

## **Wellbeing (Te Oranga) at Matakana School 2019**

Student wellbeing is strongly linked to learning. A student's level of wellbeing at school is indicated by their satisfaction with life at school, their engagement with learning and their social-emotional behaviour. We are dedicated to assisting our students build the knowledge, skills, competencies and belief in themselves to navigate their adolescent years. We are always self-reviewing our practices and are ready to meet the needs of a changing world. Below are some of the steps we take at Matakana School to enhance student wellbeing.

### **We create a sense of belonging and connection to the school, whanau, friends and the community**

- Through the creation, implementation and frequent reinforcement of our school's MAGIC values: Mature, Articulate, Goal Driven, Inquiring and Caring. Our weekly assembly class awards also celebrate a MAGIC quality each fortnight.
- Through a dedicated, fully engaged and supportive PTA, Board of Trustees and school community, our students are provided with excellent school resources, fun activities and events.
- Through overnight camps for our year 4 to 6 students. These camps are popular and well supported by parent groups. Between 25 to 45 parents stay overnight, run activities and provide support for teachers and students.
- Mr Goosen, our Principal, and Mr Pope work incredibly hard to ensure the school environment is clean and visually appealing. Our buildings, facilities and grounds are maintained to a very high standard. Our ICT resources are current and well supported by ICT Manager Aaron Leigh. We have front office staff who are welcoming and efficient. They set a high standard for students and show parents/visitors that we are proud of our school.
- We actively participate and collaborate with our Mahurangi Kāhui Ako schools to further progress and share our learning focus. Schools from our wider regional area seek advice on how we have approached our PRIME mathematics programme.
- All year 6 students who leave our school are remembered in a special way with our recently installed Pou Ākonga, located in our Year 6 area. These beautiful pou will reflect the names of all departing Year 6 students for years to come. We hope this will encourage them to visit their MAGIC primary school on a regular basis.
- It is very pleasing for us to see the successes and high standard of achievement our students display throughout their high school years. We follow their progress with enthusiasm, and acknowledge this where possible in our newsletters, and within the school.

### **Students experience achievement and success**

There is a need to balance wellbeing and achievement and the two are interdependent on the other. Students will achieve if they feel positive and safe about coming to school. Our school provides a huge range of activities that makes it an exciting place to be. Our teachers are committed, providing challenging learning programmes for students and it is this mix that drives success for our students. We have special assemblies in term 4 to celebrate a wide range of areas of achievement: completion of our Home Learning Challenge, ICAS assessments, trophy assembly to celebrate success outside of school, School Leavers Assembly to celebrate our year 6 leavers and a final Prize Giving assembly. We also publish our annual TUHI publication which celebrates our students writing and artwork.

### **Students are socially and emotionally competent, are socially aware, have good relationship skills, are self-confident, are able to lead, self manage and are responsible decision-makers**

We operate a four-tier wrap-around programme.

- To encourage positive playground interactions and deal with minor behavioural issues, we have a student led peer mediation programme run by Fiona Clarkson.
- We have duty teachers, two at morning tea and 3 at lunchtimes. We have Student Support Teachers who counsel students. More acute problems, our Principal and Deputy Principal collaborate with our SENCO Wendy Chittenden to reach the best outcome for our students. At all stages, our school uses the restorative practices – which is a strategy that seeks to repair damaged relationships, including those damaged through bullying. It does this by bringing a sense of remorse and restorative action on the part of the offender and forgiveness by the victim. Every Friday morning, all staff meet to discuss 'students causing concern' ensuring that the circle of care is completed.
- Our WHEEL OF CHOICE is displayed around the school and in classrooms and is frequently referred to by teachers and Peer Mediators. It provides another circle of care for students. Several schools in the area have requested to use our WHEEL OF CHOICE resource as a behaviour management tool.
- With the consent of parents of a small number of students who have been identified as struggling with emotional issues and behaviour self regulation we have established a "go-to teacher buddy". This is in addition to their own class teacher. They informally meet with their teacher buddy who supports them with any issues that may arise. This has been incredibly successful and we have seen a real change in these students.

### **Students are physically active and lead healthy lifestyles**

- Sports gear is distributed to every classroom each week and students also have access to sports gear at lunchtime.
- Our school has a 400m running track, a swimming pool, a big wide open field, 2 playgrounds, 3 sports courts all of which are well-used by our students.
- We employ Sharon Hallet as a sports teacher. She has been instrumental in changing the way teachers deliver PE lessons, challenging students to become more active, participate and more importantly, have fun.
- We participate in numerous inter school sporting events to provide extension for more able students.

### **Students are included, involved, engaged, invited to participate and make positive contributions**

We treat students with respect and are given numerous leadership, craft, GATE and fun opportunities. Some of these include:

- House and School leaders who independently run assemblies on Fridays and reinforce the MAGIC qualities.
- Shop Monitors who collect supplies from the local shop.
- Receptionists who work in the office all day and run messages/tasks for the office staff.
- Radio Crew who run our school radio station.
- Sports Wardens who give out sports gear at lunchtime and keep the sports shed tidy.
- Class Councillors who have meetings in all classrooms, collecting data on risk in the school, on what is going well and what is not.
- Yummy Monitors to promote the Yummy Apple sports gear programme.
- School Techs who oversee all sound, lighting, ventilation and projector work during assemblies.
- Information Techs run the library at lunchtimes.
- TravelWise Ambassadors.
- Peer Mediators who provide guidance for younger students at morning tea and lunchtime.
- Belonging to a House, which fosters pride and team spirit.
- Mrs Morgan runs three in-class time music opportunities every Friday. Ukelele, Kapa Haka and Concert Choir.
- Miss Kurmann and Miss Edwards have run the hugely popular Glee club for years 4 to 6 on Fridays.
- Participation in the school's popular Home Learning Challenge.
- Participation in terms 2 and 3 in lunch-time clubs, like drawing, chess, jump jam and ukulele. Students also initiate and run their own lunchtime clubs like dance, hooping, netball, Rubik's cube.