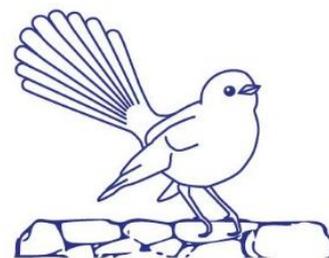


MAUNU SCHOOL

“The Freedom to Soar - Tukuna kia rere”



THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I wanted to share an important focus that makes a real difference for our tamariki every single day - starting the day well and being at school regularly.

At school we often see how much a calm, positive start to the day helps children feel settled, confident, and ready to learn. Arriving well before the bell gives children time to put their bags away, connect with friends, and touch base with their teacher if they need support or reassurance before the day begins. Those small moments can make a big difference.

When children arrive after the bell, it can sometimes make them feel like they are already playing catch-up. Walking into a classroom once learning has begun can increase anxiety for some children and leave them feeling like they have started the day on the back foot. Being here on time helps them feel confident, included, and ready to take part from the very beginning.

Every Day Counts

Regular attendance continues to be a national priority, and it is something we know has a significant impact on children's learning, wellbeing, and sense of belonging at school.

The Ministry of Education has set a clear national expectation that learners should attend 90% of school days or more each term to give them the best opportunity to succeed.

What does 90% attendance look like in practice?

It means being at school at least nine out of every ten days. Missing more than two days every four weeks can place a child below this threshold. While that might not sound like a lot, those missed days can quickly add up and make it challenging for children to keep up with new learning, classroom discussions, and group activities.

Attendance data is also monitored weekly by the Ministry of Education. This helps identify where learners or schools may need additional support, reinforcing that regular attendance is an important part of children's overall success.

Planning Holidays During School Breaks

To support children in maintaining strong attendance, we kindly ask families to plan holidays during the designated school holiday periods wherever possible. When holidays are taken during

DATES TO REMEMBER

TERM 1 2026

| | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 13 Mar | Whole School Assembly 2pm |
| 24 Mar | Rm 9/10 VR trip |
| 27 Mar | Whole School Assembly 2pm |
| 30 Mar-2 Apr | Year 5/6 camp at Marsden Bay |
| 2 Apr | End of Term 1 |
| 3 Apr | Good Friday - School closed |
| 20 Apr | Start Term 2 |
| 24 Apr | ANZAC day - Poppy Assembly |
| 29 Apr | WPSSA Yr 5/6 Winter sports |

term time they must be recorded as unjustified absences, and this can significantly affect a child's ability to meet the 90% attendance target.

We know that family time and travel are valuable experiences, and we simply ask that these are planned around the published school term dates so that children do not miss important learning time.

Working Together

Our goal is always to work in partnership with our families. If there are circumstances that make regular attendance difficult for your child, please do reach out to us. We are here to help and support where we can.

By ensuring children arrive at school on time and attend regularly, we are giving them the very best start to each day - confident, settled, and ready to learn.

Thank you for the ongoing support you give our kura. It makes a real difference to the success and wellbeing of every child in our community.

Ngā mihi nui,

Claire Turton
Principal
Maunu School

EPRO 8

Our children love opportunities to be creative, curious, and hands-on in their learning. Last year we were fortunate to receive funding through the Oxford Trust, which enabled us to purchase two EPRO 8 kits for the school. We are also incredibly grateful to Northpower for generously allowing us to use their loan kits, which has meant even more of our students can take part in this exciting learning experience.

Our Senior Syndicate students have been thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to work with the kits. The challenges encourage them to think critically, work collaboratively, and apply their knowledge in practical ways. It has been wonderful to hear the rich conversations taking place as students discuss ideas, test their thinking, and problem-solve together.



These activities provide a fantastic platform for students to develop key competencies such as teamwork, perseverance, and creative thinking. There is often a real buzz in the room as groups experiment, redesign, and celebrate when their ideas begin to work. Learning experiences like this help our students see that mistakes are part of the process and that persistence and collaboration often lead to the best solutions.

