



## School newsletter - Week 2 Term 1 2024

School roll - 560

### Kia ora koutou katoa.

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year and a special warm welcome to all our new whānau who have started this year at Maungatapu School. You are in a great school with happy kids (2023 survey) and a supportive community. Teachers are working on classroom and school routines, setting expectations and are building a class culture based around our school values:

Manaakitia te tangata - Respect our people,

Tiakina te taiao - Respect our environment

Kia tika, kia pono - Be honest

Kia kaha, kia māia - Be courageous

### He mihi ki ngā kaimahi hou

I would like to introduce 2 new teachers to our teaching staff and our new librarian.

Rachel Gabrielson is a new teacher, teaching year 1 students out of room 4. Rachel has many teaching qualities as a new entrant teacher with a background in Early Childhood Education.

Delaney Parker is new to our school teaching year 5/6 from Room 19. Delaney grew up in Taranaki and is an experienced teacher with a wealth of teaching qualities and interests. She is a natural working with children and goes above and beyond to ensure they are happy and engaged.

Debbie Tipuna is our new librarian. She is well known and recognised across the Tauranga Moana community as a specialist librarian and children's book illustrator. Nau mai, haere mai Debbie.

### Annual goals for 2024

To ensure we provide the best learning opportunities possible this year, and as a result of the end of year survey in 2023, our annual goals to be ratified by the board are:

1. Hauora: Consolidate mindfulness techniques to ensure children have the coping mechanisms to self regulate, and to enable them to engage or re-engage with their learning.
2. Communication: Improve our communication systems with whanau, in particular, utilise Seesaw consistently to share samples of students learning and to communicate school wide notices.
3. Strength based curriculum: Design programmes that are tailored to the strengths of the child, building self efficacy.
4. Playground: Enhance our playground facilities and school environment, using student voice in the process.

## School communication

We use a range of methods to communicate general information with parents and our school community including Facebook, Seesaw, regular newsletters, email and the school website.

Facebook; this is used for many different purposes. Facebook allows us to post messages instantaneously to our whānau and community.

Seesaw was our most popular and preferred method of communicating last year. These messages are more personalised to your child's class and cohort. See your child's teacher if you are not yet connected.

A school newsletter is shared via email and as a paper copy once a fortnight. If you would like a paper copy, please let the office know.

Our school website is informative, especially for new parents. There is a google calendar on our website you can use to view upcoming events.

Reporting and conferences are held and conducted throughout the year.

Parents are asked to contact the school if their child will be absent or late that day.

Please keep your contact details up to date, especially your emergency contact details. Our office staff will notify you if your child has any injury that is of concern.

## ATTENDANCE GOAL 2024

# 87%

Everyday  
Every week

## 2024 Music lessons



Working with "Music in Schools"  
students have the chance to be involved with weekly lessons in...




- SPACES LIMITED -

**TERM 1 LESSONS START WEDNESDAY 14TH FEB**

**Contact Jacob from Music In Schools NOW for more information and to secure a space and register for lessons**

021 642 470 | [jacob@musicinschools.co.nz](mailto:jacob@musicinschools.co.nz) | [www.musicinschools.co.nz](http://www.musicinschools.co.nz)



Jacob has personally taught over 25,000 music lessons!

- Join by yourself or with a friend
- Improve reading and comprehension
- Increase discipline and time management
- Develop better social skills
- Stimulate creativity

"It always blows my mind how much of an impact our weekly lessons have on the kids. Not just in their skills on the guitar etc, but in all areas! Their overall confidence, the ability to set goals and achieve targets, plus being able to work well with others and focus in class. Also due to the nature of the lessons, classroom teachers constantly note big improvements in reading skills and a huge improvement in maths"

Jacob Gordon - Founder of Music in Schools

## School docs policy website

Below is the link to SchoolDocs, a website for our school policies and procedures.

The school works on a subscription basis with SchoolDocs to maintain, update, and review our policies. SchoolDocs provides us with a comprehensive core set of policies, which have been well researched and follow the Ministry of Education National Administration Guidelines. The policies and procedures are tailored to our school and where necessary, SchoolDocs updates, modifies, or creates policies in response to changes in legislation or Ministry guidelines. Our board has the opportunity to view changes/ additions and comment on them before they are implemented.

We invite you to visit the site by following these steps

1. Go to [schooldocs.co.nz](http://schooldocs.co.nz)
2. Click **Search for your school**.
3. Start typing the school's name and select it from the dropdown list.
4. Enter the username: maungatapu and password: tui

"Copyright: Except where stated, the content on this site is the copyright of SchoolDocs Ltd. It may not be reproduced without written permission from SchoolDocs Ltd."

## New school pedestrian crossing

Thank you for your patience with the construction of our new pedestrian crossing. The old crossing is no longer in operation.

**URGENT: We need parents to role model to their children, the correct way to cross a road where there's a crossing.**

Too often we are seeing parents cross the road in the wrong place, ignoring the actual crossing itself.

We expect our children and their whānau to use the crossing correctly, to be responsible and ultimately to be a safe pedestrian at our school.



## Upcoming events

- Wednesday 14th February Music lessons start
- Tues 13 - Thurs 15 Mau rakau wānanga (Te Pūwhāriki)
- Wednesday 28 February. BOT Meeting 5.30pm
- Mon 19th - Fri 23 Feb Kids can Ride Yr 5/6
- Friday 23 Feb Girls surf group out.
- Friday 1st March Top Schools (Yr 5/6)

Kia kaha kia māia - Be courageous Kia tika kia pono - Be honest

Manaakitia te tangata, tiakina te tāiao - Be respectful