

FUNDRAISING AT MATAKANA SCHOOL

We are often asked the question....

'Why do we need to Fundraise – doesn't the Government classify us as a wealthy school?'

Yes - Matakana School is classified by the Government as a decile 9 school (the scale is 1-10 – so we are high on the scale). What this actually means is that the Government has identified that Matakana School is situated in an area where average incomes and house prices are high.

This translates to us being given less funds each year than a school with a lower decile rating i.e. there is a funding gap between what we are given by the Ministry of Education to cover our basic operating costs (our operational grant) and what it actually costs to run our school.

In real terms this leaves us with, on average, a \$100,000 operating shortfall each year.

This funding gap does not take into account all the extras we implement – like the new playground, heating of the pool, new technology, upgrading the Information Centre **and** the other projects we want to implement to make this an awesome place for our children to grow and develop.

Some schools choose to cover this deficit by asking for a very large annual donation from school families. For our school, this would take approximately \$350 per child. This would seem a simple solution, but as this is an optional donation, some families may not pay it, and we also realise there are many families in our community who could not afford to pay this level of donation.

So we choose to set our donation at \$200 per child or \$250 for 2 or more children which means we are left with fundraising and sponsorship as a way to raise these much-needed funds. That is why we need and welcome all families helping and getting involved, in whatever way, with fundraising and sponsorship of our school.

The School has a Board sub-committee called CRFS (Community Relations and Funding Sub-committee), whose role it is to oversee and monitor all major fundraising for the school. The four main avenues for generating these much-needed funds are:

	This is a fun evening usually held late in Term 2, it is an opportunity for the school and local community to join together, have some fun and along the way raise money. It raises on average \$15-20k p.a.
	The Matakana School Gala happens over Labour weekend, it has been operated by Parents/Caregivers, Teachers, Staff, Children and families of Matakana School for over 25 years. Raising on average an amazing \$30-40k p.a.
Omaha Half Marathon	Matakana School is the major beneficiary of this event and provides volunteer support leading up to and on event day. Raises \$3-5K p.a.
School Sponsors	We have a number of Sponsors at our school who generously donate funds and are recognised in a number of ways for this support via our electronic sign and newsletter. It raises on average \$10-15k p.a.

In the past, our fundraising has been very successful and has enabled us to not only meet our basic operating shortfall, but also fund extra programmes, activities and facilities that enable us to achieve our vision of 'Taking students beyond expectations!' There are so many ways you can contribute to keep raising these funds! **Sponsor, support or volunteer** – please contact the school office.