



# MAKOURA COLLEGE

Kia Manawanui  
*Courage & Compassion*

## Principals Message

Sadly, Toko Winiata our Sports Co-ordinator, colleague, and friend died on Wednesday 9 March. At the time Toko was managing our Athletics team at the Wairarapa Inter-Collegiate Athletics Sports Competition held at the Sports Bowl. Thank you to students, staff and the Makoura College community who attended Toko's funeral on Monday, and who showed their support to fellow students, staff and Toko's whanau over this difficult time. Also thank you for your contribution towards the refreshments that were provided after the funeral service.

### What Teachers Want You To Know

#### **Don't be a stranger!**

Talk to your child's teacher early and when you feel the need. Parent-teacher conferences shouldn't be the only time you connect. Take a moment to introduce yourself to your child's teacher at the first opportunity and find out the best way to make contact in the future. Make sure the college has up to date contact details.

#### **Learning doesn't stop at 3.30pm**

You can help the teacher do a better job by encouraging your children to show you something they are working on at school. Every time your children get a chance to show off what they know, it builds confidence.

#### **Let your child make mistakes**

Teachers don't want perfect students; they want students who try hard. Sometimes parents think every assignment has to be done exactly right, and they can put too much pressure on their children. But it's OK for children to get some problems wrong. It's important for teachers to see what students don't know, so they can go over the material again. Is your child struggling with an assignment? Encourage your child to take charge by asking the teacher for help the next day. Assignments are often clearly not the work of a child. What matters isn't the final result, it's letting a child have ownership of the project and learn along the way.

#### **Stay involved**

Give support and be your child's cheerleader no matter how well (or poorly) you did in a certain subject. We don't expect you to be an expert on every subject. Just knowing their parent is paying attention can be very motivating for a student.

#### **Teachers are on your side—give them the benefit of the doubt**

Some parents go into attack mode when their child complains about a teacher or they take the problem to the principal, so the teacher feels blindsided. This is where a good relationship helps, as early contact can usually sort things out before it all escalates.

#### **Keep you child organised**

Most teachers have to spend far too much time tracking down forms sent home for a parent's signature. It's a good idea to have your children empty their school bags every day as part of a regular after-school routine. Set up a special place, such as a box in the kitchen, where they can put the day's papers, or a brightly coloured folder for signed papers. Also, try to keep plenty of stationery supplies on hand so children don't go to school for days without the proper gear—before they get round to telling you.

#### **If the teacher deserves a good grade, give one**

Teaching isn't easy so it's incredibly uplifting when someone takes the time to say thank you. Why not email when your child enjoys a class event? And if you feel the teacher is doing a good job, let the principal know. Volunteering is another way to demonstrate your support. It shows your children—and the teachers—that you really care about their education.

#### **17 March—Late start 10.30am / College Swimming Sports**

All students are to arrive at school at 10.30am in school uniform for the roll to be taken. Those students participating in swimming sports (all Year 9 and 10, and some senior students) will then make their way to the pools. For those students remaining at school Period 2 will commence at 11.00am.

**Tom Hullena**

**Makoura College**  
**P O Box 465**  
**Masterton**

**Phone: 06-378 6074**  
**Fax: 06-378 2462**  
**Txt: 021-02642661**

**Email:**  
**office@makoura-**  
**college.school.nz**

**Website:**  
**www.makoura-**  
**college.school.nz**

**16 March 2011**  
**Issue 3**

## IMPORTANT DATES

### March

- 16th** - Wgtn Secondary Athletics
- 17th** - **Late start Thursday 10.30am**
- 17th** - Makoura College Swimming Championships
- 17th** - School Social 7.00pm - 10.00pm
- 22nd** - Senior (Yrs 11-14) Student/Parent/Wakahuia teacher Goal Setting Evening, 3.00pm to 6.00pm
- 23rd** - Intercollegiate Swimming
- 24th** - Mufti day
- 24th** - Senior (Yrs 11-14) Student/Parent/Wakahuia teacher Goal Setting Evening, 3.00pm to 6.00pm