We are very thankful to both the Oxford Trust and Northpower for supporting opportunities like this for our students. Their generosity helps provide authentic, engaging learning experiences that allow our children to explore, create, and challenge themselves in new and exciting ways.

MATHS PRACTICE SITE

NZC Maths practice

You can use the website to help your child practise what they have learned at school.

You can use the Maths practice site on your tablet, laptop or phone.

[The Maths practice website](#) is a pilot that will run for 6 months so we can see how useful it is for families.

It is best to work together on the year level your child has just finished at school, not the year they're in, as this consolidates their learning.

After your child completes each question or puzzle, you will see a summary page suggesting next steps.

Activities – Years 3 to 8

You and your child can practise the following Maths activities:

- number problems
- working with money
- grouping to count larger quantities
- multiplying and dividing whole numbers
- fractions
- decimals and percentages
- ratios
- rounding and estimation
- squared and cubed numbers
- powers
- roots
- multiples and factors.
- Maths practice

Use the [website](#) to help your child practise what they have learned at school.

BUS BAY – CARE PLEASE

We have noticed lately that the Bus Bay is very congested with traffic at the beginning & end of the School day. Please take extra care around our Tamariki and walk them to the gate.

HUT BUILDING AREA EQUIPMENT

With the Junior playground being renovated our Hut Building area is a very busy place for our tamariki to play, create and discover. We would love any donations of natural materials for this. If you or your neighbour have any bamboo, wood or sturdy good quality pallets we would love to receive these to enhance the area.

SWIMMING POOL CLOSURE & RETURN POOL KEYS

The School Pool will be closing tomorrow **Friday 13 March**. We hope you and your family have enjoyed the use of this facility over the warmer months. If you purchased a Pool Key, please return this to the School Office before the end of term and we will arrange refund of the Bond.

SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES- SCHOOL DOCS

All our Policies & Procedures can be viewed at <https://www.schooldocs.co.nz/Home/SchoolLogin>

Username: maunu

Password: maunu

SchoolDocs provides a comprehensive core set of policies and procedures applicable to all New Zealand primary, intermediate, secondary, and area/composite schools, that is tailored for each school.



AROUND THE SCHOOL

CERTIFICATE WINNERS 26 February

| | |
|----------------|---|
| ROOM 3 | Archie Bahho, Wesley Garisau, Trisha Sarma |
| ROOM 4 | Amelie Laing, Emanuel Musarurwa, Varada Krishna |
| ROOM 5 | Mateo Osborne, Aaron Pramod, Olivia Smith-Hodgson |
| ROOM 6 | Liam Ragnat, Amelia Joseph, Elea Preissler-Hunt |
| ROOM 7 | Aislin Xavio, Riley Butler, Isla Osborne |
| ROOM 9 | Amelia McCarrison, Alex Bell, Maia Rapano |
| ROOM 10 | Japji Minhas, Richard King, Jac Chapman-Smith |
| ROOM 12 | Anica Saunar, Maddie Burke, Tristan Openshaw |
| ROOM 14 | Jade Moka, Kian Pala, Jaillet Benito |
| ROOM 15 | Cooper Fromont, Aloshy Aby, Elisha Pau'u |
| ROOM 16 | Arna Winder, Thomas Hunter, Emma Platt |
| ROOM 17 | Ngati Walker, Wilson Turner, Willow Berghan |
| ROOM 18 | Connor Blair, Kari Powell, Steven Sam |

VALUES CUP WINNERS 26 February



Kowhai – Kyra
Rata – Amelia
Tawa – William
Kauri – Poppy



LOST PROPERTY: We have a collection of lost property - Glasses, Watches & Jewellery in the office. If you have lost anything pop in & describe it & hopefully we can get it back to you. Please also take the time to check the lost property bin before the end of term as any leftover lost property will be donated to charity. Any named property will also be able to be returned.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDER: Forms went home last week. Orders close tomorrow, Friday 13th.

