much clearer this year. Essentially there are two types of fees:

- **School fees** (Activity fee and Makoura Educational Trust) are voluntary but are needed to help the school provide the best possible resources in the classroom.
- **Curriculum fees** on the other hand, pay for resources or services that your child will own or consume. Accordingly these are compulsory and must be paid if we are able to offer such courses. There are really only two courses at school that require a very high fee. They are Outdoor Recreation and Food and Nutrition. In both of these courses your student will consume what is purchased by those fees. Unfortunately, unless these fees are paid we will be unable to offer them to your child. The school can provide a number of options for paying fees. Please see the school office about such options.

Early Finish Thursday 24.2.11—Paid Union Meeting

On Thursday 24 February 2011 at 1.30pm a Paid Union Meeting will be held at Masterton Town Hall, and all teachers who are members of the PPTA will be attending this meeting. There will be an early finish, at 1.00pm for all students.

Tom Hullena

KURA TEINA PANUI

WELCOME BACK!

On Friday the 4th February the whole school gathered in the hall to perform a powhiri for our new students and new teachers to welcome them into our school. There are a few new teachers to join the staff this year and Te Kura Teina is lucky enough to have two, Mrs Erena McCann and Miss Nicola Herrick. We know they'll enjoy their time here. Over the first week of school we have got to know our new classmates and have had fun while doing this. Peer support has started for the Year 9's and we are back to singing in the Wharenuui, with Whaea Virgil leading the way. So things are already beginning to get busy, lots of testing and stuff, but we know its going to be another fantastic year in Te Kura Teina.

By Jakani Witinitara, Sam Watkins and Naomi Boyce.

ICON PHOTOGRAPHY

**Your Family or Childrens Portrait
Free**



Only \$10.00 sitting fee

which goes to fundraise our College

Photo Shoot Sunday 13 March 2011

10 x 13 inch family or children portrait(\$69.00 value) for only a \$10 sitting fee

Order forms available at College Office, please return by 1/3/2011

CONSULTATION MEETING

All Parents, Caregivers and Students

are invited to attend a

**Consultation Meeting to discuss the future
Governance of Makoura College**

Tuesday 15 February 2011

at 6.00pm

**We encourage you to attend this meeting
It is important to us that you have input into
the future Governance of Makoura College**

COMPUTERS IN HOMES



This is a project that Makoura College has accepted to take part in. The College recently held an Information Evening and some families have signed up to be part of the 20 week training.

On completion of this training and a payment of \$50.00 these families will receive a reconditioned computer for their family use. If you are interested in this project and would like to know more please contact Mrs Lidbetter.

