



28th April 2025

Tēnā koutou i ngā āhuatanga o te wā,
Greetings to you all at this time,

Welcome back to Term 2. We all hope that students are well rested and have enjoyed themselves over the last two weeks.

2025 staff and classrooms

TEAM KĀKANO (The Seed)			
	Class Name	Year Level	Teacher/s
Rm 5	Piwakawaka	0/1	Chloe Sayles
Rm 4	Tui	1/2	Cindy Bowers- 3 days a week Rosie Lauren- 2 days a week
Rm 3	Pukeko	2/3	Sara Abrahamia (Syndicate Leader)- 4 days a week Simon Schuster- 1 day a week
TEAM NGĀHERE (The Forest)			
Rm 2	Kereru	4/5	Rhiana Bates- 4 days per week Simon Schuster- 1 day a week
Rm 1	Korimako	5/6	Carlyn Condon
MPS	Kiwi	7/8	Trudi Bertie (On leave) Nikki Attwood- 3 day a week Jayne Southee- 2 days a week Simon Schuster- 1 day a week for Senior Tech

Additional Staff:

- Nikki Attwood: Special Educational Needs Coordinator
- Jena Huntington- Office Administrator
- Ariana Saunt- Special Education Support, Office Assistant and Principal's PA
- Tom Griffiths- Caretaker
- Tom Griffiths- Teacher Aide (Ngahere)
- Jane Anderson- Teacher Aide (Kakano)
- Jay Brighthouse- Cleaner
- Delphi Sturgess- Classroom Te Reo and Kapahaka Tutor
- Lyn Dickinson- Ruru Coordinator
- Barb Mose- Ruru Casual

Thank you

Movie Day:

Thank you to parents for supporting this day. It is both a fundraiser and reward for students after working hard throughout the term.

Although we call it "Movie Day", it is actually a half day. Students are fully engaged in learning for the first half of the day, during our core learning time.

ANZAC Day:

A huge thank you to the troop of Maungakaramea School students and parents who turned up to support the Maungakaramea Community ANZAC ceremony. You sang beautifully and made us all proud!



Dates to remember - Week 1, Term 2

Monday 28th April:

- First day of Term 2
- Term 2 Cohort Entry # 1
- Beginning of Term newsletter

Wednesday 30th April:

- School lunch orders need to be placed by 5pm

Thursday 1st May:

- School lunch orders

Friday 2nd May:

- Parent Pānui

Important Information

Our School Values			
G enuine	R espect	O wnership	W hānau

School Bell times:

- First Block: 9-10.20am
- Eating Break: 10.20-10.40am
- Second Block: 10.40-11.40am
- Interval Break: 11.40-12pm
- Third Block: 12-1pm
- Eating Break: 1-1.40pm
- Fourth Block: 1.40-3pm
- Bus Bell: 2.45pm

Arriving late:

If your child arrives late to school (after 9am), please assist us by letting the office know they are at school.

School Assemblies:

School assemblies are fortnightly, starting in Week 1 on Friday at 1.50pm. We welcome you to come along and be part of these celebrations.

These will be held in Kiwi (MPR)

Contacting the School Office:

Our office staff do the best they can to answer calls at the time, however they have very full jobs and are not always present. It is essential that when calling the school office people leave a message.

Messages are always cleared in a timely manner.

If calling between 2.30-3pm it is unlikely someone will be in the office. This is a busy time for the office as they are often connecting with students to deliver messages from parents about after school arrangements.

Please note, if you are running late, please call the office and leave a message, we will get it.

Also note that we always have a staff member on road patrol in the afternoon. They will always wait until all students have been collected. If children are not collected by 3.10pm, parents will be contacted and students may be placed in Ruru.

School Lunches:

School lunches are available on Thursdays starting in Week 1. All orders must be in by no later than 3pm Wednesday.

School lunches can be made through Kindo or in cash.

Newsletters and Parent Pānui:

Newsletters come out fortnightly on a Friday. Our first for the term will be week 3.

Parent Pānui is a smaller notice with announcements and reminders. This will be in the weeks where there is no newsletter and will come out over the weekend.

Chromebook purchases through school:

We still have one Chromebook available for purchase. Please contact Simon directly if interested.

This can be paid off throughout the year. principal@mgk.school.nz

Library:

The library will be back in action this term. Please support teachers by making sure children are returning their library books on the day their class is visiting the library.

What day is my child's class going to the library:

- Piwakawaka- Monday
- Tui- Monday
- Pukeko- Tuesday
- Kereru- Monday
- Korimako- Wednesday
- Kiwi- Nikki will discuss this with students directly

Homework- What will it look like:

Reading:

Reading is expected 4 nights a week. Classroom teachers in Kākano will be sending home books that are linked to your child's reading level. Children from Ngahere will be asked to read from books they have selected.