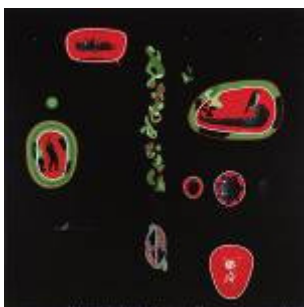
**MAKOURA COLLEGE**  
**UNIFORM SHOP**  
**HOURS**  
**THURSDAY**  
**3.00pm - 4.00pm**

3.00pm - 4.00pm



### ARTS FACULTY REPORT

#### VISUAL ARTS



#### Year 10 Option Art

In our next unit of study we will be looking at Shane Cotton art works and the concept of Turangawaewae. Students will need to research their ancestry and may ask for your help with this.

#### KAPAHAKA



The 2011 Kapahaka have already had their first public performance opening the Wairarapa Relay for Life event. The ropu performed an official haka powhiri to approx 200 cancer survivors before the 1000 or so competitors took to the streets. Thus far we have 27 keen students wanting to participate in the group and turning up to Friday practices. Indicators at this stage are that this will grow to in excess of 30 students. We are lucky to have secured the services of Reihana Rimene and Cheryl Tepu as our Kaiako. They have both recently taken up positions in New Plymouth but have committed to the ropu this year so will travel back each Friday to run the practices. Mauri Ora korua! The Makoura College Kapahaka are once again in high demand from the Masterton community. Well done koutou ma!

#### STAGE CHALLENGE

The Stage Challenge team is hard at work and have a winning concept for this year's entry. Initial work is being done on the design for the sets, costumes, props and choreography. As soon as the ground work is completed the team will be asking for all participants to get involved.

If students have been part of this before, they will know what an awesome day it is and how exciting it is to travel to Wellington to be part of this amazing event. If they haven't been involved before, they shouldn't miss this opportunity. You don't need to be a spectacular performer, just have a willingness to try new things and be prepared to commit to rehearsals.

Initially the rehearsals will be on Tuesdays from 2.00pm – 3.30pm with other times for smaller groups.

Listen out for details in the daily notices and on the notice board.

For parents, we would welcome your support. There is significant fundraising to do and we would be glad of assistance. Please contact Belinda Carey through the school office if you can help.

#### CONCHORDS BAND ROOM

The "Conchords Room" is a band room for the community of Makoura. It aims to provide rehearsal space, networking and support for emerging and established bands. It has been made possible by the fundraising concert of "The Flight of the Conchords"

The senior music students have been working hard to refurbish the space and invite you to attend the:

Conchords Band Room official opening Saturday 2 April 2011 at the back of the Makoura College Hall

Bands include:-

Masterhuna, Noise Control, Bob Cooper-Grundy and Friends, Makoura Senior Students

If you are interested to use this space come along, or just check it out

Gold Coin Donation

If you are interested to use this space come along, or just check it out  
Gold Coin Donation



**Commissioners Report  
Alternative Governance Proposal**

The opportunity for the Ministry of Education to receive feedback from the Makoura College community on the alternative governance proposal ended at 4pm on 28 February. Feedback supports the Ministry proposal to move to an alternative Board constitution (membership) made up of a combination of ministerial appointed members and elected members. Suggestions received from consultation meetings will be included in the final proposal that is made to the Minister of Education in the next few weeks. In preparation for the Minister's decision, I am beginning to canvas the community for expressions of interest in the Ministerial appointee positions.

If you would like to find out more about what is involved in these positions and the process for selection please contact the Commissioner Tim White in the first instance. Tim can be contacted at [tim@timwhite.co.nz](mailto:tim@timwhite.co.nz) or 027 499 8652.

**Tim White**

**ICAS EXAMINATIONS FOR 2011**

International Competition and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) entry forms are available from the College office.

Listed below are the subjects available, cost of the exam and the sitting date.