Like many schools, we rely heavily on fundraising. The operational grants we receive from the Government essentially keep the lights on, while many of the added opportunities and resources we are able to provide for our tamariki come through fundraising initiatives. Our participation in the Scholastic Book Club throughout the year, along with our annual Book Fair in the library, contributes directly to this. The rewards we receive from these allow us to continue building and maintaining the beautiful collection of books in our school library that all children enjoy.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE SPONSORED by NARELLAN POOLS & GREENGABLES



A big thank you to our generous sponsors **Narellan Pools** and **Green Gables** for helping make our Friday Sausage Sizzle possible. We really appreciate your support of our kura and our tamariki.

Orders are now placed through **MyKindo**, making it easy for families to organise lunch ahead of time. You can log in to **EZLunch/Kindo** and pre-order and pay for your sausage sizzle for the whole term- so Friday lunch is sorted! To place your order, please visit:

https://shop.kindo.co.nz/app/login?shop=Maunu%20School&service=maunu_school_sausage_sizzle

MAUNU NETBALL

If your child would like to play netball for Maunu School there is still time to bring back registration forms. There are spare forms in the office if you require one. All registration forms must be returned by Friday 20th March.

THANKS TO RS ENGINEERING



A big thank you to **Rachel Wright and RS Engineering** for their generous donation of **\$500 worth of tennis racquets and balls**, along with a storage bag for the school, following their recent sponsorship of the Davis Cup here in Whangarei.

We are always incredibly grateful for the support of our wider community. When local businesses think of our school in this way, it truly makes a difference. Contributions like this help provide more opportunities for our **tamariki** and strengthen what we can offer here at our **kura**.



Thank you for your generosity and for supporting our students.

WATER POLO STUDENTS VERSUS STAFF

This term our lunchtime house competition has been Water Polo which was won by Kauri after a very fierce battle with Rata.

On Monday the triumphant Kauri team took on Maunu School teachers.



With a huge amount of spectators in the stands cheering mostly for the Kauri team an epic match was held. The teachers were victorious winning 12-3 over the students.

Some teachers demonstrated amazing skills, it was heaps of fun and there were absolutely no cheeky comments with all the teachers well behaved. Mrs Dawson refereed the game and didn't even need to use her red card to 'sinbin' any teachers, amazing! (although she was tempted!) Thanks to all the teachers who participated. It made the kids day.



I look forward to next term's competition - Watch this space!

WPSSA SWIMMING SPORTS RESULTS

The following Children were selected to represent Maunu at the WPSSA Swimming Sports. Unfortunately, this had to be cancelled due to the weather, but we are proud of you all for making the team.

| FREESTYLE | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Year 5 Girls | Year 5 Boys | Year 6 Girls | Year 6 Boys |
| Ada Brown Olivia Bell | Kaihi Poa Jaxon Fedarb | Hazel Hati Holly Harrison | James Lancaster Cooper Fromont |
| BREASTSTROKE | | | |
| Year 5 Girls | Year 5 Boys | Year 6 Girls | Year 6 Boys |
| Ada Brown Olivia Bell | James Platt Kaihi Poa | Emma Riley Esther Manson | James Lancaster Ethan Dutton Berry |
| BACKSTROKE | | | |
| Year 5 Girls | Year 5 Boys | Year 6 Girls | Year 6 Boys |
| Ada Brown Olivia Bell | Jaxon Fedarb Thomas Hunter | Holly Harrison Hazel Hati | James Lancaster Cooper Fromont |
| RELAYS | | | |
| Year 5 | | Year 6 | |
| Ada Brown Olivia Bell | Kaihi Poa Jaxon Fedarb | Hazel Hati Holly Harrison | James Lancaster Cooper Fromont |

COMMUNITY NEWS

Come along for a great night of comedy while supporting Hurupaki School.