Heartwords/Spelling:

Teachers will be sending home spelling words based on the Ideal spelling programme we are using throughout the school.

Maths:

Classroom teachers will be sending home basic facts material or activities from our Structured Maths Approach programme.

Homework will be coming home from Week 2 at the latest.

If you are requiring additional work for home please contact your classroom teacher directly.

How can I support your child with their reading?

When he/she brings home a story to read...

- Share the excitement of the new book with your child.
- Let them tell you the story and talk about the pictures.
- Let them show you the cover, where to begin, and where to go (if appropriate to their level).



While reading and enjoying the story...

- Encourage your child to follow the direction of the print with their finger, touching each word if they can (if appropriate to their level). At a higher level, it is encouraged to remove the finger in order to increase fluency. If they have problems with tracking, then I would suggest using a ruler or a piece of paper/cardboard.
- Discuss with your child the difference between words and letters and encourage them to find any words that they know. At a higher level, you might like to get them to find words starting with a specific blend, compound words or contractions.
- Ask appropriate questions so that they can see that a story is made up of ideas that link together, rather than just a series of words that can be read accurately.

What should I do when I come to a word and saying nothing?

- **WAIT** Let them think about the story, then suggest that he/she go back to the beginning of the sentence. He/she should read the sentence again, saying the first sound. A prompt you may like to use is "get your mouth ready for the first letter". If they still have not unlocked the word, ask the child to think of a word which begins the same way as the unknown word and which makes sense in the sentence.
- After their try, ask:

Does it make sense?

Does it look right?

Does it sound right (would we talk like that?)

Prompts that you may like to use to build on the above strategies include:

"I like the way you made it look right at the beginning. This time I want you to read it and see if it makes sense"

"I like the way you made it make sense. This time I want you to read it and make sure it makes sense and looks right."

- TELL them the word if it has not been corrected after two attempts. BE PATIENT. Don't jump in too quickly when your child needs help. Give them a chance to sort it out themselves first.
- Not every mistake needs to be picked up on. Use your judgement as to whether they will lose confidence if you correct every mistake (ie is it a mistake that really matters?)
- As their reading progresses, so does their ability to read silently and this will eventually replace reading aloud. Encourage this and simply allow your child to share what they have read.

Afternoon Pick-Up:

If your child is in Piwakawaka or Tui we ask that your child is collected from inside the school gate in the afternoon. Please let your child's teacher know who is allowed to collect the child. This can include older school aged siblings.

Facebook:

Please feel free to join the school's Facebook page. Here class teachers put up information and photos about their classes.

The Office also puts a lot of material on Facebook to help keep you up to date and informed.

Teacher Only Day: Thursday 19th June

Maungakarama School is part of a Kahui Ako (Community of Learning) involving 11 schools and several Early Childhood providers. A Kahui Ako sets a strategic direction that supports the growth and development of all the schools in its group. The actions created from this direction are put into practice by three Across School Teachers (AST) who work within all the schools of our Kahui Ako.

We will be having a Teacher Only Day on **Thursday 19th June (The day before Matariki Public Holiday)**. This day will involve several schools and will be held at Tauraroa Area School and will have a new refreshed Maths curriculum focus. This is the second of two days that have been mandated by the Ministry of Education. **School will be closed on this day.**

Term dates:

First Day of Term 2	Monday 28th April
Last Day of Term 2	Friday 27th June
First Day of Term 3	Monday 14th July
Last Day of Term 3	Friday 19th September
First Day of Term 4	Monday 6th October
Last Day for 2025	Friday 12th December

Connecting with Classroom Teachers:

Staff are highly available by appointment for any questions or concerns. Feel free to contact them through the office (office@mgk.school.nz) or by email:

Sara Abraham: s.abraham@mgk.school.nz

Cindy Bowers: c.bowers@mgk.school.nz

Nikki Attwood: n.attwood@mgk.school.nz

Carlyn Condon: c.condon@mgk.school.nz

Chloe Sayles: c.sayles@mgk.school.nz

Rhiana Bates: r.bates@mgk.school.nz

Trudi Bertie: t.bertie@mgk.school.nz

Jayne Southee: j.southee@mgk.school.nz

Rosie Lauren: r.lauren@mgk.school.nz

For any schoolwide questions/concerns, feedback or if you would like to have a chat feel free to email myself: principal@mgk.school.nz or drop on in.

Ka nui tēnā mō tēnei wā,

That's enough for now,



Simon Schuster

Tumuaki/Principal

Maungakaramea School

Growing Our Future

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