Closing date for entries to be paid to the College office is **Friday 8 April 2011**.

Subject	Sitting Date	Exam Fee
Computer Skills: Yr 4-11	Tuesday 24 May	\$ 7.50
Science: Yr 4-13	Wednesday 8 June	\$ 7.50
Writing: Yr 4-13	Tuesday 21 June	\$17.50
English: Yr 4-13	Tuesday 2 August	\$ 7.50
Mathematics: Yr 4-13	Tuesday 16 August	\$ 7.50

**Literacy research project at Makoura College this year**

A PhD student from Massey University, Jessica Craig, who has worked at the school as a literacy adviser for the past two years, is going to be working with Year 9 teachers to find out more about our students' spelling and vocabulary knowledge and how to increase these skills. Students will be given some extra spelling and vocabulary tests and the results will be used to help teachers plan a word study programme, using words that are important in the topics the Year 9s will be working on this year. For the research to go ahead we need your permission for the researcher to use students' test results in her work. No individual students will be named and you will be given a summary report of the findings at the end of the project. We will gain more information about students' word skills and some professional development for our Year 9 teachers by taking part in the project so believe that participating will be useful to us. We encourage you to support the research by agreeing to allow your child's test results to be used by Jessica in the project.

Ben Laybourn

**STUDENT/PARENT/ WAKAHUIA TEACHER  
GOAL SETTING EVENING  
SENIOR STUDENTS YR 11-14**

being held on

Tuesday 22 March & Thursday 24 March 2011

3.00pm—6.00pm

20 minute meetings in the Wakahuia Classrooms

**Rocket Reports for Senior Students (Year 11-14)  
will be posted home Friday 18 March 2011**

**HOT TIPS EVENT**

**Ian Grant shares his best tips on**

**Raising a Happy Child, Monday 28 March 2011**

**Marriage and Relationships, Tuesday 29 March 2011**

**BOOK NOW [www.theparentingplace.com](http://www.theparentingplace.com)**

Tickets can also be purchased :

**Equippers Church 2 Akura Road, Masterton**

**Enquiries: Abbey Harvey ph 06 378 8789 / 021 284 7082**

**Email: [aharvey@equipperschurch.com](mailto:aharvey@equipperschurch.com)**

held at

**Wairarapa College Hall**

**83 Pownall Street, Masterton 7.30pm—9.45pm**

**Cost \$15 single \$25 double**

**Special for both nights \$25 Single/\$35 Double**

**2nd MUFTI DAY  
Thursday 24 March  
\$2.00 Gold Coin**







### ***In Memory of Toko Winiata (January 1962—March 2011)***

Toko started working at Makoura College in July 1996, having previously worked at Hiona Intermediate (Lakeview).

From 1996 to 1998 Toko was employed as a Teacher Aide in the College, a role in which Toko showed his compassion for students.

From 1999 Toko took on the role of Sports Co-ordinator at the College as well as teaching junior PE classes. In his role as Sports Co-ordinator Toko spent many hours promoting sports to students, co-ordinating sporting events and exchanges, and working with sports coaches. Toko's main sporting passions were softball, netball, basketball, golf, bowls and table tennis in both the College and the local community. He not only coached, umpired and scored, he also transported team members to events all around the country. Toko had great skill in working with students and he encouraged them all to be involved in the life of the College.

Toko's involvement in the Masterton community also extended to running holiday programmes for the Eastside community.

The college community would like to express their deepest condolences to Lesley Forrest, Toko's partner, we will always remember Toko for his huge smile and laughter and for his generous nature.

Rest in Peace Toko

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### **UNIFORM, UNIFORM, UNIFORM**

**Due to popular demand the Uniform shop has sold out of jersey's. The next order should arrive in 5 weeks. Thanks for your support and patience.**

**Mrs Taylor  
(Uniform Shop)**

### **Regional U15 Canoe Polo**

**On Sunday 13 March the Regional U15 Canoe Polo was held at Stokes Valley here are some of the action photos:-**



