

Maitai School



Newsletter - 19th August 2016

‘Mā tini, mā mano ka rapa te whai’

‘Together we will succeed Students, Staff, Parents & Community’



Our Shared Vision

“Students Achieving Educational Excellence and Celebrating Success”



Principal's Forum

Tēnā koutou katoa

Welcome to Samiu: We have a great new student in Room 4. Sam has been living in Rotorua, and originally comes from Tonga. We hope he will teach us some of his Tongan language!

New face on the staff: Our new teacher for Te Ara Ora will be Rachel Coffin. Rachel is an experienced special education teacher who has most recently been working with the Ministry of Education in Hamilton, as a special education advisor and transition specialist. We are very excited that Rachel's son Lathan will also be joining Maitai as a student. Rachel and Lathan will join us at the start of next term.

Exciting building projects: Tenders have closed on our long awaited development project for the base school. Once we have gained Ministry of Education 'sign off' we can begin, at last. The complex project will be completed in three stages and involves:

- Refurbished and enlarged classrooms, including user friendly auto doors
- Rebuilding and extending the toilet laundry complex, and adding a new accessible bathroom
- Improved wheelchair access into rooms and around the grounds, including a wheelchair accessible garden plot and perimeter path around the playground
- Development of a shared teachers' hub
- New furniture where needed
- New alarm system

Once started, the project is expected to take about four months to complete. We will proceed with as little disruption as possible to the students, and will keep you posted on

Ngā mihi nui,

Jane Wills

Ngā Whetū o te Wiki

This Week's Stars

Principal's Award: Anna Welland

Class Awards

Room 1 - Jack Singleton

Room 2—Mikaela Gardiner

Room 3—Tim Worboys

Room 4—Harrison Huata-Findlay



Ngā Whetū a tērā Wiki

Last Week's Stars

Principal's Award: Hannah Spear

Class Awards

Room 1 - Georgia Rose-Roach

Room 2 - Izaiha Newport

Room 4- Samiu Tavake



Olympics at MHW

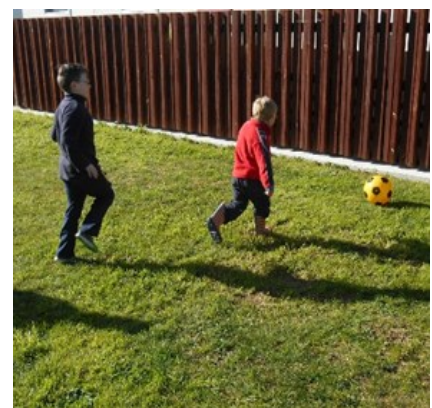


We are following the Olympics very closely. It is very exciting to watch people running, sailing, canoeing and playing games at the Olympics.

We have looked at pictures of lots of different sports but our favourite at the moment is soccer and we are spending most of our play times playing it. The teachers join in too. We are getting pretty good at it.

It is so nice to be outside in the sunshine even though it is cold.

We still have some time left to do our school work though!





A reminder that it's **Daffodil Day next Friday (26 August)** so could all students please get behind this and dress in yellow on the day and bring a gold coin donation to support the Cancer Society :)

Proposed changes to school funding

The Government has announced a proposal to dramatically change the way schools are funded. Principals and Boards of Trustees would have to make trade-offs between teaching staff and other costs schools face. While a well thought through funding review has the potential to benefit our young people, teachers are very worried that a global budget would lead to:

- fewer teachers and larger class sizes
- less job security for teachers
- lower quality teaching
- fewer hours for teacher aides and support staff
- more complex financial work for Boards of Trustees

NZEI, the organisation representing teachers and support staff, have asked all members at our school to attend a meeting on 5 September, at 1:00 to discuss and respond to the proposal. NZEI are promoting the idea of **better funding, not bulk funding**.

We encourage you to have your young person at home for the afternoon of 5 September to allow as many of our staff as possible to attend this important meeting. We will send a form home early next week to organise changes to taxi arrangements for those of you who are able to manage this.

Thank you for your support

Jane

Dates For Your Diary

Wednesday 24 Aug - Special Olympics Basketball

Friday 26 Aug - Daffodil Day :)

Wednesday 7 September - from 12:30 Teacher and support staff paid union meeting