



Monday 18 September 2023

Kia ora Parents, Caregivers & Whānau,

Well, we find ourselves in the last week of Term 3. The weather is starting to perk up, with a couple of stunners over the weekend to lift our spirits. Fingers crossed, it continues to get warmer as we head into the holidays. We have the added bonus of daylight savings starting this weekend.

I am pleased to see that parents are starting to rejoin us for **Friday assemblies**. Term 4 brings us all the **special assemblies** for the end of the year. Please keep an eye on the APP and school Facebook page for what is coming up as the start times may vary for these to allow for a longer session. Our first special assembly will be the **Trophy assembly** on the 3rd of November.

Some of our students headed along to the **Inter School Cross Country** event recently. Everyone did such a great job of representing our school. A special mention should go out to the Year 3 boys who took the top 7 places in their race. We also had 1st place winners in the Year 4 & 5 events. Wow, amazing efforts! This was followed up by the **Hibiscus Coast Elite event**. Congratulations to Vienna W who placed 3rd overall, and to our relay teams that placed 2nd - Yr5 boys, 2nd Yr5 girls, 6th - Yr6 boys & 1st - Yr6 girls. We are very proud of you all!

We recently hosted the **Inter School speech competition** in our school hall. All the local primary schools attended the event with their top student speakers. The competition was judged by Mac Stevenson, ex school Principal and Tony Giles Principal of Mahurangi College. The quality of speeches was very high, and I am thrilled to advise that Freddy M from Matakana School took out the top spot. Well done to everyone who participated, and a hearty congratulations to our very own Freddy M for an outstanding speech.

The **building renovations** in the senior block are now due to be completed next week, so classes will be moved during the holidays. Students should be aware where they will need to go on the first day back. Please remind Senior school students to head to their normal classrooms, and Middle school students to their "new" temporary rooms. Thank you again for your patience during this process. We do appreciate how disruptive it is.

As always the **PTA Disco** was a huge success, with the spooky theme bringing out some fabulous costumes. DJ Mark Laurence kept the music pumping all night. Thank you again to the PTA for organising this event, Mark for the music, and to the parents and teachers that helped with crowd control on the night.

At the PPP's last week you would have been shown a copy of the artwork that your child completed for the **Calendar Art fundraiser**. These items always prove to be great gifts for whānau at Christmas time. Please order these on KINDO before the 20th October so that we have time to get them back to you in time for Christmas. There is a copy of the price list on the APP under notices.

I had the pleasure of hosting our last **Pizza with the Principal** for Term 3, and the second to last one for the year last week. It was so lovely to be surrounded by all the smiling, excited faces. Mrs

Andrenacci and I love chatting with everyone, to hear about their experiences at the Disco and what they were planning for the holidays. Congratulations to all our recipients, and thank you again to the **Stables Matakana** for supplying us with Pizzas.

Term 4 is always the busiest of the year. Crammed with assemblies, and class trips. Please keep a close eye on the Term calendar, which can be found on the APP, and also on the school Facebook page so that you don't miss out on any important information regarding these dates. We do love for parents to join us at the end of year celebratory assemblies, so please do take the time to come along if you can.

The planning for the **end of year trips** for each year group is well underway, you will receive notices about these early next term. Please be sure to get your permissions and payments in as quickly as possible, as it is very upsetting for students if they miss out on such a fun day out, and we need to advise the venues of numbers the week before.

A final note about **drinking water**. We often have low water pressure at the school due to the type of system we have, so it is always advisable to send a full drink bottle from home in the morning to help minimise the need for students to use the school taps so often during the day. Term 4 will be starting to see the hotter weather, so please do send in a **named** water bottle with your child/ren. No glass bottles are allowed. Staying hydrated is an important part of helping them concentrate in class.

Enjoy your holiday break, and I look forward to seeing everyone back and refreshed in a couple of weeks for the run up to the end of the year.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Darrel Goosen', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Darrel Goosen

Principal