🎤😂 Comedy for a Cause. We're excited to reveal the hilarious line-up for our upcoming Comedy for a Cause night on Saturday 28th March - and it's going to be a brilliant evening of laughs!

On stage will be: ★ Ben MacGougan ★ Joel Vinsen (Billy T Award Nominee) ★ Craig Westenberg

These comedians are known for delivering big laughs and unforgettable sets, so you won't want to miss it.

👉 Click the event link below to secure your seats.

<https://comedyforacause.nz/event/hs26/>

HURUPAKI SCHOOL PRESENTS
Comedy for a Cause

BEN MACGOUGAN JOEL VINSEN CRAIG WESTENBERG
'BILLY T AWARD' NOMINEE

SATURDAY, 28 MARCH, 2026
HURUPAKI SCHOOL
DOORS: 6PM / SHOW: 7PM / 18
ADULT GENERAL ADMISSION: \$30
COMEDYFORACAUSE.NZ/EVENT/HS26

PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT GO TO: OUR NEW ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND EVENT SPONSOR: KAMO KITCHENS



Join us for our free COMMUNITY DAY

Saturday 14th March
1:30PM - 4:30PM

Whangarei Academy of Gymnastics
Trigg Sports Arena, 25 Park Ave

- Visit our facility
- Meet coaches & committee
- Watch skill demonstrations
- 5-13 year olds can sample:
 - Tumbling & Trampoline
 - Men's & Women's Gymnastics
 - Cheerleading

Family & friends welcome!

Sessions will start every 10 min (last session 3:30 pm). Participants please wear athletic clothes & bring a water bottle.

Proudly Sponsored By




Waipu CARNIVAL
Easter Saturday - 4 April 2026

9:00am - 2.00pm

MARKET STALLS
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ALL DAY
DELICIOUS FOOD
WHITE ELEPHANT
KIDS FUN ZONE
INFLATABLE ZONE
AUCTIONS & RAFFLES
BEAUTY ZONE

KOHA ENTRY

ALL PROCEEDS TO WAIPU PRIMARY SCHOOL

LIMITED OPPORT BRING CASH

PLENTY OF PARKING

NO DOGS

SCAN ME ON YOUR CAMERA

TO DONATE!

A fun-filled day for the whole family! waipucarnival.com [f](https://www.facebook.com/waipucarnival) [i](https://www.instagram.com/waipucarnival) [@waipucarnival](https://www.tiktok.com/@waipucarnival)



HOLIDAY PROGRAM



RIPPA & TOUCH RUGBY

RC 4KIDS
RUGBY CAMP FOR KIDS

9th & 10th April
Whangārei Boys High School
245 Western Hills Drive, Avenues, Whangārei

\$60 PER DAY

KEEPING KIDS ACTIVE!

- Boys & girls ages 5 - 13
- 8:30-3pm
- All abilities welcome
- Rippa and Touch
- Overall sport skill development



Register at sportscamps4kids.co.nz



www.operanorth.co.nz
21 MARCH 2026

OPERA IN THE GARDEN

TICKETS \$58 | CHILDREN FREE | FOOD STALLS
1PM - 4PM | WAIPU COVE

Love our community? Enjoy driving? Thinking of what to do in 2026?



SCHOOL BUS

We Need You!

Ritchies Whangārei is looking for School Bus Drivers to help get our Tamariki and mokopuna to school safely every day.

This is the perfect role if you:

- Enjoy being out and about in the community.
- Want work that fits around school hours.
- Like the idea of FREE school holidays (except the odd training day)!
- Take pride in keeping our kids safe on their journey to and from Kura.

What you'll need:

- Class 2 license (minimum).
- P Endorsement.
- A calm, friendly attitude.
- Reliability — our kids are counting on you!

What you'll get:

- Supportive team.
- Uniform.
- Fortnightly pay.
- Chance to drive extra charter trips if you want them.

Join us — the community will thank you, and so will the next generation!
Apply online today - www.careers.ritchies.co.nz

